



Sean Hertel is a Registered Professional Planner with 20 years of experience, and leads a Toronto-based practice that is uniquely positioned at the intersection of different disciplines, environments and processes. As a connector of ideas and people to shape cities, Sean and his collaborators lead a diverse range of projects that reflect the complexity of the urban landscape. He has a particular expertise in transit oriented development, policy analysis and formulation, implementation strategies, and facilitation and public engagement. In addition to his practice, Sean is a Lecturer within the Schools of Planning at Ryerson University and University of Waterloo, and a frequent speaker and media commentator on current planning and development issues.

## Sean Hertel

MES, RPP

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### Professional Experience:

Urban Planning Consultant, 2012 - Present

York Region, 2000 - 2012

Urban Intelligence Inc., 1998 - 2000

NRU Publishing Inc., 1998 - 2000

City of Toronto (formerly Metro Toronto), 1997 - 1998

### Accreditation:

Registered Professional Planner (RPP), Ontario Professional Planners Institute

### Education:

Master in Environmental Studies (MES), York University, Toronto, Ontario, 2012

Bachelor of Arts (BA), Urban Studies, University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, 1997

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

**University of Waterloo, School of Planning, Waterloo, Ontario, April 2017 - Present**  
**Lecturer**

- Teaching the cross-listed, undergraduate and graduate course, PLAN 484/684 CIVE 484 - Planning Physical Infrastructure (Spring 2017)

**Ryerson University, School of Urban and Regional Planning, Toronto, Ontario September 2016 - Present**  
**Contract Lecturer**

- Designed and teaching the new course, PLE565 - Community Sustainable Development (Winter 2017 Term)
- Faculty Advisor in PLG620 & PLG720 - Advanced Studio (Winter 2018 Term)
- Designed and taught the new course, PLX333 - City-Building: Planning for Non-planners (Fall 2016/2017 Term)

**York University, City Institute at York University, Toronto, Ontario 2012 - Present**  
**Research Fellow**

- Co-coordinator of the Greater Toronto Suburban Work Group, a governance component of the collaborative research initiative, "Global Suburbanisms: Governance, Land and Infrastructure in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century."
- Principal Investigator of transit equity research, funded by the Province of Ontario's Transit Agency, Metrolinx.

### ACADEMIC AND SELECT PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

- Keil R. & S. Hertel, 2017 (forthcoming) "Fixing postsuburbia: Recalibrating the way we think, speak and act upon Toronto's periphery, in P. Maginn & K. Anacker (eds.). *From Dreamscapes to Nightmares? Suburban Imaginaries, Challenges and Prospects in the 21st Century*.
- Moos M. & S. Hertel (eds.). 2016. "Coming Home: How we can reframe Canada's housing crisis". *Alternatives Journal*. Vol. 42, No. 2.
- Hertel S. & M. Moos. 2016. "What would Jane Jacobs Say? Why planners should think and do more about social equity." *Ontario Planning*, September/October. Ontario Professional Planners Institute.
- Collens M. & S. Hertel, S. 2016. "Public transit and the public good: why and how planners can deliver more equity." *Ontario Planning*, July/August. Ontario Professional Planners Institute.

## ACADEMIC AND SELECT PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS (cont.)

- Hertel, S., R. Keil & M. Collens. 2016. Next Stop Equity: Routes to fairer transit access in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. (February) Toronto: The City Institute at York University.
- Hertel, S., R. Keil & M. Collens. 2015. Switching Tracks: Towards transit equity in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. (March) Toronto: The City Institute at York University.
- Keil R. & Hertel, S. 2015. "Erst reden, dann handeln" – Die Greater Toronto Suburban Working Group und der (Um-)Bau der städtischen Peripherie in Kanadas boomender Metropole, in Jessen, J. and F. Roost (eds.) 2015a. *Refitting Suburbia: Erneuerung der Stadt des 20. Jahrhunderts in Deutschland und den USA*. Berlin: Jovis: 95-112.
- Hertel, S. & R. Keil (eds.) 2013. The Greater Toronto Suburban Working Group Roundtable Report. Toronto: The City Institute at York University.
- Hardwicke, C. & S. Hertel. 2013. "Planning and density issues in Toronto's hyperbia". *Eco Web Town*, No.7. December.

## SELECTED PROJECTS (2012 – Ongoing)

- **Post-Implementation Review of the St. Clair Avenue West Right-of-Way, Toronto Transit Commission (TTC)** – Leading land use and development analysis of this LRT transit corridor to assess the degree to which transit investment has achieved stated planning objectives.
- **Langstaff Gateway Secondary Plan Implementation, City of Markham** (Apr. 2017 – ongoing) – Providing project management, departmental and agency coordination, and master-plan level policy analysis to the City to guide Phase 1 development of this Urban Growth Centre.
- **Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Metrolinx** (Mar. 2017 – Aug. 2017) – Led the synthesis and writing of the next RTP for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA), to guide the transportation infrastructure, service and program priorities to 2041.
- **Northern Ontario Multi-Modal Transportation Strategy (NOMTS), Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO)** – Co-leading the synthesis and writing of a comprehensive transportation strategy for Northern Ontario, incorporating findings from public and agency consultation, and technical analyses.
- **Gateway Mobility Hubs + Intensification Corridor Opportunities + Constraints Study, City of Brampton** (Feb. 2016 - Ongoing) – Leading the planning analysis to formulate a policy and implementation framework to support the build-out of Brampton's designated Mobility Hubs and other strategic intensification nodes and corridors.
- **Cornell Transit Terminal Planning and Implementation, York Region Rapid Transit** (Jan. 2016 – Dec. 2016) – Planning Manager for the construction of this important eastern terminus of York Region's transit network within the City of Markham.
- **Residential Intensification in Established Neighbourhoods Study (RIENS), City of Kitchener** (Jan. 2016 – Dec. 2016) – Providing best practices and analyses of intensification typologies, in the role of Project Advisor.

- **Switching Tracks: Towards transit equity in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area** (Sep. 2014 –Feb. 2016) – Conducting academic and case study research to investigate, and to recommended strategies to improve, suburban transportation equity and public benefit gaps in the region. The research project is housed at the City Institute at York University, and funded by the Province of Ontario’s transit agency Metrolinx.
- **Planning Frameworks for Managing Growth and Investment: Approaches & Insights From 8 Cities Comparable to Toronto** (Feb. 2015 – Jun. 2015) – Provided a comparative analysis of international approaches to growth management and infrastructure investment, to support the City of Toronto’s Official Plan Review process.

SELECTED PROJECTS (cont.)

- **Local Leadership Matters: Ontario Municipalities Taking Action to Strengthen the Greenbelt** (Sep. 2014 – Feb. 2015) – Interviewed 42 staff from 30 municipalities and prepared a report for the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation to catalogue and analyze the implementation of the Provincial Greenbelt Plan, with the aim to share best practices and provide input into the upcoming 10-year review of the Plan.
- **407 Transitway East Environmental Assessment and Preliminary Design Study** (Aug. 2014 – Dec. 2015) – Provided land use and development analysis, and municipal liaison, for the Ontario Ministry of Transportation as part of a multi-disciplinary team led by PARSONS.
- **Sign Variance Applications** (Mar. 2014 – Jul. 2014) – Prepared an independent professional planning analysis and opinion with respect to four separate sign variance applications, made on behalf of Metrolinx for the provision of third party signs within rail rights-of-way adjacent to Highways 401 and 427 in Toronto.
- **York Region ‘Make Rental Happen’ Challenge** (Jul. 2013 – Dec. 2014) – Designed and administered an international ideas competition for the York Region Human Services Planning Board, to generate bold and innovative approaches for increasing the supply of market rental housing in The Regional Municipality of York.
- **Pace Suburban Bus - 95th Street Corridor Transit Study** (Jun. 2013 – Jan. 2014) – Led the land use planning review and analysis, as part on an international multi- disciplinary team, to enhance transit oriented development in this major arterial in the southwest suburbs of Chicago, Illinois.
- **North Markham Urban Expansion Area** (Aug. 2012 – Feb. 2013) – Conducted original research, and presented land use planning evidence on, development intensification and community services/facilities integration for the Ontario Municipal Board hearing on Amendment No. 3 to the Regional Official Plan for The Regional Municipality of York, on behalf of the Region, to support the planning by the Region and City of Markham.
- **Greater Toronto Suburban Working Group** (Jun. 2012 – Dec. 2013) – Co-established and co-coordinated a working group of industry, government, non-profit, and professional actors with the aim to better understand, and make recommendations on, the processes shaping the development and governance of Toronto’s inner and outer suburbs.

SELECT PAST PROFESSIONAL PLANNING POSITIONS, PROJECTS

- **Centres, Corridors + Subways Program, York Region** (2008 – 2012) – Established and managed an interdisciplinary portfolio to lead and enhance the policy and development framework for intensification and transit-oriented development in the Region’s system of Regional Centres and Regional Corridors, including the formulation of new transit-oriented development policies for the 2010 Regional Official Plan.

**Academic Advising, Speaking and Research:**

Ryerson University, School of Urban and Regional Planning, 2016 - Present

York University, City Institute at York University (CITY), 2010 – Present

University of Toronto, Department of Geography, School of Planning (occasional)

University of Waterloo, School of Planning, Waterloo, Ontario (occasional)

**Other Memberships and Civic Engagement:**

Member, Canadian Institute of Planners

Member, Greater Toronto Transportation Conference

Member, Emerging Leaders Network, Greater Toronto CivicAction

Member, Pragma Council, University of Waterloo

Greeter, TAP Into TO! Ambassador Program, Tourism Toronto

- **Yonge Subway Extension Environmental Assessment and Conceptual Design, York Region** (2008 – 2012) – Prepared the land use planning analysis to support the preparation and approval (2009) of the Environmental Project Report to facilitate the 6.8-kilometre, 6-station extension from Finch Station in Toronto to the Richmond Hill Centre at Highway 7 in the Town of Richmond Hill. Conducted detailed station-area analyses to support the subsequent approval (2012) of the Conceptual Design Study, in coordination with the Toronto Transit Commission, Town of Richmond Hill, and the Cities of Markham, Toronto and Vaughan.

#### SELECT PAST PROFESSIONAL PLANNING POSITIONS, PROJECTS (cont.)

- **Richmond Hill/Langstaff Gateway Provincial Urban Growth Centre and Mobility Hub** (2009 – 2012) - Designed and led a planning coordination process to guide the planning and infrastructure delivery framework to support the build-out of the Centre and Mobility Hub; bringing together over 50 representatives from four municipalities, the Province, related agencies, and area landowners. The plan for the Centre creates a complete community of over 48,000 residents and over 3-million square feet of commercial development, to be served by five integrated modes of transit including two future subway stations, and a full range of community services and facilities.
- **Viva Rapid Transit Phase 1 – “Quickstart”, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation** (2005) – On secondment from the York Region Planning Department, provided advice to the Vice President in the preparation of planning comments and approvals required to secure property and access to enable the first phase of bus rapid transit in the Yonge Street and Highway 7 corridors.
- **Novae Res Urbis - GTA Edition, NRU Publishing** (1998-2000) – Was the founding Editor of this weekly development and urban affairs newsletter covering the municipalities comprising the regions of the Greater Toronto Area; building relationships with municipal staff and politicians, the development industry and community organizations.

#### SELECT FACILITATION AND SPEAKING

- **Great idea, but you can’t do that here: policy barriers to affordable housing**, Options for Homes and GTA Housing Action Lab, National Housing Week event series at Ryerson University, Toronto, Ontario (Nov. 2016)
- **What would Jane Jacobs say? The absence of social equity considerations in planning**, Ontario Professional Planners Institute, Annual Symposium, Hamilton, Ontario (Oct, 2016)
- **Building Affordable Housing in the GTA**, Building Industry and Land Development Association, Toronto, Ontario (Jun. 2016)
- **Smart Students and Smart Track**, Ryerson City Building Institute, Toronto, Ontario (Mar. 2016)
- **“Working Outside Academia”**, City Institute at York University Career Development Workshop, Toronto, Ontario (Nov. 2015)
- **DesignJam Toronto – “TrafficJam”**, OCAD University, Toronto, Ontario (Mar. 2015)
- **Healthy Communities & Planning in a Digital Age**, Ontario Professional Planners Institute Symposium, Niagara Falls, Ontario (Oct. 2014)

- **Cities on the Edge**, Canadian Council for Urbanism (CANU), Toronto, Ontario (Sep. 2014)
- **The elusive search for good density: the cure for what divides us?** Canadian Urban Institute, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario (Feb. 2014)
- **A Suburban Revolution?**, City Institute at York University, Toronto, Ontario (Sep. 2013)
- **3D/GIS Visualization and GeoDesign Workshop**, The Regional Municipality of York, Newmarket, Ontario (Jun. 2013)
- **Complete Streets Forum**, Toronto Centre for Active Transportation, Toronto, Ontario (May 2013)
- **Teaming Up For Transportation**, Emerging Leaders Network, CivicAction. Toronto, Ontario (Feb. 2013)
- **Going to School: A Transit Summit**, City Institute at York University/Canadian Urban Institute/Toronto Councillor Adam Vaughan/Spacing Magazine, Toronto, Ontario (Sep. 2012)

#### SELECT MEDIA

- “People of colour and women priced out of Toronto’s core face longer travel times,” [NOW Magazine](#), Kevin Ritchie, April 5, 2017
- “What is transit for?,” [The Agenda with Steve Paikin](#), TV Ontario, January 12, 2017.
- “How to retrofit the suburbs in Toronto,” [Metro News](#), Luke Simcoe, May 13, 2016.
- “How to make Toronto’s transit more equitable: Researchers at York U reimagine a more fair Toronto transit system,” [CBC News](#), and interview with CBC Radio Metro Morning host, Matt Galloway, February 10, 2016.
- “Helping more people access transit doesn’t need expensive solutions, advocates say,” [insidetoronto.com](#), Rahul Gupta, October 15, 2015.
- “Waiting for a bus that takes forever: welcome to Toronto’s ‘transit desert’”, [Toronto Star](#), Ben Spur, April 25, 2015.
- “Urban Nation: What can modern cities tell us about the ways we live?,” [York U Magazine](#), Michael Todd, Winter 2016.
- “Skyscrapers in the Subdivision: Far from Dead, the North American Subdivision is Growing Up,” [NextCity](#), Amanda Kolson Hurley, May 12, 2014.
- Talking about traffic congestion and urban planning in the City of Hamilton and Greater Toronto Area, with [Hamilton AM 900 CHML Radio](#) host Scott Thompson, April 29, 2014.
- “Big Ideas for Toronto in 2014: close the urban-suburban divide by ‘seizing our citizenship as Torontonians’”, interview by Matt Galloway on [CBC Radio One’s Metro Morning](#), January 7, 2014.
- “Rolling Out: the future of Toronto’s Bixi bikes,” [Spacing Magazine](#), Glyn Bowerman, December 2, 2013
- “Why Toronto’s Suburbs are the ‘New City,’” [Planetizen](#), Johnathan Nettler, September 27, 2013
- “Toronto needs York Region more than York needs T.O.,” [YorkRegion.com](#), Sean Pearce, October 2, 2013
- “TTC abandoned by city, province,” [Toronto Star](#), Royson James, September 28, 2012

- Q & A with Sean Hertel: 'A Good City is Worth Paying For,' Spacing Magazine, Andrew Russell, October 10, 2012
- "Transit Gets Schooled," Novae Res Urbis, Jake Tobin Garret, October 3, 2012
- "Experts Bemoan Gridlock Over Taxes at Transit Summit," Torontoist, Daren Foster, October 1, 2012
- "Going to School: A Transit Summit Connects Education, Development and Transportation in GTHA," Urban Toronto, October 1, 2012