Prime Minister tours Forum site

A visit to an on-site sawmill, a batik and tapestry workshop and a renovated military aircraft hangar highlighted the February 8 visit of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau to Vancouver's Jericho Beach, site of the Habitat Forum.

The Prime Minister, accompanied by Urban Affairs Minister Barney Danson, Justice Minister Ron Perreault and Senator Ray Fewell, was welcomed at the site by Orca Island Native Association Commissioner-General for Habitat and Air Chief, Habitat Forum project manager.

In his one-hour tour, Mr Trudeau inspected the central section of the 7-hectare site, which includes five aircraft hangars being renovated for meeting rooms, shops, exhibition halls, workshops, restaurants, lounges and snack bars. The site is being prepared on federal grants of $776,000 with time and material being contributed by local volunteers and companies. Much of the material being used at the site is recycled. Large sections of timber are being processed at an on-site sawmill. These come from logs recovered from local coastal waters by a salvage operation which uses converted army barges.

Mr. Trudeau was particularly interested in this aspect of the site construction. He spoke at length with Doug Latoosh, Nanaimo, B.C., who originated the salvage technique and also supervises the waterfront welding of old railcars from Vancouver's Lions Gate Bridge by volunteer inmates from the lower mainland regional correctional centre.

The Prime Minister also expressed interest in the tapestries being created from scrap nylon in an on-site workshop coordinated by Evelyn Roth, a well known local artist.

World leaders highlight Habitat Day

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and five other world leaders will broadcast messages for Habitat Day this February 29 as part of a world-wide effort to stimulate public awareness of the upcoming May 31 to June 11 United Nations Conference on Human Settlements.

The General Assembly of the United Nations has approved the designation of February 28, the spare day in the world's calendar, as a "day of focus for public information about Habitat".

The UN Habitat Secretariat has asked the governments of the world to put on special information programs on their respective television networks to promote Habitat.

Prime Minister Trudeau pre-recorded three one-minute televisual messages in English, French and Spanish to be disseminated around the world by the United Nations.

His messages will join those of Prime Minister Olaf Palme of Sweden, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India, President Julio Nyere of Tanzania, President Luis Echeverria of Mexico, and President Adolfo Lopez Michaux of Columbia, which the UN will also distribute around the world.

The UN Habitat Secretariat considers Habitat Day as the kick-off of an international drive towards the Vancouver Conference.

The following is the text of Mr. Trudeau's message: 

"No human need is more basic than shelter. Yet one country can claim that it provides adequate shelter to all its people. Nor can any country claim to protect its people from the consequences of inadequate shelter, impure water, congested transportation systems, primitive processes of waste disposal, the pressures which come from crowding, from noise, from fumes in urban and rural communities alike — men, women and children suffer as a result. Solutions to these human problems are available. That is why we in Canada have offered to host the Habitat Conference, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements in Vancouver. Habitat will bring together people from various solutions together sharing knowledge, and others with whom they can look at the pledge of fresh approaches and fresh pursuits. It holds out to every one of them that it can yet become a wholesome human habitat."
Habitat
timetable for
UN and national
preparation

1978
February
National
World Habitat Day 24

March

April

Distribution, final UN
Documentation 31
United Nations Environment
Program, Governing Council,
Annapo1a 30.- 31.

May
Postgraduate Committee
Meeting, Vancouver 26-28
Habitat Forum 27-31.11.
Habitat 21.6-11.8

June
Habitat Forum 21.5-11.8
Habitat 21.6-11.8

International
World Habitat Day 29


United Nations Environment
Program, Governing Council,
Nairobi 29.- 30.

Meeting at Matera, Italy 19.- 21.
Canada-U.S. Symposium,
Wednesday 4.- 9

Habitat Secretariat as well as various
departmental and
provincial governments.

The conference recommended
that the public be given access to
plans well in advance of any
proposed changes.

We would assist in
the public evaluation and
would lead to
more responsible action by both
public and private enterprises.

A policy of strong regional development
was favoured by most
delegates.

Policy decisions are carried out
by various institutions and
departments. The identification
centres of
decision-making power with
respect to funds for human
settlements programs was sug-
gested. The government itself is
an institution and the “M” of
the three levels — federal, provincial,
municipal — is important.

The question of the intermediary level
whether organizational structure
should be designed to fit
decision-making to suit
local areas of need.

Housing is a right of every per-
son, declared the delegates, and
should be treated more as a
resource, less as a market com-
modity. There are great priorities
—the elderly, the handicapped
the economically disadvantaged
where housing must be provided.

By Government intervention if
necessary. There is great scope for
improvement in energy conserving
design in
eighbourhood

rehabilitation procedures, and in
provision of publicly-owned
community recreation facilities.

The conference called for a
national land use policy that would
sharply into account proposed urban
development, the preservation of
agricultural land for agricultural
use, and the provision of
recreational areas. Settlement of
the land claims of the native
peoples was given high
priority.

Community councils, referenda,
and public hearing are all avenues
for public participation. A
government policy of citizen access
to information would have long-
term benefits. An active monitoring
by NGOs of the Canadian govern-
ment position at Habitat was said to
be an important aspect of public
participation in the ongoing discus-
sion of human settlements issues.

Wide support was expressed for
the Canadian International
Development Agency’s (CIDA)
programs in the field of
international co-operation. It was
suggested that NGOs on a
monitoring committees, agencies,
and be an important ting public
participation, and more important,
will shape the way Canadian
Governments handle human
settlements issues in the years
ahead.

A full report of the conference is
now available and will be sent free
of charge on request.

NGO Conference stresses
public participation

Public participation at all stages.
In the creation of a human
settlement policy for Canada and
the implementation of that policy at
the community level, were the two
topics attracting most attention at
the Canadian NGO Conference on
Human Settlements. Closely
related was the rehabilitation of ex-
esting
neighbourhoods.

The conference, held in Ottawa
December 11, 12 and 13, was
tended by over 250 delegates
including representatives of 117
Canadian NGOs and 77 regional
NGOs. Hosts for the conference
were the Canadian National Com-
mittee and the Canadian NGO Par-
ticipation Group. Representatives
were present from the Canadian

Habitat

A full complement of Habitat officials participated in the December NGO conference from left to right: Dr. G.1
Jackson, former Executive Director, Canadian Participation Program; Geoffrey Grenville-Wood, Chairman, Cana-
dian NGO Participation Group; Enrique Peñalosa, Secretary General of Habitat; the Hon. Barney Dalston, Minister
of State for Urban Affairs; Senator Sydney L. Buckwald, Chairman Canadian National Committee; J.W. MacNell,
Commissioner-General, Canadian Habitat Secretariat; and G. van Putten, Chairman, International NGO Commit-
tee for Habitat.

HABITAT

HABITAT BULLETIN is produced
by the Canadian Habitat
Secretariat. It is intended to con-
vey information on Habitat and
U.N. preparations for Habitat, and
to encourage the involvement of
governmental organizations and
individual Canadians in these
preparations.

EXTRA COPIES, singly or in
reasonable quantities, are
available free of charge from the
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dian Habitat Secretariat, 1st
Floor, Lord Elgin Plaza, 66 Slater
Street, Ottawa K1P 5H1

Ottawa, February, 1976
Bulletin No. 8
Prepcom: Danson emphasizes need for national goals

The United Nations Preparatory Committee for Habitat (Prepcom) met in New York, January 12-23, for the last time before countries assemble in Vancouver at the end of May. Eighty-nine governments sent delegations. Three fourths of the more than 200 who attended were policy advisers and experts from capitals. It was the largest preparatory committee meeting ever held for a UN conference.

The main task of this Prepcom was to review drafts of the policy papers to be put before the Conference by the UN Habitat Secretariat. There are three papers that will be debated and formally approved in Vancouver: The Declaration of Principles, Recommendations for National Action, and a Programme of Intention, Consideration, or Program. The latter programme includes proposals for restructuring the parts of the UN that deal with development for human settlements questions.

Canada’s Minister of State for Urban Affairs, Honourable Barney Danson, led the Canadian delegation and delivered two major addresses. On the opening day, Mr. Danson stressed how important it was for the discussions at Habitat to remain relevant to the subject of human settlements. “Clearly there are policy issues that are directly relevant to Habitat,” he said. “But it is essential that we avoid debating questions that belong elsewhere in other conferences or in the General Assembly. The pursuit of irrelevant issues at Habitat will only sharpen the cynicism of governments and the public worldwide, not only towards Habitat but also toward the United Nations.”

In his second major intervention, Mr. Danson put forward the main issues for Habitat. He said that there must be a clear political priority for the needs of our poorest people, the vast majority of whom live in the slums and squatter settlements of the Third World.

To give substance to the rhetoric of Habitat, the Minister urged governments to make a national commitment to achieve certain hard program targets in the basic areas. He referred to the recently proclaimed Canadian housing target of onemillion starts over the next four years, with 225,000 started for 1976.

Mr. Danson did not suggest that the Conference should adopt world-wide targets for housing, transportation, sewage and the like. Conditions are much too variable to permit universal quantitative standards in these areas. Moreover, the setting of national targets is a national right and responsibility. The point of the Minister’s remarks was to urge every government to come to Habitat prepared to make a national commitment to a small number of targets in the areas of most critical need.

He illustrated with a discussion of safe drinking water which he noted is “the first essential of any effective programme to improve the living conditions of the world’s poorest citizens.”

The Minister reminded delegates that Canada has recently decided to focus its aid to a much greater extent on the most crucial problems of development — public health; shelter; food production and distribution; rural development; education and training; and demography. He also noted that they have had to reaffirm our commitment to reach the UN target of 7 percent of GNP devoted to education by 1978. “We’ve only made it to 5.2 percent,” he said.

The draft policy papers were subjected for lengthy and lively debate. The Declaration of Principles, in particular, promised to spark political wrangling in Vancouver. For instance, the Prepcom adjourned unable to decide whether a State had the right to: (a) “exercise permanent sovereignty over its natural resources...” or (b) “exercise authority over all its resources...subject to international law and those treaties and contracts to which it has subscribed.”

Countries with property abroad naturally favoured (a), while most Third World countries insist on (b). Diplomatic sparring over such points of tangential concern is inevitable part of international political gatherings, no matter what the subject.

There were a protracted discussion of the International Co-operation programme, centering principally on post-Habitat changes in UN responsibilities for human settlements. Governments are unanimously opposed to establishing a wholly new specialized agency for human settlements. But there are agreement ends. Many would have human settlement responsibility centered in the UN’s Economic and Social Affairs Committee. Canada offered a Program (UNEP) with some variant of it. A roughly equal number of governments argue strongly for a focus in the Economic and Social Affairs side of the UN, perhaps built around the existing Centre for Housing Building and Planning (CHBP). The roots of the disagreement are evidently much more political than substantive. A Program (UNEP) of some variant of it. A roughly equal number of governments argue strongly for a focus in the Economic and Social Affairs side of the UN, perhaps built around the existing Centre for Housing Building and Planning (CHBP). The roots of the disagreement are evidently much more political than substantive. A Program (UNEP) of some variant of it.

General Assembly sessions of 1963-67, said some UN delegations were more concerned with rules of procedures than the subject matter at hand.

He said the chairman of any UN conference has to be “very familiar” with rules of procedures. A Member of Parliament of the Social Democratic Party since 1951, Mr. Bengtsson met February “Live in the rural settlement in Sweden” on a trip to Vancouver at the end of February, Barney Danson, who as head of the Canadian delegation to Habitat will present the report of the Vancouver Conference.

The Swedish Labour Minister said that Canada’s delegation for a left conference was “very important.”

He said many countries prior to Stockholm knew little or nothing about environmental problems. That was why they had to find out when they were asked to submit national reports. “The outcome of a conference depends on the preparation of its documents,” Mr. Bengtsson said.

He predicted that at Habitat the developing countries would come to grips with the essentials of the Conference, namely the area of basic shelter, since this was one which concerned them the most. Mr. Bengtsson said one of the more tangible results of Habitat was that it would improve the type of environment that would give people decent shelter.

“A decent house for everyone is our first priority,” he said, adding, however, that one should not disregard the environment around one’s home.

“When you have nothing, your environment around you, you do not think much about the one’s home. You can be happy if you then get two rooms and a kitchen; but after a while the environment around you becomes very important.”

Procedure must not override substance, warns Swedish Minister

Labour Minister Ingemund Bengtsson of Sweden who chaired the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Environment says the worst part of presiding over a conference like Habitat was to see, which consists of working behind the scenes at the end of the daily sessions, “find solutions and compromises.”

Mr. Bengtsson, who was Minister of Foreign Affairs when his country’s delegation to Stockholm, acknowledged that the chairman of an international UN conference has to be almost Solomon-like in his rulings.

In an Ottawa interview during the course of a official visit to Canada, Mr. Bengtsson, a member of the Swedish delegation to the UN General Assembly sessions of 1963-67, said some UN delegations were more concerned with rules of procedures than the subject matter at hand.

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Canada did not take sides in the debate, being content to spell out in detail what each option implied and what sub-alternatives might be considered.

The Habitat audio-visual program, and more particularly the fate of the films after the conference, aroused a great deal of interest and concern. There is a real danger that the 220 or more films produced for Habitat will be shelfed in archives next June for want of an organization to be responsible for their reproduction and distribution. Governments are unanimously agreed that this is unacceptable but as yet there is no firm proposal, complete with cost and physical facilities, for carrying on a program. Canada offered at the Prepcom to host a meeting of governments before Vancouver to iron out a firm proposal, but the responsibility for convening such a meeting rests with the UN Habitat Secretariat.

Governments must now await news of the three policy papers for the conference. These are being prepared by the UN and will be delivered to governments in late March or early April. The principal business of the Vancouver conference will be to debate, amend, and finally approve the three papers.
Alberta: an experiment in solving settlements problems

The Habitat Bulletin provides a forum for articles by people with stimulating views on human settlement issues. This month our contributor is Albertan Sydness, chairman of the Alberta Division of the Canadian Planning Association, who also member of the Alberta NGO Steering Committee for Habitat.

The best example of an attempt to resolve a "settlement" problem in Alberta may well be the Ribbon Lake Moraine Area, some 25 miles southeast of Edmonton. The area contains numerous lakes, large expanses of natural bush and forests adjacent to Elk Island National Park. Thousands of wild animals, considerable Crown-owned land, several lakeshore subdivisions and a substantial amount of ranch land.

Studies were carried out by the Alberta Department of the Environment and the Edmonton Regional Planning Commission, and all-day public meeting was widely advertised by the Community Planning Association. Descriptions of various options were presented along with maps and illustrations of how the area would develop following different strategies.

Those present were divided into a number of "workshops" in which the proposals were discussed by those most vitally concerned with the future of the area. The rancher wishing to expand his operation met eyewall with the environmentalist who insisted that the area be kept in its natural state. The developer who was anxious to subdivide land in the vicinity of a lake was confronted by the rancher who insisted that the land remain in its natural state.

After hours of lively discussion, the workshops reported back at the main meeting. The reports were carefully documented by representatives of Alberta Environment and went back to the drawing boards. Through this process it is hoped that a land-use plan for the area will emerge which will benefit future generations, resulting from a joint venture of professional expertise and public participation.

Other related NGO activities include the meetings sponsored by the Canadian Institute of Planners, the hearings and reports of the Alberta Land Use Forum, an innovative approach to urban-rural development being carried out in the Town of St. Paul in the northeastern part of the Province and urban-redevelopment in the downtown area of the City of High River in southern Alberta.

The question in Alberta has been how to involve the man on the street in the discussion of urban issues, growth management and balanced development. The Alberta NGO Steering Committee organized a Program Committee to carry out a project that would do just this. What they have proposed is a series of ten public meetings in widely separated centres in order to sample the concerns of the public in depth. A spring assembly in April, to be held in conjunction with the provincial Community Planning Association conference, will bring together this local input and prepare a report for Habitat Forum.

In mid-1975 the Alberta Division of the Canadian Planning Association undertook to sponsor and promote an NGO program in the province. From this spark has come a steering committee, a program committee and a full-blown project. The concept is not so much in what these committees have done, but in the interest and enthusiasm they have discovered.

Many NGOs with programs and projects have come to know of each other's work, and through this communication exchanges of ideas and experiences.

Karen Hatcher, Age 13

There are homes above the valley, where there is still some oxygen left...

The Journal of Commerce, a Vancouver-based publication, has been asked by the United Nations to publish a daily account of Conference events throughout Habitat, with a total of 15 issues in all. Joe Whitehead, publisher of the Journal of Commerce, will have overall responsibility for the operation, while the United Nations will arrange for writers.
As the children see it

The Youth Dimension Program, designed to involve Canadian school-age children in preparations for Habitat, has had an enthusiastic response. 150,000 information kits were mailed to educators and teachers across the country to ask about their interest in human settlements. The pollulations for Habitat, has had an encouraging response. The population in setting up the Inhabitants are working hard to get people to work for Habitat. The population will increase by 500,000 people to 1.1 million people across the country. A computer run-through of two thousand of the cards so far returned shows a strong interest by the teachers with very ideas and suggestions to stimulate classroom discussion.

The letter:

Dear Improvers,

Here in Whitehorse we have two parks and one museum, but a few more things might be useful. In order to expand and support ourselves we need to show people what we do. We could use ore and wood but we would still have the high cost in setting up the industries, and again in shipping out the products. The best thing to do seems to be to stay at the same population.

Linda Alexander 5th Grade

Whitehorse, Y.T.

The Future

The future will stay mostly the same. There will be much more crime. Young teenagers and adults will be drinking liquor, on drugs, and some adults and teenagers will be in gangs. The military will be taking over the world. The police will not be able to handle the gangs. People will not be safe on the streets and some will not be safe in their own homes. People will be calling out for help, and young people getting married will be scared of having children because of these dangers.

The population will be very high because of illegitimacy, such as rape of girls being whores and prostitutes. Girls having children because of these things, besides married people having children. The food will be very high in cost because of lazy people, government, population and pollution. The lazy people will be too lazy to go out in the world and find jobs. There is work on farms and then if they work and provide more food, it may cost a little less. The government is not working hard to get people to work on the land to grow food and help the farmers. If the population keeps growing, as it is, people will beggar hungry and many will die of starvation. The pollution will make

The air go very bad and start killing people. The land will be black and plants will also be turning black and die. If we want to have a better future for the generation to come, we must work hard and people must understand. We need to start then, and we must put our heads together.

Kim Moses, 14

Hebron, N.B. Goode

Me and the kids of every other nation,

I'm getting to discover in my heart
That there is in this world
Other children like me.
They eat and they drink
Have a family and go to school.
All the children of every nation
Are like me.

They need warmth, human closeness
In order to grow.

They may be black, red or yellow,
Which is no reason to hate them.

On the contrary, we must love them
Like our own brothers or sisters.

We could then take each other by the hand
And stretch a circle of friendship
Around the earth.

That's my dream!

Marie-Claude Nadeau

5 years old

Toursaine, Quebec.

Future

We will be
Under the sea,
In floating cars,
In the future.
We will be
Crammed,
Jammed,
Like sardines in cans.
The future holds things unreal,
Things with no appeal.

Joanne Perleau

Hebron, N.S.

The next future

I think we'll go back in the olden days. Example - we'll have no electricity, wood stoves, no vehicles, just horses and wagons, just one school with one room and mixed grades.

I think flying saucers might come down and take us to another planet and better life. We'll probably have to work for them but it'll be a better life, what the heck. And if they did take all of us on earth I wonder what would happen to earth.

C.K.

St. Albert, Alta.

The Future: Summary

I think the future will be a better place to live in than today. They won't have as much hard times as today. I think I would much rather have been born in the year 2001 than I could really see what it would be like.

Jean Sweeney, 14

Hebron, N.B.

Urban metals hunting.
Electrical sunshine and faraway moons.
Magical curse-aile on stainless steel sidewalks.
Life in a matchbox, fun in a slide.
Hundreds of corners and nowhere to hide.
Looking for heaven the world wanders why.
Sky scrapping buildings touch nothing but say.
Deeks at an office, ships out in space.
No one can win, yet we call it a race.
Music by battery, noise from a box.
Nobody reasons but everyone}

Music by battery, noise from a box.
Nobody reasons but everyone.

Leaves Commonly faceless appear separately stand.
Await the Messiah to give us a hand.

Janice Roen

Age 14

Westmount, P.Q.

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Jean Sweeney, 14

Hebron, N.B.
Canadian Habitat Secretariat reorganization now complete

As in a play, all the central characters in the Habitat reorganization have now been identified and their roles defined.

Since the appointments of J. W. MacNeill as Commissioner-General of the new Canadian Habitat Program, the physical and technical staff of the Secretariat has been reorganized in a closely-knit, unified operation.

The centralization in CNS of the two original secretariats—that for participation within the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs, the other for housing, within the Department of External Affairs—has been accompanied by several senior staff appointments.

**The host program**

Newly-appointed Director-General of the Host Program of the CNS is Creighton Douglas, formerly director of the Expositions Branch in information Canada. Mr. Douglas succeeds John A. Dagnall of External Affairs, who was assigned to a foreign diplomatic post.

Based in Vancouver, Mr. Douglas has overall responsibility for the Host Program, to be directed from Ottawa. Miss Carney has particular responsibility for the activities of the Canadian Secretariat and planning. His assistant, Miss Carney, has special responsibility for the central organizing office.

A specialist in manpower training and economic development in Canada, Miss Carney has particularly responsibility for the Economic Council of Canada for a three-year period.

As his assistant, Director-General of Information in Vancouver, Mr. Peacock has Miss Pat Carney, an economist and former business columnist. Miss Carney has particular responsibility for the activities of the Canadian Secretariat and planning. His assistant, Miss Carney, has special responsibility for the central organizing office.

**Information**

Don Peacock, until recently Press Counselor to the Canadian High Commission in London, has joined the Secretariat staff as Director-General of Information. Mr. Peacock's career encompasses a wide background of journalistic experience, including time spent as a journalist with the Canadian High Commission in London and, more recently, as a writer for The Times in England. He is currently engaged in the preparation of a comprehensive guide to the events of the Habitat Conference, which is scheduled to take place in June.

Also reporting to Don Peacock is Chris Burke, who came from the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs to edit a series of Urban Prospects Papers dealing with Habitat topics which have been commissioned from academics, consultants, and planners.

He will also develop and edit a number of additional papers on topics of international and national significance, Joyce Porter, Janet Birt, and Jane Teepol who assisted Chris at LSU on the Prospects Papers also joined the Secretariat in the same capacity.

**Media arrangements**

Filling another important spot in the new Secretariat's structure is Al Kachur, who has been appointed Director of Media and Information Services. Mr. Kachur is responsible for a number of special papers on topics of international and national significance. Joyce Porter, Janet Birt, and Jane Teepol who assisted Chris at LSU on the Prospects Papers also joined the Secretariat in the same capacity.

**To Ottawa**

J. C. Cofer, Executive Secretary of the Canadian Habitat Secretariat since its inception in 1972, is now Director of the Canadian Habitat Secretariat. A former deputy head of the Canadian Press, Mr. Cofer was formerly Chief of the Coordination, Planning and Evaluation Group of the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs.

Cam Mussells, who retired from the Canadian Forces, joined the Secretariat as Director of the Study Tours Program. Cam is being assisted by Andrés Desoutter, who is responsible for the Study Tours Program.

**Gaelen Jeaurond**

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arrangements for the delegations representing the 160 member nations of the UN who will attend Habitat.

Jim MacKenzie's office has also been taken on reinforcements. Dave Dunlop, former Executive Assistant to two Secretaries of MSUA, and Director of MSUA's Urban Management Training & Services Programs, has joined the Commissioner-General as his Special Assistant. John Cox, Director of Priorities and Planning at MSUA, has also joined the Secretariat in the same capacity. Gary Harlin, a professional engineer, came from the Coroner's Board in Canada to assist Mr. Cox in the overall scheduling and coordination of Habitat activities. Robert Munro, Director of Bilateral and Multilateral Relations at MSUA, joined the Secretariat as Co-ordinator of International Affairs. Arne Cooperstock remains Program Director. A former university professor of urban affairs, he was Principal Planner, Model Cities Program, Office of the Mayor, New York City.

Richard Acquah-Harrison, a Toronto planning consultant, came to help draft the Canadian National Committee's report based on a series of 16 public meetings held in the Fall of 1975.

Suzanne DesRivieres, who came to the Secretariat from Treasury Board, remains Senior Policy Planning Officer for the Secretariat.

Helene Gendron is the liaison officer and coordinator for the National Exhibit to be set up in Vancouver. The modular exhibit will have graphic and visual inputs from the provinces on problems and solutions to human settlements in Canada.

Virginia Hambly who joined Habitat from the Special Programs Branch of the Canadian International Development Agency, is still the public participation liaison officer. She is coordinating the Youth Dimension Program, the activities of the Canadian National Committee and the Provincial Participation Program as well as being the CHS liaison with the Canadian NGO Participation Group.

Janet McDonald remains Administrative Officer for the Secretariat's main auxiliary organizer and recorder for the numerous public and internal meetings connected with Habitat.

Lorraine Bouliane remains Administrative Officer of Finance for the Secretariat.

In Vancouver, P. P. Pederson, who joined Habitat from the Special Programs Branch of the Canadian International Development Agency, has joined the Secretariat as Co-ordinator of International Affairs.

Mary Pearson came from the Department of the Secretary of State to draft the Canadian National Report to the UN Habitat Secretariat on the present state of human settlements in Canada.

Frank Mayo, Chief of the Design Section of the Exhibitions Branch at Information Canada who designed Canada's participation at Expo '70 in Osaka, is in Vancouver as Creative Director for the Secretariat.

Claude Servant, as Director of Installations, is responsible for all the physical installations to be used by delegations and media representatives.

Dr. Vern Wicker is Senior Advisor in Vancouver for the Participation Program of the Canadian Habitat Secretariat and Rosulin Rose, who organized the 1973 Pacific Economic Conference, is Senior Consultant to the Associate Commissioner-General.

In Vancouver, Dean Miller of the public relations firm Dean Miller Company Ltd. will continue to handle Western regional media relations for the Secretariat, reporting to Pat Carney.

Diana Lam has joined the Secretariat's Vancouver office as a Community Relations Co-ordinator to maintain open lines between the Secretariat and the B.C. community at large.

Gay Dalton is Pat Carmody's new Executive Assistant. She will also serve in that capacity to Don Peacock when he returns from his Ottawa office to Vancouver.

Writer Jacki Wolf has joined the Vancouver office to co-ordinate the media handbook to be given to all journalists covering the Conference.

And in New York

In New York, Ernest Lognnon, a Foreign Service Officer in the Department of External Affairs, remains the Liaison Officer between the Canadian Habitat Secretariat and the UN Habitat Secretariat.
Series of papers explores urban issues

This month, the first Urban Prospects Papers will be distributed. This is a series of papers on urban issues aimed at an audience between the academic and the popular. The primary audience is elected representatives, consultants and corporate executives who daily work related to urban planning and development.

The papers will be distributed to a mailing list of approximately 3,000, and others may obtain copies from the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs. The first paper will be entitled "Canadian Settlement and Environmental Planning," by Chris Burke, Editor of the Series. This paper looks at the changing role of the service sector in the economy and its importance in urban development planning.

The first paper is entitled "Parasites Outnumber the Hosts," by Chris Burke, Editor of the Series. This paper explores the changing role of the service sector in the economy and its importance in urban development planning.

People Die All the Time by Ross Thompson. This paper addresses the potential and the successes of community enterprises in Canada, and proposes means by which this can be encouraged.

Hindsight into the Future by John Kettle. A forecast to the year 2000, assessing the social and political implications, and including a users' guide to forecasting.

Heritage by Design by Pauline Cooperman. This is a plea for heritage, not merely in the museum sense, but as part of the everyday world, to provide variety, character and familiarity in our towns and cities.

Another dozen papers are in various stages of preparation, and it is hoped that most of them will be available prior to Habitat.

The flight to the cities - new film shot around the world

A 60-minute global film on human settlements, yet lacking a formal title. It is in the final technical processing stage with a release date set at the end of March. The film illustrates man's resourcefulness when confronted with problems for which he must find solutions. Issues of migration and urbanization are also dealt with.

The film was jointly funded by the NFDB and the Canadian Habitat Secretariat at a cost of nearly half a million dollars. Barbados Ward Jackson, well-known author and environmentalist, acted as consultant.

Location shots were taken between June and September in Canada, the U.S., Poland, Venezuela, Singapore, Indonesia, Turkey and Senegal.

The main theme of the film is the internal migration of people from rural to urban areas which has become an almost universal phenomenon.

Through this issue, all other concerns are focused, such as housing, planning and development, employment, health care, education and transportation.

Kampung improvement program, Jakarta, Indonesia

Bibliobus into ranchos, Caracas, Venezuela

Marginal employment with recycled, sand-cast aluminum, Dakar, Senegal
CNC recommendations include Commons debate prior to Habitat

The Canadian National Committee for Habitat has come out in support of a House of Commons debate on Canada's preparations for the Habitat Conference and the nation's general position at Vancouver.

This recommendation was one of several made by the 16-member Committee chaired by Senator Sidney Buckwith of Saskatchewan.

"We believe that a debate on Canada's role at Vancouver, presumably taking place shortly before Habitat, would be a desirable element in the preparation process," says the report to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs to be released on February 29.

The CNC Report, summing up the views and recommendations made to the Committee during 16 public meetings held in the fall of 1975, also recommends that non-governmental representatives be included in the Canadian delegation to the Habitat Conference.

The Committee stressed that thought must be given to what the federal government will do following the end of the May 31 to June 11 Conference.

"Habitat should be an opportunity for a new beginning, not an end in itself," said the report.

It said that unless other structures and processes are created for the years ahead to replace those initiated for the Conference, then there is "a very strong risk, and even a probability, that much of the momentum and opportunity provided by the Habitat Conference will be lost."

The views and recommendations of the Committee, whose members were appointed by the Minister of State for Urban Affairs, are fully there and do not reflect those of the Government of Canada.

The recurring themes heard during the September 11 to November 30 tour during which the Committee received 212 briefs were: the shortage of housing; the use of land; its ownership; and planning; growth management; the impact of the white man's way of life on the native people; the conservation of energy; the quality of life; citizen participation; the needs of children; international cooperation; and transportation.

The following are some of the views of the Committee:

- CNC activities failed to attract as much of the public interest as hoped from them;
- Methods of securing grass-roots involvement must be more innovative than established techniques such as public meetings;
- The Federal government's cancellation of the $100 million Canadian Urban Demonstration Program (CUDP) as a result of budgetary cuts acted unfavourably on CNC's efforts.
- Difficult to convince people that a UN conference can credibly pursue international understanding and promote a sense of international morality when the UN General Assembly itself displays contrary tendencies;
- CNC surprised by "very limited" in-depth discussion of "housing" during most public meetings;
- CNC disappointed at not hearing more from social action groups;
- CNC disappointed at the coverage provided by the mass media;
- International aspects of human settlements not discussed adequately;
- Little comment heard of contribution that could be made by Canadian educational institutions to training of foreign students;
- The "heady wine of public participation" of the debates has come to "the flat beer of the seventies... people weary, frustrated and skeptical about participation."

The following were some of the recommendations made by the Committee in its report:

- That the federal government, in consultation with low income groups, devise a policy statement on low income housing setting out specific goals for the next five years and the means to achieve them;
- That land zoned as agricultural be continued in that classification wherever possible. The implication of rezoning of agricultural land for other purposes should be taken much more seriously by the governments concerned;
- That governments continue and extend land banking activities. A properly administered land banking program will control escalating land prices;
- That the next major phase of housing legislation be directed towards the restoration and improvement of existing housing in older neighbourhoods;
- That the federal government in consultation with the citizens, provincial governments and industry, formulate an immigration policy that will be relevant for each region;
- That there should be a positive policy encouraging assistance in financing to the inhabitants of small towns and rural Canada;
- That the federal government reintroduce the Canadian Urban Demonstration Program or a similar program.

Conference of mayors to be held in Milan

Six weeks before Habitat an event will take place in Milan which may have far-reaching implications for the Habitat Conference and beyond.

The Conference of Mayors of the world's largest cities will draw an anticipated 500 municipal officials to the northern Italian city April 15-17.

A statement summarizing the views of world mayors and urging international cooperation at the municipal level is anticipated from the Mayors Conference and will be delivered to Habitat by the mayor of Milan.

UN Habitat Secretary-General Enrique Peñalosa considers the Milan meeting such an important element of the habitat preparatory process that he will be going there to address the conference.

Special attention is being given to the Milan meeting by the UN Habitat Secretariat because of its importance role that must be played by the municipal level of government in the solution of urban settlement problems.

It is also expected that many of the mayors who will be at Milan will be members of the national delegations of the countries they represent.

Canada as the host country has released Dr. Ian Jackson, Director-General of the Canadian Participation Program of the Canadian Urban Demonstration Program (CUDP) as a result of the urban transport theme is expected to attract particular attention since the famed Milan Trade Fair, one of the most renowned in Europe, will be held at the same time and one of its major exhibits will be devoted to public transport.

Sessions at the Mayors Conference will be simultaneously translated into seven languages: Italian, French, English, German, Spanish, Russian and Arabic.

The Conference is being jointly sponsored by three major organizations: The Cooperation Centre—World Cities (Milan); The International Union of Local Authorities (The Hague); and the Fédération Mondiale des Ville Jumelles (Paris).
Provinces gear up their activities in the home stretch to Habitat

Activity in provincial circles in support of Habitat is progressing at an increasing tempo. Following are brief notes on developments in four of the provinces.

**Alberta**

In December and early January, provincially-sponsored public participation meetings were held in five cities — Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Camrose and Peace River. Average attendance at the meetings was about 100.

The Alberta Habitat Secretariat is now preparing its own catalogue of more than 100 demonstration projects on one side of the border, and the Symposium (NARS) or the Internet's U.S. by the Department of Housing Federation for Housing and Planning Forum, to be held early in April in Detroit/Windsor.

The Forum will involve one of the two sets of touring lecturers. A public meeting, organized on the lines of a seminar workshop on habitat, was planned at the University of Manitoba on February 5. The theme was "Pro-Habitat Ps and Q's: Manitoba's Habitat exhibit, which was displayed at five regional meetings in the province last October and November, is now being shown at a series of locations in Winnipeg. Set up in a shopping centre, it was displayed later at the University of Manitoba in connection with the Festival of Life and Learning there.

**Ontario**

The Ontario Habitat Secretariat is drafting a position paper which will embody the views of Ontario municipalities regarding human settlements. The paper stems from a series of meetings held at 11 centres in Ontario in December and January, to which representatives of municipalities were invited. It is to be distributed about mid-March.

On February 13, the first stage in Ontario's Habitat action program was to get underway with a planning conference of Ontario NGOs, to be held in Toronto. Representatives were expected from about 50 organizations, each of which represents several other non-governmental organizations. The Secretariat is compiling a directory of human settlement professionals provided by Ontario municipalities, community organizations and NGOs.

Also in the works are communication projects such as a slide presentation and appropriate graphics for Ontario Habitat programs.

**Quebec**

Early in the new year, the Quebec Habitat Secretariat tackled the final stage in its preparations as it put the finishing touches on a brief summarizing the recommendations of the fifteen-odd organizations involved in its activities.

These recommendations deal with tentative solutions to most problems in human settlements. They are grouped according to the three main concerns of the organizations that were consulted: planning in the broadest sense, the decentralization of powers and services, and the concentration of powers and services.

In Quebec, a number of conferences have been held in the new year, to which representatives were expected from about 50 organizations, each of which represents several other non-governmental organizations. The Secretariat is compiling a directory of human settlement professionals provided by Quebec municipalities, community organizations and NGOs.

The brief, along with the reports of the organizations that were consulted, has been forwarded to J.W. MacNeil, Commissioner-General for Habitat for Canada, and to Senator Sidney Buckwold, President of the Canadian National Committee. Quebec is now preparing for the main event in May in Vancouver.

Canada-US Symposium

Early April is the target date for a two-day joint U.S.-Canadian symposium on "Human Settlement Concerns in Border Cities" to be held in the two cities of Detroit and Windsor.

Both Governments will contribute to the costs. Preparations are underway by planners on both sides of the border, and the symposium will take place one day in each of the two cities.

The symposium is being organized by the North American Regional Section (NARS) of the International Federation for Housing and Planning (IHP) and is supported in the U.S. by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and in Canada by the Canadian Habitat Secretariat.

The planning to date calls for four issues to be examined which have a bearing on the quality of life in the Detroit/Windsor international metropolitan area. These are immigration, employment, housing standards, and recreational and cultural exchanges.

On the immigration issue, Canada's policy is currently under review, and the resulting changes may have a long-term effect on border activity. The employment question will deal principally with the 6,000 Windsor citizens who come daily to work in Detroit where the unemployment rate is high.

The impact on quality of differing housing standards on either side of an international border will also be dealt with. On the subject of recreational and cultural exchanges, discussion will revolve around the fact that Canadians provide large audiences for U.S. television programs and whether this "Americanization" of Canadians is good or bad. Another issue is that Canada's recreational services are widely used by Americans and how Canada can plan for and support this usage.

The international symposium will be open to the public in the Detroit/Windsor area.

It follows a series of 14 symposia held across Canada in the fall of 1975 to stimulate an interchange between invited experts and concerned citizens on specific Canadian human settlement issues.
The Quebec-Windsor axis: community or conglomerate?

Main Street is a new book by the geographer Maurice Yeates. It is a comprehensive assessment of conditions in the area between Windsor and Quebec City, otherwise known as "the axis". The book, ambitious in design and structure, is about a slice of Canada that has over fifty-five percent (1971) of the country's population and contains close to three-quarters of Canada's manufacturing employment.

This area has been singled out for special study primarily for two reasons: it is perceived to be an area which is highly integrated, with its parts irrevocably bound together by flows of people, goods, money and messages of all kinds. And it is defined as an entity that for Canada, good or ill dominates the rest of Canada.

"It is the purpose of this monograph," the author explains, "to document the extent of the domination of the urban areas between Windsor and Quebec over the Canadian economy, to examine variabilities in the extent of urbanism within this axis, to indicate ways in which these internal and external patterns of urban dominance are changing and to comment upon possible future patterns which may be emerging."

This resolution is pursued in terms of six themes: the form of settlement, population change and growth, the use of land, housing, economic development, interacting flows and communication/transportation channels, the structure of government and finance. Much of what is discovered is not startling, but nevertheless has value in the same way that a good novel holds up a mirror to our lives, and in so doing leads us to new insights.

Other findings contain surprises. Small towns and cities consume more land per person than big places. One-half of all the urban land required in the axis to the year 2001 could be bought for $1.12 billion (1971 prices). Renting a house is less expensive than buying in the first 10 years of a family's existence. "At least twenty-eight percent of the difference in house prices between Montreal and Toronto is related to the cost of service lots." About two-thirds of all units of local administration are "special bodies", separate from established governments.

The work interprets the future through a number of forecasts which provide a range of possibilities but conjure up a common destiny which fulfills present tendencies — and "onward to the post-industrial urban life!" To the author's credit, he does not rely on statistical devices alone, but casts his light upon the real forces that affect the growth and location of high order metropolitan functions: bank head offices, stock exchanges, corporation headquarters, etc.

Professor Yeates leaves no doubt that there may be good reason to be concerned about the intensifying domination of the axis. But the question of what are the appropriate public policy responses is raised only cursorily, albeit provocatively. It remains an open question.

The counterpoint of the terms "the axis" and "Main Street" raise an interesting conjecture. The first is cold, technical and seems uncomfortable; the second is warm, human, happy. It is a community image which, for all its association with Babibity and commercialism, brings to mind a familiar, unthreatening world of casual but gratifying encounters with friends and neighbours.

This difference as far as the substance of the book is concerned is not merely a matter of semantics. No evidence is invoked to suggest that the transition from axis to Main Street has in fact been made; and the intensity of all those intriguing telephone calls and airplane rides do not yet translate into genuine friction.

This is an important book which is blessed with superb craftsmanship. It should enjoy a wide and diverse audience, as well as much more adequate critical treatment than is possible in a short review. The book is also of interest to a publishing event. It represents an effort in cooperation between its sponsor, the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs, Information Canada, and MacMillan of Canada under the term of the federal co-publishing program.

Leo Gerster
University of Waterloo

Barbara Ward tours Canada

The Barbara Ward lecture tour of eight Canadian centres, postponed last November, will get underway on March 29 with a ninth city added to her speaking engagements.

Barbara Ward's circuit to promote Habitat will coincide with the launching of her new book "Habitat: Home of Man" which she intends to present to Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in Ottawa.

The month-long tour is sponsored by the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs and the Institute of Public Administration, which organizes the Clifford Clark Lecture Series under which Miss Ward will give lectures in Ottawa, Quebec City, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Victoria, Montreal and Halifax. A speaking engagement in Winnipeg is being sponsored by the Bonnycastle Lecture Series.

As she was slated to be in Victoria for six days including a five-day respite over Easter, the University of British Columbia in Vancouver expressed interest in having her deliver a lecture there.

She will cut another stay in Victoria to deliver the lecture in Vancouver before flying to Montreal, where she is to give her second lecture in French.

The Quebec-Windsor axis: community or conglomerate?

Main Street

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habitats

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