

**Title: “Lessons and Practices in Comprehensive Community Renewal”**

**Subtheme:** Community planning practices, vulnerable groups in urban communities, spatial justice, planning for walkability

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**ABSTRACT**

In 2005, Toronto Community Housing, a housing company owned by the City of Toronto, embarked on the rebuilding of the oldest public housing community in Canada, Regent Park. Toronto Community Housing developed a master plan to guide the creation of a community that would rebuild low-income housing, introduce market-rate housing and create new community amenities.

A unique component of Toronto Community Housing’s revitalization program was to develop a social development plan with the local community to meet social and economic needs of the community. Key questions that will be explored include: How might planning in shape a sustainable environment? What role does planning play in stimulating local economies and facilitating community renewal? This workshop will explore Toronto Community’s approach to revitalization including the role of private-public partnerships, community engagement and development, and local economic development. It will describe how a community is being transformed to address social, economic and planning issues and create a walkable, urban community.