

***Culture and Local Governance / Culture et Gouvernance Locale***

**Call For Papers for Special Issue on  
Culture and Sustainable Communities**

Deadline for submission of papers: 1 May 2010

Guest Editors:

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In the face of growing environmental and economic urgencies, issues of sustainability and resiliency are moving to the forefront of planning, policy, and programs in cities and communities of all sizes. City planning paradigms are mutating from a focus on building 'creative cities' to that of achieving 'sustainable cities.' Internationally, this shift is evident among local governments adopting sustainability goals for towns, cities, and regions; creating sustainable community plans; and implementing community projects related to 'sustainable development.' Yet cultural considerations, while recognized in urban and community planning contexts, are not integrated into sustainability planning in a widespread way.

**Background**

The inclusion of culture within sustainability dialogues is emergent and widely dispersed. Growing policy attention and thinking about culture and sustainable communities is evident in Australia, New Zealand, Sweden, and Canada; in research from Asia on sustainable cities and culture; in European theorization on the arts, culture and sustainability; in projects compiling best practices linking the arts to environment and sustainable development issues; in recent conferences on 'creative cities' and sustainability; and in papers from Africa and the Caribbean on the cultural essence of sustainable development. It is also found in international movements to increase the recognition of culture in public discourses, policy, and planning for sustainability, such as in UNESCO's Decade for Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014), Article 13 of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, and *Agenda 21 for Culture*, promoted by United Cities and Local Governments.

Within the field of municipal cultural planning, growing professional interest in linking culture and sustainability is evident, reflected in the emergence of a variety of cultural programs to link art and the (local) environment in recent years. The necessity to include cultural considerations in the Integrated Sustainable Community Plans (ICSPs) of communities across Canada also furthers these connections. The wide-spread shift to a sustainability paradigm for city planning makes this an important point in time to adapt and align cultural planning to community sustainability goals, to adopt sustainability-informed approaches and thinking, and to identify opportunities to integrate cultural considerations into broader sustainability planning initiatives.

Strengthening the connections between growing intercultural realities and sustainable community development is also required. This special issue takes as a foundational understanding that culture is by nature diverse and evolving, and intercultural realities and relationships must be incorporated as integral to any understanding of culture and sustainability in contemporary cities and communities.

These varied, distributed efforts reflect a quickly emerging field of inquiry and practice, which we hope to reflect in this special issue. The dispersed nature of these initiatives highlights a strong need to weave together insights and knowledge from a variety of academic disciplines, rooted in contemporary understandings of sustainability as well as the front-line approaches evolving in city planning, policies, practices, and programmes.

#### **Potential themes or topics**

Contributions across a broad range of theory and practice are welcome. Examples include (but are not limited to) the following:

- New strategic approaches and frameworks that incorporate culture within municipal sustainability plans and initiatives
- Case studies of municipalities that incorporate culture within sustainability planning and related initiatives
- Theoretical examinations of cultural considerations within the sustainability paradigm/framework
- The adaptation of cultural planning to the 'sustainable community' paradigm and context
- The interplay between diversity and sustainability in municipal cultural plans

**Potential contributors are invited to submit an article by 1 May 2010 to Nancy Duxbury at [duxbury@ces.uc.pt](mailto:duxbury@ces.uc.pt).**

Manuscripts should be submitted in Word format. Maximum file size is 3 MB. Manuscripts should not exceed 5,000 words. They should be accompanied by a short abstract of roughly 300 words and suggested keywords. Manuscripts should use APA style and Canadian spelling throughout. Tables, graphs, figures, and diagrams should be embedded in the body of the text rather than at the end of the manuscript.

Further information and Word template file: <http://clg-cgl.politics-and-society.ca/?q=node/3>

#### **Timeline**

Submission of Papers: 1 May 2010

Response to authors: 30 June 2010

Paper revisions and copyediting: July-August 2010

Publication of Special Issue: September 2010

***Culture and Local Governance / Culture et Gouvernance Locale*** is a peer-reviewed online journal publishing original work, both theoretical and empirical, on the relation between culture and local governance.

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