

Key speaker at Canadian summit

President Tony Recsei was flown to Toronto as a key knowledge speaker at the “Canada’s First Summit on Sustainable Suburbs”. The two-day conference was attended by leading architects and planners from Canada and the United States. Some were also academics. See the [agenda](#)

Tony’s presentation emphasised the need to end forcing high-density onto suburban communities, the imperative of protecting heritage and for more decision-making power to come from the community. The factual overheads showed that the current wisdom justifying high-density is a lot of nonsense. The presentation provided evidence that high-density is less sustainable, causes congestion, overloads infrastructure, is detrimental to health, causes unaffordable housing and reduces housing choice.

No one at the conference could refute any of this. Considering the delegates stemmed from the whole of North America this seems pretty conclusive that our contentions are correct.

The delegates were pleasant and friendly. While their work commits them to the existing high-density orthodoxy, during the breaks many expressed admiration that an opposing viewpoint was being expressed and seemed pleased that the leading members of their disciplines were being challenged.