

# CPTED perspective

The International CPTED Association Newsletter

Volume 7 - issue 8 May 2008

## ICA Gets Connected!

International Conference October 8-10, 2008

Barry Davidson, Executive Director

Over the past several months the ICA has been working hard to update the website, renew and build relationships, establish a new membership support system and organize our international conference and it is all coming together.

Many of you have already renewed using the automated system with very little pain and the comments we are hearing in the office are routinely positive and supportive. The resources on the website are constantly growing and we are staying on track with our newsletters as promised.

The biggest cause for celebration, and we expect there to be lots of that, is the 2008 ICA International Conference in Calgary, Alberta, Canada this October 8-10. The lineup of speakers who are willing to share their expertise and support the ICA is outstanding and we expect to sell out the limited number of registrations quickly, so please register early if you plan on attending.

We will also be holding elections for Directors at our AGM on October 8th, so make the decision to become involved in supporting CPTED around the world by considering running for a position.

Thank you again for your support and check the website out often for new resources and conference details. ◇◇◇

## SafeGrowth and Democratic CPTED: Planning the Future City

By Gregory Saville, *Alternation Consulting*  
ICA Founding Member, Honorary member and former Intl. Chair  
[www.alternation.ca](http://www.alternation.ca)

CPTED has always been about creating safer places by minimizing the opportunity for crime. The fact of safe and sustainable neighborhood life is this: Community development – especially when it comes to long-term, sustainable crime prevention – is best delivered and administered locally through competent neighborhood governance. This is the goal of a new model for neighborhood development and crime prevention – SafeGrowth.

There have been recent breakthroughs in CPTED such as those in various international chapters of the ICA. This includes the work of ICA chapters in Europe and Chile. Further, as we learned in the January issue of *CPTED Perspectives*, the Virginia Crime Prevention Association provides another example from North America. Most of these initiatives are at a state, province, or national level. Many use CPTED experts, security or police to provide CPTED services to or for communities. The SafeGrowth model works at a smaller neighborhood level. It does this by getting community stakeholders themselves to learn both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation CPTED and create annual safety plans as part of how they govern themselves.

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Designed in the late 1990s by British architect Norman Foster, this is an interior photo of the German parliament buildings in Berlin. It is all about natural surveillance while still being the most environmentally friendly capital building in the world (it is run solely on renewable energy). This issue of *CPTED Perspectives* features description of CPTED in Europe within E-DOCA by Paul von Soomeren. see article page 4

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## **SafeGrowth at the United Nations**

SafeGrowth was launched at the June, 2007 Canadian Institute of Planners annual convention in Quebec City, Canada. Three months later it was presented to the International Conference on the State of Safety in World Cities 2007, Monterrey Forum of Cultures, Monterrey, Mexico, in September. In November, as a result of pioneering work by the Latin American chapter of the ICA, SafeGrowth was unveiled to the United Nations Habitat program in Santiago, Chile in the International IberoAmerican Forum on Experiences of Neighborhood Recovery.



*Skyline of Montreal, Canada. This issue of CPTED Perspectives features a recent study by Veronique Levan of a low income housing project and efforts to reduce crime.*

Since 1996 the United Nations Habitat program has embraced concepts such as Safer Cities and good governance, concepts that promote local crime prevention coalitions. The UN *Habitat Agenda* acknowledges the responsibility of local authorities in crime prevention. Some practical first steps are underway. These include women's safety audit walks emerging from Toronto, social programs of all sorts, and Professor Ron Clarke's situational crime prevention, originally from the UK Home Office. These are excellent strategies. However, in themselves, they do not yet represent a coherent planning framework to build a sustainable local agenda for safe cities.

The goal of SafeGrowth is two-fold:

1. To address future development goals and practices – at a local, neighborhood level – in concert with any larger community plans that may exist in the city or town, and;
2. To respond to already existing crime and disorder problems, some of which may be minor but if left untended may lead to more serious events. There are many instances where local residents and business owners themselves, with the help of planning, social work, justice, and enforcement officials, can address these problems with currently existing resources on an on-going basis.

### **Building from a foundation of success**

A precursor to SafeGrowth was the first successful implementation of 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation CPTED in the housing project called San Romanoway in Toronto, Canada. After 7 years the positive results continue. Surveys reveal an overall 25 percent decline in many crime categories. The community has now developed a local organization – the San Romanoway Revitalization Association – to manage some of their own affairs, help administer some of the programs underway, and solicit funds from government. Organizations like this are an integral part of the SafeGrowth model where they are called Neighborhood Safety Teams – NSTs.

Other types of local organizations are successful in urban safety. For example, the New York based Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC), is a national social investment bank that delivers financial support and technical advice to community development organizations in neighborhoods across the United States. The community safety initiative program at LISC works with dozens of local community development organizations across the country to transfer SafeGrowth skills to a local level. In 2007 LISC funded SafeGrowth training in cities across the United States, most recently Milwaukee, Seattle and Miami with upcoming trainings in Boston and Detroit.

### **Before the buildings: The role of the NSTs**

Another early precursor to SafeGrowth was the Collingwood Village in Vancouver, Canada, a thriving neighborhood with an active community of 5,000 residents. It is today one of the most successful neighborhoods in the city. Beginning in 1992, a developer began building a 27 acres urban infill housing project comprising thousands of high-rise and townhouse residential units mixed with community facilities, office, and retail uses. A planning firm run by myself and Vancouver CPTED specialist Paul Wong helped provide CPTED consulting in the building phase of the project by collaborating with builders, architects and a local community crime prevention group, the Joyce/VanNess Crime Prevention Association.

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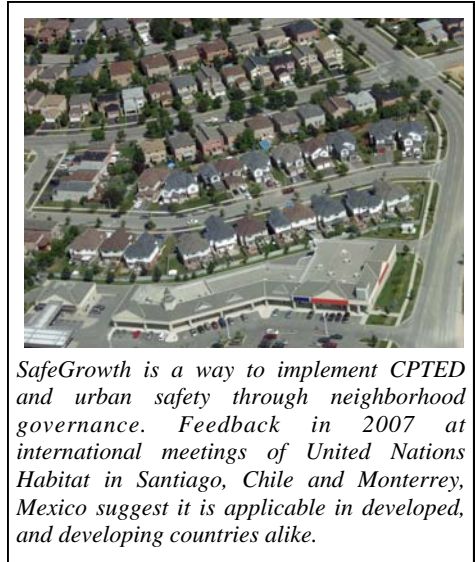


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This was an occasion when members of a community organization were able to actively participate in their own neighborhood design prior to construction of a new town center. Today the community group still thrives as the Collingwood Community Policing Center, one of the first community policing associations not run by the police – rather organized by residents themselves.

All these examples show how the local community, supported by municipal government and police, plays an active role in both their own on-going safety. They show how the local community can self-administer CPTED concepts prior to building new urban developments.

These examples also show how SafeGrowth is not a specific crime reduction program. It is a regular part of city governing in collaboration with municipal staff, law enforcement and elected officials. The model has six phases:



### **Phase One – a new kind of neighborhood governance**

Municipal Development Panels are an advocacy board on crime and safety for City Council. In this phase the MDP will form and create local **Neighborhood Safety Teams (NST)**.

Municipal Development Panels and Neighborhood Safety Teams may not seem revolutionary to community development workers. Nor should they; as the examples above show, similar versions have been around for years such as community consultative groups, planning committees, and safety commissions. The SafeGrowth model expands these into a formal part of municipal government.

### **Phase Two – Keeping it democratic**

The MDP begins the process in each neighborhood by convening a Wisdom Council. Created by American group facilitation expert Jim Rough, the Wisdom Council is a small number of community members randomly selected to participate in a facilitated brainstorming session. An independent convener trained in *dynamic facilitation* helps the Wisdom Council develop a list of safety and livability issues in that neighborhood

### **Phase Three - The diagnosis**

Once the Wisdom Council forwards a list of priorities, the NST embarks on the analysis and planning portion of SafeGrowth. They may expand the Wisdom Council list, or focus only on a few, based on their diagnosis results. The key to success in SafeGrowth planning is a systematic diagnosis of local problems, formulation of local priorities, and crafting tailored plans for co-creating safety in each neighborhood.

There are four steps to that diagnosis: the neighborhood analysis and profile; regaining control of troubled neighborhoods through enforcement and target hardening; problem-solving tactics and 1st Generation CPTED; and long-term capacity building with 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation CPTED.

With time and experience, the NSTs will divide into two groups. One group will employ 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation CPTED with planners, architects and police as they review new development proposals for their own specific neighborhood. The other group will administer the SafeGrowth plan on problems that already exist. They may mobilize the community to do some of that or they may seek the support of police and municipal service providers. The key is that it is the neighborhood itself that is driving the process.

### **Phase Four – the annual SafeGrowth Plan**

Following the diagnosis the NST formulates an interim SafeGrowth Plan. This plan will prioritize specific problems, offer measurable results and suggest solutions. Keep in mind these activities are done within a very local, and specific small neighborhood. The NST presents the plan to a public forum for feedback in a **SpeakOut forum**. Developed by Australian social planner Wendy Sarkissian, the SpeakOut is a successful

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model for community engagement that “goes out to the people rather than asking them to come to it.”

### Phase Five – Involving the City Council

Whatever the NST cannot administer and implement locally becomes the job of the MDP to advocate. Since the MDP contains municipal decision-makers and leaders, some city departments can help immediately. In other cases the MDP will bring SafeGrowth plans to the local City Council, or possibly solicit funding help from corporations and senior levels of government.

### Phase Six – Putting Plans in Place

The NST monitors progress using the measurable results in the SafeGrowth plan. Whatever does not work one year is brought into the next year’s SafeGrowth plan for re-examination and redesign. The entire phasing of the SafeGrowth plan will likely take up to two years the first time and later refined into an annual process.

In some respects SafeGrowth is already underway. As I describe above several components of this model already exist. Where that is the case, it will be a small matter to upgrade and modify those existing organizations. Where that is not the case, SafeGrowth training of municipal staff and local community groups has cleared the way for creating local NSTs – a first step towards the full model.

In the next issue of *CPTED Perspectives*: A report from various cities deploying SafeGrowth training and their experiences with the model. ◇◇◇

### ICA Partners With UN Habitat

Barry Davidson, Executive Director

Over the past 4 years the ICA has been in discussions with officials from UN Habitat and are in the process of creating a CPTED toolkit that would be used as a model worldwide.



ICA Executive Director Barry Davidson met with UN officials in Vancouver, BC to work out the details and this dialogue was followed up by ICA Director Tinus Kruger over the past year. Work towards creating this important tool is underway and we look forward to reporting to our membership on the results of this partnership at the conference in Calgary, Canada this October.

The ICA has been working towards building relationships with organizations to assist in creating exposure and training opportunities, supplying resources and enhancing the work of CPTED practitioners around the world at a local level. If you have an organization that you would like to see the ICA work with and support have them contact the office at [office@cpted.net](mailto:office@cpted.net) or call +1 403-668-7085.



### A European network for practitioners and researchers: The European Designing Out Crime Association

Paul van Soomeren  
ICA Director and E-DOCA  
The Netherlands

The European Designing Out Crime Association was launched in 2001. E-DOCA followed the start of DOCA in the UK (1999) and sprang from an already existing network of specialists, practitioners, researchers and local regional and national authorities working on European CPTED standards by CEN, the European Standardisation Committee.

E-DOCA slowly grew bigger than this still existing Standardisation Network and became a focal point for CPTED work in continental Europe. The website ([www.e-doca.eu](http://www.e-doca.eu)) has expanded quickly thanks to contributions from all over Europe. A first conference was held by the ESP (Escola de Policia de Catalonia) in Barcelona and in 2002 the worldwide annual ICA conference and board meeting was for the first time

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held in Europe (Olympic Stadium, Amsterdam, The Netherlands). Since then there have been several conferences and seminars organised by E-DOCA, the last few years mainly in combination with DOCA UK. In May 9<sup>th</sup> 2008 the next seminar will be held in Amsterdam regarding safe and secure public transport. In 2005 the E-DOCA website was combined with the Dutch CPTED website of the SVOB.

#### E-DOCA AIMS

The focus of E-DOCA is not only on crime/crime prevention but also on fear of crime and feelings of insecurity. The two are related but are also clearly a separate phenomenon. In a few countries fire and health issues are also part of the agenda. The scale of interest at E-DOCA includes working on the design of a product (lap top, mobile phones), situational issues such as security in a park, buses, bars and large projects including city wide urban planning.

To members of E-DOCA the connection between design and maintenance is essential, feeding back the knowledge from the maintenance phase into the design process. From the start, the 'environment' was defined as a physical as well as a social environment.

Nowadays designing out crime is seen in Europe as an effective and mature crime prevention policy for city managers, police, urban planners, architects, product designers, housing associations, insurers and residents. E-DOCA is an instrument for disseminating knowledge about designing out crime via the E-DOCA website, letters, journal and helpdesk. It is also emerging into a point of exchange for best practices.

#### From membership to network

E-DOCA started as an membership organisation, but after a few years it proved to be more efficient to make the membership free and make E-DOCA a European CPTED network. National chapters like the SVOB in the Netherlands are easier to organise as membership organisations since members speak the same language and work within the same culture and legislature. In that respect Europe is still a union of distinctive nations.

See for more info see the E-DOCA website ([www.e-doca.net](http://www.e-doca.net)). Information is also included at: <http://www.cen.eu/CENORM/BusinessDomains/TechnicalCommitteesWorkshops/CENTechnicalCommittees/CENTechnicalCommittees.asp?param=6306&title=CEN/TC%20325> ◇◇◇

### Second-Generation CPTED in Canada ; Embedding Crime Prevention in the Community Véronique Levan, CESDIP-CNRS and Sorbonne University

It was in the mid-1990s that the first component of a major crime prevention policy was launched in Canada, known as Round 1 of the National Crime Prevention Strategy, and as described by Ross Hastings in a special issue of the *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice* (Vol. 47/2, 2005) a decade later. It's rather pragmatic appeal makes it an attractive model for those countries facing shrinking funding resources and that thus seek to mobilize a wide range of partners in the coproduction of security.

Influenced by earlier innovative European initiatives aiming at promoting the implementation of preventive schemes from a top-down perspective, the Canadian federal government set up a few bodies at different levels of government such as the National Council on Crime Prevention. Members come from social groups varying from the public sector to the private sector.

The preventive interventions targeting some vulnerable groups are mostly focused on social development as well as on training and sensitization programs. In the end, it is hoped that the skills developed are conducive to *self-help* behaviors in the fight against crime. More recently, the crime prevention initiative "Mobilization for Communities", jointly funded by the federal and provincial governments, provides the opportunity to link up diverse groups, especially in very poor neighborhoods.

As Cleveland and Saville rightly put it in *CPTED Perspectives* (Vol. 6/2, 2003), 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation CPTED tenets are necessary ingredients in order to make communities cohesive enough to deter offenders. I have conducted extensive fieldwork experience in public housing neighborhoods located in New York, Paris, London and lately Montréal as part of post-doctoral research at the University of Québec (INRS-UCS). My latest research includes 39 semi-structured interviews with tenants and local key actors in Green Hill, the neighborhood I am referring to in this article (shown in the photo). Throughout this research I found that residents resented suggestions of 1st-Generation CPTED strategies such as access controls and fencing. Residents felt those designs lead to fortified rather than *affective* living environments where cohesive social networks can support territoriality in the first

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place. It was especially a problem when no social activities were offered by *outside* associations or when relations with the housing manager were tense.

Nonetheless when social structures are implanted in a specific site, and meetings are organized on a regular basis, the participants are more likely to take part to the safety of their own buildings, or at least of their floors.

Green Hill is the fictitious name of one of the three neighborhoods studied in Montréal. Like its counterparts in certain areas in the French banlieues or in the American inner-city, it is spatially isolated from the rest of the city. With a population of slightly more than 600 in 2006 with very low incomes, it has a reputation for being a tough area, plagued by prostitution, domestic violence and drug-related offenses. However, crime rates do not reflect it, probably partly because of fear of reporting. It has undergone major physical regeneration work very recently, which has targeted the problems related to mold in the apartments and also to safety.

In the late 1990s, a community center was inaugurated to deal with quality of life issues. Its mission, which has since been redefined, is to foster residents' mobilization and reduce stigma through strategies such as landscaping. Lunch meetings for women as well as occupational activities for the youth are organized. The meetings are usually crowded. They are opportunities for isolated residents from many ethnic groups to learn more about their neighbors and get to know that they should not be feared but trusted.

One single woman at Green Hill reported at one meeting how the center had helped her to get by with her progeny. As a result of this, in one of the buildings, some very charismatic residents have also started informal patrols. Some of the kids at Green Hill now they take care of cleaning in the semi-private spaces. Strong ties bind the participants to each other to the point that, when a local figure passed away it caused great distress among those that knew her. One youth told me that he felt demotivated by this loss.

However local surveys conducted by one of the community center leaders demonstrate that, given the high levels of demands for security, these efforts are often concentrated on a few sites and the effects are most probably limited at the neighborhood level. At least to a certain extent, it seems the farther away from this community center, the more dangerous the place is likely to be. But such initiatives are vital in this poor neighborhood and they go hand in hand with the security scheme.

This project shows that social networks sustain mobilization and that is what helps to keep deviance at tolerable levels. In the Green Hill project these networks ensure that the safety changes to the built environment (for example 1<sup>st</sup> Generation CPTED strategies) favor the buildings being taken back by the right group of residents – the law-abiding – not the deviant. Second-Generation techniques therefore set the stage for follow-up physical security programs at a later date.



*Green Hill housing (not the real name) in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Residents were successful when they used social mobilization strategies prior to any basic CPTED or physical security.*

*see 2nd Gen CPTED article page 5*

### **Professional Development Recent CPTED Books**

*Diane Zahm, PhD., AICP,  
ICA International Chair*

*Books on CPTED published since 2000:*

#### ***Pathways and Crime Prevention: Theory, Policy and Practice***

Alan France et al.

Willan Publishing, December 2006  
(forthcoming)

ISBN: 1-84392-201-0

#### ***Crime Prevention the Sun Tzu Way***

Christopher Wan Soo Kee, et al.

Pelanduk Publications Malaysia Sdn  
Bhd, October 2006

ISBN 967-978-936-5

#### ***Crime Prevention: The Law Enforcement Officer's Guide***

Lt. Rick Arrington

Jones & Bartlett Publishers,  
Incorporated, Aug 2006

ISBN: 0-7637-4130-2

#### ***Crime Prevention in America***

Dean J. Champion

Prentice Hall PTR, August 2006

ISBN: 0-13-225377-1

#### ***Putting Theory to Work: Implementing Situational Prevention and Problem- Oriented Policing***

Johannes Knutsson, et al.

Willow Tree Press, July 2006

ISBN: 1-881798-68-2

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**Situational Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse**

Richard Wortley, et al.  
Willow Tree Press, July 2006  
ISBN: 1-881798-60-7

**Organised Crime Prevention in the Netherlands: Exposing the Effectiveness of Preventive Measures**

C.R.A. van der Schoot  
Boom Juridische Uitgevers, April 2006  
ISBN: 90-5454-666-2

**Mobilizing the Nation to Prevent Crime, Violence, and Drug Abuse: The 2005 Report from the Crime Prevention Coalition of America**

National Crime Prevention Council, January 2006  
ISBN: 1-59686-016-2

**The Prevention Agency: A Public Safety Model for High Crime Communities in the 21st Century**

K.C. Poulin, et al.  
California University of Pennsylvania Press, November 2005  
ISBN: 0-9759556-0-8

**Changing Lives: Delinquency Prevention as Crime-Control Policy**

Peter W. Greenwood, et al.  
University of Chicago Press, November 2005  
ISBN: 0-226-30719-0

**Handbook of Crime Prevention and Community Safety**

Nick Tilley  
Willan Publishing, September 2005  
ISBN: 1-84392-146-4

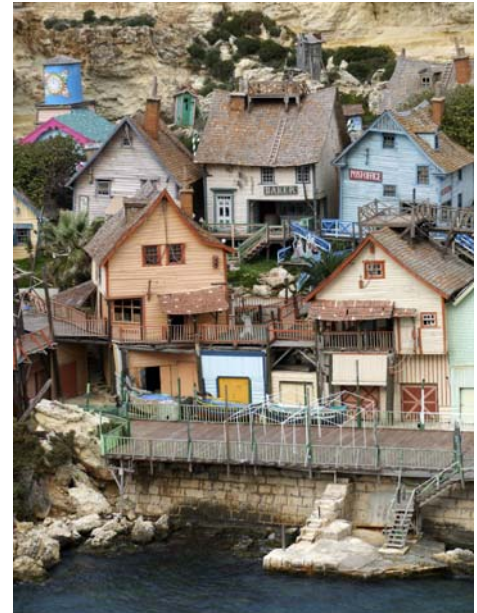
**Designing Out Crime from Products and Systems**

Ronald V. Clarke, et al.  
Willow Tree Press, April 2005  
ISBN or: 1-881798-59-3

**Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Bangkok**

United Nations Publications, January 2005  
ISBN: 92-1-130245-5

*Check out the new on-line ICA Discussion board. Members may post questions, comments or thoughts for other members to comment on. Visit [www.cpted.net](http://www.cpted.net) and click on **Discussion Board** in the left menu.*



*Older neighborhoods are among the first to be torn down for redevelopment. The SafeGrowth model suggests valuable friendship networks are already in place in such places and need to be incorporated into new building.*

*see SafeGrowth Article page 1*

**ICA International  
Conference  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
October 8-10, 2008  
Coast Plaza Hotel**

Visit  
**[www.cpted.net](http://www.cpted.net)**  
for program and

The logo for the International CPTED Association (ICA) is circular. It features a globe in the center with the letters 'ICA' prominently displayed over it. The words 'INTERNATIONAL CPTED ASSOCIATION' are written around the perimeter of the circle.