

The Age of Urban Tech



SESSION SUMMARIES & VIDEOS

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**NEW CITIES
SUMMIT
MONTREAL** **2019**





On behalf of the New Cities Foundation, it is my great pleasure to present this e-book featuring written, photo and video highlights from the fifth edition of the New Cities Summit, held in the creative and dynamic city of Montréal, Canada from 21-23 June, 2016.

The coming decades will see the largest increase in the world's urban population in human history with our cities poised to grow from 4 to 6.5 billion city dwellers by 2050. This surge will bring with it a necessary wave of urban innovation, taking us beyond the smart city to an age that we call Urban Tech.

Montréal, the new home of the Foundation's head office, was the perfect stage for our Summit on The Age of Urban Tech. The city's leaders are dedicated to and investing in innovation, the city is recognized around the world for its culture and creativity, and it is home to a world-class startup ecosystem.

In cities everywhere, innovators are finding technological solutions to pressing urban challenges. The age of Urban Tech will be defined by this generation of entrepreneurs and innovators. The bottom-up technological solutions they create are changing the way we move through our cities, how we spend our money, and how we engage with our elected officials. Our cohort of Global Urban Innovators, whose presentations from the Summit are available in this e-book, count among the small companies making a big difference in our cities.

Cities have an enormous opportunity to promote, pilot and scale these grassroots solutions. The challenge will be to ensure these new technological advances do not create new digital divides. The goal is for these solutions to work to the benefit of all.

The Montréal Summit was a great success. We were honored to welcome 600 speakers, journalists and participants from 40 countries for inspired discussions that began in the plenary hall and continued through the workshop and roundtable sessions, the networking area and during the gala events.

We hope this e-book is a useful reference as you continue your work making our cities more innovative, sustainable and inclusive places to live.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Rossant".

John Rossant
Chairman
New Cities Foundation



Watch the Summit highlights film



Session Summaries & Videos



This E-Book was authored by Jacob Omorodion with help from Jennie Day, Julie Asselin and the New Cities Foundation team.



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June 21

Keynote

Speaker

Denis Coderre,
Mayor of Montréal

Keynote – Mayor Denis Coderre

The city of Montréal was the stage for the fifth edition of the New Cities Summit as the event returned to North America. Montréal, recognized as an international hub for innovation and creativity, is also the new home for the New Cities Foundation's head office.

To open the Summit, the Mayor of Montréal, the Honourable Denis Coderre, addressed the 600 participants with a speech characterizing the charisma, insight and optimism for which the city is known. "Cities matter, get used to it," declared Mayor Coderre, adding that if you want to make things happen, ask a mayor. In this century of cities, metropolitan centers are increasingly proving their ability to react both to problems and opportunities.

"Everything begins at the level of the city," Coderre said, highlighting the necessity for cities to work together to create change and to overcome the traditional silo mentalities that have obstructed progress. He encouraged cities to collaborate to use technology to enhance the quality of life for citizens, to protect and expand green space, and to improve public transit across metropolises.

The Mayor emphasized the importance of careful planning, seeing the big picture and considering the incredible potential of Urban Tech for modern cities. "You don't pull a flower to make it grow faster," Coderre said.

"It's Molière crossed with Shakespeare!" Coderre said of Montréal, a city well known as a point of intersection for English and French-speaking populations. The Mayor described Montréal as a city of diversity and a hub for people from all over the world, drawn to the city for an array of reasons and opportunities. He concluded that Montréal has protected equality, welcomed difference, and has become a global center of knowledge with its five universities, providing a fitting home for the conversation on how the most daring and innovative cities may progress in this new urban age.



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June 21

Address

Speaker

Jacques Daoust,
Minister of
Transport,
Sustainable
Mobility and
Transport
Electrification,
Government of
Québec

Address - Minister Jacques Daoust

Encouraging and embracing innovation is a foremost priority for the government of Québec, whether it be improving its cities or building a more sustainable economic strategy.

In a keynote address, Québec's Minister of Transport, Sustainable Mobility and Transport Electrification, Jacques Daoust, said Québec is becoming a leader in urban mobility innovation.

"Intelligent transportation systems, connectivity, automation and electrification of transportation are profoundly changing the transportation sector and, as a consequence, our daily lives," Daoust said. Over the next ten years, urban mobility will become more-and-more autonomous, connected, secure, and shared, he added.

Québec is home to abundant resources, most notably the hydro electric projects that power much of the province with renewable energy. Daoust would like to see this knowledge extended to the mobility sector as Québec works to lead the national conversation around electric vehicles.

Electrified mobility is poised to transform transportation in Québec, and especially in Montréal, in the coming years. Québec's Caisse de dépôt pension fund recently unveiled plans for a \$5.5 billion electric light rail system. Meanwhile, the province is also investing in innovators and entrepreneurs, supporting projects such as TÉO electric taxis. "Our business models are mutating

and, more-and-more, new services are emerging offering new mobility solutions with a single click," Daoust observed.

Québec's economic future rests on three axes, said Daoust: innovation, investing in technology that moves the province away from fossil fuels, and retaining talent developed in Québec. Montréal is already playing a vital role in driving innovation, especially in the transportation sector.

Major public works projects are changing the face of Montréal's roadways and the way these traditionally car-centric environments work. A major highway interchange redevelopment will include green spaces, measures to reduce noise, and allow cars, cyclists, and pedestrians to share the space. A separate project, covering a small section of an Expressway that cuts through the heart of the city, will create new public park space connecting downtown with the city's Old Port. Citizens are at the heart of these projects, Daoust said.

The city is undergoing some of the largest developments in a generation, designed to build upon its character as a creative, connected, innovative and environmentally responsible metropolis. In 2017, Montréal will celebrate its 375th anniversary; a focal point for the city and the province. Highlighting how Montréal has grown and evolved throughout its history, Daoust said: "Nothing should stop us from thinking even bigger for the years to come."



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June 21

Plenary Panel

Speakers

Chiara Corazza,
Managing Director,
Greater Paris
Investment Agency

Anil Menon,
Global President,
Smart+Connected
Communities, Cisco

**Alexandre
Taillefer**, Managing
Partner, XPND
Capital & Founder,
Téo Taxi

Ivy Taylor, Mayor of
San Antonio, Texas

Moderator

Estelle Métayer,
Principal and
Founder, Competia

The Age of Urban Tech

The opening conversation at the New Cities Summit, *The Age of Urban Tech*, convened major voices from the public and private sectors to discuss the vast potential of Urban Tech and how it might profoundly change the way we live in cities and interact around the world. Moderator Estelle Métayer distilled Urban Tech into three categories: technology fostering urban progress and innovation, technology to make urban lives simpler and smarter, and technology that makes our cities more equitable and efficient.

Chiara Corazza emphasized the dizzying rate of turnover in technological innovation. Modern cities are changing in real time, requiring innovation and talent to constantly reinvent themselves. She cited that 65 per cent of current students will work a job that does not yet exist. Further, 90 per cent of all the data that has ever been accumulated has been collected in the past two years. Using her own city as an example, Corazza outlined how Paris is focusing on innovation incubators, such as a refurbished station that will soon host 100 new companies, adding to the 12,000 startups that already call the city home and providing 500,000 jobs.

For Anil Menon, the success of Urban Tech depends on a confluence of various actors. "No one city can transform itself on its own. It's just not going to happen. No one company can transform a city too." Menon went on to urge public-private partnerships as we look at cities as "living labs." It is essential that they have local ecosystems,

which include local entrepreneurs and an understanding of the local setting.

Ivy Taylor and Alexandre Taillefer would, however, put human considerations at the forefront of the conversation. Mayor Taylor insisted that we avoid "technology getting ahead of us." Urban Tech holds boundless promise to improve quality of life and connect people to opportunities, notably when it comes to opportunities for education. She also highlighted that Urban Tech poses challenges for public policymakers, such as the disconnect between those crafting technology policies and those who have the technological knowhow. Taillefer added, "the biggest challenge our society will be facing in the next 25 years will be robotization," suggesting that the 35 to 40 per cent of jobs being replaced by robots will disproportionately affect the middle and lower classes.

The exploratory panel *Age of Urban Tech* set the stage for sometimes fiery debate on the Urban Tech theme among Summit participants. The panel highlighted the great promise and great challenges technology poses for our cities.



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June 21

Plenary Panel

Speakers

Fahd Al Rasheed,
CEO and Group
Managing
Director, King
Abdullah
Economic City

Joe Cross,
General Manager,
TransferWise USA

Arun Sundararajan,
Professor of
Information,
Operations and
Management
Sciences, NYU
Stern School of
Business

Chris Turner,
Author

Moderator

Maxwell Anderson,
Executive Director,
New Cities
Foundation

New Urban Lifestyles

"Our societies are physical manifestations of our technological developments, but also our social structures," said Fahd Al-Rasheed. *The New Urban Lifestyles* panelists grouped a diverse range of experts to focus on how Urban Tech may change the ways in which we interact, conceive space, and even conceive of ourselves in the cities of tomorrow. Al-Rasheed believes that urban planners have not yet fully envisioned what the 21st century city will look like.

For Arun Sundararajan, author of "The Sharing Economy," how we will relate with one another and the built environment is paramount. According to Sundararajan, as Urban Tech allows for more of our lives to take place in digital space, we will need to adjust our approach to infrastructure planning. In the contemporary city, the workplace is now the primary forum of social interaction. As work becomes increasingly virtual, cities will need to create new physical spaces to encourage social interaction and combat isolation. As Sundararajan put it, "we feel social pain from a lack of connectedness in the same way we feel physical pain. It is a physiological need."

Conversely, the question arises: If Urban Tech is encouraging more commerce and interaction to be virtual, why not embrace virtual reality as the future of human interaction? Joe Cross countered, "virtual reality is the absolute worst way to solve

the problem of lack of physical interaction due to technological advancement." For Cross, the radical adoption of technology and removal of physical infrastructure will exacerbate social isolation. It will entrench digital divides as only those of a certain income level and technological literacy will be able to access virtual spaces.

As Urban Tech ushers in ever more specific and evidence-based solutions, there is a critical need to step back and not lose sight of the general goals of all cities. For Chris Turner, quality of life is the most important consideration. Turner expressed how technologies create a strong need for "sticky public spaces," the spaces where people want to linger. In our last urban revolution, that of the automobile, "the single biggest error we made ... was building our cities around use by cars instead of people."

Much like the advent of cars, the Urban Tech revolution is changing how we conceive of our cities. *New Urban Lifestyles* made it clear that for this revolution to be successful, it must ultimately lead to the creation of more human-centric cities.



Watch Video Online



June 21

Breakout Panel

Speakers

Jeneviev Azzolin,
President and
Co-Founder,
PPLCONNECT &
WeHost

Josh Lerner,
Co-founder and
Executive Director,
The Participatory
Budgeting Project

Steven Ramage,
Strategy Director,
what3words

Asif Saleh, Senior
Director, Strategy,
Communication
and Empowerment,
BRAC International

Moderator

Dilki de Silva,
Secretary General,
International
Council of Societies
of Industrial Design

Inclusive Urban Tech

"Technology is no longer a question of just who can take part, it is also who wants to take part," said Jeneviev Azzolin on the topic of *Inclusive Urban Tech*. She explained how her crowdsourcing platform, WeHost, allows ordinary citizens to link their spare rooms and unused spaces with refugees who are in dire need of housing. While governments around the world, including in Azzolin's native Canada, are demonstrating a strong willingness to welcome refugees, the lack of affordable housing forces them to limit numbers. WeHost uses a bottom-up solution to help address this encumbrance, enabling anyone to become involved in the process of helping refugees. The platform also facilitates cross-cultural connections intended to create enriched and stronger societies.

"If you trust in the people, the people will step up," said Josh Lerner, who suggested using Urban Tech to empower everyday citizens in the policymaking process as a step toward democratic renewal. His platform, the Participatory Budgeting Project, adapted from a tool implemented in Brazil, allows any citizen to crowd-input which projects they want their city to fund. The most popular projects are passed up to policymakers and experts who refine the proposal, then return the plan to citizens for a vote. If passed, the project will go ahead. Lerner maintains the Participatory Budgeting Project constitutes inclusive Urban Tech because it empowers those with the least power and the greatest

needs by giving them an equal say and influence.

Asif Saleh believes Urban Tech can be used to meet the challenge of poverty by addressing its underlying causes. Based in Bangladesh, BRAC has pursued three innovations to directly fight poverty. The first is financial inclusion; BRAC started a mobile financial service enabling migrant workers, particularly the semi-literate, to move money from their places of work to their homes, often in rural areas. Second, access to information; BRAC created "Maya," a hotline, app and website designed to provide basic healthcare information to women who may not be comfortable discussing it in their social circles. Third, accountability for local government; BRAC created a new app to encourage city dwellers to report potholes or any other failing infrastructure.

Steven Ramage's platform, what3words, a Global Urban Innovator, offers an incredibly inclusive technological option for those with or without technological knowhow or access. The startup has broken the entire world into 3x3 meter squares, applying a three word address to every grid, offering everyone on Earth an address.



June 21

Workshop

Hosted By

Montréal
International

From Brain Drain To Brain Gain

This workshop created a dialogue on the subject of enhancing Montreal's international profile, growing its economy and attracting key strategic talent. The workshop connected participants from various backgrounds, including urban planners, community development practitioners and entrepreneurs.

Stéphanie Allard, Vice President of *Montréal International*, raised the important question of how to attract new brains to the city. For Allard, new brains are "mentally strong people." It is thus the task of the city to attract and create environments to retain these people, she argued. But what kind of jobs can cities create, and maintain? How will they provide opportunities for new talent to become entrepreneurs? And, very importantly, what conditions attract new brains to cities? To illustrate her point, Allard invited participants to draw a parallel between the functions of the brain – language, emotion, hearing – and that of the city, arguing that the various functions and their interactions need to be addressed at all times.

Prompting attendees to share their experiences in attracting people, the workshop divided the room into five groups. Each group focused on one of five themes: knowledge and education; jobs, economics and entrepreneurship; international organizations and networks; government; and emotions. Participants discussed ideas they had tested in their own experience and reflected on actions which could make these ideas a reality.

Key insights included that quality of life is a major driver in cities' ability to attract and retain new talent. Discussion regarding knowledge and education focused on the idea of investment in public space as places of social interaction. To retain graduate students and entrepreneurs, the team insisted on providing sufficient affordable housing, especially for young families, to avoid massive migration to the suburbs. Speaking on jobs, economics and entrepreneurship, the participants emphasized regulatory flexibility and taxation, arguing that strict bureaucratic structures often impede spontaneous projects and businesses from thriving.

In terms of international organizations and networks, participants suggested combining the economic and cultural department in the public sector, as culture is a major economic driver in most cities. To attract brains, cities need to develop strong networks between governments and universities, suggesting that working together could maximize both institutions' growth potential. Finally, for new talent, the feeling of liberty is a core component of quality of life and a significant point in creating the all-important emotional connection with cities.



June 21

Workshop

Hosted By

Toyota Mobility
Foundation

Creating Equity In Mobility

The *Creating Equity In Mobility* workshop, hosted by Toyota Mobility Foundation, focused on recognizing and addressing the mobility gap in our cities. Those gathered worked through the universal challenges of accessibility, affordability and acceptability of personal mobility, and brainstorming strategies to improve quality of life for vulnerable citizens.

Participants played the role of urban transportation planners tasked with identifying user-centric transportation strategies. In addition, their strategies needed to be short-term and implemented within the next 18 months. They devised strategies for various citizen profiles, including a single mother of two living in the suburbs, working downtown, and in possession of a poorly functioning car; a 68 year-old male with a walking disability; and a professor with a visual impairment.

The discussion addressing transportation difficulties experienced by many vulnerable urban populations demonstrated the difficulty separating mobility issues from their broader social contexts. For example, in discussing the case study of the single mother, the conversation turned to increasing the supply of low income housing in the downtown core, as well as improving her financial stability.

Panelists proposed several innovative ideas looking to empower vulnerable populations through mobility. A community car sharing initiative, in which youth repair their neighbors' cars in exchange

for access to use them, was especially creative. Not only does the process of making cars a shared community resource offer environmental, health, economic and mobility benefits, it also fosters intergenerational interaction and other positive community effects. Other initiatives included development of movable bridges and building a bus-tracking app that provides real-time scheduling information. Low-tech initiatives also had their place, such as ensuring municipalities follow through on commitments to maintain sidewalks and ensure wheelchair accessibility. Another solution proposed actively inviting citizens to identify real-world issues they face on a daily basis, rather than imposing a readymade mobility 'solution' on a poorly understood 'problem'.

In the years ahead, many of the most feasible, effective and equitable mobility solutions will likely be grassroots ideas. But for these initiatives to become stable and sustainable long-term solutions, the public and private spheres must collaborate. Local governments will be vital in providing stability over the long term, which requires collaboration that survives beyond a single political cycle.

Equitable and inclusive mobility in cities of the future will be driven by the design and implementation of small-scale and flexible user-focused initiatives. In these scenarios, the public will be consulted at every step in the implementation process.





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June 21

Breakout Panel

Speakers

Pierre Fitzgerald,
Global Utility Lead
North America,
Ericsson

**Luise Neumann-
Cosel,** Co-Founder,
BürgerEnergie
Berlin

John Tolva,
President,
PositivEnergy
Practice & Former
Chief Technology
Officer, Chicago

Dong-Ping Wong,
Founding Partner,
Family

Moderator

Vatsal Bhatt,
Director of City
Developments,
US Green Building
Council

People Powered Cities

How will people and technology collide to open up new pathways for energy creation and management at the city scale? *People Powered Cities* set its sights on how the relationship between citizens and their energy supply may change in the 21st century city. Luise Neumann-Cosel held the matter to be fundamentally a question of citizens' mentality towards energy production in their communities and their sense of shared responsibility. Her company, BürgerEnergie Berlin, is a citizens' cooperative that seeks to bring ownership of Berlin's vital electricity grid back to citizens, and is one among hundreds of citizens' cooperatives in Germany. More than half of the renewable energy fed into the German power grid is produced by citizens and is publicly owned.

Fostering a sense of ownership among city dwellers ties directly into Dong-Ping Wong's belief that we must change "the psychology of how we deal with the environment." For Wong, ground-up projects that generate avenues for grassroots activism are desirable. Even creating pockets of energy generation within a city, such as the use of turbines in New York's East River area, still encourages citizens to rethink their relationship to energy, even if they only offer a minimal contribution to overall demand.

John Tolva took this idea one step further, discussing how data and connective technologies will better allow cities - often considered the greatest energy

wasters - to be seen as great producers and conservers of energy. Tolva sees cities as potentially generating the most energy, albeit through their waste, such as through capturing unused heat. Using data, sensors, and the kinds of Urban Tech associated with the Internet of Things, Tolva believes cities can locate these pockets of wasted energy and harness them. Couching the energy issue as a social equity matter, Tolva argued there is a societal imperative to improve energy efficiency, as the lack of energy efficiency disproportionately affects vulnerable, low-income populations. Critical examples are the heat waves that kill scores of people in less affluent neighborhoods due to a lack of essential energy infrastructure.

There was agreement over using data to convince consumers to take an active role in changing their energy consumption. Pierre Fitzgerald believed this is an area where his company could play a strong role. Communication between technologies, between the public and private sector, and even between large and small tech companies are central to reaching a more sustainable and engaged energy future. To conclude, the panel insisted that we not "fetishize technology" and understand that these issues must, at their core, be seen through the lens of accessibility in order to avoid widening the digital divide.



June 21

Workshop

Hosted By

Sarah Moser,
Assistant Professor
of Geography and
Director, Urban
Studies Program,
McGill University
& the Cityquest
Community

Cityquest: Promoting Innovations In New Cities

Around the globe, there are 100-150 new master planned cities currently under construction. These cities, primarily located in developing countries and backed with private funds, are designed to meet the rapid urbanization occurring throughout the world. The cost of each of these new cities ranges from \$1 billion to \$100 billion.

Cityquest, an annual forum hosted in King Abdullah Economic City, emerged from a panel discussion at the New Cities Summit in 2012. The session raised the numerous challenges facing these large city projects, including how to attract investment, attract companies, finance multi-billion dollar projects, and even coordinate the construction of the new city.

The Cityquest workshop at this Summit, led by Sarah Moser, included representatives from King Abdullah Economic City, the Incheon Free Economic Zone, Songdo, and Rendeavour. Each presented their unique experiences in building new cities.

King Abdullah Economic City (KAEC), represented by Fahd Al-Rasheed, pointed out that most new city projects fail. The largest of four new city projects in Saudi Arabia, the \$100 billion, privately financed KAEC is the only success. Among the greatest challenges facing KAEC is that the government counts among its biggest competitors, subsidizing nearby cities to spur development.

South Korea's Incheon Free Economic Zone was built in response to the Asian Financial

Crisis. The \$36 billion city covers 123 square kilometers along South Korea's west coast. The Songdo International Business District is located in the Incheon Free Economic Zone. It is the first smart city in which every home and office are outfitted, by Cisco, for complete connectivity. The district, is recognized for its leadership in sustainable development including innovations such as a waste disposal system that connects every building, eliminating the need for garbage collection.

Rendeavour, the largest urban developer on the African continent, is currently building seven cities in five countries. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, for example, the company is developing 3,000 hectares for urban residences. They face challenges providing energy as the lack of public services in the DRC makes it difficult to connect their development to the grid.

Two primary themes surfaced in the presentations and the following question and answer period: how to ensure inclusivity in these new developments and how to ensure new cities have a soul. To the first theme, some new cities include low-income housing, while others focus on creating a commercial district, making the housing question less applicable. Representatives from all projects acknowledged the difficulty in creating a new city's soul. Most projects, however, are in the relatively early stages and have yet to develop the sense of identity associated with soul.



June 21

Roaming Workshop

Hosted By

Daily tous les jours
& Infinite City

Reviving Public Spaces Through Cooperation: Art, Tech & Data

"How can we hijack moments in space to create social cooperation?" – Melissa Mongiat, from Daily tous les jours, posed the question that was central to this workshop. The roaming workshop focused on the imagination and implementation of urban interventions, designed to foster citizen cooperation. How can interactive urban technology be used to bend the rules of social space, and help facilitate the return of public space? The Quartier des Spectacles, in Montréal's downtown core, is home to an excellent demonstration of this idea in action. The installation '21 Swings' consists of a group of swings fitted with sensors and speakers that play music when used. When multiple people are using the swings, it creates a melody that rewards and encourages collaboration.

Understanding the context of the site and people who use the space is central to creating urban interventions that successfully encourage citizens to engage. In the roaming workshop, participants were divided into two groups (site and people), to discuss urban interventions that could animate collaboration in the Quartier des Spectacles.

The 'site' group collected contextual information about the traffic patterns in the area, congregation points for people, and the key assets of the space. The 'people' group approached people using the space and inquired about why they were in the area, their favorite components of the venue, and where they planned to be in five minutes.

The discussion yielded a number of ideas, including the introduction of a physical structure that requires collaboration to fulfill its function, such as a teeter-totter bench. Another focused on improving the visual appearance of the banal, gray space by painting colorful designs and implementing rollout greenery. An installation could improve the quality of the space through collaboration, such as rewarding groups of 10 people using the space with free lemonade, cushions and snacks. Introducing a human-scale chess and tic-tac-toe board would foster play and remove social barriers. An interactive art piece or chalkboard, designed for locals to suggest lesser-known gems across the city to tourists, could facilitate interaction between native Montréalers and newcomers to the city.

An appropriate by-product of this workshop was the way it demonstrated the effectiveness of collaborative urban design strategies. Workshop participants interacted with each other and passersby in order to gain contextual information about the site and the people who were using it. When workshop participants were encouraged to break social norms and interact with strangers, there was a tangible shift in the group's energy: an increase in laughter and a unified community of collaborators.



Watch Video Online



June 21

Plenary Panel

Speakers

Stephanie Huf,
Head of
Marketing and
Communications
- Industry and
Society, Ericsson

Svante Myrick,
Mayor of Ithaca,
New York

Vincent Ponzo,
Director,
Eugene Lang
Entrepreneurship
Center, Columbia
Business School

Khalifa Sall, Mayor
of Dakar

Moderator

Jonathan Kay,
Editor-in-Chief, The
Walrus

Empowering The Innovators

Will Urban Tech democratize the tools citizens can use to develop cutting-edge ideas and technologies? *Empowering the Innovators* provided a forum to discuss how technology can be used to encourage and promote innovation among urban populations.

The Mayor of Dakar, Khalifa Sall, insisted that local authorities partner with those who are innovating in both the developed and developing worlds. Ultimately, he said, people everywhere want many of the same things: clean air, good health, and education. Mayor Sall added, "access to technology is the best way to be equitable and fair," as access to information, knowledge and education could significantly level the economic playing field.

Creating and sustaining "entrepreneurial ecosystems" stood out for Vincent Ponzo. Beyond inviting big tech firms to the table, Ponzo stressed the importance of building from the bottom up, embracing local context and using institutional knowledge. Cities that try to directly copy other ecosystems, such as those in Silicon Valley or New York, risk failure if they do not consider the local context, he warned. For Ponzo, another key to empowering innovators was to reform educational curricula to allow them to respond rapidly to ever-changing technologies. "Things change so quickly now, that it is now a model of lifelong learning," he said. Using New York as an example, Ponzo lamented that approving changes to curriculum

across modern societies is a painfully slow process.

The Mayor of Ithaca, Svante Myrick, also criticized institutional barriers preventing innovation-friendly reforms. Many mayors and public officers pursue short-term projects that promise a return within an electoral cycle, rather than focusing on long-term innovation-friendly investments. Conversely, Mayor Myrick explained that Ithaca does nurture entrepreneurial ecosystems, providing generous tax incentives for those from local educational institutions (such as Cornell University) who bring their innovations to the community.

Stephanie Huf shared examples of cities that are getting innovation empowerment right, such as Stockholm. The Swedish capital topped 41 other cities in the Ericsson city index, largely due to its ICT advancement and proximity to great educational institutions. Huf also pointed to Gothenburg, Sweden as an excellent example as the city has created initiatives for self-driving cars and electric buses. The collaborative discussion highlighted that while cities may face much inequality and a lack of innovation, cities also hold the solution to both problems.



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June 21

Keynote

Speakers

Rick Huijbregts,
VP Innovation and
Digital
Transformation
Lead, Cisco

**Archana
Vemulappali**, Chief
Technology Officer,
Washington DC

Moderator

**Timothy
Papandreou**,
Director, Office of
Innovation at San
Francisco
Municipal
Transportation
Agency

Data For The Public Domain

The capacity to produce massive volumes of data to astonishing levels of specificity enables tech experts and entrepreneurs to understand what works and what cities need. Yet, access to data, its shareability, and its utility, are still matters of contention. *Data for the Public Domain* provided a forum to address these concerns.

Archana Vemulappali, opened the conversation detailing that simply collecting data is not the core issue but, more importantly, how it is used. What is *useful* data for the public sector? For example, Washington DC produces hundreds of open datasets (more than 870, in fact) and updates them consistently, yet no one accesses them. Further, Vemulappali added, “the challenge [of data] is more political than it is technical.” There is a need to responsibly provide data and ensure the right data sets are revealed. Regarding data communication, Vemulappali also argued for increased inter-agency cooperation within government. She offered the example that traffic data can be analyzed in a way that can help lead to better policies for garbage collection. “We need data to come up from the agency level, so we can see how one set of data can help another,” she said.

Panel moderator Tim Papandreou continued with how data can start a conversation and ultimately lead policymakers to accept more sustainable and positive urban practices. For example, faced with shop owners opposed to shrinking, removing or repurposing of large roads serving their storefront, his

transport authority presented data to these storeowners showing that 80 per cent of customer traffic arrived by bicycle or on foot. The data conversation holds great potential to inform urban citizens on how repurposing urban transport can make their city more human-focused, demonstrate the benefits of sustainable urban practices and, at the same time, benefit their businesses.

Papandreou went on to declare, “The procurement process is damaged. Positively damaged.” In discussing how to bridge the divide between the public and private sectors in the procurement of data, Rick Huijbregts suggested one key problem with the procurement process is that many public rules and regulations are outdated and unsuited to deal with the sharing of data and other recent developments.

For Papandreou, the private sector is wary of sharing droves of data with public authorities and, conversely, municipal authorities have neither the need nor the expertise to process terabytes of data. To solve this, a third party, such as universities, can be introduced to bridge the gap. Using the University of California Berkeley as a case study, Papandreou argued in favor of universities as responsible and technically capable stewards of data. They are best placed to receive data from the private sector, and can act as the go-between, offering expertise and efficiency, allowing the public sector to ask specific questions and receive answers they can act upon.



"Songdo is an exceptional new city that not only holds unlimited potential for innovation but is also already setting the standard on progressive urban development."

John Rossant, Chairman, New Cities Foundation

One of the hallmarks of the New Cities Summit is to carry the conversation from one year to the next. To end the first day of the New Cities Summit in Montréal, John Rossant, New Cities Foundation Chairman, announced the host city for the 2017 edition of the New Cities Summit will be Incheon Songdo, South Korea.

Songdo is part of the Incheon Free Economic Zone (IFEZ), a collection of regions on the west coast of South Korea now being transformed into a destination for business and a regional hub. Just a decade ago, the land where Songdo now stands was under water. Now, in just a few short years, it has been transformed into a burgeoning new city which counts among the most sustainable developments in the world.

"It is a city that looks to the future and represents the promise of building a new generation of cities that are innovative by design," said Rossant.

Summit participants gathered for the signing ceremony as Rossant and the Incheon Free Economic Zone Authority Commissioner, Lee Young-Geun, signed the agreement to make it official. Commissioner Lee led a South Korean delegation at the Montréal Summit.

The New Cities Summit 2017 in Songdo will look at how our future cities will be built, how they can be built more efficiently and effectively, and how urban technology will continue to make our cities more livable places.





Watch Video Online



June 22

Keynote

Speaker

Lee Young-Geun,
Commissioner,
Incheon Free
Economic Zone

Keynote - New Advancements In Asian Urban Development

The New Cities Summit will return to Asia with Incheon, Songdo, South Korea in 2017. Incheon Free Economic Zone (IFEZ) Authority Commissioner, Lee Young-Geun, opened Day Two of the Summit with a stimulating presentation of Incheon, Songdo. The Commissioner held up Incheon Free Economic Zone, the city that includes Songdo International Business District, as the premier success among newly built, modern cities. Songdo blends environmental stewardship with technological advancement, creating an urban atmosphere that is competitive, charming and clean.

The Commissioner showed that the ultramodern city of approximately 250,000 people emerged from what was open water and sandbars just a decade ago. Despite the fact the new city was built from scratch, Commissioner Lee impressed Summit participants, showing that IFEZ had already firmly established itself as the home to 14 international organizations, including the World Bank and multiple UN agencies, as well as more than 1,500 companies.

Looking to the future, the Commissioner remarked on IFEZ's unique promise. Among them, Songdo becoming a central commercial and transport node for the 1.5 billion people of Northeast Asia, with Incheon Airport ranking first in the past 11 years at the Airport Service Quality Awards. Beyond the geographical situation,

Commissioner Lee also pointed to Incheon Global Campus, home to four foreign and eight local universities, as proof of the city's vast potential. The presentation set the tone for the second day of the 2016 edition of the Summit, while simultaneously creating tremendous anticipation for next year's edition. Commissioner Lee declared Songdo as "the exciting new city of the future, made real for all."



Watch Video Online



June 22

Plenary Panel

Speakers

Nicola McLeod,
General Manager
Canada, Zipcar

Timothy Papandreou,
Director, Office of
Innovation at San
Francisco Municipal
Transportation
Agency

Luc Sabbatini,
CEO, PBSC Urban
Solutions

Andrew Salzberg,
Global Mobility
Policy Lead, Uber

Moderator

Greg Lindsay,
Senior Fellow,
Connected Mobility
Initiative, New
Cities Foundation

Mobility As A Service

With Urban Tech pushing public transport towards deeper mobility convergence, *Mobility as a Service* set out to examine what it will mean for the future design and strategy of cities. As Nicola McLeod made clear, today's urbanites increasingly want to envision life in the city without the car. Though McLeod works in the car-sharing industry, she drove home that preferences differ and citizens always want more options.

With its 11 modes of public transit and seven modes of public transport, Tim Papandreou, suggested that San Francisco is a pioneer when it comes to public transport. Papandreou firmly believes that public transport agencies and private transport firms should shift from a mentality of competing against one another to see who operates better, to collectively looking at the big picture to get citizens from point A to point B. Papandreou added, "the ultimate goal for us is to get people out of their cars." He also warned, "if cities aren't clear about the scenarios they want, they will be victims of the scenarios they get."

Uber's Andrew Salzberg brought a private sector perspective to the discussion. For Salzberg, collective thinking is paramount as he advocated for private firms and public authorities to formalize working relationships and to begin to coordinate at natural points of first and last mile rides. He advised there be backup options for every individual transport mode, which will

embed more comfort and choice into the process.

For cities, integrating mobility as a service into the urban fabric is increasingly a priority. "One app to rule them all – a single app for mobility," will emerge, suggested panel moderator and New Cities Foundation Senior Fellow, Greg Lindsay. But issues of accessibility and data-sharing must also be considered. McLeod spoke to Zipcar's experience when she mentioned that data is shared among the members, but also mentioned that Zipcar works with cities and public agencies, sharing information on a variety of useful topics such as frequency of use and accessibility of vehicles, creating more opportunity for coordination. As Urban Tech presents a new range of transport possibilities, Papandreou insisted that equity, affordability, accessibility and interoperability remain as guiding principles to insure a digital dividend across all sectors of society.



Watch Video Online



Wellbeing

June 22

Plenary Panel

Speakers

Newsha Ghaeli,
Project Lead,
SENSEable City
Lab, MIT

Geert Houben,
Founder & CEO,
Cubigo

Hiroo Ichikawa,
Executive Director,
Mori Memorial
Foundation

Sanjeev Sanyal,
Economist, Author
& Fellow, IDFC
Institute

Moderator

Sonali Karnick,
Host, CBC Montreal

In many cities, Urban Tech is helping to improve quality of life for city dwellers and the *Wellbeing* panel focused on successful projects as well as the opportunities to scale these innovations within cities and between cities. Hiroo Ichikawa discussed a variety of measures and indices with which one could measure urban wellbeing, such as the "Urban Intangible Variable." This index, measuring the six indicators - efficiency, accuracy, safety, diversity, hospitality, and growth and change - was topped by Tokyo and Vienna, two cities with vastly different scales and geographies.

"Isolation is one of the biggest diseases among elder citizens. You can't measure it," asserted Geert Houben, Founder & CEO of Cubigo, a Global Urban Innovator. His startup considered the ways in which cities could be redesigned to meet social connectivity challenges, particularly among elderly populations. Rather than gathering elderly people in larger and larger old age homes, today's prevailing solution, Houben advocates using urban technologies to improve assisted and independent living. One concept looks at the intersection of data and community. To illustrate this, Houben proposed placing data sensors on an elderly person's refrigerator, which could notify other community members if it had not been opened in three days. It is a simple solution that encourages members of the community to support their elderly neighbors, while also providing the elderly with a greater capacity for independent living.

Agreeing with Houben, Newsha Ghaeli, added that smart homes make it much easier for at-risk individuals to function more generally and that sensors and monitors used for a variety of purposes carry considerable promise. For Ghaeli, inclusion was an important part of the wellbeing equation. After basic urban needs such as education, medical care and infrastructure have been met, Ghaeli encouraged cities to create opportunities for people to "embark on their own and become their own people."

Sanjeev Sanyal viewed wellbeing from a developing countries' perspective, with a focus on his native India. Sanyal, when looking at the major cities of India replete with challenges including slums and poverty, urged Summit participants not to evaluate these urban areas based merely on their surface appearance, but to look at the dynamic flow or "churn" occurring within these geographies. For Sanyal, what is more interesting than the existence of slums is whether the inhabitants of these slums are upwardly mobile over time. Do the slum's residents have property rights, allowing them to accumulate wealth in the long term as the city expands and property prices rise? Most importantly, Sanyal said these cities must not interrupt the dynamic flow of people, adding, "this is not a housing problem, it is a climbing the ladder problem."



Watch Video Online



June 22

Breakout Panel

Speakers

Niamh Kirwan,
Marketing and
Communications
Manager,
FoodCloud

Muneeb Mushtaq,
Co-Founder & CEO,
AskforTask Inc.

Ezra Suleiman,
Professor of Politics
and IBM Professor
of International
Studies at
Princeton
University

Moderator

Neal Gorenflo,
Co-Founder,
Shareable

Sharing Is Caring, Trust Is Key

With seemingly exponential innovations in Urban Tech and urban planning, what opportunities exist to expand the “Sharing Economy” in our cities? *Sharing is Caring, Trust is Key* provided a snapshot of how entrepreneurs and intellectuals are creating connected sharing spaces. Panel moderator Neal Gorenflo remarked that Seoul, South Korea’s fast-paced expansion was followed by familiar symptoms including acute social isolation, pollution and a high cost of living. Gorenflo detailed how in addressing the problem, Seoul started a global movement through its sharing city program, with leaders beginning to view cities as platforms for sharing.

Muneeb Mushtaq has put many of the sharing economy’s aims into practice through his platform. As Mushtaq describes it, AskforTask is the “Uber for Services.” Mushtaq’s platform pairs “Askers,” those who seek everyday services, with “Taskers,” those who have signed up to fulfill those specific tasks. However, what sets AskforTask apart is that it facilitates encounters that deepen intra-community connections. As Mushtaq described it, “you are connecting with the individual, instead of calling the company and getting ‘their guy’, who you don’t talk to or know about.”

The panel also demonstrated how the sharing economy can manifest itself in a variety of unique scenarios, including through startups such as FoodCloud, a Global Urban Innovator. The non-profit platform tackles the dilemma of urban

food waste. Niamh Kirwan outlined how the sharing economy has impacted the food industry, with an increase in the number of community gardens, connection-based agriculture and, in the case of FoodCloud, volunteers joining the process for communitarian motives – not making profits. “It is about developing processes and platforms that build trust, but work for both people and are mutually beneficial,” she said. For Kirwan, food is a brilliant way to draw communities together, through donations to shelters and refugees, but also through outreach such as hosting barbecues and gatherings between local business and charities with the re-used food; a virtuous social cycle.

Ezra Suleiman sees great promise in the work of young and small companies such as AskforTask and FoodCloud and the contributions they make to the sharing economy. Suleiman did caution some of the early sharing economy leaders, including Uber and Airbnb, are now wrapped in more traditional business models, and must also address the interests of their investors.

Still, Kirwan and others are optimistic about the direction of the sharing economy and look at how far it has come. She pointed out that just a decade ago, the idea of regularly inviting strangers to stay in your home was virtually unheard of and, in part thanks to Airbnb, it has become a common way for urban dwellers to experience cities.



June 22

Workshop

Hosted By

NBBJ

Urban Tech In Wellness

How can tech improve wellness in urban areas? Imagine you are a consultant to a municipality, how would you recommend they tackle health issues? Participants of this workshop were split into groups to identify ways in which digital and mobile tech could increase the health and wellbeing of communities. One group examined a suburban case study, another considered Millennials, the third looked at mosquitos and the diseases they spread in Brazil, and the fourth group focused on an elderly, low income community with chronic diseases.

The suburbs have a broad range of age groups. They often face challenges related to walkability, as sidewalks are rare and many people drive their cars everywhere. Linked to this, the suburbs are often accused of lacking the same sense of community that cities have. Solutions to these challenges included using technology to coordinate social and physical activities such as going for walks and playing basketball. There was also emphasis on the importance of green spaces and community gardens.

The group considering Millennials focused on mental health issues. Montréal, for example, has a 9-12 month waiting period to see a psychologist. The discussion focused on reducing the stigma of mental health and increasing access. Solutions included talking with psychiatrists using online platforms such as Skype as well as increasing general funding for such issues.

In Brazil, the Dengue and Zika viruses are a persistent problem. Poorly maintained infrastructure keeps mosquitoes alive and there can be a stigma to catching these diseases. A smartphone app and other forms of Urban Tech could allow the easy reporting of breeding sites for mosquitoes as well as data collection regarding the spread of disease, allowing for early detection.

The difficulties facing the poor and elderly with chronic diseases are manifold. Workshop participants split their discussion into two parts: prevention and treatment. Prevention involves teaching the elderly to use apps that encourage exercise and healthy habits. Another idea encouraged the use of food trucks to ensure food deserts have regular access to fresh produce and healthy meat. Education on healthy habits was also stressed. Treatment involved allowing doctors to make home visits, as low-income communities are less likely to have access to cars. Though the focus of the discussion was wellness and technology, each group expanded the discussion to include non-tech solutions to increase wellness. There was a general consensus towards including tech in an overarching, holistic approach to improving wellness in urban communities.





June 22

Workshop

Hosted By

Cisco

Scaling Smart City Solutions To Drive Real City Outcomes

"*The Age of Urban Tech* becomes real when technology can be scaled across the city and becomes available to the masses" - Cisco

The workshop emphasized that effective smart city initiatives must positively impact the quality of life and day-to-day experiences of city dwellers. Increasingly, new business models need to consider citizens as the end customer, as opposed to city officials or urban service providers. Cisco's Managing Director of Global Business Development for the Internet of Everything Group, Arvind Satyam, outlined the five city characteristics the company considers when deciding where to bid for projects. These include: visionary leadership, global open standards, smart regulation, public-private partnerships, and a new globally oriented ecosystem.

After defining these terms, two entrepreneurs - George Burciaga, CEO and founder of *Elevate Digital*, and Ignasi Vilajosana, CEO and founder of *Worldsensing* - presented their city-oriented companies and described the ethos behind them. *Elevate Digital*, recently acquired by *Civiq Smartscapes*, develops interactive Internet of Things (IoT) software technologies used on city streets. *Worldsensing* is a Barcelona-based company offering parking, traffic management and mobility solutions for cities. Both held a unique definition of smart cities: "A smart city deals with density

and velocity of interactions." Further, each believes that truly effective smart city systems bridge bottom-up and top-down technologies, seamlessly integrating siloed governmental departments.

Collaborating during the workshop, participants discussed the opportunities and challenges to scaling smart city initiatives. The group identified a number of opportunities. First, building citizen engagement into the design and implementation process to better ensure a human focus, increase citizen usage, and increase return on investment. Second, visionary city leadership willing to collaborate and create broad partnerships will facilitate innovation. Finally, it is possible to create a climate with open innovation, where all stakeholders collaborate and where policies support sharing data and scaling successfully.

Varun Adibhata, Urban Tech Hub Director at New Lab in New York, offered the session's key takeaway: "We need to bridge the gaps between old and stodgy and hustling hacker." When it comes to scale and innovation, true smart city advancements will occur when all stakeholders learn how to share and combine their knowledge and communicate effectively to create initiatives that benefit all involved.



Watch Video Online



June 22

Breakout Panel

Speakers

Philipp Bouteiller,
CEO, Tegel Projekt
GmbH

Béatrice Couture,
General Manager,
InnoCité MTL

Aaron Lander,
Co-Founder and
CEO, PopUpsters

Willy Demeyer,
Mayor of Liège

Moderator

Jeff Blond,
Associate
Managing Editor,
Montreal Gazette

Small Business Cities

The *Small Business Cities* panel looked at the small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) that are driving innovation and increasing urban economic outcomes. The Mayor of Liège, Willy Demeyer, illuminated what steps public policymakers can take towards accommodating SMEs. City authorities should support certain pillars of entrepreneurial ecosystems, including funding, networking and marketing to attract young entrepreneurs. A long-time public official, Mayor Demeyer also insisted cities must be prepared to deal with the inevitable replacement of jobs due to technological development. He highlighted the ways in which Liège successfully carried out a retraining program for positions made redundant by Urban Tech.

Béatrice Couture, who runs the InnoCité Montréal startup accelerator, also believed that the public sector could play a major role in cultivating SMEs. For example, she explained how her platform, a 12-week acceleration program helping startups commercialize their programs with cities, was created after the release of the Montréal Strategic Plan. She was also an advocate of larger firms supporting tech startups, arguing that within entrepreneurial ecosystems, private sector firms could buy from startups, using them as a "test bench."

Philipp Bouteiller held a more skeptical view of the relationship between the public sector and small business. "When politics interferes in these matters, typically they go wrong," he said. Bouteiller argues

that small businesses heavily subsidized by cities were not viable. This could just create long-term waste as these ventures would ultimately fail on the open market. However, Bouteiller believed public administrations could create the right environment for business by overcoming their own institutional inertia and simplifying regulations. For example, cities that have banned Uber from their cities are stifling innovation – a result, he argues, of conservative public administrations safeguarding the status quo. Bouteiller suggests "large organizations have an extremely strong immune system" and often startups and innovative companies are seen as threats and eliminated. He endorsed fundamental technological disruption arguing, "there is nothing like a good crisis to foster innovation."

Conversely, Aaron Lander, CEO and Co-founder of PopUpsters, a Global Urban Innovator, took a more optimistic tone, insisting that everyone should be able to start their own business. PopUpsters, his platform, provides a temporary popup store for aspiring business-owners, helping them through the crucial first 18 months of business by providing mentorship, information and monitoring. Addressing the specter of the digital divide, Lander argued that ideas such as PopUpsters help make Urban Tech a great equalizer. Increasing the ease of establishing business disproportionately helps low-income, minority and disadvantaged groups who, under prevailing conditions, have experienced more business failure.



June 22

Workshop

Hosted By

Ericsson

Delivering the Promise of Combined Mobility

How will autonomous cars impact city living? Ericsson sought to uncover the answer in the workshop *Delivering the Promise of Combined Mobility*. Participants were asked to evaluate opportunities and risks self-driving cars pose to people, business, and society. Additionally, they ranked the challenges facing self-driving cars, such as policies, behavioral change, finance, and eco-system dependencies.

Self-driving cars offer people several benefits, notably turning driving time into personal time, while also increasing road safety and making transportation more affordable. Further, self-driving cars increase accessibility, an all-important point for marginalized groups.

However, they also pose several risks, including the prospect of increasing inequality. For example, those who are not tech savvy might not know how to summon a self-driving car. Additionally, there are challenges for those who live in remote areas as well as social isolation from moving in 'pods'.

For business, the primary benefit of self-driving cars is increased efficiency. People waste countless man-hours sitting in traffic. Self-driving cars can also lead to the proliferation of new business models. Autonomous vehicles are a disruptor that will change many traditional industries. Self-driving cars will lead to fewer cars, affecting car-manufacturing companies. While the benefits to business are great, in

the short term, society must brace for this disruption.

Meanwhile, autonomous vehicles also offer many social benefits. Increased safety will reduce death and injury on the roads, parking lots can be converted to green spaces or buildings, and traffic congestion will be reduced within cities. They will also be designed to minimize harmful emissions, reducing our reliance on fossil fuels.

An important societal risk posed by self-driving cars, however, is increasing urban sprawl. If people are able to work in their cars they will be more willing to take longer trips. A greater risk is the displacement facing workers who depend on driving cars to earn a living; truckers, taxi and Uber drivers, and delivery people may quickly lose their jobs. The social upheaval from such large job loss could have profound consequences.

Yet there is a strong consensus that the benefits outweigh the risks of self-driving cars. People are also in agreement that regulation and policies are a great challenge facing the advancement of self-driving cars. As the technology behind these vehicles continues to develop, regulations risk closing yet-undiscovered areas for further research, limiting future innovation. Politicians must be careful not to over-regulate autonomous vehicles, or risk standing in the way of one of the greatest 21st century mobility innovations.



Watch Video Online



June 22

Interview

Speakers

Daniel Libeskind,
Architect and
Founder, Studio
Libeskind

John Rossant,
Chairman, New
Cities Foundation

The Architecture Of Urban Tech

Museums, by definition, are buildings of memory, but how are these cultural epicenters, integral to the past, present and future of cities adapting to the demands of an increasingly digital society? In a keynote conversation with John Rossant, the Chairman of the New Cities Foundation, world renowned architect Daniel Libeskind suggested "memory is the foundation of architecture, without memory you have Alzheimer cities. Cities where nobody knows where they come from or where they are going." Even brand new city developments such as King Abdullah Economic City, in Saudi Arabia, or Iskandar, Malaysia are not blank slates and have traces of history running through them.

Many of Libeskind's museums were conceived and designed in a pre-digital age. Nowadays, all building designs are expected to be 3D digital models. Considering this digital age, Rossant asked how cultural institutions are adapting to this pervasively digital environment and whether it will change the design process.

Libeskind noted government has given ample support to digitization and interactivity in exhibitions, adding: "digital technology is key to a contemporary museum and a contemporary experience." Libeskind suggested digital technology has the potential to give an authentic experience and empower citizens to be creative. Designers and architects will need to reflect on how to include digital metrics that measure satisfaction, citizen

engagement and the success of a cultural edifice into the design process.

Rossant noted that museums don't exist in a vacuum and that most museums are integral to the urban fabric. Libeskind echoed this, saying "a city is greater than the sum of its parts," adding innovative architecture is essential because "buildings that are not stars are just mediocre buildings."

Cities need to reinforce the idea of a public realm and buildings should apply all knowledges of sustainability and ecology. Libeskind highlighted that sustainability is not solely about the energy use or its 'green' design features but rather encompasses the building's life, social purpose and how its spaces are used.

For Libeskind the opposite of innovation is imitation and cities themselves are the greatest reinforcers of imitation. At the same time, cities hold the potential to break repetitive patterns. Montréal, one of Libeskind's favorite cities, provides an admirable example of successful management of public space and innovation in urban design.

"We shouldn't worry about the unusual," Libeskind said. "We need to elicit more people with creativity to be involved in creating things we don't expect."



Watch Video Online



June 22

Plenary Panel

Speaker

Chris Gourlay,
Founder & CEO,
Spacehive

Félix-Antoine Joli-Cœur, Executive
Director,
Amplifier Montréal

Mary Miss, Artist
and Founder, The
Mary Miss Studio &
Director, City as a
Living Laboratory

Bill Peduto, Mayor
of Pittsburgh

Tom Smith, Global
Director, Property
and Buildings, WSP
Global Inc.

Moderator

Liz Stinson, Writer,
Wired Design

Placemaking: Building The Community Through Urban Tech

Placemaking: Building the Community Through Urban Tech considers the role that communities in the age of Urban Tech play in physically and socially altering cities. "The most important use of technology in placemaking is when it helps to facilitate chaos, anarchy, good bacteria," said Chris Gourlay, Founder & CEO of Spacehive, a Global Urban Innovator. Spacehive is an ambitious startup that has created a crowdsourced platform enabling communities to fund projects for their local public spaces. Its goal is to democratize placemaking, allowing the forces that shape the city to rise from bottom-up. Moreover, Spacehive provides expertise in navigating public regulations, provides a contractual framework to execute projects, and assists in creating the ecosystems necessary to attract funding and support from the private sector, mayors and the public sector.

Empowering communities to define their spaces in the age of Urban Tech also bears with it the responsibility to ensure marginalized communities have access. The Mayor of Pittsburgh, Bill Peduto, believes that marginalized community voices have been silenced by design, via the separation of communities by highways, and the erasure of community cultures by mandating single purpose zones. On top of this, too much urban space is reserved for cars. For Mayor Peduto, cities that focus their urban design on people will have an important influence on providing a greater voice to marginalized communities.

Speaking to the role of city governments, Mayor Peduto noted a fundamental divide that stifles public-private partnerships in Urban Tech: "The culture of government is risk-averse. The culture of entrepreneurs is embracing failure."

Félix-Antoine Joli-Cœur stressed that offline engagement was as vital as online development, offering the example of the Montréal's Quartier des Spectacles. The Quartier des Spectacles is one of the most high-tech neighborhoods in North America (and home to the New Cities Summit 2016), where everything can be controlled by an iPad. Yet what made the difference in converting the space from what used to be parking lots was not tech, but political will and civic engagement. As Joli-Cœur explained, "technology is not about the what, or the how. It's about the who." Mary Miss delved even deeper into the ways in which online tech development could facilitate human connections offline.

Tom Smith urged that those who cannot take advantage of open data or access online platforms must not be left behind. He warned against the emergence of an "Urban Tech Elite" which would reproduce the societal divisions Urban Tech hopes to challenge. Further, Smith said there is great merit in combining foreign direct investment with local talent, highlighting that one encourages the other, creating virtuous cycles.



Round Tables

Roundtables are interactive, expert-level discussions, where 10-15 selected participants discussed a particular aspect of Urban Tech in depth at the New Cities Summit 2016.

Affordable Housing

Hosted by Neal Gorenflo, Co-Founder, Shareable

The affordable housing crisis is global – what are some of the innovative solutions that cities are exploring and implementing today?

Animating our Waterfronts

Hosted by Aziza Chaouni, Associate Professor of Architecture, University of Toronto

How can we take an innovative approach to re-developing waterfronts in order to revitalize cities and restore the ecology of their aquatic environment?

Changing Work Patterns

Hosted by Ryan Mullenix, Design Partner and Architect, NBBJ

In 2020, how will employees of companies work, what type of spaces will they need, and how will the urban environment support their ability to thrive?

Designing the Human Centered Smart City

Hosted by Joe Murray, Vice President, Global Technology, frog

When we look to transform our cities, how can we best choreograph humans, technologies and spaces to transform the experience of citizens and visitors?

Enabling Efficient Cities

Hosted by Vatsal Bhatt, Director of City Developments, US Green Building Council

How can cities measure and track their efficiency performance as they aim to develop sustainably in a robust, innovation-oriented and competitive green urban economy?

Financing Smart Infrastructure

Hosted by Wim Elfrink, President, WPE Ventures Digitized Solutions

How can Cities facing constraints invest in digital infrastructure as a strategy for leapfrogging urban development and increasing their existing assets' lifespan?

Informal Economy

Hosted by Siddharth Hande, Founder and Research Lead, Kabadiwalla Connect

How can local policymakers reframe informality with help from social entrepreneurs and technology, to promote growth and inclusivity in cities?

Local Economic Development in Montréal

Hosted by Alex Carruthers, Executive Director, Made in Montréal

What defines Montréal's urban economy and how can technology be a tool to build partnerships and imagine unique new directions for the city's economic development?



On-Demand Services

Hosted by Kevin McLaughlin, President and Founder, AutoShare

Evolution or Revolution – How can cities benefit from, plan for, regulate, pay for, tax, and address the equity of the results-driven on-demand services system?

Paris Convention and City Development

Hosted by Annie Labrecque and Yvon Martinet, DS Avocat

How will the Paris Convention impact the transfer of technology, aid financing, and support increased state capacity? Beyond this, what does the Paris Convention mean for urban development?

Participatory Budgets

Hosted by Véronique Fournier, Executive Director, Montréal Urban Ecology Centre

What are basic conditions needed for a municipal Participatory Budget to be both viable and desirable and what role does technology have to play?

Safer Cities 2.0

Hosted by Juma Assiogo, Safer Cities Programme, UN-Habitat

What can be done to encourage a policy exchange on safer, smarter innovations among city stakeholders who are creating community-based safety and crime prevention solutions of tomorrow?

Smart Water Utility

Hosted by Tim Braun, Enterprise Architect, EmNet

Water is an integral element for cities to thrive. What are the technological innovations, which will allow water utility provision to be smarter and efficient and inclusive?

Urban Cable and the Transit Mix

Hosted by Jared Ficklin, Partner and Creative technologist, Argodesign

How can urban cable complement other transportation and urban innovation initiatives including autonomous cars and planning for walkability and density?

YouthfulCities: What Millennials Want from Their Cities

Hosted by Sonja Miokovic, Global Director and Co-Founder, YouthfulCities

Cities are increasingly competing against one another to appeal to and retain young, educated talent, but what do Millennials really want?



> GLOBAL URBAN INNOVATORS



> GLOBAL URBAN INNOVATORS

Each year, the New Cities Foundation carefully selects 10 path-breaking startups and social enterprises that use technology to address pressing urban challenges. Developing a community of innovators for urban problem-solving is central to this initiative -- creating a platform for them to share their experience widely and introduce their creative approaches to leaders from cities around the world.

The 2016 Global Urban Innovators gathered for the first time at the New Cities Summit in Montréal, presenting their work, and addressing the Summit's broader theme:

How will new applications of technology make life in cities more healthy, productive, and sustainable?

The GUIs showcased their creative approaches to tackle urban challenges, from food waste to plastic waste and from managing fleets of autonomous vehicles to providing an address to the four billion people who are without.

This community of innovators is crucial to the New Cities Foundation, where fostering urban innovation means forging cross-sector connections between city leaders, bold entrepreneurs, and the networks and resources they need.

[Click here to watch the highlights film for the Global Urban Innovators](#)



Chinmay Agarwal
Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer,
Jugnoo



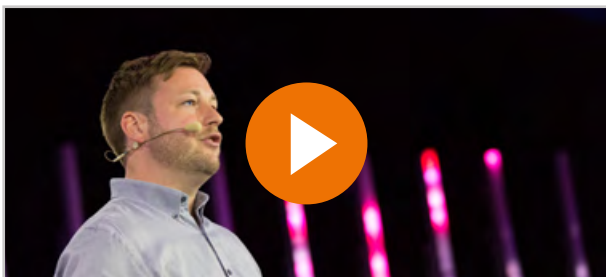
Jugnoo is a leading auto-rickshaw aggregator in India, focused on doubling the driver's efficiency and earnings, and providing affordable transportation, all with a single tap.



Raphaël Gindrat
CEO & Co-Founder, BestMile



BestMile is a Swiss mobility startup developing a fleet management system for autonomous vehicle fleets.



Chris Gourlay
Founder & CEO, Spacehive



Spacehive, the world's first civic crowdfunding platform, aims to democratize the way towns and cities are shaped by allowing anyone to create and fund civic projects online.



Anielle Guedes
Founder and CEO, Urban3D



Urban3D is developing a digital fabrication and natural material solutions to build affordable housing using a 3D printer that produces waste-free concrete slabs ten times faster than traditional construction, and at one-tenth the cost.



Geert Houben
Founder & CEO, Cubigo



Cubigo is an open cloud-based platform connecting seniors, caregivers, family and businesses to help empower people to live independent and healthy lives.



Niamh Kirwan
Marketing and Communications Manager, FoodCloud



FoodCloud is a social enterprise in Ireland with a unique technological platform that connects businesses that have surplus food with charities in their local community that need it.



Aaron Lander
Co-Founder & CEO, PopUpsters



PopUpsters is the marketplace for businesses to connect with space through an online platform that helps small retailers test out and sell their products to different markets.



Chong-Wey Lin
Founder, OurCityLove



OurCityLove is a social enterprise that creates dignified jobs for individuals with disabilities to help make cities more accessible and enjoyable for the mobility-impaired.



Boluwaji Oyewumi
Head of Business Development, Wecyclers



Wecyclers captures value from waste and cleans up low-income neighborhoods through an SMS-based system that converts recyclable goods to points that can be redeemed for awards.



Steven Ramage
Strategy Director, what3words



what3words is a human-friendly and cost-effective location reference system based on a global grid of 57 trillion 3mx3m squares, giving everyone and everywhere a simple address, including the millions of informal urbanites.

THE NEW CITIES FOUNDATION THANKS ITS MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

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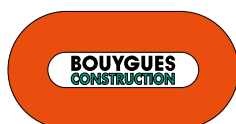
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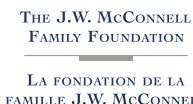


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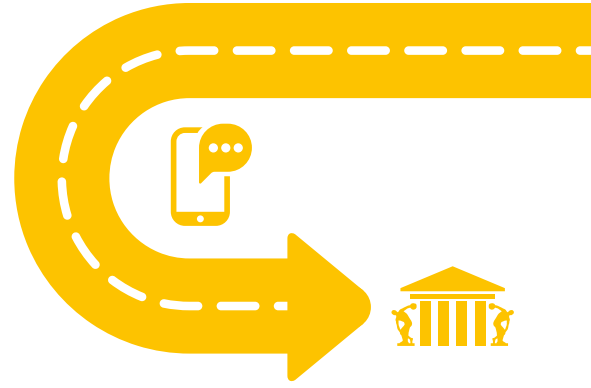


Supporting Partners



Media Partners





The New Cities Foundation is an independent non-profit organization whose mission is to shape a better urban future for all. The Foundation conducts pragmatic research on solutions to challenges facing cities, launches initiatives to drive urban progress, and builds, empowers, and convenes a global network in support of its goals. In all of its activities, the Foundation works with leaders from business, government, academia, civil society, the media and the arts.

Each year, the New Cities Foundation organizes the New Cities Summit, the leading global event on the future of cities. The Foundation is home to global initiatives including Cityquest – a community of the builders of large-scale new city projects – and Cities on the Move, a thought-leadership platform on the future of urban mobility. The Foundation also hosts pragmatic research programs in areas such as mobility and infrastructure financing.

The Foundation was created in 2010 and is financed by its members and partners, which include some of the most forward-thinking companies who share a passion for the future of our cities. The Foundation is based in Geneva and its head office is in Montréal with smaller offices in Paris, New York, Hong Kong and Zurich.

To find out more about the Foundation and to become a Member, please email us at contact@newcitiesfoundation.org.

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