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# From Silos to Synergy



**Rob Horne, MA, RPP**  
Planner-in-Residence  
School of Planning



**Michael Murray, M.Eng., P.Eng.**  
Douglas Wright Engineer-in-Residence  
Civil and Environmental Engineering

**How can Planners and Engineers collaborate to support societal change?**

**November  
24  
2-3pm EST**

## Moderators



**Nadine Ibrahim, PhD**  
Turkstra Chair in Urban Engineering  
Civil and Environmental Engineering



**Markus Moos, PhD, RPP**  
Director and Associate Professor  
School of Planning



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Department of Civil and  
Environmental Engineering



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PLANNING



How cities develop and function is the endeavour of engineers and planners, among others, however, students and faculty in these two disciplines often have limited opportunity to work and study collaboratively. At the University of Waterloo, we are fortunate to have a Planner-in-Residence and an Engineer-in-Residence who bring industry perspectives to curricular activities in the School of Planning and in Civil and Environmental Engineering, respectively. Both experts believe in the advantages of collaboration and interdisciplinarity for the benefit of our cities and urban prosperity. This session is a first step toward bridging the two disciplines further, highlight examples of the shortfalls of working in disciplinary silos and the benefits of synergy among planners and engineers.



**Rob Horne, MA, RPP  
Planner-in-Residence  
School of Planning**

Rob Horne is a seasoned planning leader with over 30 years of municipal experience. He was the Commissioner of Planning, Development and Legislative Services for over a decade with the Region of Waterloo until 2016, followed by a three year role as Chief Administrative Officer with the City of Stratford. He has also worked at the Federal and Provincial government levels, and comes from a family-owned small business.

Rob's planning work has been wide-ranging, from assisting senior government levels with policy and program development, to the preparation and implementation of Strategic Plans, as well as major development planning, financing and construction. Some of the initiatives Rob has led include the preparation and implementation of the Community Building Strategy to support and guide investment in the Waterloo Region ION rapid transit corridor, the creation of over 1000 new units of affordable housing throughout Waterloo Region, the construction of the Ken Seiling Regional Museum, and the approval of a new Regional Official Plan by Council in 2016. More recently, Rob has worked to further guide expansion plans for the successful and growing University of Waterloo Stratford Campus, including a proposed new Student Life/Community Hub, and the redevelopment of the Stratford Festival's Tom Patterson Theatre, now built and scheduled to open in 2021.

Rob has held a variety of leadership positions, including his role as the Chair of the Regional Planning Commissioners of Ontario, Chair of the South Waterloo Housing Authority, and various Board memberships, including the Cambridge Memorial Hospital, the Woolwich Community Health Centre, the Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association, and the University of Waterloo Accelerator Centre.

Rob holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Waterloo, a diploma in Public Administration from the University of Western Ontario, and is a Registered Professional Planner.



**Michael Murray, M.Eng., P.Eng.  
Douglas Wright Engineer-in-Residence  
Civil and Environmental Engineering**

Mike Murray recently retired as the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) with the Regional Municipality of Waterloo. During his 16 years as CAO, he had overall responsibility for all of the Region's functions including Community Services; Public Health and Emergency Services; Transportation and Environmental Services; Planning, Development and Legislative Services; Corporate Services; and Human Resources and Citizen Service, and all related corporate support functions. Mike has been with the Region of Waterloo since 1992, in a variety of positions, including Manager of Engineering and Planning, Director of Water Services and Commissioner of Transportation and Environmental Services.

Before joining the Region, Mike worked as a consulting engineer, mainly in northern and western Canada where he was involved in the planning, design and construction of numerous water and wastewater treatment facilities. Mike has also been involved in several international projects including projects in Brazil (groundwater protection), China (environmental sustainability) and Ukraine (regional governance development).

Throughout his career Mike has fostered collaborative working relationships with diverse stakeholder groups. He was a founding member of the Waterloo Region Immigrant Employment Network, Waterloo Region Tourism Marketing Corporation, and the Creative Enterprise Initiative. Mike has also served on the Boards of numerous industry associations and not-for-profit organizations including the Canadian Water and Wastewater Association, Ontario Center for Environmental Technology Advancement, Canada's Technology Triangle Inc., the Canadian Urban Institute, and The Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation.

Mike has a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering from McMaster University and a Master's Degree in Civil/Environmental Engineering from the University of Toronto. He has also completed the Queen's University Program for Public Executives, and leadership programs at the Banff Center for Management and the Niagara Institute.



**Nadine Ibrahim, PhD  
Turkstra Chair in Urban Engineering  
Civil and Environmental Engineering**

Nadine Ibrahim is a Lecturer in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Waterloo and holds the Turkstra Chair in Urban Engineering. She holds a BSc, MSc, and PhD in Civil Engineering, and a Certificate of Preventive Engineering and Social Development from the University of Toronto.

She is an advocate for engineers as municipal leaders that are equipped to address the challenges of rapid urbanization, and incorporates non-engineering fields including architecture, economics and governance. She worked on infrastructure renewal in municipalities in Southern Ontario focusing on asset management, risk assessment, infrastructure planning, and capital budgeting; and internationally on the provision of basic infrastructure and services for clients including the World Bank and the Global Environment Facility. Her research focuses on climate change mitigation in cities and megacities, and sustainability assessments in megaregions, and appears in leading journals including Nature Climate Change, and the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. She is active in engineering education featured in State of the World 2017: EarthED: Rethinking Education on a Changing Planet, Urban Infrastructure: Reflections For 2100, and chairs the Engineer of 2050 at the Canadian Engineering Education Association.



**Markus Moos, PhD, RPP  
Director and Associate Professor  
School of Planning**

Moos has been a faculty member in Planning for the past decade. He is a passionate and engaging teacher and internationally respected researcher. Moos holds a joint-honours bachelor's degree in economics and environmental studies (Waterloo), a master's degree in planning (Queen's) and a PhD in urban and economic geography (UBC). Moos is also a registered professional planner.

Moos' research examines the economics and demography of cities, housing, changing suburbs, and the impacts of planning practice on environmental sustainability and social equity. He has been credited for developing, "youthification" as a new concept to help explain neighbourhood change. He is widely published in academic and professional outlets. His research has been featured in the media including the CBC's Lang & O'Leary Exchange, CTV News, The Globe & Mail, Atlantic Cities Magazine, CityLab, Spacing Magazine, Business Insider and UK's Daily Mail.

