

# canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age

Canadian Cities in Transition: Perspectives for an Urban Age

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age** reveal a fascinating story of change, adaptation, and forward-thinking urban planning. As Canada's urban centres evolve, they face unique challenges and opportunities shaped by demographic shifts, technological advancements, and growing environmental concerns. Exploring these transitions offers valuable insights into how Canadian cities are reshaping themselves to meet the needs of residents today and in the future.

## Understanding the Urban Transformation in Canada

Canada has long been celebrated for its vibrant cities, from the bustling streets of Toronto to the historic charm of Quebec City. However, these urban spaces are far from static; they are in continuous flux, adapting to economic trends, migration patterns, and sustainability goals. The concept of "urban age" refers to the period when the majority of the global population lives in cities, and Canadian cities are very much part of this global narrative.

## Demographic Shifts Driving Change

One of the main drivers behind the transition of Canadian cities is demographic change. Cities like Vancouver and Calgary are experiencing rapid population growth fueled by both international immigration and internal migration. This influx brings cultural diversity but also intensifies demands on housing, transit, and public services.

Moreover, aging populations in cities such as Montreal and Ottawa require adjustments in healthcare infrastructure and community planning. The balance between accommodating young professionals attracted by job markets and supporting seniors aging in place calls for innovative urban policies.

## Economic Evolution and Its Impact

The economic landscape of Canadian cities is shifting from traditional industries like manufacturing and resource extraction to knowledge-based sectors such as technology, finance, and creative industries. Toronto, for instance, has emerged as a major tech hub, attracting startups and international investment. This economic transition influences urban development patterns, with an emphasis on mixed-use neighborhoods, coworking spaces, and connectivity.

Such economic shifts also necessitate retraining programs and inclusive growth strategies to avoid leaving certain populations behind. Cities must ensure that economic revitalization benefits all residents, reducing inequalities that can otherwise deepen during periods of rapid change.

# **Environmental Sustainability and Urban Resilience**

In the context of the urban age, environmental sustainability is a critical perspective for Canadian cities in transition. As climate change intensifies, cities face challenges like rising temperatures, flooding, and infrastructure stresses. The transition towards greener, more resilient cities is both a necessity and an opportunity.

## **Green Infrastructure and Smart Urban Design**

Canadian cities are increasingly investing in green infrastructure such as urban parks, green roofs, and sustainable drainage systems. For example, Toronto's extensive ravine system and greenbelt areas provide natural buffers against urban heat and flooding. Incorporating nature-based solutions enhances urban livability and biodiversity.

Smart urban design also emphasizes walkability, cycling infrastructure, and public transit improvements, which reduce carbon footprints and encourage healthier lifestyles. Cities like Montreal have expanded their bike lanes dramatically, making cycling a viable commuting option for many residents.

## **Climate Action Plans and Policy Innovations**

Many Canadian municipalities have adopted ambitious climate action plans aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting renewable energy. Vancouver's "Greenest City Action Plan" is a notable example, targeting zero emissions and zero waste by 2050. These plans often include community engagement components, ensuring citizens play a role in shaping the city's sustainable future.

Innovative policies such as congestion pricing, incentives for electric vehicles, and green building standards are becoming more common across urban Canada. These initiatives reflect a broader commitment to creating cities that can thrive amid environmental uncertainties.

## **Social Equity and Inclusion in Urban Transformation**

A key perspective in the transition of Canadian cities is addressing social equity and inclusion. As urban populations grow and diversify, ensuring that cities are accessible and welcoming to all residents is paramount.

## **Affordable Housing and Urban Density**

One of the most pressing issues facing Canadian cities is affordable housing. Rapid urbanization has driven up real estate prices, pushing many residents to the outskirts or into precarious living situations. Cities like Toronto

and Vancouver have implemented policies to increase housing supply, including the development of higher-density neighborhoods and support for affordable housing projects.

Balancing urban density with quality of life is critical. Thoughtful urban design can create vibrant communities without sacrificing green spaces or contributing to overcrowding.

## **Cultural Diversity and Community Engagement**

Canadian cities are often celebrated for their multiculturalism, and this diversity is a strength in the urban transition. Promoting cultural inclusion involves supporting community centers, language access services, and events that celebrate different heritages.

Engaging diverse communities in urban planning processes helps ensure that development reflects the needs and values of all residents. This participatory approach fosters social cohesion and a sense of belonging.

## **Technological Innovation Shaping Canadian Urban Futures**

Technological advancements are another dimension shaping the perspectives of Canadian cities in transition for an urban age. The integration of smart technologies into urban infrastructure promises to enhance city management and improve residents' quality of life.

## **Smart Cities and Data-Driven Decision Making**

Several Canadian cities are embracing the "smart city" concept, using sensors, data analytics, and connected devices to optimize services like traffic flow, energy use, and public safety. For example, Calgary has implemented smart street lighting that adjusts based on pedestrian presence, reducing energy consumption.

Data-driven urban management enables cities to respond more efficiently to challenges and anticipate future needs. However, this also raises concerns about privacy and data security, which cities must navigate carefully.

## **Mobility Innovations and Urban Connectivity**

The future of urban mobility in Canadian cities is being reimagined through innovations like electric buses, ride-sharing platforms, and emerging micro-mobility options such as e-scooters. These technologies provide alternatives to private car ownership, easing congestion and lowering emissions.

Investments in reliable, accessible public transit remain vital. Cities are exploring integrated mobility systems that combine various transport modes seamlessly, making it easier for residents to move around without relying on personal vehicles.

# **The Human Dimension in Urban Transitions**

At the heart of Canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age lies the human experience. Urban transformation is not just about infrastructure or policies but about creating spaces where people can thrive socially, economically, and culturally.

## **Placemaking and Public Spaces**

Vibrant public spaces contribute significantly to urban life, serving as hubs for social interaction, culture, and recreation. Canadian cities are investing in placemaking initiatives that revitalize downtowns, waterfronts, and neighborhoods through art, programming, and design.

These spaces promote community well-being and foster a sense of identity and pride among residents.

## **Health and Well-being in Urban Environments**

Urban design increasingly considers health outcomes, recognizing that environments influence physical and mental well-being. Access to green spaces, walkable neighborhoods, and clean air are crucial components.

Cities are also responding to challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic by rethinking public spaces to accommodate physical distancing and promote outdoor activities.

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The evolving nature of Canadian cities reveals a dynamic interplay of social, economic, environmental, and technological factors. By embracing inclusive planning, sustainability, and innovation, these urban centres are charting pathways to resilient and vibrant futures fit for the urban age. Understanding these transitions not only highlights Canada's adaptability but also offers a blueprint for cities worldwide navigating the complexities of rapid urbanization.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

**What does 'Canadian cities in transition' refer to in the context of the urban age?**

'Canadian cities in transition' refers to the significant social, economic, and environmental changes that urban areas in Canada are undergoing as they adapt to contemporary challenges and opportunities in the urban age, such as population growth, technological advancements, and sustainability demands.

**What are some key challenges facing Canadian cities**

## **during this transition?**

Key challenges include managing rapid urbanization, addressing affordable housing shortages, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving public transportation, and ensuring equitable access to services and opportunities for diverse populations.

## **How are Canadian cities integrating sustainability into their urban development strategies?**

Many Canadian cities are incorporating green infrastructure, promoting public transit and active transportation, implementing energy-efficient building codes, and investing in renewable energy to create more sustainable and resilient urban environments.

## **What role does technology play in the transition of Canadian cities in the urban age?**

Technology plays a central role by enabling smart city initiatives, improving data-driven decision making, enhancing connectivity, and fostering innovation in transportation, energy management, and public services to improve quality of life.

## **How do perspectives on inclusivity and diversity shape the transition of Canadian cities?**

Inclusivity and diversity perspectives influence urban planning and policy to ensure that all residents, including Indigenous peoples, immigrants, and marginalized communities, have equitable access to housing, employment, and social services in the evolving urban landscape.

## **What future trends are expected to influence the development of Canadian cities in the coming decades?**

Future trends include increased urban densification, adoption of smart technologies, climate change adaptation measures, greater emphasis on walkability and public transit, and policies fostering social equity and economic resilience in Canadian cities.

## **Additional Resources**

Canadian Cities in Transition: Perspectives for an Urban Age

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age** reveal a dynamic narrative of adaptation, growth, and reinvention. As urban centers across Canada grapple with unprecedented demographic shifts, technological advancements, and environmental imperatives, they increasingly serve as case studies for how mid-21st-century cities worldwide might evolve. This article explores the multifaceted transitions underway in Canadian urban landscapes, highlighting the interplay of sustainability, social equity, infrastructure modernization, and economic diversification in shaping their futures.

# Understanding the Urban Evolution in Canada

Canada's urbanization trajectory is distinctive, marked by rapid population growth primarily concentrated in a handful of metropolitan areas such as Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Calgary, and Ottawa. These hubs collectively house more than 60% of the country's population, reflecting a broader global trend towards urban living. However, unlike some megacities worldwide, Canadian cities face unique challenges and opportunities linked to their geographic vastness, climatic conditions, indigenous presence, and multicultural fabric.

The concept of "Canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age" encapsulates the ongoing shifts from traditional industrial economies towards knowledge-based, service-oriented, and green economies. Furthermore, these transitions carry significant implications for urban planning, housing affordability, transportation networks, and inclusive governance models.

## The Demographic and Social Shift

One of the defining features of Canadian urban transition is demographic change. The influx of immigrants, coupled with aging populations in certain regions, reshapes urban demographics and demands adaptive social policies. For example, Toronto's population is projected to reach nearly 10 million by 2041, driven by immigration and natural growth, prompting intensified pressure on housing, healthcare, and public transit.

Simultaneously, cities like Winnipeg and Halifax are witnessing a revitalization of their downtown cores through targeted efforts to attract younger residents and entrepreneurs. This demographic diversification fosters cultural vibrancy but also necessitates frameworks that address social equity and affordable living.

## Housing Affordability and Urban Sprawl

Housing affordability stands as a critical challenge in the Canadian urban transition narrative. Major cities such as Vancouver and Toronto rank among the least affordable housing markets globally, driven by demand outstripping supply, speculative investments, and geographic constraints. This housing crisis exacerbates socioeconomic disparities and fuels urban sprawl, as residents move to suburban or exurban areas, increasing reliance on automobiles and straining infrastructure.

Municipal governments are responding by exploring densification strategies, including promoting mid-rise development near transit corridors, implementing inclusionary zoning policies, and incentivizing affordable housing projects. These efforts reflect a broader shift towards sustainable urban design, aiming to curtail sprawl while enhancing livability.

## Infrastructure and Transportation in Transition

The transformation of infrastructure networks is a cornerstone of Canadian cities adapting to the urban age. Aging transit systems require modernization

to meet growing ridership and integrate new technologies. Cities like Montreal and Calgary have embarked on expanding light rail transit (LRT) systems, improving connectivity and reducing carbon footprints.

## **Smart City Technologies and Sustainability**

Incorporating smart city technologies is increasingly central to the urban transition. Canadian municipalities are experimenting with data-driven solutions to optimize energy consumption, waste management, and traffic flow. Vancouver's "Greenest City Action Plan" exemplifies ambitious sustainability targets, aiming for carbon neutrality by 2050 through investments in renewable energy, green buildings, and zero-emission transportation.

These initiatives underscore a growing recognition that environmental sustainability and urban resilience are interdependent. Climate adaptation strategies, including flood mitigation in low-lying areas such as parts of Montreal and Toronto, are integral to long-term planning.

## **Economic Diversification and Innovation Hubs**

Economic restructuring is reshaping the Canadian urban landscape. Traditional resource-based industries, while still vital in certain regions, are giving way to sectors centered on technology, finance, education, and creative industries. Toronto's emergence as a fintech hub and Vancouver's growing gaming and digital media sectors illustrate this trend.

Innovation districts and incubators are being established to attract startups and foster collaboration between academia and industry. This shift not only fuels employment but also influences urban form, with mixed-use developments designed to accommodate flexible workspaces and vibrant community amenities.

## **Challenges and Opportunities in Governance and Social Equity**

The transition of Canadian cities invites scrutiny of governance frameworks and social inclusivity. Effective urban governance requires collaboration across federal, provincial, and municipal levels, yet jurisdictional complexities often hinder cohesive policy implementation.

## **Indigenous Inclusion and Reconciliation**

A crucial aspect of contemporary Canadian urbanism is the integration of Indigenous perspectives. Urban Indigenous populations are growing, and cities are beginning to recognize their rights and contributions. Initiatives to incorporate Indigenous knowledge into urban planning, cultural preservation, and economic development signal a shift towards reconciliation and more inclusive cities.

## Addressing Inequality and Accessibility

Social equity challenges are amplified in urban transitions. Rising housing costs, uneven access to services, and digital divides threaten to marginalize vulnerable populations. Cities like Ottawa and Edmonton are piloting programs to improve accessibility, affordable transit, and community engagement, aiming to foster inclusive growth.

## Looking Ahead: The Future of Canadian Urbanism

The perspectives surrounding Canadian cities in transition for an urban age suggest a complex balancing act between growth, sustainability, and social justice. While challenges such as housing affordability, infrastructure demands, and governance coordination remain formidable, the adaptive strategies emerging from Canadian urban centers offer valuable insights.

Future urban development will likely emphasize compact, connected, and green communities supported by smart technologies and inclusive policies. As Canadian cities continue to navigate their transitions, they not only redefine their own futures but also contribute significantly to the global discourse on sustainable and equitable urban living.

## Canadian Cities In Transition Perspectives For An Urban Age

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age:** *Canadian Cities in Transition* Pierre Filion, Tara Vinodrai, Markus Moos, Ryan Christopher Walker, 2015-02-06 Canadian Cities in Transition is an unparalleled examination of the critical issues and major transformations taking place in urban Canada. Examining all facets of Canadian cities-including historical evolution, economic dynamics, environmental impacts, and urban lifestyles-this well-balanced resource is crafted to help the next generation address the urban problems they have inherited.

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age:** *Toward Equity and Inclusion in Canadian Cities* Fran Klodawsky, Janet Siltanen, Caroline Andrew, 2018-03-15 Housing insecurity, intensified employment anxiety, access to adequate services, and fear of personal and structural violence are some of the issues troubling today's cities and municipalities. Often, these conditions most affect residents whose place in the social hierarchy makes them particularly susceptible to exclusion. Seeking to redress these trends and guide research to facilitate meaningful local action, *Toward Equity and Inclusion in Canadian Cities* promotes more inclusive urban environments by highlighting and comparing theoretical and practice-based insights. Building on feminist, anti-racist, and anti-colonialist arguments to offer action-oriented solutions to inequalities and exclusions, the contributors to this volume tackle themes such as LGBTQ inclusion, health disparities, diversity initiatives, and urban planning dilemmas. Through a lens of critical praxis the book explores the challenges of collaborations, the negotiations required to reconceptualize research relations, and the ways in which values and practices inform one another. In light of the growing complexity, interrelations, and interactions of our world, *Toward Equity and Inclusion in Canadian Cities* is a timely work that speaks to a diverse audience of activists, policy makers, community organizations, and researchers of various disciplines.

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age:** *The Role of Canadian City Managers* Michael Fenn, Gordon McIntosh, David Siegel, 2023-04-28 Local government has rapidly



become both more important and more complex and the quality of municipal management is becoming more significant every day as local governments deal with a vast array of organizational and community challenges. The Role of Canadian City Managers brings together experienced city managers and municipal chief administrative officers (CAOs) across Canada to analyse the daily issues that they face. Each chapter deals with a particular issue or challenge, such as council/staff relations, collaborative initiatives, and crisis readiness. The book contributes to the literature on local government and public administration by providing insights from the real time lived experiences of city managers, spoken in their own words. The book also speculates about the contemporary leadership role of the city manager and the future of the city management profession. The Role of Canadian City Managers is a useful resource for scholars and students of local government and public administration, as well as public servants who work with or aspire to leadership roles within local government.

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age: *Planning Canadian Regions, Second Edition*** Gerald Hodge, Heather M. Hall, Ira M. Robinson, 2017-01-05 *Planning Canadian Regions* was the first book to integrate the history, contemporary practice, and emergent issues of regional planning in Canada. This much-anticipated second edition brings the discussion up to date, applying the same thorough analysis to illuminate the rapid changes now shaping our regional landscapes. This new edition draws upon contemporary analyses, projects, and literature to address issues of spatial complexity now facing regional planners in Canada. Special attention is paid to the regional planning dimensions of climate change adaptation and environmental sustainability across Canada, the development inequities faced in peripheral resource regions, the role that Aboriginal peoples must play in the planning of their regions, and the distinctive planning needs of metropolitan regions across the country. This book challenges planners, educators, and policy makers to engage with the latest thinking and strive for best practices in twenty-first century regional planning.

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age: *Changing Neighbourhoods*** Jill Grant, Alan Walks, Howard Ramos, 2020-03-15 In recent decades growing inequality and polarization have been reshaping the social landscape of Canada's metropolitan areas, changing neighbourhoods and negatively affecting the lived realities of increasingly diverse urban populations. This book examines the dimensions and impacts of increased economic inequality and urban socio-spatial polarization since the 1980s. Based on the work of the Neighbourhood Change Research Partnership, an innovative national comparative study of seven major cities, the authors reveal the dynamics of neighbourhood change across the Canadian urban system. By mapping average income trends across neighbourhoods, they show the kinds of factors – social, economic, and cultural – that influenced residential options and redistributed concentrations of poverty and affluence. While the heart of the book lies in the project's findings from each city, other chapters provide critical context. Taken together, they offer important understandings of the depth and the breadth of the problem at hand and signal the urgency for concerted policy responses in the decades to come.

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age: *The Handbook of Contemporary Indigenous Architecture*** Elizabeth Grant, Kelly Greenop, Albert L. Refiti, Daniel J. Glenn, 2018-06-26 This Handbook provides the first comprehensive international overview of significant contemporary Indigenous architecture, practice, and discourse, showcasing established and emerging Indigenous authors and practitioners from Australia, Aotearoa New Zealand, the Pacific Islands, Canada, USA and other countries. It captures the breadth and depth of contemporary work in the field, establishes the historical and present context of the work, and highlights important future directions for research and practice. The topics covered include Indigenous placemaking, identity, cultural regeneration and Indigenous knowledges. The book brings together eminent and emerging scholars and practitioners to discuss and compare major projects and design approaches, to reflect on the main issues and debates, while enhancing theoretical understandings of contemporary Indigenous architecture. The book is an indispensable

resource for scholars, students, policy makers, and other professionals seeking to understand the ways in which Indigenous people have a built tradition or aspire to translate their cultures into the built environment. It is also an essential reference for academics and practitioners working in the field of the built environment, who need up-to-date knowledge of current practices and discourse on Indigenous peoples and their architecture.

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age: *Aging People, Aging Places*** Maxwell Hartt, Samantha Biglieri, Mark W. Rosenberg, Sarah Nelson, 2021-03-31 Bringing together academic research, practitioner reflections and personal narratives from older adults across Canada, this text provides a rare spotlight on the local implications of aging in Canadian cities and communities. They provide a wide-ranging and comprehensive discussion of how to build supportive communities for Canadians of all ages.

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**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age: *America's Urban Future*** Ray Tomalty, Alan Mallach, 2015 In this book the authors examine U.S. policy in the light of the Canadian experience, and use that experience as a starting point to generate specific policy recommendations. Their recommendations are designed to help the U.S. further its urban revival, build more walkable, energy-efficient communities, and in particular, help land use adapt better to the needs of the aging population.--Publisher's description.

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age: *Urban Mobility*** Shauna Brail, Betsy Donald, 2024-08-30 *Urban Mobility* sheds light on mobility in twenty-first-century Canadian cities. The book explores the profound changes associated with technological innovation, pandemic-induced impacts on travel behaviour, and the urgent need for mobility to respond meaningfully to the climate crisis. Featuring contributions from leading Canadian and American scholars and researchers, this edited collection traverses disciplines including geography, engineering, management, policy studies, political science, and urban planning. Chapters illuminate

novel research findings related to a variety of modes of mobility, including public transit, e-scooters, bike-sharing, ride-hailing, and autonomous vehicles. Contributors draw out the connections between urban challenges, technological change, societal need, and governance mechanisms. The collection demonstrates why the smart phone, COVID-19, and climate present a crucial lens through which we can understand the present and future of urban mobility. The way we move in cities has been disrupted and altered because of technological innovation, the lingering impacts of COVID-19, and efforts to reduce transport-related emissions. Urban Mobility concludes that the path forward requires good public policy from all levels of government, working in partnership with the private sector and non-profits to direct and address the best urban mobility framework for Canadian cities.

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age: The Rise of the Neighbourhood in Canada, 1880s-2020s** Richard Harris, 2025-03-31 Neighbourhoods matter now more than ever before. They sustain fewer social connections, but in an era of great social inequality and high levels of immigration, they have become vital as places for homeowner investment and educational opportunity for children. The Rise of the Neighbourhood in Canada, 1880s-2020s traces the changing character and significance of Canadian urban neighbourhoods, city and suburban, since the 1880s. The book highlights patterns in neighbourhood life, particularly noticeable in larger urban areas, which are especially important for the least mobile people: workers, lower income households, immigrants, women, children, and the elderly. It explores how the physical and social characteristics of neighbourhoods affect public health, crime rates, social capital, and job opportunities while shaping the lifelong prospects of children. Analysing long-term trends, the book examines the importance of communications technology in the context of rising inequality and immigration. It shows how, as homeownership rose, neighbourhoods became vital settings for investment, increasingly financialized, reducing affordability. Using examples from all types of neighbourhoods in cities small and large, from St. John's through Montreal and Winnipeg to Victoria, The Rise of the Neighbourhood in Canada argues that the current prominence of neighbourhoods will persist.

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**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age: The Millennial City** Markus Moos, Deirdre Pfeiffer, Tara Vinodrai, 2017-08-04 Millennials have captured our imaginations in recent years. The conventional wisdom is that this generation of young adults lives in downtown neighbourhoods near cafes, public transit and other amenities. Yet, this depiction is rarely unpacked nor problematized. Despite some commonalities, the Millennial generation is highly diverse and many face housing affordability and labour market constraints. Regardless, as the largest generation following the post-World War II baby boom, Millennials will surely leave their mark on cities. This book assesses the impact of Millennials on cities. It asks how the Millennial generation differs from

previous generations in terms of their labour market experiences, housing outcomes, transportation decisions, the opportunities available to them, and the constraints they face. It also explores the urban planning and public policy implications that arise from these generational shifts. This book offers a generational lens that faculty, students and other readers with interest in the fields of urban studies, planning, geography, economic development, demography, or sociology will find useful in interpreting contemporary U.S. and Canadian cities. It also provides guidance to planners and policymakers on how to think about Millennials in their work and make decisions that will allow all generations to thrive.

**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age: Everyday Equalities** Ruth Fincher, Kurt Iveson, Helga Leitner, Valerie Preston, 2019-08-13 A timely new look at coexisting without assimilating in multicultural cities If city life is a “being together of strangers,” what forms of being together should we strive for in cities with ethnic and racial diversity? *Everyday Equalities* seeks evidence of progressive political alternatives to racialized inequality that are emerging from everyday encounters in Los Angeles, Melbourne, Sydney, and Toronto—settler colonial cities that, established through efforts to dispossess and eliminate indigenous societies, have been destinations for waves of immigrants from across the globe ever since. *Everyday Equalities* finds such alternatives being developed as people encounter one another in the process of making a home, earning a living, moving around the city, and forming collective actions or communities. Here four leading scholars in critical urban geography come together to deliver a powerful and cohesive message about the meaning of equality in contemporary cities. Drawing on both theoretical reflection and urban ethnographic research, they offer the formulation “being together in difference as equals” as a normative frame to reimagine the meaning and pursuit of equality in today’s urban multicultures. As the examples in *Everyday Equalities* indicate, much emotional labor, combined with a willingness to learn from each other, negotiate across differences, and agitate for change goes into constructing environments that foster being together in difference as equals. Importantly, the authors argue, a commitment to equality is not only a hope for a future city but also a way of being together in the present.

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Could municipal power be reimagined without disrupting the existing constitutional structure, or could the Constitution be reformed to designate cities a distinct tier of government? Among other novel proposals, this groundbreaking volume explores the idea of recognizing municipalities in provincial constitutions. The first volume of a complementary pair, authored by renowned Canadian legal and urban studies scholars, *Cities and the Constitution* suggests contemporary solutions to one of our most pressing policy dilemmas.

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**canadian cities in transition perspectives for an urban age: Diversity and Aging Among Immigrant Seniors in Canada** Douglas Durst, Michael MacLean, 2010-01-01 Historically, Canada has been a nation of immigrants, with 16-20% of its citizens being foreign born. Most immigrant research addresses the issues of integration and adjustment of young and adult immigrants, with little work on aging. There are numerous books on immigrants and books on aging, but there are few that have considered the topics of both diversity and aging. *Diversity and Aging among Immigrant Seniors in Canada* breaks from that tradition and offers an eclectic collection of original research from among Canada's leading researchers on aging and immigrants. Some researchers refer to this emerging field as Ethno-gerontology. There are two interesting groups of immigrant seniors: those who entered Canada at over 65 years of age, and those who aged in Canada. Most Canadians are surprised to learn that the senior population of seniors has a higher percentage of immigrants (19.6%) than the general population (13.7%). As Canadians age, the country's composition of immigrant seniors has also changed from mainly European to greater cultural and ethnic diversity from Africa and Asia. This cultural and ethnic diversity has social/health/economic policy implications and impacts on programs and services delivered to seniors. *Diversity and Aging among Immigrant Seniors in Canada* is divided into two main sections. In Part 1, the chapters explore general and universal issues such as national trends and demographics, theoretical orientations, issues of culture and legal dimensions, poverty and income, and end-of-life care. In Part 2, the chapters examine issues pertaining to specific ethnic groups. For example, there are chapters on the social well-being of Chinese immigrants, determinants of mental health for Iranian seniors, family dynamics for aging Haitian elders, and emerging issues for Punjabi families. *Diversity and Aging among Immigrant Seniors in Canada* offers both breadth and depth to the topic of aging among immigrants, and is a must read for social work and health care professionals, students in health and social services, policy and program planners and families of aging immigrants. It is written in a language that crosses disciplines, shedding professional jargon, making it an informative and engaging read for professionals, researchers, and the general public.

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