

## **A16 - Brent Toderian and Sherry Kafka Wagner reflect on Sustainability, City Building, Creative Process and Place Making**

**Presentation title:** Brent Toderian and Sherry Wagner Reflect on sustainability, city building, creative process and place making

**Presenters:**

Sherry Kafka Wagner  
Brent Toderian

**Speaker Biography**

Sherry Kafka Wagner has extensive experience as a consultant, planner, writer, and media producer. Her work includes projects in city planning and urban design, such as the San Antonio, Texas, River Corridor development, the Dallas, Texas Arts District Plan, the Rio Salado, Arizona, Plan and the plan for the Charles River Basin Park and the Wharf District Park in Boston . Other projects include the new Scientific Center in Kuwait, the Tennessee Aquarium in Chattanooga, ZEUM, an innovative museum for children and families in San Francisco, a masterplan for Carillon Park in Dayton, Ohio, and the strategic plan for Inventing Flight, the 2003 celebration of the Wright brothers. She has served as consultant to more than 45 cultural institutions (museums, aquariums, performing groups) on projects ranging from management issues to production of programs, exhibits, facilities, and media. She has authored a novel, a play, two children's books, television and media scripts, essays and magazine articles as well as special publications for the National League of Cities and the Smithsonian.

**Brent Troderian**

In 2006, Brent Toderian was appointed the City of Vancouver's Director of Planning, succeeding celebrated Co-Directors Larry Beasley and Dr. Ann McAfee. His broad mandate involves both current planning, including many projects related to the 2010 Winter Olympics, and visioning/community planning, including Vancouver's recently approved "EcoDensity" Initiative. Since arriving, Brent has been encouraging candid dialogue around an evolving urbanism, with new opportunities around sustainability, creativity, and architectural risk-taking.

Brent came to Vancouver from the City of Calgary, where as Manager of Centre City Planning + Design, he oversaw visioning, planning, development and design in Calgary's Downtown, Midtown and Beltline communities. Brent also created and was leading Calgary's award-winning Centre City Plan, which has meshed planning, design, and architecture issues with arts and culture, social planning, economic development, urban ecology, and anything else that relates to the future success of Centre City.

Brent previously spent 4 years championing a new tone for innovative neighbourhood design and integrated communities in Calgary as its Chief Subdivision Planner. For 9 years before that, Brent was an award-winning planning and design consultant based in Ontario, working for and with many municipalities, community groups and developers from Toronto to Yellowknife. Brent had a particular emphasis on downtown and inner city planning and revitalization.

A passionate advocate for creative city building, urban design and architecture, Brent speaks and writes globally on the subjects, has taught and lectured at numerous universities, and is a co-founder of the Council for Canadian Urbanism while sitting on numerous other boards and groups related to cities. Called a "sophisticated urbanist" by the Vancouver Sun, and an "urban firecracker" by the Globe and Mail, Brent practices what he calls holistic urbanism in all aspects of his work.

In real life he's an avid skier and loves anything in the outdoors (urban and natural), is passionate about all aspects of the arts, and is an avid traveler and student of cultures.