

Shaping Futures:
Housing Policies for the 21st
Century
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Vancouver Re:Address Summit
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Shaping Futures: Housing Policies for the 21st Century

- **New Times: New Business 2011**
- Entrepreneurial spirit among non-profits during the austerity following GFC
- Non-profit groups with aims to improve the lives of tenants *and* places
- Launch a new conversation among non-profits to discuss bigger and bolder moves to grow the roles of non-profits

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Housing Policies for the 21st Century

- Collaboration of non-profits, cities, social justice groups & academics
- Cities play a prominent role in discussions: Vancouver, Brisbane, Melbourne, London and Toronto
- Interest in looking at housing policy options in a post neo-liberal, post austerity environment
- Names links to the work of Thomas Piketty on growing inequality, rising housing wealth for some
- Stages of project where partners consult with their broader stakeholders to ensure that relevant, timely questions are being pursued

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Housing Policies for the 21st Century

Non-profits & Coops: Business Diversification

- Principles are the same but business models are changing
- Achieving scale
- New business lines: hybrids
- Increasing staff capacity
- Financial acuity to take risks
- Leveraging equity

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Housing Policies for the 21st Century

Equip Institutions that

- Have a clear inclusive vision and are outcomes driven
- i.e. federal government wants to increase equality, reduce GHG and improve economic performance
- Address full housing system, market rental, np rental, homeownership, finance system, tax system
- Recognize that housing policy is far more than welfare programs for the poor
- Provide data & research to assist better decision taking
- Encourage the production of locally made strategies

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Housing Policies for the 21st Century

- More effective housing policies that consider the whole housing system
- New economic argument
- Need to change the housing narrative
- Exchanging with other stakeholders in the community
- Rethink housing policies: lower fiscal costs, more effective housing markets,
- See affordable housing in the context of whole housing system
- stronger regional and municipal leadership

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Housing Policies for the 21st Century

International work teams developing papers on:

- A new economic story
- Private rental sector
- Sustainability of non-profits
- Pressured metro market
- Financing housing
- Looking for ways mobilize our learnings and continue the dialogue

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Housing Policies for the 21st Century

Reflections on Canada's developing housing policy

- The Federal Government have stated their goals for the program and if the infrastructure announcement is any indication, they will likely seek cost sharing
- The Federal Provincial Municipal work group pressured markets in Vancouver and Toronto is a good sign
- “Feds have some levers but not all” Finance Minister Morneau
- Market rent sector needs to be included
- Scale: 50,000 new rental units annually in a long term program