



February 27, 2017.

## **Imagining Cabbagetown: Our Place in the City: Part I**

### **Abstract**

Following on the successful *Imagining Our Main Street* Talk we turn our sights to the place of Cabbagetown in the City at large. We start with a panel on TOcore, an initiative by the City to prepare a Secondary Plan for Toronto's Downtown. "TOcore is a comprehensive and integrated look at Toronto's Downtown and its relationship to the city and region around it. This is the moment to determine the bold policy changes and transformative infrastructure moves needed to ensure Downtown continues on its trajectory towards a more liveable, connected, prosperous, resilient and responsible future." (TOcore website)

Our goal is to gain a better understanding of this planning exercise and the impact it may have on our community, especially on our main street, Parliament Street.

We have brought together a panel of people who are at the centre of these activities. Thank you for joining us to engage in this conversation.

*Speaker bios on verso*

## **Moderated by:**

**Rick Merrill**, CPA Board & The Planning Partnership

Rick has practiced as both an architect and a planner for over 40 years. He concentrates on projects that combine design and planning and his urban design work includes studies of intensification for both the private and public sectors. He has been involved in a number of studies across Canada as well as internationally.

## **Panelists:**

**Andrew Farncombe** is a Project Manager in the Strategic Initiatives unit of Toronto City Planning. He is responsible for managing 'TOcore: Planning Downtown', a comprehensive and integrated look at the policy changes and infrastructure moves needed to keep our growing Downtown liveable. Prior to joining the City in 2014, Andrew headed the international practice at the Canadian Urban Institute and has worked with cities around the globe to help tackle their planning and growth management challenges.

**Leo DeSorcy** is the Program Manager of Urban Design in North York District & the TOcore Parks and Public Realm Master Plan. His current urban design interest includes the Garden City tradition and its local modern evolution. His work at the City of Toronto since 1988 has focused on designing new neighbourhoods and transforming older ones to make dense, but complete, walkable and livable neighbourhoods.

**Marc Ryan** is principal and co-founder of PUBLIC WORK, a Toronto-based office for urban design and landscape architecture focused on one of the foremost public topics today—the intelligent evolution of the contemporary city. Marc's experience includes more than 15 years of practice in Canada, the United States and Europe, where he has provided leadership in the design of the public realm able to capture a dramatic new sense of place using landscape as a primary medium.