

Date: June / Issue: 2015 15-01

## TELLING STORIES: AN INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE ON HOUSING

This dialogue brought together secondary school students, university students and seniors to foster inter-generational dialogue. Panellists' comments helped shed insight into how our past experiences shape the types of housing and neighborhoods we see as desirable later in life.



## WHAT WE HEARD FROM PARTICIPANTS

### STUDENT HOUSING CONCERNS

The need to frequently relocate to different cities makes it difficult to find leases

Prices of units near university can be very high

Affordability often means sacrificing quality

Need more education about housing options, the rental process and where to find suitable housing

### YOUNG ADULTS' CONCERNS

Want to live downtown with walking and transit options, but costs are often prohibitive

Affording an urban home becomes difficult as family size increases; costs are high for daycare and the additional rooms needed to accommodate growing family

Would like to move from rental to ownership, concerned with seeing a lot of peers taking on debt and living beyond their means

### OLDER GENERATIONS' CONCERNS

Worried that their children won't be able to own their homes, and that they might not be able to provide help with finances

Concerned about their need for care and accommodation, and health support services as they age

There is a lack of variety in the design of housing: cookie-cutter low-density and unattractive high-rise



## INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING TO OUR RESEARCH?

Complete our research survey, currently aimed at those 18 to 40 years old in Canada and the US

[generationedcity.uwaterloo.ca/survey](http://generationedcity.uwaterloo.ca/survey)

**Generationed City** is a research project housed in the School of Planning at the University of Waterloo. The project, founded by Dr. Markus Moos, aims to unravel the kinds of housing and employment issues people across different generations encounter. The aim is to better understand the factors leading to housing affordability concerns in an attempt to develop solutions.

The **Research Snippets** series is a means of disseminating preliminary research findings to a broader audience. They are a summary of housing concerns that we have been hearing about at our various outreach events held earlier this year. They are not meant to be representative findings but rather highlight some of the overarching issues we hear about in our interactions with the public.

