

**BRING
BACK** **MAIN
STREET**

An initiative by



Canadian
Urban
Institute

Institut
Urbain du
Canada

RAIC | IRAC
Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
Institut royal d'architecture du Canada

MAIN STREET DESIGN CHALLENGE PLAYBOOK

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INTRODUCTION

The Canadian Urban Institute (CUI) and the Royal Architectural Institute (RAIC) are proud to present the Main Street Design Playbook, a collection of submissions to the Main Street Design Challenge. The [Main Street Design Challenge](#) is part of CUI's [Bring Back Main Street](#) project, a national research and action campaign to help Canada's Main Streets recover and emerge from the crisis more resilient than ever.

Canada's main streets are iconic symbols of urban life and belonging — where we go to shop and do business, eat, play and participate in civic life. But COVID-19 is having an unprecedented impact on our main streets. Small businesses are closing, cultural and civic venues are limited in their ability to operate, and the joyous and spontaneous interactions of street life are hampered by the realities of physical distancing.

The Main Street Design Challenge reflects the importance of design in revitalizing our streets, and this Playbook showcases a range of creative and practical interventions to help us build back better than ever. The designs come from architects and students, planners and placemakers, community animators and artists. They are free to use, and we've included contact information for the designers — we encourage you to work with them directly. Further resources are also included at the end of the book.

Mary W. Rowe

Canadian Urban Institute

Giovanna Boniface

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada

About CUI

As Canada's Urban Institute, CUI is the national platform that houses the best in Canadian city-building — where policymakers, urban professionals, civic and business leaders, community activists, and academics can learn, share, and collaborate with one another from coast to coast to coast. CUI is leading the Bring Back Main Street campaign with the support of partners from across the country.



About RAIC

The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada is the leading voice for excellence in the built environment in Canada, demonstrating how design enhances the quality of life, while addressing important issues of society through responsible architecture. The RAIC's mission is to promote excellence in the built environment and to advocate for responsible architecture.

RAIC | IRAC

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SUPPORTING PARTNERS

Many thanks to all who participated, and especially to our supporting partners:

National Trust
for Canada



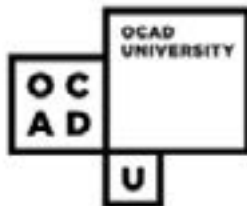
Fiducie nationale
du Canada



CANADIAN URBANISM/
CANADIEN D'URBANISME



TRINITY CENTRES FOUNDATION
FONDATION DES CENTRES TRINITE



“Effective and sustainable design by landscape architects, planners, engineers and architects has an important role in advancing the development of healthy, livable communities. Land-use planning plays a key role as municipalities work to rethink the way we design and build our communities. The built environment directly and indirectly influences the social determinants of health, such as housing, food security, income, equity and social cohesion. Good design and planning ensures that communities have well-designed and well-maintained parks, urban forests, good public transit, community gardens, and safe and efficient walking and cycling networks.”

Michelle Legault
Executive Director, Canadian Society of Landscape Architects

“Qu'elle soit une destination de quartier, de ville, de village, la rue principale a le pouvoir d'être un espace attractif et appropriable. C'est-à-dire à la fois le lieu où on va s'acheter une pinte de lait, et le lieu où on va à la rencontre de nos concitoyen(nes).”

Catherine Craig-St-Louis,
Coordonnatrice de projets
Rues principales

“The heart of a community beats on its main street. It is a sense of place that is built over time, as stores, restaurants, theatres, libraries, and all things giving life to a community open to welcome residents. One old brick, one familiar building, one popular gathering place at a time. What is a main street without those things? A roadway. And a community without a main street is like being on a ship adrift: aimless and hopeless.”

Christophe Rivet, PhD
President, ICOMOS Canada

“The quality of the public realm plays a critical role in bringing people back to public spaces and revitalizing communities. The Main Street Design Challenge is a great source of inspiration, with innovative and practical solutions for improving the built environment to create spaces that are more inclusive and resilient for a post-COVID world.”

Beth McMahon,
CEO, Canadian Institute of Planners

“It is energizing to see creative solutions for the evolution of Canada's Main Streets, especially those that build on the rich historic character of these places.”

Robert Pajot
Project Leader, Regeneration,
National Trust

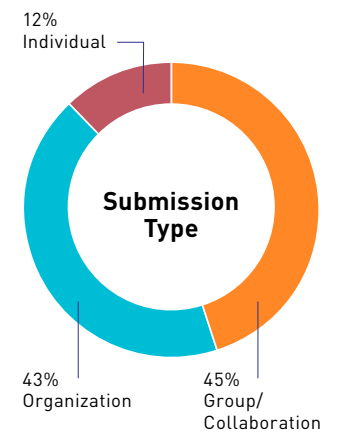
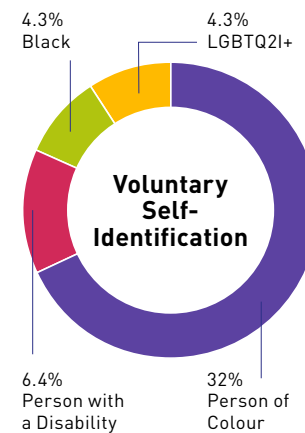
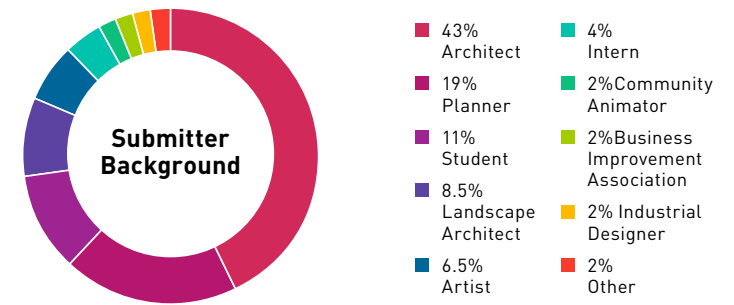
THE PROCESS

CUI and RAIC published a [design brief](#) for the Challenge in June 2020 which set out its purpose, goals, and a number of criteria including:

- creating or improving at least one factor influencing Main Street design;
- considering COVID-19 and future pandemics in the creation of the concept;
- demonstrating sustainability and resiliency;
- showing collaboration with at least one community stakeholder; and
- ensuring designs were underpinned by values of equity, diversity, accessibility, environmental responsibility and integrity.

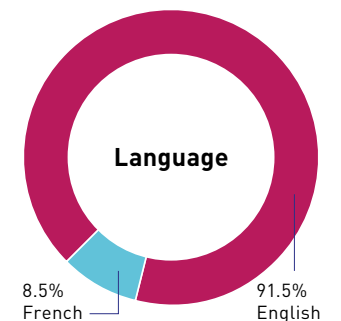
Those submitting designs were also asked to provide information on implementation and scalability, to show how their design respected the cultural and built heritage of the street. Three “cycles” of the Challenge were held, with deadlines on July 17, August 14, and September 18, 2020. All submissions that fit the criteria have been included in the Playbook. The goal was to encourage as wide a spectrum of solutions as possible.

The Challenge was open to all residents of Canada interested in placemaking and design, including both teams and individuals, and we were pleased to see submissions from creators with a wide range of backgrounds and perspectives from across the country.



47

Number of submissions



HOW TO USE THIS PLAYBOOK

This Playbook is intended for the use of communities, municipalities, BIAs¹, designers and placemakers – in short, anyone who is interested in using design as a tool to address main street revitalization in the current and post-COVID era.

We were interested in promoting work that could be used, and thus every applicant was asked to address implementation in their submission. (Accompanying each design in the Playbook, you'll find a link to that information.) The design submissions range widely, however, from the highly prescriptive to the more conceptual. In some cases, they serve as blueprints; in other cases, they provide inspiration, with key details to be locally crafted. In all cases, we recommend you partner with others in your neighbourhood or community to adapt them to your particular circumstances. These designs are free for your use, but we encourage you to reach out directly to the creators, and to credit them in your work. Contact information is available in each submission.

If you do use or adapt one of the designs in the Playbook, we want to hear from you. Please send pictures and stories to covidresponse@canurb.org. We'll highlight them in our communications so others across the country can learn from your experience.

¹ Refers to Business Improvement Areas (BIAs), Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), Business Improvement Zones (BIZs) and Société de développement commerciaux

THE DESIGNS

The following pages showcase 47 design solutions submitted to the Main Street Design Challenge by individuals and groups from across Canada. They are creative and practical interventions, from masterplans to art installations to modular street furniture, that can be implemented during and after the COVID-19 pandemic to support recovery of Canada's main streets. The entries are printed in the language they were originally submitted. Each page includes a link to the full submission details, which can be accessed online in English or French.

Icons



Opportunities
for Socialization



Sense of
Community



Local
Economies



Health
& Safety



Diversity &
Accessibility

ACCESSIBLE OUTDOOR PATIO GUIDELINES



Diversity & Accessibility



Sense of Community



Health & Safety

Best practices for ensuring new patios meet the intent of the Accessible Canada Act, Human Rights Code and AODA or AMA

Submitted by: DesignAble Environments

We're seeing the expansion of restaurant, café, and bar patios onto sidewalks and into the streets and parking spaces. If we are redesigning patios, let's fix the old barriers and Human Rights violations while we're at it to ensure they are fully accessible.

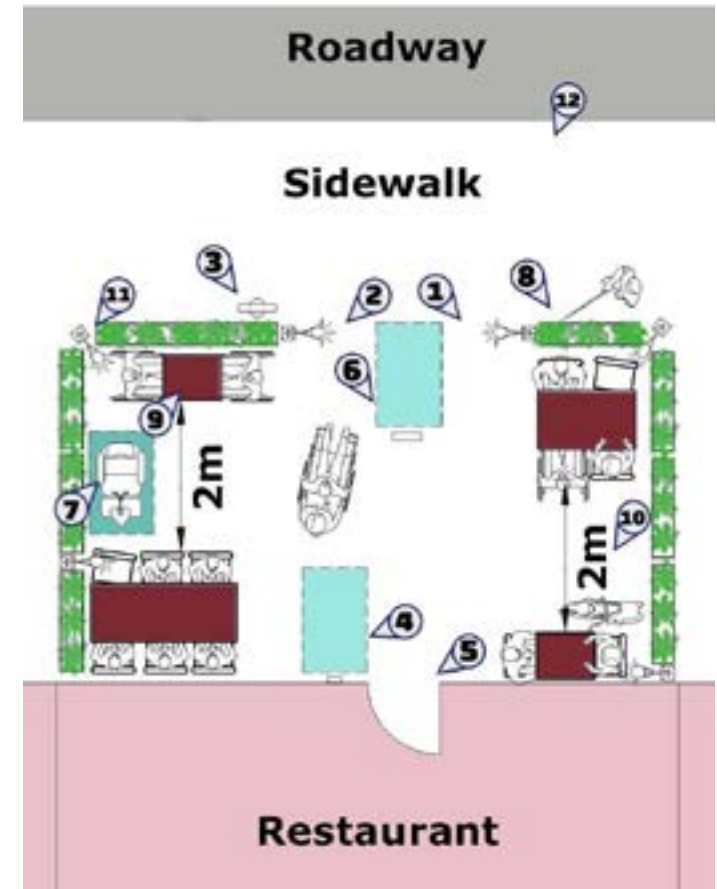
The staff at DesignAble Environment is in a unique position to be aware of accessibility standards that consider a wide variety of accessibility accommodations for different disabilities. With over 6.2 million Canadians reporting they have had at least one type of disability and with over 1,000 Canadians a day turning 65 (with a disability rate of 40%), we know these patios will want to welcome as many customers as possible!

Our guidelines provide a list of recommended actions to ensure these patios meet the intent of the Accessible Canada Act, Human Rights Code and requirements under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act or Accessibility for Manitobans Act. Following these design guidelines will help, but it is still the responsibility of those creating patios to do everything they can to meet the legislative requirements of the Human Rights Code. We recommend speaking with your disabled patrons to see what other accommodations might be necessary. #NothingWithoutUs.

Notes on implementation

- Design and implementation is dependent on municipal rules and regulations
- Cost varies case-by-case depending on available materials and municipal programs
- Installation encourages innovative design thinking in relation to outdoor spaces that brings accessibility to the forefront

[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction→](#)



A kit of parts that allows for flexible and proactive ways to manage streets

Submitted by: Gordon Stratford and Robert Freedman

Many streets are challenged in terms of being able to quickly respond to unanticipated disruption: COVID-19 is a prime example. Streets are largely anchored in place, with many built elements being either fixed or difficult to change. Our proposal consists of a Kit of Parts that enable streets (and communities they support) to be far more proactive and flexible in meeting new challenges. We believe that the agility offered by the range of parts can also help elevate the quantity and quality of public realm amenities.

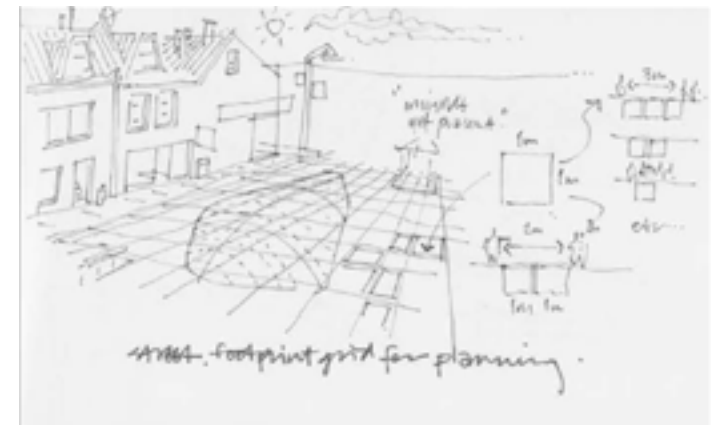
Our design addresses the following criteria:

1. **SUSTAINABILITY** - The Kit of Parts can be demounted and reused many times over, decreasing construction energy used and waste generated. Increased green space leads to heat island reduction. Off-grid energy generation (through use of PV arrays for landscaping lighting and mini wind generators on mini pavilions) and recycled materials (metal, concrete, plastic, wood) enhance sustainability.
2. **RESILIENCY** - This proposal provides agility (proactive response to change); flexibility (suit of parts enables variety, robust parts can be revised over again, more easily moveable, protected built-in service runs); creativity (variety of parts enables more creative solutions); and wellness (increased greening of streets enhances wellness).
3. **FORECASTING** - The design's built in flexibility/agility enables streets to more readily meet the challenges of multiple waves of the pandemic. The modular design anticipates that other pandemics may bring different challenges and safety requirements that need to be met; and the Kit addresses climate change with adaptability to increasingly unpredictable/extreme weather.

Notes on implementation

- This project intends to optimize the use of organic, recycled, and reusable materials in the fabrication of the Kit of Parts
- Parts of the kit can be prefabricated, with custom pieces to suit site conditions
- Kit can be used as a whole or selectively, allowing municipalities to store parts for occasions that arise.

[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction→](#)



AUGUSTA AVE., KENSINGTON MARKET BIA PUBLIC REALM MASTERPLAN



Re-envisioning Augusta Ave. as a post-COVID-19 Canadian Main Street

Submitted by: SUMO Project, Gladki Planning Associates, Greenberg Consulting Inc., and PMA Landscape Architects

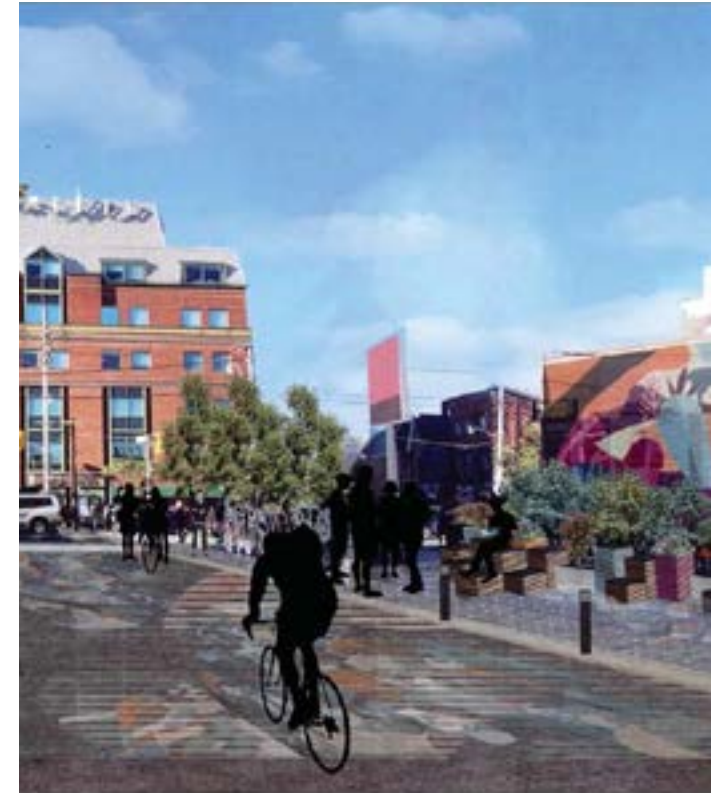
The global pandemic has had an impact on the way we live, work, socialize and connect. This has reinforced the importance of the public realm as the glue that binds society together through casual encounters and common activities irrespective of social, economic, political or cultural backgrounds. These spaces provide a much-needed escape valve and a way of reconnecting with friends and neighbours.

The re-design vision of Augusta Avenue, as part of the Kensington Market BIA Public Realm Masterplan, is an example of a main street that's been re-envisioned as a post-COVID-19 Canadian Main Street. Working together with the BIA, it includes short and long-term strategies that start with the introduction of temporary pilot projects. The idea is to create a series of public spaces and urban moments that enhance the pedestrian realm and make it safe and accessible to all while creating opportunities for leisure and social interaction that provide a sense of place and break up the continuity of the street.

Examples of these spaces include the College St. intersection where new sitting areas, public art and greenery opportunities redefine the space for pedestrians to enjoy while promoting social well-being, placemaking and place keeping. At Oxford St., communal activity areas, such as allotment gardens, encourage community bonding and civic literacy associated with growing, harvesting and consumption of food. Sidewalk enhancements have been proposed along the blocks to allow for safe circulation and potential expansion of uses to the street.

Notes on implementation

- A high level estimate done during the Masterplan process estimated a budget of between \$4-5M for public realm improvement
- The design includes the use of simple materials that concord with the simple and welcoming aesthetic of the market
- The masterplan is organized around the principles of community building. Smaller community-led projects could start to be implemented in the short term to test the ideas of the masterplan



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction →](#)

BACKYARD BLOCK PARTY: SHARING THE INTERSTITIAL SPACE



Sense of
Community



Local
Economies



Opportunities
for Socialization

Reimagining underutilized spaces to support local businesses and bring communities together

Submitted by: Kasian Architecture Interior Design and Planning Ltd

A bustling summer patio season along one of Calgary's main commercial avenues was interrupted by road construction in 2017, overwhelming the area with jackhammer noise and cement trucks. Patrons of the various bars and restaurants along 17th Avenue were unable to enjoy the vibrant streetscape and pedestrian parade. With a small but energetic team of volunteers, Kasian Architecture Interior Design and Planning Ltd (Kasian) and local organizations like the 17th Avenue BRZ and the City of Calgary turned a disused and unattractive laneway into a lively community hub dubbed the Backyard Alley Party.

Despite the popularity of the Backyard Alley Party, the COVID-19 crisis has devastated these local businesses. Operating at a greatly reduced capacity, they are struggling to serve their patrons safely while remaining profitable. The same philosophy of adapting the in-between spaces of the urban fabric that created the Backyard Alley Party can inspire new solutions to reinvigorate these areas.

At Kasian, we see an opportunity to orchestrate community, cultural, and commercial uses at a block level and create shared facilities that can tie the entire site together. Different zones can be created that exhibit local retailers, community groups, and artists. Patrons can enjoy an extended shoulder season, while making use of heated, weather-protected outdoor zones. Social distancing can be accommodated by increasing the capacity for vendors and patrons into underutilized parking areas and sidewalk zones. By rethinking the environment and designing for adaptability, we can help our communities become more resilient.

Notes on implementation

- Recommended budget would be approximately \$50,000, depending on sponsorships, donations, and volunteers.
- All on-site installation, set up, takedown, and cleaning would be managed by volunteers.
- The Backyard Alley Party was designed to allow for open and spacious seating and interactive configurations.



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction →](#)

LE BANC SÉQUENCÉ



Un banc qui offre aux utilisateurs de multiples façons de profiter d'un siège

Submitted by: A4 architecture + design

La rue Principale du quartier d'Aylmer de Gatineau est un pôle dynamique de la ville. En effet commerces, institutions, lieux religieux, parc ou bien encore marché hebdomadaire s'y côtoient.

Cette pandémie a fait évoluer la limite public/privé, les espaces d'usages clos se veulent plus ouverts vers l'extérieur et pour cela il faut investir la rue, ses trottoirs, ses espaces de stationnement... Plus que jamais en cette période de pandémie les acteurs de cette rue se mobilisent pour trouver des solutions qui se traduisent le plus souvent par de la signalétique. Après une étude complète de la rue Principale du quartier d'Aylmer, différents lieux ont été choisis pour développer des concepts adaptés et ergonomiques permettant un meilleur confort pour les usagers. Un seul concept fera l'objet de cette soumission.

Le banc public de nos parcs et nos squares et même de nos rues, est un des mobiliers urbains les plus utilisés en temps de pandémie, lorsque les restaurants, cafés... ne proposent que de la vente à emporter. Nous avons donc eu l'idée de développer « Le banc séquencé », proposant aux usagers, de multiples manières de profiter d'une pause.

Il s'agit de trois modules venant se greffer sur le banc public, en épousant sa forme. Le premier segmente le banc permettant d'isoler les gens sans pour autant perdre de place assise. Le deuxième condamne une place assise mais offre la possibilité de s'accouder. Le troisième propose une table pour prendre son repas. Ces trois modules pourraient être encore déclinés...

Notes on implementation

- Le banc séquencé » demande un budget d'environ 350\$ HT pour les 3 modules (basé sur des prix publics dans une quincaillerie).
- Le banc séquencé est constitué de : OSB traité hydrofuge blanchi et de base pour terrasse en béton.
- Les modules une fois réalisés sont facilement démontables et transportables.



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction→](#)

BOWNESSCAPE



Health
& Safety



Local
Economies



Opportunities
for Socialization

Breathing life into back alleyways to support local businesses

Submitted by: Angat Desai and Kim Hoang

Departing from the traditional design strategy of revitalizing the front of the main street, Bownesscape aims to breathe life into the often forgotten and overlooked back alleyways to support the development of a healthy urban environment. Typing together the community name Bowness with landscape and escape, Bownesscape expands the main street beyond the frontage into a holistic urban landscape where all are invited to support local businesses and safely socialize in the midst of the pandemic.

While the alleyway's primary use is car storage and garbage pick-up, further observation revealed that some people use the area as an informal social space. Backyards bordering along the edge became spaces for residents to expand their patios, interact with their neighbours, plant beautiful gardens, and walk their pets. Harnessing these existing activities, Bownesscape seeks to reclaim underutilized spaces by implementing a series of multidisciplinary design installations that will facilitate opportunities for formal and informal social encounters to support people's wellbeing and restore confidence in outdoor public spaces.

To encourage environmental responsibility, low impact design strategies such as permeable pavement and green spaces will replace gravel and expand equitable access for those with mobility devices. Incorporating native plants in gardens will provide rich ecosystems for urban wildlife, and bring beauty and joy to passersby. Other design interventions such as courtyards and patios expand businesses into the outdoors, and publicly encourage a vibrant pedestrian corridor to keep businesses afloat during the pandemic while following public health guidelines.

Notes on implementation

- Budget total of \$2.3 million for materials and master plan
- Detailed costs and materials available [here](#)



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction](#)→

BOYLE STREET COMMUNITY SERVICES (BSCS) RENOVATION & EXPANSION



Turning the main street into a “welcome mat” to support the community

Submitted by: Avid Architecture Inc.

Boyle Street Community Services (BSCS) works to support people experiencing poverty and homelessness. Currently, community members congregate on the open sidewalk in front of BSCS where there is minimal built infrastructure to support them and they are susceptible to human predators and gang bullying. What if the main street frontage could facilitate more hope, greater opportunity, and deeper connection?

The front entrance of the BSCS Renovation and Expansion will integrate vegetation and multiple seating options with shade and protection from the elements to generate a dynamic gathering spot: a “welcome mat” for the renovated building. Access to green space is important for everyone’s mental and physical health, especially during a pandemic. In addition to new gardens out front, a roof garden visible from the street and a rear courtyard provide ample outdoor gathering spaces with varied programming.

Improving the building’s appearance fosters a stronger sense of place for the community, reinforcing that it is maintained and cared for, and reducing incidents of crime such as vandalism and graffiti. The project also seeks to express the cultural identity of its predominantly Indigenous users, and to minimize its impact on the environment and adapt for future needs by investing in durable and multifunctional materials.

At present, the primary goal of Boyle’s facility is survival: its community members contend with a lack of security, overcrowding, and inaccessibility. Changing our main streets to be more of a “welcome mat” is a great replicable opportunity to address existing risks and provide a safer space.

Notes on implementation

- This renovation with facility expansion would require \$16–22 million.
- The building optimizes its environmental and operational sustainability by working to ensure that every building element serves multiple functions and through material selection that privileges durability, product life-cycle, and aesthetic quality.
- Honouring the community heritage and integrating the existing architectural identity of Boyle Street into the renovation is a key part of respecting and celebrating the building’s current users

[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction](#)→



LA CABANE À LECTURE



Health & Safety



Sense of Community

Une structure en forme de cabane qui permet aux gens de feuilleter des livres de bibliothèque à l'extérieur

Submitted by: A4 architecture + design

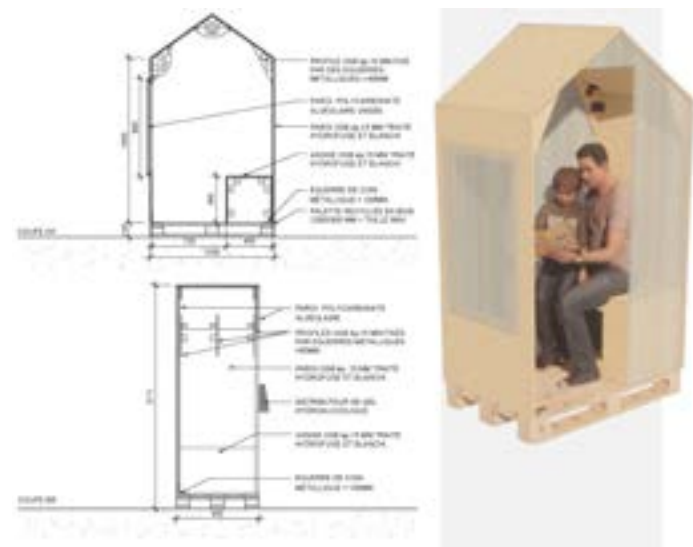
La rue Principale du quartier d'Aylmer de Gatineau est un pôle dynamique de la ville. En effet commerces, institutions, lieux religieux, parc ou bien encore marché hebdomadaire s'y côtoient.

Cette pandémie a fait évoluer la limite public/privé, les espaces d'usages clos se veulent plus ouverts vers l'extérieur et pour cela il faut investir la rue, ses trottoirs, ses espaces de stationnement... Plus que jamais en cette période de pandémie les acteurs de cette rue se mobilisent pour trouver des solutions qui se traduisent le plus souvent par de la signalétique. Après une étude complète de la rue Principale du quartier d'Aylmer, différents lieux ont été choisis pour développer des concepts adaptés et ergonomiques permettant un meilleur confort pour les usagers. Un seul concept fera l'objet de cette soumission.

La bibliothèque est un lieu de savoir auquel il est important d'avoir accès, nous avons donc eu l'idée de développer « La cabane à lecture », proposant aux usagers, de prendre le temps de consulter des livres à l'extérieur, tout en restant à proximité du lieu. Pensé d'abord comme une cabane, ce volume à une géométrie simple. Quatre murs et un toit à deux pans, une entrée et des parois translucides permettant de profiter de la lumière extérieure, ainsi qu'une assise. Ce module est dépendant de son support, une palette de bois recyclée qui en détermine les limites. Il s'agit d'un temps de pause dans l'environnement urbain, il n'est donc pas figé aux abords d'une bibliothèque et peut être utilisé ailleurs.

Notes on implementation

- La cabane à lecture » demande un budget d'environ 850\$ HT par unité
- La cabane pourra être facilement déplacée à l'aide avec un transpalette.
- La cabane à lecture » est constituée de : Palette recyclée (palette à blocs en bois), OSB traité hydrofuge blanchi et de plastique polycarbonate alvéolaire translucide.



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction](#)→

A CHILD-FRIENDLY MAIN STREET FOR RIVERSIDE



Sense of Community



Local Economies

Social cohesion and neighborhood resilience are central to creating better cities

Submitted by: Heidi Campbell, Paula Gallo, Michi Komori, Christine Martin, Ferruccia Sardella

The active engagement of children and families is essential to building vibrant and resilient communities that address future challenges. By designing with and for children, who are often excluded in planning, we enhance the quality of neighbourhood gathering spaces and more meaningfully connect people within their communities. The Riverside neighbourhood of Toronto has a dynamic mix of residents surrounded by active and well-used community spaces and thriving local businesses.

Our design concept reimagines this main street using our Child-Friendly Participatory Design approach to create a refuge of calm and safety, an area of accessible, high-quality green spaces that are welcoming to children and the wider community. This will cause people to pause and appreciate the enhanced spaces for children and families to connect, artists to create, and businesses to engage creatively with people.

Building on the Riverside Streetscape Master Plan, we propose transforming the street into an inspirational public space that prioritizes people and the natural world over vehicles. We envision a main street where children, their caregivers and the wider community will have access to comfortable spaces, and to an improved design that is more welcoming to pedestrians and bicyclists of all ages. This design will support a host of community activities, and nurture a strong connection between people and nature. It will serve as a catalyst for main streets and cities everywhere to begin their transformation, hand in hand with children. When cities invest in streets that are good for children, they create spaces that are good for all.

Notes on implementation

- Approximation of fees: \$2,000 - \$10,000 for pop-up activations, and \$5,000 - \$150,000 for pop-up built budget.
- All design elements are imagined through a temporary, or semi-permanent lens.
- An estimation of \$20,000 - \$40,000 on participatory design services.



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction →](#)

CLIPS LE OU TU VEUX



Diversity &
Accessibility



Local
Economies

Des clôtures supplémentaires qui améliorent les expériences d'attente

Submitted by: **A4 architecture + design**

La rue Principale du quartier d'Aylmer de Gatineau est un pôle dynamique de la ville. En effet commerces, institutions, lieux religieux, parc ou bien encore marché hebdomadaire s'y côtoient.

La rue Principale du quartier d'Aylmer de Gatineau est un pôle dynamique de la ville. En effet commerces, institutions, lieux religieux, parc ou bien encore marché hebdomadaire s'y côtoient. Cette pandémie a fait évoluer la limite public/privé, les espaces d'usages clos se veulent plus ouverts vers l'extérieur et pour cela il faut investir la rue, ses trottoirs, ses espaces de stationnement. Plus que jamais en cette période de pandémie les acteurs de cette rue se mobilisent pour trouver des solutions qui se traduisent le plus souvent par de la signalétique. Après une étude complète de la rue Principale du quartier d'Aylmer, différents lieux ont été choisis pour développer des concepts adaptés et ergonomiques permettant un meilleur confort pour les usagers. Un seul concept fera l'objet de cette soumission.

La file d'attente devant les commerces fait désormais partie des habitudes liées à la pandémie. Avant plutôt ponctuelle elle est devenue usuelle. Nous avons donc développé une série de modules qui viennent se « plugger » aux clôtures qui délimitent certains commerces. Ils ont été pensés dans le but d'améliorer les temps d'attentes des clients et même de permettre aux commerçants de les utiliser comme aménagements extérieurs.

Leurs dimensions varient en fonction de la taille de la clôture et certains sont utilisables seulement sur des clôtures basses.

Le temps d'attente devient ludique et agréable autour d'un verre, accoudé, adossé ou même assis... c'est un espace de transition entre l'espace public et l'espace commerçant.

Notes on implementation

- Les modules « clips le ou tu veux » ont un budget total de 700\$ HT pour l'ensemble des modules soit 5 modules (basé sur des prix publics dans une quincaillerie).
- La main d'œuvre n'est pas comprise car ces modules ont été conçus de façon simple, permettant à toutes les personnes intéressées, de les réaliser elles-mêmes ou bien de les faire construire par un entrepreneur de leur choix.
- Les modules « clips le ou tu veux » sont constitués de : OSB traité hydrofuge blanchi

[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction](#)→



COLO(U)R NOT AN ISSUE



Wrapping elements of the cityscape with colour

Submitted by: Michael Le

Reality can inspire sharing of perspective on what we've come to live. The piece, Colo(u)r Not An Issue, is to describe this context in time: a time filled with radical movements and free open thinking. It's time right now for worldly experiences and openness to the change we are striving for in future generations. This artistic piece expresses this with vivid colours through optimism and abstract scattering to reflect the time in a push for a brighter tomorrow.

The focus of the artwork is as a wrap for urban city infrastructure throughout the public realm. A scouting report was done by driving through and listed down recurring urban infrastructure that was prevalent all throughout Bloor (Jane to Danforth).

Potential options:

- Street Lamp (Multiple styles throughout Bloor)
- Traffic Signal Cabinet
- Litter / Garbage Can
- Mailbox
- Traffic Lights
- Bench (Three different styles throughout Bloor)
- Bike Racks (Two different styles throughout Bloor)
- Large empty walls on buildings (Multiple options all throughout Bloor)
- Areas of the bridge (towards Danforth)
- Listed Bulletin
- Bicycle Barrier
- On the actual sidewalk (More in DT area towards Yonge)
- Flower / Plant Bases

This list represents the design being used in multiple media, while still being unique.

Notes on implementation

- The scalability of the artwork allows it to be used all throughout Main Street.
- Wraps can cost from \$250 - \$1500 based on the size of objects.
- Wraps would need to be done through labour, based on research precisely and accurately.

[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction→](#)



COLOURING OUTSIDE THE LINES: RECOVERING POST-COVID STREETSCAPES



Revitalizing vacant spaces with art to attract people back into communities

Submitted by: **Cassandra Harms and Jordan Monck**

After months of isolation and lifeless streets, people are beginning to rediscover their cities, visiting places and people they have missed. With new guidelines in place, communities need to be creative when drawing people back to the core; we need to create a sense of place and togetherness outdoors in spaces that were previously overlooked. Due to the reliance on large gatherings and indoor spaces, artists of all mediums have been among the hardest hit by this pandemic. There should be a place for everyone on the journey to economic recovery, and all cities, big or small, to possess the resources to provide these opportunities for the arts.

In our opinion, every unused surface and space that is seen from the street has the potential to become a canvas; not only will artists benefit from the exposure for their work, but local business will thrive when the buzz from new projects brings curious customers back downtown. This is a prime opportunity to create stronger partnerships between many groups: municipalities and organizations can commission artists for work on their properties, planners can work with artists to fulfill long-term urban design goals, and artists can help visually promote public health protocols. Having visual reminders of safety and social empathy during challenging times will help our communities stay bonded. When the world endures its next hardship, instead of focusing on what we cannot do, we can continue to build community vibrancy in rediscovered space that was not maximized during COVID-19.

Notes on implementation

- Costs and material required for the project depends on the artists' chosen medium and the types of works municipalities and organizations choose to commission.
- Artists will be responsible for their own installation.



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DECENTRALIZING MAIN STREET



Diversity & Accessibility



Opportunities for Socialization



Sense of Community

A community-driven micro-hub providing basic utilities and opportunities to support local economies

Submitted by: **ASK* for a better world**

Decentralizing main street means supporting our immediate neighbours. The micro-hub is a building that is intended to be a node of local resources for community members.

There are three components that every micro-hub intends to support; community love, local economy and basic utilities. The community love component is a collection of amenities that community members can give to each other. The local economy component is about discovering what goods, services, and talent is right there in your neighbourhood. This is accomplished through a touchscreen which is a continually updated local directory for local business, music festivals and markets and parks. The basic utilities component provides some basic needs such as water, shelter and outlets/wifi. This could also be a central hub for communicating and planning.

This idea is intended to be repeatable but highly personal to the neighbourhood where it sits, supporting what that area needs. The boundaries of the area each Micro-hub services should be walkable; this allows it to be a central place for multiple resources and social interactions.

The small structure should be relatively simple, the equivalent of an elaborate bus stop. The structure is intended to be very interactive, inviting anyone to touch, use, or look at every part of it. These small structures should be constructed with natural, eco-friendly and durable materials, running off of its own generated power and reflecting the neighbourhood character. *u même assis... c'est un espace de transition entre l'espace public et l'espace commerçant.*

Notes on implementation

- The cost of each micro-hub is estimated to be \$150,000-\$300,000k depending on the resources that each community and city would have available.
- Ideally, the building materials should reflect what locally-owned businesses can provide or produce
- The building could be implemented using locally-owned businesses through which they could receive recognition on the micro-hub.



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DESIGNING FOR INCLUSIVITY



Diversity & Accessibility



Health & Safety

Guidebook for universal washrooms and change rooms

Submitted by: **HCMA Architecture + Design**

All aspects of architecture must take its social impacts into consideration. HCMA created the Designing for Inclusivity Guide to help fill a gap in design knowledge around issues relating to universal washroom and change rooms in community and recreation facilities.

The Guide is intended to be a resource for designers, municipal staff, facility planners, building operators and managers, and anyone interested in understanding more about this topic and why it is increasingly part of best practice considerations across project and building types.

This document discusses how universal washrooms and change rooms promote:

- Inclusivity for people with disabilities
- Inclusivity for families
- Inclusivity for transgender and non-binary people
- Increased privacy and safety
- Increased efficiency
- Forward-thinking design

The objectives of this Guidebook are to provide context, identify benefits and challenges, and share design strategies that promote inclusivity for a wide variety of users. It shares a variety of critical background and information all in one place, including building regulations, human rights legislation, terminology and statistics on transgender and non-binary inclusion, typologies and precedents, and additional resources.

There have been many learnings from this current pandemic. One of them has been confirmation of the importance of inclusion and diversity. It is critical that we intentionally find ways to ensure that all members of society are supported in our public spaces and buildings.

Notes on implementation

- For new construction, there is no cost premium for thinking and designing inclusively - it is a mindset and should be embraced and integrated early
- Budget for retrofit projects would be same as any other retrofit cost



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EAT YOUR STREET

Providing Main Street businesses with the opportunity to expand through delivery platforms

Submitted by: CivicWorks

Many main street businesses are feeling the sting of restrictive measures and grappling with the loss of patronage that once came with active, vibrant streets. In an effort to address public safety concerns, businesses have been required to maintain physical distancing between customers and limit overall capacity. As the new normal sets in and people begin venturing outside their homes, there is a need to adapt and balance social interaction with public health concerns to support economic resiliency on our Main Streets.

EatYourStreet is an app that supports local main street food services and hospitality operations, using public spaces and smartphone technology to safely expand business capacity at a hyper-localized scale. By utilizing existing public infrastructure, this concept can be easily implemented with little capital investment. By addressing public seating spaces, the app connects public space users with restaurants within walking-distance delivery service. Tables and/or seating are identified with wayfinding signage and connected via geolocated QR codes that direct users to the take-out menu and facilitate food delivery right to your seat.

We've identified two primary typologies:

1. Street Bar: on-street or on-sidewalk seating installations; and
2. Take-Out Park: pop-up seating on existing park space or underutilized/vacant lots.

EatYourStreet creates multiple zones of dining sprinkled throughout a Main Street area, generating an overlapping dining ecosystem while promoting and financially bolstering local restaurants. Restaurants may choose to participate in any identified dining zone within a walking radius of their choosing, allowing for efficient and direct in-house delivery.

Notes on implementation

- Program may be implemented by the City, community groups and/or BIAs/zones, and private landowners
- Costs associated with seating and the app are expected to be minimal
- Costs associated with waste and maintenance are anticipated to be supported by implementers.

[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction](#)→



FRESH START: BACK TO BASICS



Health
& Safety



Local
Economies



Sense of
Community

10 actions to bring people back to main streets

Submitted by: **DeeDee Nelson**

Main Street needs to pick itself up, dust itself off and get back into the mix. This is the restart: main streets need to be safe, welcoming and prioritize people, allowing them to reconnect with the things they need, close to home. With trust and friendliness, cooperation and compassion, let's build these relationships and get back to basics. Here's how:

SIDEWALKSCAPE

- Clean all sidewalks and anything on them
- Clean all windows and refresh signage by washing or replacing it
- Tidy or prune all grass, plantings and trees
- Install large, attractive and cohesive wayfinding signage board on each block
- Install additional bike racks and recycle and garbage bins
- Create a 'recovery kit' of essentials for each place of business
- Add sidewalk accoutrements, like sandwich boards, for each business
- Place two to three food trucks parked together - just add food!
- Pièce de résistance - a Main Street Ambassador who is a friendly face
- Sit back and wait for the magic to happen!

The Main Street Ambassador will walk the sidewalks and play a vital role in creating a sense of belonging and community spirit by helping with shop, transit, washroom and accessibility information, handing out maps and sanitizer, answering questions and generally welcoming everyone. They will be recognized by their friendly demeanor and identifying neighbourhood-themed t-shirt or cap.

Once these steps are completed, we can start thinking about the next steps: local shop 'crawls', marketplaces and connecting main streets to other desirable locales and amenities close by.

Notes on implementation

- Budget for all items and labour is approximately \$3,000-\$5,000 per block.
- The Recovery Kit for each place of business includes: a plastic bucket holding sanitizer pump, a cleaner spray bottle and bulk paper towel pack, sidewalk decals for distancing and 2m length of string for measuring
- The Ambassador could be a civic employee or BIA volunteer, neighbourhood volunteer or combined effort of all three

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HERALDRY DRIVE THROUGH FACILITIES FOR MAIN STREET



Changing the public and consumer behaviour through interactive safety measures

Submitted by: Samar Chandra

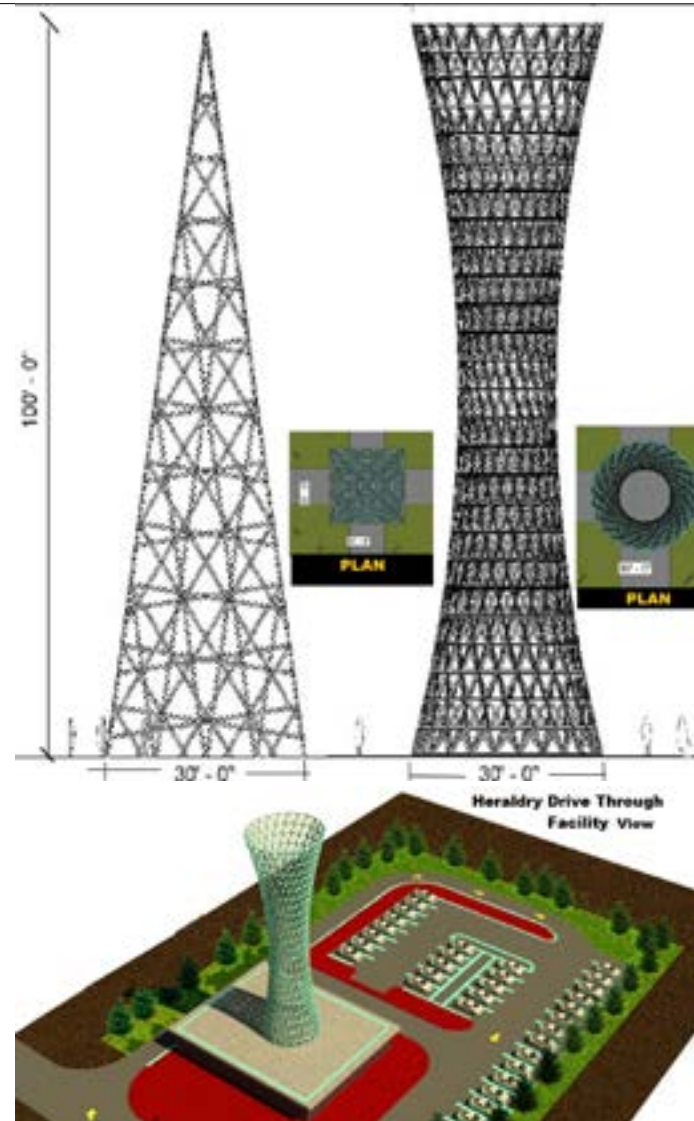
The objective of these heraldry structures is to act as a symbolic language and physical attraction to bring people back to main streets. The word *escutcheon* (late 15th century) is based on the Old North French *escuchon* which means “shield”. Here these towers and tall metal structures become safe distancing architecture to act as “shields” and are designed to help control COVID-19 at nodes of Canadian main streets.

These structures can be designed to reflect diverse communities and cultures and used in many different ways: as drive through restaurant facilities (as shown in the image), as monuments, or as banners for main streets. Their purpose is to act as a slogan – a battle cry – in the public realm to reinforce a Canadian “honour system” during the pandemic and foster a renewed sense of pride and identity.

Heraldry has been described poetically as “the handmaid of history”. In modern times, individuals, organizations, corporations, and cities use heraldry and its conventions to symbolize their heritage, achievements, and aspirations. In this case, with social distancing measures (as in a drive through facility) they can be repurposed to support the present and post-COVID customer experience. They will act as functional historic monuments; using artistic designs and cultural motifs and adding LED lights and music at night will allow passersby to quickly spot the festive public realm and bring back the lost vitality of the neighbourhood.

Notes on implementation

- All costs plus 25 percent will be service/design fees after insurance fees and taxes.
- All designs and details will be provided on request



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction→](#)

AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO MAIN STREET DESIGN



Diversity & Accessibility



Sense of Community

Revitalizing main streets through community engagement and testing of design ideas

Submitted by: Stantec Consulting Ltd.

When Stantec's design team has the pleasure to embark on a main street revitalization project, they see an opportunity to create a safe, vibrant, and accessible space for the community. Although each main street is unique, we apply a proven approach to ensure its success: robust stakeholder and community engagement, testing of design ideas and the prioritization of space based on community needs.

Community feedback is what makes each street unique. Having meaningful conversations, asking the right questions, and listening to users of the space, including the business owners, community associations, visitors, and residents is fundamental to the design process. COVID-19 has presented an opportunity to use new online platforms to gauge feedback on design ideas, gather detailed analysis, and ask community questions. In many ways, this tweaked approach yields more detailed results than conventional methods, especially from individuals who may not normally provide feedback.

Once a preliminary design is in place, the next step is testing, ranging from closing a section of the street to determine impacts on vehicular movement, to adding pop-up features such as temporary seating, public art or a stage in the public realm. By seeing how the community interacts with the space, our team can make appropriate recommendations for effective and sustainable design.

Our design approach is currently being used on three active projects: The City of Calgary Main Streets 33/34 Avenue SW; Festival Square with the City of Lethbridge; and the Central Avenue Main Street Revitalization project with the City of Prince Albert.

Notes on implementation

- This approach has been used on projects ranging in budget from \$500,000 - \$15 million
- As a design approach, it can be used on a variety of projects, depending on community need



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction→](#)

J'EN MÈNE PAS LARGE



Health & Safety



Local Economies



Sense of Community

Réinventer le commerce de détail

Submitted by: **A4 architecture + design**

La rue Principale du quartier d'Aylmer de Gatineau est un pôle dynamique de la ville. En effet commerces, institutions, lieux religieux, parc ou bien encore marché hebdomadaire s'y côtoient.

Cette pandémie a fait évoluer la limite public/privé, les espaces d'usages clos se veulent plus ouverts vers l'extérieur et pour cela il faut investir la rue, ses trottoirs, ses espaces de stationnement.

Plus que jamais en cette période de pandémie les acteurs de cette rue se mobilisent pour trouver des solutions qui se traduisent le plus souvent par de la signalétique.

Après une étude complète de la rue Principale du quartier d'Aylmer, différents lieux ont été choisis pour développer des concepts adaptés et ergonomiques permettant un meilleur confort pour les usagers. Un seul concept fera l'objet de cette soumission. La file d'attente devant les commerces fait désormais partie des habitudes liées à la pandémie. Avant plutôt ponctuelle elle est devenue usuelle.

Nous avons donc développé une série de modules autoportants, dans but d'améliorer les temps d'attentes des clients et permettant aux commerçants de les utiliser comme aménagements extérieurs. Ces modules sont tout d'abord une matérialisation physique de l'espace d'attente mais aussi de la limite de la rue. Qu'ils soient contre un mur ou qu'ils segmentent l'espace du trottoir ils ont pour but de prendre un minimum d'espace.

Avoir la possibilité de s'accouder, de s'adosser ou même de s'asseoir lorsque l'on attend, le temps semble tout de suite moins long.

Notes on implementation

- Les modules disposent d'un budget total de 960 dollars hors taxes pour l'ensemble des modules, soit 8 modules (sur la base des prix de détail dans une quincaillerie)
- La main d'œuvre n'est pas incluse car ces modules ont des conceptions simples, permettant à toutes les parties intéressées de les réaliser elles-mêmes ou de les faire réaliser par un vendeur de leur choix.
- Les modules "J'en mène pas large" sont composés de : panneaux OSB (Oriented Strand Board) blanchis hydrofuges, nid d'abeille en polycarbonate et base pour terrasses en béton.



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction](#)→

LIGHT & SWITCH



A new approach to traffic management and road design

Submitted by: Momentum Transport Consultancy

Main Streets are vital to the wellbeing of Canadian communities. Our Main Streets are facing unprecedented challenges related to new consumer patterns and online shopping, travel needs, new technologies, the climate emergency, as well as the recent outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Momentum proposes an innovative solution seeking to redesign streets so they become attractive and safe destinations for both residents and visitors, especially as more people have moved to active travel in city centres such as Montreal where cycling and walking have increased with temporary infrastructure. We propose the use of cameras or Bluetooth sensors (software) and LED lights (hardware) to create a flexible space ready to adapt to the various uses and users. On the one hand, the use of LED lights to reconfigure street use and change traffic conditions is an economical, sustainable and flexible way to try and implement projects, and on the other hand, the use of cameras or Bluetooth sensors associated with an artificial intelligence software will collect real-time data for authorities to support decision-making. This solution can be implemented by the local authority itself or in collaboration with Business Improvement Districts and local retailers.

We present a sustainable future-proof proposal that is transferable and will deliver flexibility and resiliency to our cities. This innovative approach to road design and traffic management will reclaim the street for pedestrians, improving health and safety conditions, increasing footfall and supporting social activities, which in turn will boost investment and bring life back to our local areas.

Notes on implementation

- The budget is split into three components: Solutions to respond to specific contexts of a street and the concept plans for the solution (\$10,000-\$15,000); cameras or Bluetooth sensors including software and interactive dashboards (\$20,000-\$30,000); and LED lights (\$20,000 minimum).
- Installation of the cameras or Bluetooth sensors, once validated, can be deployed in two weeks
- Installation of LED technology can take different shapes, depending on the technology provider.

[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction](#)→



Soutenir l'expérience du client en aidant à identifier les entreprises ouvertes.

Submitted by: Épigraphe

Alors que les rues principales et leurs boutiques se relèvent tranquillement d'une crise qui a changé dramatiquement les dynamiques commerciales existantes, les usagers ont peine à s'y retrouver. Quelle entreprise est ouverte ou toujours fermée?

Si les files de clients sur les trottoirs indiquent parfois la reprise d'activité d'un établissement, plusieurs autres demeurent anonymes, ce qui compromet à la fois leur survie financière et la réactivation des artères principales comme moteurs sociaux, culturels et économiques. Au terme de la situation actuelle, il nous apparaît pertinent, tant pour les commerçants, les usagers que la pérennité des milieux de vies, de déployer un dispositif qui permettra de communiquer la résilience de tous les commerçants en offrant un outil simple, efficace et ludique pour l'utilisateur.

LIGHTS ON cherche à faciliter l'expérience client post-COVID par l'identification des commerces qui sont ouverts. L'utilisation d'un code graphique propre à l'identité visuelle de la rue principale permettra à l'utilisateur de saisir, d'un coup d'œil, l'offre présente pouvant répondre à ses besoins. Ce code, développé par la ville ou par la société de développement de la rue principale, sera réutilisé sous forme de luminaire pour marquer, de façon ponctuelle, le type de commerce se trouvant à cet endroit. L'installation de luminaires muraux est une intervention superficielle, respectueuse du patrimoine bâti et facilement transposable à n'importe quelle artère principale. En plus de rendre les rues plus sécuritaires en soirée, l'identification des commerces permet une meilleure connaissance de la variété de l'offre pour les usagers et résidents du quartier.

Notes on implementation

- Chaque luminaire peut-être fabriqué pour un montant approximatif de 500\$.
- Matériaux: un cadre en aluminium, un support mural, une bande d'éclairage DEL, et un film plastique
- Le projet est facilement transférable dans différentes municipalités et chaque société de développement peut se l'approprier, appliquer son identité visuelle

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LIVING ARTS DRIVE TACTICAL URBANISM PROJECT



Health & Safety



Sense of Community

A complete streets pilot project that redesigns the street for the public and business owners

Submitted by: City of Mississauga

The Downtown Core Public Realm Strategy team from the Urban Design Section of Development and Design, Planning and Building Department, at the City of Mississauga initiated the Living Arts Drive Tactical Urbanism Pilot Project. By implementing the pilot with its various design components, the City was able to gauge the public's reaction towards a Complete Street. A Complete Street is designed, operated, and maintained to enable safe, convenient, and comfortable travel modes for all age groups and abilities.

The selected site was strategically located between residential and retail units. Based on this pilot, the City of Mississauga is confident that other municipalities can re-interpret this design when designing their own roadways. The design illustrates an LID feature, a reduction of vehicular lanes to allow for a protected cycle lane, additional furnishings and enhanced planting, along with areas that can be converted into art pop-ups throughout the cooler seasons.

Additionally, green infrastructure (the option of a bicycle lane) is highlighted for those who may wish to explore alternatives to public transit during the COVID19 pandemic. The gathering spaces are an extension of the public realm and incorporate more room for physical distancing. The spaces are flexible to suit the requirements of the municipality. For example, seating can be added or removed and public art can be safely displayed for all to enjoy within an open concept. The design supports economic recovery during the pandemic by giving others the opportunity to carefully hang out and connect within their community.

Notes on implementation

- The pilot project budget had a limit of \$5,000 for purchasing supplies and to cover expenses. Business units and sponsors both contributed to and supported the pilot. For each portion of the roadway, we estimate it will cost \$30,000-\$50,000 for a permanent design to be installed.
- The design will take approximately 6 months to plan and 2-2.5 weeks to fully install. The best recommendation is to phase the installation.
- The selected site was strategically located between both residential and retail units, making it an ideal road on which to execute the design.



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction](#)→

Unlocking a high volume suburban micro-mobility network

Submitted by: Our Greenway Conservancy

The Mobility Greenway model uses raingardens and trees extensively to protect a high volume suburban micro-mobility network, enabling economic opportunities and a healthy environment. Wide paths capable of moving people and goods will draw residents out to enjoy programmed parkette spaces allocated for entrepreneurs and leisure year-round. A living green infrastructure system prevents stormwater from overwhelming sewers, filters polluted air, and protects people from traffic violence. Creating an all-ages micro-mobility transport network enables seniors to live comfortably without car or mass transit access.

Car-dependent suburbs lead to negative health outcomes for seniors; conversely, our safe and accessible model supports daily physical activity and social interaction. Additionally, streets are often dangerous for people walking, including transit passengers who walk or cycle to and from mass transit. People walking will benefit from our approach explicitly separating people driving from those cycling with robust raingarden barriers.

The Greenway is equitable because it increases affordable independent travel options in less walkable areas with relatively poor mass transit access, including suburbs, Neighbourhood Improvement Areas, and industrial zones where racialized residents live and work. Further, legalizing cargo cycle food businesses in parkettes outside of commercial zones will support food security and enliven streetscapes within residential zones.

Our model unlocks the potential for sustainable and affordable multi-residential buildings - built with wide doors, large elevators, and enclosed mobility device parking / charging spaces - enabling micro-mobility solutions to meet most business and resident needs. Adopting the Mobility Greenway model will enable safe and practical journeys within resilient suburban communities.

Notes on implementation

- An estimated cost of \$18.50/ft3 to install stormwater retention capacity and a healthier tree canopy
- An estimated cost of \$500 for individual parkettes.
- Permeable concrete or pavers are the ideal micro-mobility pathway material.

[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction →](#)



OASIS AT MAIN STREET



Health
& Safety



Opportunities
for Socialization

Modular parkettes to invite people to the outdoors

Submitted by: Philip Tan Architects

The COVID lockdown has impacted street life. People resist going out. As the pandemic continues, we need to find ways to rejuvenate the streets without fear of contamination. We want to invite people to come outdoors safely. People today leave their homes anxiously, then hurriedly get back into their cars and drive straight home. There's just point A and Z. There's no in-between.

We propose a prototype parkette within any city block to accommodate safe outdoor interaction. Individual seats are provided and arranged to allow distancing. These seats can be adjusted to varying heights to cater to adults and children. Bicycle racks are built into the installation. The parkette is all inclusive and invites everyone outdoors to share a story or two. The installation is designed to be modular, allowing various configurations afforded by flexible fasteners. Each parkette site will dictate the orientation, juxtaposition and overall configuration of the installation. The modules are lightweight and conveniently transportable. They are made of polyethylene and plastisol-coated steel and assembly is quick. Polyethylene is crafted from an eco-friendly, post-consumer material that can last decades exposed to the element.

We see these installations with their peculiarity catered to the COVID pandemic while it lasts. The installation can stay past the pandemic and become a functional 'monument' to later generations due to its inherent design peculiarity, attesting to what happened in 2020. It would cater to the needs of the current pandemic today and capture the essence of 2020 for the unborn generation.

Notes on implementation

- Estimated cost for materials, fabrication, and installation is \$2500 per modular unit with one extension bar
- Various termination options include sanitation stations and thirst fountains.
- Modules can be arranged freely to suit spatial constraints and fastened one to another with the steel bicycle rack tubes.



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction→](#)

OH CANADA, MY CANADA



Provoking conversation about shared responsibility to main streets

Submitted by: Imran Babur, Emily Kerr, and Ron Ma

“Oh Canada, My Canada” is a public art project that aims to expose the hypocrisy that runs rampant within the country we call Canada. Canadians live under the illusion that we are good, just and innocent. However, COVID-19 has exposed these cracks in Canadian society. Our aim is to show the true nature of discrimination and oppression that occurs here in our “home and native land.” More than ever before, we need to know what’s taking place in our own backyards – and we need to be interested in knowing in the first place.

This piece is a digital art exhibition to be installed in high-traffic areas around Toronto. It will require a 9x3 grid of 50” TV monitors in large, open spaces. Each monitor will contain an individual photo of a rotting maple leaf from various angles. Using the “Artivive” app for smartphones, people will be able to discover encrypted messages, videos, and art pieces within the photographs that explore human rights abuses occurring in our country.

Cities serve as engines of inspiration and act as centres of cultural and social well-being. By showcasing “Oh Canada, My Canada” on main streets, we hope to foster vibrant, resilient, and healthy communities by inspiring a sense of shared responsibility to fix the issues that cause COVID-19 to disproportionately affect certain Canadian demographics. This exhibition will act as a springboard, strengthening the link between public art and civic engagement through art that engages the public, while also addressing major issues facing Canada today.

Notes on implementation

- The estimated cost of this project is \$59,989
- The budget includes wages for those involved in the development, production, and management of this project



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OUTDOOR, PRODUCTIVITY, ECO, NODES (OPEN)



Publicly accessible outdoor work spaces

Submitted by: Morgan Dundas, John Homsy, and Lisa Mishko

Through the commotion of COVID-19 a variety of social dimensions have radically flipped. This intervention focuses on the disruption of productivity and work to create publicly accessible outdoor work stations.

Many individuals who have been forced to work from home during the pandemic have experienced increased stress and reduced productivity due to managing children, environmental factors, and lack of access to resources needed to complete the given work.

In contrast, there exists a calmness from sitting still and working in a natural environment: stress loosens, fresh air moves around, natural light is being felt on your skin. There are many health benefits to being near natural features for extended periods of time.

Publicly accessible outdoor work spaces may materialize differently depending on their locations, be it a parking spot on a main street, an open field in an urban park, or an office park in the downtown core. The idea is modular, scalable and adaptable to the immediate surroundings. For example, in the context of an open field, desks would be placed with native vegetation between each “work station” serving as a barrier for privacy and as a means to guide others through the grouping of stations. In the context of an office park a repurposed shipping container can serve as an informal conference room or insulated studio for a small group of people year round. Working outdoors with seating that adheres to social distancing guidelines is a benefit to society that will last long after the pandemic.

Notes on implementation

- There are three different unit types: A small-scale on-street unit for parking spaces, a medium-scale park space unit for an urban park, and a large-scale retrofitted container unit.
- The cost of each unit changes, with the small-scale unit estimated at \$1,530/unit, the medium-scale unit estimated at \$7,040/unit, and the large-scale unit estimated at \$18,090/unit.
- The intervention acts as series of support structures for the activities and livelihood of main streets.



[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction→](#)

PAVEMENT PLACEMAKING



Diversity & Accessibility



Opportunities for Socialization



Health & Safety



Sense of Community

Bringing the pavement to life with customizable, local messages of community encouragement and art

Submitted by: International Avenue Business Revitalization Zone

Empower locals to write the Earth, let the sidewalk burst with colour and good vibes. Customizable vinyl stickers designed for sidewalks are the perfect tool for community-involved summer placemaking. Each sticker features a unique personal and positive message from a community member or local business owner. Local art or other meaningful images can be featured on the sticker. We've chosen to feature the same colourful, place-based images on our banners.

Show your community members that this is their street, and that this is a loved place. During COVID, you can safely collect comments from people through social media. Otherwise, you can also collect comments from people in person on the street. Also consider approaching organizations invested in supporting your community: non-profits, schools, businesses, or social groups.

Check with your local print shop to have the stickers made (see fabrication details for specifics). Be sure to get the slip-resistant overlamine to support safety and accessibility. The stickers will last the summer months and are a great indicator of temporality and summer celebration. At the end of the season, you will easily be able to remove them in one piece, ensuring they don't pollute our land, water, or air.

Notes on implementation

- The sticker material costs approximately \$20-30/sq. foot
- Contact your local printing service about the 3M "3662-10 Scotchcal Sidewalk Vinyl" with the "3M Scotchcal Clear Overlamine Film 3647", if used on walking surfaces
- Planning can begin in the late winter to determine budget, printing, and engage community members.



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PLAY WITH CRATES



Sense of Community



Opportunities for Socialization

Expanding patio space for various activities in the Victoria Drive BIA area

Submitted by: Xiangdi Cai and Yu Teng Lin

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Vancouver has been looking ahead with a series of programs that aim to help residents and businesses adapt to the new reality of living and operating under a safe environment. These programs include 50km Slow Streets, Pop-up Plazas, and the Temporary Expedited Patio Program.

These programs have received positive feedback from communities. However, most of the interventions of the programs have been seen as rather conventional and repetitive in forms and uses. Therefore, we propose two design objectives:

1. To explore potential street interventions that can enhance activities by different users and in different scales;
2. To explore construction materials that can be readily available and easy to assemble for whoever wishes to engage. The simplicity and flexibility of such assembly can in turn inspire people to discover more typologies and uses that will further animate street activities

The design proposal is a series of street interventions that are mostly composed of crates as the basic model - a material that is commonly available in the market and business groups. By orienting and stacking crates differently, the space can be used for different activities such as sitting, planting, shopping, and lining up. Given the rigidity and lightness of the module, the intervention can be stacked up rather easily and supported by its own.

Notes on implementation

- Expected overall budget will be similar to the conventional street projects of the same scale
- Other primary supporting materials include plastic straps, wood pallets, and landscape plantings if needed.
- It is recommended to have group members involved in the assembly process for street activation.



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POP-UP VERTICAL PARKS



Sense of
Community



Opportunities
for Socialization

Pop-up vertical parks to promote use of green space and community

Submitted by: **Diana Andrea Guzmán Valencia**

During the COVID pandemic, it is a great challenge for public space creatives to conceive spaces where people can gather and make community, aggravating the already present issue of loneliness and social isolation. This installation physically reconnects the community through nature while encouraging our spontaneous and collective spirit by co-creating “Pop-Up Vertical Parks”!

Parks offer spaces to play, relax, gather, take fresh air, be close to nature and especially enhance the feeling of being part of a community. “Pop-Up Vertical Parks” allow people to co-create a spontaneous vertical community park installation in different urban outdoor and indoor spaces, so people can connect with their community and have more parks to enjoy!

Pop-up parks offer different spontaneous and safe ways to participate and stay connected during these difficult times. People walking by will be instructed graphically, how to take care of the vertical community park’s garden or participate in other activities joining the community, such as: co-creating the garden by making a pocket and planting a plant in it, assessing the plants’ needs, pruning, watering, interacting with the plants in a multi-sensorial experience, discovering interesting plant facts, leaving a message on the pocket and taking a selfie to share with our virtual community. There is also the possibility of other safely designed and facilitated activities as the community grows, for example: music, dancing, yoga, tea-chats, readings, etc...

The project relies on a local community assisting in related activities.

Let’s be part of the “Pop-Up Vertical Parks” creative movement!

Notes on implementation

→ The cost of this project is estimated at \$5,000



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PREEMPTIVE RESILIENCE



Designing streets for preemptive resistance to the next pandemic

Submitted by: Systemic Architecture Inc.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, cities around the world are adapting to a new normal of confined movements and constrained social interactions. A number of studies, however, have observed that people from all around the world are finding creative ways to safely navigate and even congregate in public spaces within our cities, despite the challenges that have emerged. These creative workarounds, often implemented in an ad-hoc manner, are the first steps to finding a solution to the Main Street Challenge.

The design addresses how streets, sidewalks and public spaces can be more adaptive to these challenges. The following observed workarounds are taken into consideration: people seek more outdoor experiences, fresh air and sunlight; people exercise more outdoors, including play and recreation; children and elderly make increased use of public spaces; vehicular traffic decreases, walking and biking increase; more people spend time in public plazas; creative use of public space emerges; graphics on walking surfaces help to distribute people; and more people work at home, spending more time locally.

This design asserts that the best resistance to the next pandemic will not be a reactive resistance, but a preemptive one. Ideally, our streets will be able to absorb the effects of safe practices such as physical distancing and partial lockdowns without temporary modifications, and even during non-pandemic times, pandemic-resilient infrastructure will serve other useful purposes. This will build confidence in public spaces and resilience in local economies as people are able to resume close-to-normal life.

Notes on implementation

→ Estimated costs for primary design elements are provided by Chandos Construction in Calgary



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PROJECTION PERCEPTIONS: AN IMMERSIVE DOWNTOWN NIAGARA FALLS



Projection mapping to draw visitors to main streets

Submitted by: Raimondo + Associates Architects Inc.

The City of Niagara Falls has a history of using light to great effect to demarcate the Falls. Light excites and has been proven to alter moods, behaviour and create a greater emotional engagement with narratives.

The historic Queen Street district in Niagara Falls is the downtown core that offers a rich sense of place. Just minutes from the major tourist district that sees upwards of 8 million tourists a year, Queen Street was once a bustling hub of the city. Like many downtown cores, momentum has swung in the opposite direction since the COVID-19 pandemic.

This proposal showcases projection mapping as an innovative means to draw visitors to main street locales. Creating immersive environments by projecting entire visual stories, art or history on the built environment adds a new level of energy, impact and emotional connection to downtowns. At the heart of the design concept is the notion of viewing, the gaze and interpretation. Projection Perceptions is a journey; the spectator becomes part of the spectacle, by which the viewer can select, arrange and find meaning from the images, stories or views being projected. The design proposal demonstrates a way to increase visitor engagement and traffic on main streets, diversify revenue and stay relevant as people are drawn away from indoor spaces amid adapting restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This design proposal also demonstrates awareness of historic buildings and their potential new role as beacons for spectacles, offering another path towards the preservation and revitalization of downtowns.

Notes on implementation

- The cost of projection mapping depends on several factors including cost of projectors and content creation fees, leading the estimated budget to range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.
- Projectors provide minimal physical disturbance of the streetscape and built environment.



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QR CODE COMEBACK



Diversity & Accessibility



Local Economies



Opportunities for Socialization

Attracting people back to main streets through QR Codes

Submitted by: Entro

This concept is an environmental graphic design solution that reinvigorates the image of main streets while providing access to place-specific content and services. Content is accessible on a mobile phone or device which uses QR code scanning technology as a way to link to information in a safe and contactless way.

QR codes are embedded in graphics and/or artwork inspired by the character of the main street or community, and applied onto existing amenities or infrastructure. The content, accessed by QR code, could include information about the shops and people that make up the neighborhood. Facts and the history of these places can be revealed through these codes as well.

Patterns and imagery should be designed to reflect the essence of the neighborhood to capture the hearts and minds of locals. Designs would be applied as posters, banners, and decals that will engage the public visually and invite further exploration. The suggested set of patterns bring a sense of colour and playful design to any neighbourhood they are installed in. They were created to be placed on any available surface. Alternatively, local artists can be commissioned to provide their own designs or artwork.

By building an identity of a place and introducing graphic elements that attract attention and invite engagement, this concept would help to bring visitors back to their main streets. Visitors benefit from additional value, entertainment, and memories, while the local community reconnects with its patrons.

Notes on implementation

- A minimum of \$500 honorarium is recommended for graphic/pattern design
- A total budget of \$2,500 for the vinyl wrapping option
- Link QR codes to the shop owner's website or spend an estimated \$500 for a community landing page.



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RECLAIM MAIN



Sense of
Community



Opportunities
for Socialization

Encouraging human interaction through new pedestrian-only streets

Submitted by: Dana Rathwell and Jamie Rathwell

Due to COVID-19 and the need to support social distancing efforts, summer 2020 saw a demand for more pedestrian-friendly spaces. Sidewalks alone have not provided sufficient space for pedestrians, restaurants and retailers. This summer in Ottawa, some streets and parkways were closed to motor vehicle traffic to make way for pedestrians and cyclists. In doing so, businesses on Main Streets were also able to benefit from the added space. Retailers moved product onto sidewalks and streets, as did restaurant patios.

This project proposes to prohibit motor vehicles and install simple design interventions to Stittsville Main Street in Ottawa in an effort to welcome human interaction and provide more space for people. Such projects promote active forms of transportation, in turn reducing emissions and increasing healthy forms of physical activity. Removing vehicular traffic from the street improves pedestrian and cyclist safety. Tents, sidewalks and streets provide additional space to Main Street businesses and to other businesses within the community who wish to install pop-up or farmer's market type shops.

The project proposes temporary and customizable installations. Planter boxes, wooden planks and tenting material can be modified to build benches, tents and tented stalls to accommodate a variety of uses such as dining areas, or for displaying and selling products. The temporary nature of the design elements and simple assembly allows decision makers to determine whether the initiative should be implemented on a seasonal basis and/or during certain days of the week.

Notes on implementation

- Budget depends on the length of Main Street used for the project, the elements used in the design and whether the installations need to be taken down on a weekly, monthly, or seasonal basis.
- Many of the design elements are reusable, however, need to be stored when not in use, which should also be factored into budget considerations.
- The project would require labourers to build and install planters, signage, benches and tents. Staff monitoring entrances may be needed for events and or busy times and days of the week.

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REIMAGINING CANADA'S MAIN STREETS



Transformation from interior spaces to exterior rooms to accommodate all types of groups

Submitted by: Akter Azim, Nubras Samayeen, and Mithun Nath

Louis Kahn notably said, “The street is a room by (human) agreement.” Following and expanding on Kahn’s adage, this project revisits Canada’s heritage Main Street. The project envisions interior spaces becoming exterior rooms. Thus, a main street will contain rooms without walls and form an agreeable outdoor or civic home for urban dwellers.

Our intervention, as an inclusive process and overplayed programmatic solution, is a patchwork of exterior rooms that accommodate different cultural and immigrant sectors, various age groups, and genders, and most importantly emphasizes accessibility and use by children and adults with disabilities. Taking this pandemic as an impetus for improved solutions, the method of this design intervention emphasizes community and individual public opinion. In the pandemic era, the imaginations, visions, and thoughts of children, adults and the elderly are collected through various digital and social mediums (details in drawings). Also, this project includes different community religious and ethnic community groups (for this project we sought out the Bangladeshi, Indian and Asian communities) to accommodate and reflect on their identity formation through spatial reclamation in a temporal manner.

These integrative social ideas are the design-aid in generating an algorithmic-model that is the core essence of our intervention. It is a resilient idea that is based on malleable coded systems to create multiplicity. The project promotes socio-cultural conglomeration, economic and environmental sustainability that will promote healthier main streets and pluralist urban environments.

Notes on implementation

→ An estimated budget of \$5 million for a stretch of one and a half block area (between Bullock Dr. and Old Wellington St.)



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A platform for short-term commercial space rentals

Submitted by: Charlotte Belot and Connor Cordingley

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed and exacerbated problems in our society, such as social inequality, housing precarity, and food insecurity. For our main streets, this means an uptick in already-high commercial vacancies. This has been especially acute in Montreal, where lively downtown shopping streets, already showing signs of chronic vacancies were almost completely deserted during the lockdown phase of our COVID-19 response. This necessary public health measure emptied the streets, stripping many businesses of their customers and revenue and leaving them unable to keep up with their often-exorbitant monthly rents. This has led to the shuttering and vacancy of a significant number of storefronts, hurting the liveliness of these vital corridors during the recovery period.

The concept for rENTER comes from two ideas: the desire to see the vacant commercial spaces in Canadian cities put back to use, and a wish to connect local people to short-term commercial spaces that fit their business ideas. These spaces could be used as pop-up boutiques, seasonal markets, art installations, galleries, open-air bars, and temporary workspaces. They could also serve local community organizations as food banks or legal clinics for those facing eviction. While under ordinary circumstances, landlords would prefer the security of a long-term tenant, these short-term uses could be valuable sources of stop-gap revenue. The rENTER platform will help to fill empty storefronts, keeping main streets dynamic and vibrant, as well as providing low-risk and high-traffic spaces to people piloting new businesses and offering vital services.

Notes on implementation

- Software developers, either within government or contracted from private or non-profit sectors, are required to build and implement this platform
- Landlords and tenants will register as hosts to rent out unused spaces
- The municipality would manage the platform



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REOPENING RETAIL

A flipbook showcasing strategies for retail adaptation

Submitted by: Zachary Colbert and Josh Wallace

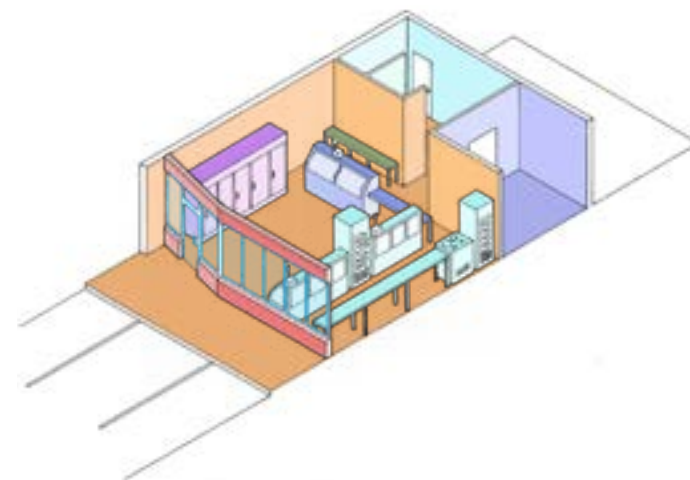
The COVID-19 pandemic is attacking our communities and threatening our health and livelihoods. Public health efforts to date in Canada have succeeded somewhat in flattening the curve of the incidence of infection through the approach of physical distancing. However, containment comes with a financial price. Perhaps the most obvious has been the devastating effect on small local businesses, particularly restaurants and retail shops found on every main street.

In a form of a flipbook, there is an array of innovative architectural strategies and design possibilities that respond to COVID-19 risks. This flipbook presents drawings of three common retail typologies situated along a main street; a fashion store, a restaurant, and a small grocer. There are 3 interactive drawings composed of 60 smaller drawings. Architectural modifications can be turned on and off, allowing an explorative and interactive approach to imagining retail adaptations. Relevant research is also included.

The flipbook is designed to serve as a communications tool to enable dialogue between retailers, customers, urbanists, designers, and community members. To expand access and engagement, hand drawings are used. The overall idea is to contribute to the development of architectural design standards and recommendations for retailers and bolster customer confidence.

Notes on implementation

→ The submission involves many ideas so no one budget estimate is included, no one material palette is included, and no one installation method is included



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RESTORING THE VOID



Sense of Community



Opportunities for Socialization

Co-creating inclusive spaces with safety precautions in times of a pandemic

Submitted by: Marwa Al-Saqqar and Alexia Mere

COVID-19 has brought many to a stage of desolation. However, it also brought the world a fierce reminder of the importance of community and how it is rooted in our essence. Although social distancing and increased sanitation is an integral part of achieving a resilient society in the face of a pandemic, it is only by maintaining a connected community that we can sustain long-term growth and strength. This is why our design strives to create spaces that do not impact the human inclination to sociability but rather, to find creative ways to organically implement safety precautions related to COVID-19 and future pandemics together with community members.

Our design is a community infrastructure project that works towards people regaining the street and revitalizing the spaces that can act as bridges between different typologies and a diverse set of groups within a city. It is these diverse sets of groups that make up the cultural and built heritage of any main street, as they have shaped the community around it. For example, the studio and office hubs, as well as the alleyway revitalization of James Street North in Hamilton, ON, are heavily dependent on the local artists' visions and also offer skill-building opportunities to youth facing barriers.

Using the spaces, materials, art, and values of the community already in place was an integral part of our design as it addresses both the need for inclusive spaces and environmentally responsible ones.

Notes on implementation

- An estimated budget total of \$1.5 million for main spaces
- Reallocation of police funds towards community revitalization project, social services, and city infrastructure
- Use of recycled shipping containers to work with local resources and reduce costs.



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REVAMPING EPHRAIM'S PLACE COMMUNITY CENTRE



Health & Safety



Sense of Community



Opportunities for Socialization

Revitalized community space that everyone can enjoy

Submitted by: Alina Mirza, Aishwarza Das, Milena Chikhalina, and Sara Jamalain

The team will design and develop a reformed exterior for Ephraim's Place Community Centre, located in the Glenfield-Jane Heights neighbourhood of Toronto, and create an entirely revamped outdoor green area. This space will include multiple facilities that cater to local needs, including revitalized greenery, a serene sitting area, an outdoor gym and sports field, and a green roof above the community centre, accessible by a staircase or accessibility ramp.

As a precautionary measure in a post COVID-19 environment, community members will have access to modernized hand sanitizing stations dispersed across the park. This will allow residents to enjoy fresh air as restrictions are slowly loosened, while simultaneously adhering to critical safety measures.

Because the Glenfield-Jane Heights neighbourhood has historically been ridden with poverty and organized crime, there is a need for an area that allows community members to find solitude and serenity amongst one another. The revitalized area will serve as a safe space for youth, adults, and seniors alike to develop physically, socially, and mentally. Overall, this project will improve neighbourhood relations and develop a sense of fellowship amongst community members, while an emphasis on environmental sustainability and community togetherness will ensure well-being and reinforce positive conduct.

Ephraim's Place serves as a place of solace and togetherness for the community. Our project will respect this role by offering activities and educational opportunities for all citizens. Contributing to a positive local environment will honour the building's true purpose of keeping Ephraim Brown's memory alive and constantly finding peace amidst adversity.

Notes on implementation

- The estimated budget for this project is \$100,000 CAD.
- Plantings and hedges will be added to the space along with seating areas, fountains, gym equipment and hand sanitizing stations
- Solar panels will be installed to light the community centre and a glass fence will be installed around the green roof, providing safety without covering the view



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THE RIPPLE EFFECT



Sense of Community



Local Economies

Emphasizing the values of communities through a pavement mural

Submitted by: **Andrea Kinsella and Gabriela Sciortino**

The “ripple effect” is a metaphor that describes how our individual actions reverberate through our lives. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, this metaphor seems most fitting as we have relearned the effects our individual actions have on our community.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, social distancing has become a way to prevent the spread of the virus, however, it is often difficult to do on sidewalks. “The Ripple Effect” mural looks to alleviate this issue as it provides a visual indicator that directs pedestrian traffic and markings, allowing sidewalks to be a place that better complies with social distancing measures. The mural, painted directly on the sidewalk, allows for moments of pause, shopping, and line ups outside businesses along main streets.

The mural also offers an aesthetic value to public space. The colours provide a sense of relief. The mural is a muted blue and white which creates the illusion of a ripple of water along the sidewalk, and the soft blue colour creates a soothing effect.

This mural embodies the qualities of the abstract metaphor as it controls the flow of pedestrian movement along main streets while also offering an aesthetic value to communities. Art is a way to reflect on current situations taking place in our contemporary culture. “The Ripple Effect” is a reminder that the individual response to the COVID-19 pandemic causes a ripple effect within our society. This mural reminds us that if we work together, we can one again enjoy accessible, safe and inviting public spaces.

Notes on implementation

- Estimated costs for paint: 5 Gallons of Dulux paint (\$90.00 average for exterior primer); Exterior acrylic latex based (\$20-\$50; Dulux, Bher, Benjamin Moore); Aerosol Spray Paint (Montana Black Cans - \$8 per can).
- Additional materials including but not limited to gloves, masks, paint brushes, rollers, chalk, bags, measuring tape etc. total roughly \$2000 but are subject to change depending on availability and quantity of required materials
- Estimated cost for making, packaging, and mailing stencils to communities of \$1,500 per kit.



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THE ROOM ON A STREET



Reimagining public space for pedestrians to feel at home

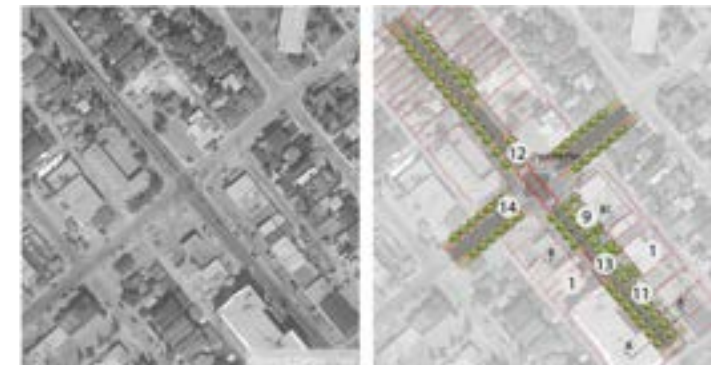
Submitted by: Ravi Siddhartha and Neelima Siddhartha

This project started as an academic exercise between the Montgomery Community Association and the Planning students of the University of Calgary. The students independently decided to delve deeper to identify the elements that support vibrant street life. “The Room on the Street” is an essential space that is programmed to correspond to the local context and marries architecture with urban design to create a vibrant, safe and healthy community.

This proposal creates a community boulevard with wide pedestrian pathways, buffered cycle paths, street furniture and local public art to improve the public realm for a pleasant and safe experience on the street for all ages. The all-weather kiosks support local businesses by acting as an extension of their stores for enhanced customer interactions, such as takeaways while maintaining social distancing. Some smaller independent kiosks promote entrepreneurship and bring vibrancy on to the streets. Patios help create a more porous street edge by acting as a buffer between public and private spaces. These semi-private spaces can be extended for other businesses, apart from diners, to showcase their products and engage with their prospective clients safely. Jan Geh’s method of understanding and observing people and their behaviour, including a sun and shade study, will be very useful in designing the urban space. This room on the street acts as an extension for the local businesses, and its practical programming will help bring life back onto the main street.

Notes on implementation

- Small design interventions such as kiosks would cost anywhere between C\$10,000 to C\$30,000. These can be community-owned and the revenue generated from them can be shared with the city.
- The major materials for construction come under infrastructure improvements, such as concrete or pavers for pedestrian pathways, but the kiosks would be wood construction.
- Conceptual designs can be provided and help the community in identifying their specific needs. Additional support from other professionals to implement the project will be needed.



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SIDEWALK FLUIDITY



Creating flexible spaces that are safe for business owners, vendors, cyclists, and pedestrians

Submitted by: Chris Gibson, Santan Singh, Aaron Snider, and Brody Osadick

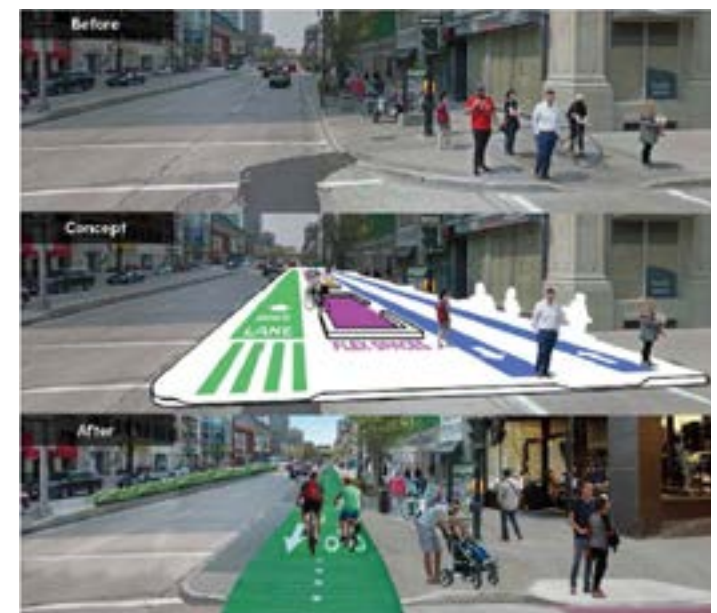
Often, main streets squeeze pedestrians and cyclists into narrow six-foot-wide pathways that restrict people's ability to move, interact and (now) socially distance. COVID-19 and future pandemics pose a significant challenge to the long-term viability of Main Streets for this reason. That is why our design intervention focuses on implementing Sidewalk Fluidity.

Sidewalk Fluidity is a design concept based on delineating mixed amenity spaces, at-grade cycling corridors and adequate pedestrian walkways without restricting the fluid transition between them. The goal with this design is to create safe and flexible spaces for local vendors, pop-up stands, cyclists and pedestrians.

Fluid sidewalk design is adaptable to the needs of any community and Main Street. The adaptability of the flex spaces allow for seasonal, day-of-the-week, or time-of-day changes. They are designed to be altered, usable for summer street markets or winter warming huts, adaptive to different pedestrian volumes from weekday to weekend, and from the workday commute to evening patio use.

Notes on implementation

- Aspects of the design include extended bike lanes/pedestrian walkways, a flexible amenity area, medicinal planters, patios and extended seating areas, kiosks, public toilets, maps, and wayfinding.
- City involvement would be required for detailing the estimated budget, materials, fabrication, installation and design services needed for the bike lanes and pedestrian walkways.
- Local businesses and nonprofits can provide water to the planters on a biweekly basis for the summer as needed. Nearby business owners will be invited to "adopt a planter" and encouraged to donate any extra plants they may have.



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SOCIALLY | EQUITABLE | LANDSCAPE



Sense of Community



Opportunities for Socialization

Transforming outdoor spaces and buildings into canvases for culture

Submitted by: Joy Olagoke and Subrahmanya Sai Anudeep Mummareddy

This design focuses on transforming outdoor spaces, the undersides and sides of buildings into canvases that can be experienced from outside. This approach presents an opportunity to celebrate and experience art and culture in the city with the comfort of decreased exposure to COVID-19.

We defined three landscapes as the pillars to guide our project development and design decisions. First: a social landscape, a realm where people can interact and share space with people from all walks of life. Second: a cultural landscape wherein art, as a representation of culture, is available to all of the diverse people that make up Calgary. Our equally important third landscape is the natural landscape. To honour the natural landscape, we used our building to augment the site and create opportunities to frame the landscape, elevating it from its current derelict state to instead being embraced as a precious space in downtown Calgary. Glass walls imbue a high degree of transparency throughout the project to give primacy to these various landscapes identified and created in and around the building.

Deconstructing the art gallery to create a series of thresholds that discern one space from another allows each user to curate their own path: a place where procession is no longer forced on the user, but a gesture of choice for the individual. Art is brought out and people are brought in as an exchange to animate the landscape. Utilizing and amplifying natural spaces allows for the enjoyment of art in open air.

Notes on implementation

- This project has an estimated budget of \$10,000
- Materials needed are glass, concrete, and digital projectors.



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URBAN HEALTH KIOSK



Diversity & Accessibility



Health & Safety

Providing needed resources to keep everyone healthy and safer

Submitted by: Bahman Azimi, Behrang Ghamisi, Hooman Vasighi, Forough Radman, and Mohsen Feshari

Humans have made great strides in recent decades, but we are still susceptible to infectious diseases. The population density in cities, extensive transportation networks between cities and countries, and environmental degradation are important factors in the spread of diseases.

Reducing population density in cities, balancing between services and activities, reducing the environmental pollution, development of green spaces, and paying more attention to sidewalks are long-term solutions. In facing problems such as pandemics, it is important to raise the level of the health knowledge of people in the community, do health controls, and ultimately, make culture.

Our solution is the “Urban Health Kiosk” or UHK.

These smart kiosks provide necessary and emergency needs such as masks and disinfectants, and check some key disease symptoms like body temperature.

Each UHK is connected to a disease control center. An application will support the UHK by transferring personal and public information to users.

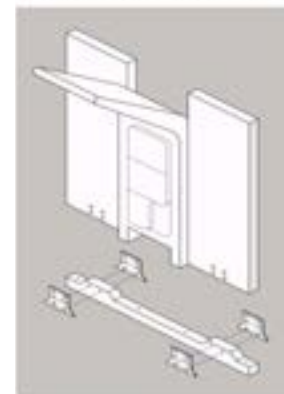
The UHK could be a portable, shiny red cube that would be constructed so it could be placed anywhere, including the entrance of public places such as bus stops, malls, libraries, cinemas, substations, community centers, gyms, parks, universities and all the other places that people gather.

The smart part of the UHK will be upgraded continuously so it will always have the latest knowledge and technology related to health.

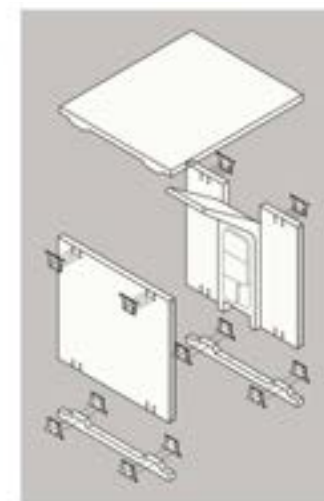
Notes on implementation

- The cost for each unit is estimated to be \$25,000
- The kiosk would be made of metal on top of a concrete base
- Initial installation costs are estimated to be \$2500, and after installation IT support and updates would be needed.

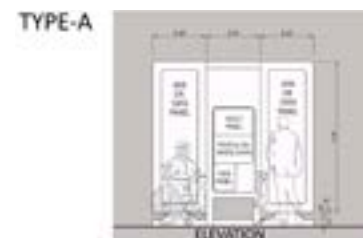
The UHK is so flexible and portable. It consists of modular parts (metal sheet, concrete base, metal plates) that easily connect and disconnect.



TYPE-A



TYPE-B

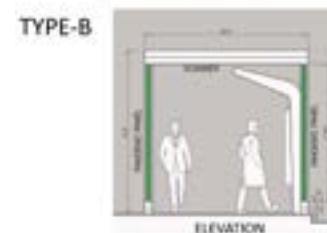


TYPE-A

ELEVATION

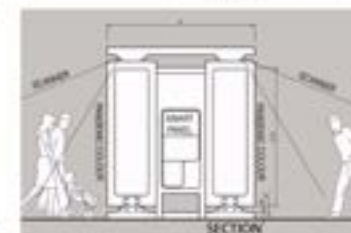


SECTION



TYPE-B

ELEVATION



SECTION

[Full details and translation / Les coordonnées complètes et traduction→](#)

WARM HANDS WARM HEARTS



Local
Economies



Opportunities
for Socialization

Redesigning streets to create a cozy outdoor experience

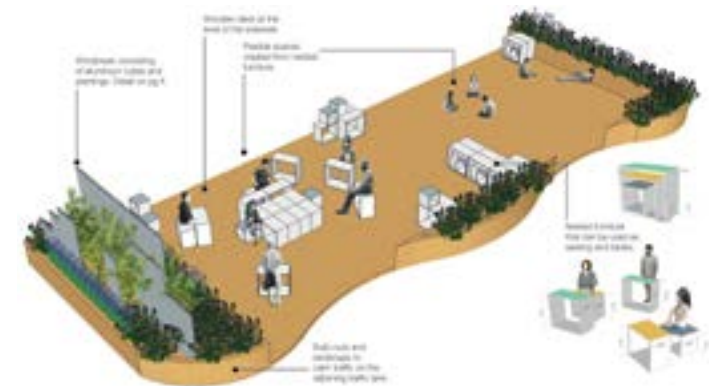
Submitted by: Jiya Benni & Jonathan Woodside

The COVID-19 pandemic has shone a flashlight on our society's vulnerabilities and biases. We have learned what is most essential and found the value of spaces close to home. As society continues to grapple with re-opening, even as this virus continues to stay with us, we are tasked with translating the rich spectrum of activities in our lives to function in outdoor settings. It has never been more important than today to find ways to adapt our public spaces to the work and play we need to support dignified livelihoods.

The design draws inspiration from temporary events that reclaim our streets, woonerfs that mix street life and automobiles while prioritizing pedestrians, and traditional palisade walls that historically were used in part to create comfortable climates for public spaces. The design slows car dominance by pushing a flexible public space into the roadway and by prioritizing the experience of the site through microclimate design. The street is re-furnished with nested furniture instead of cars to support diverse activities such as meetings, workshops, recreation, or even socially distanced lined-up. Using a custom-built windbreak that protects the site from the hard cold winds of winter, the microclimate of the site is controlled.

Notes on implementation

- An estimated budget of \$31,320
- Using patio heaters and lights to help make the space more warm and inviting.
- Furniture, patio heaters, lights, and blankets used should be monitored by a local community group or BIA.



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RESOURCES

Placemaking and Design

[Rapid Placemaking to Bring Back Main Street:](#)

[A Pandemic Recovery Toolkit for Local Communities](#) (CUI and Happy City)

[Design for Distancing Ideas Guidebook](#) (City of Baltimore)

[Rethink 2025](#) (Royal Institute of British Architects)

[Design for COVID-19](#) (The Design Vanguard)

Retail, Hospitality and Culture

[Resources for small retailers](#), information on protocols, guidelines and best practices, including [relief measures by region](#), [Recovery Playbook](#), and [Reopening Checklists for retailers](#) (Retail Council of Canada)

[Reopening Guide](#) (Event Safety Alliance)

[“Back to Brick and Mortar” Guidebook](#) (&Access)

Public Health

Public Health Agency of Canada [Guidance Documents](#)

CDC [Reopening Guidance](#)

Funding

[Canada Healthy Communities Initiative](#)