



Winter Cities

VOLUME 21 • NUMBER 1 • FEBRUARY 2002



**SANNAI-MARUYAMA HISTORICAL SITE
AOMORI CITY, JAPAN**

President's Message

I have been reading the editorial in another Society's Journal in which the author reviews the 36 year history of its publication and the bumps and potholes encountered along the way. He mentions the variations in the number of pages in each issue and recalls transition times when a new editor and editorial team were required and new publication directions and publication design were needed.



It is comforting to know that others have been down this road. A review of past issues of this magazine shows variations in length, design and frequency of publication. Editorial Boards have come and gone. Themes for each issue were adopted but the approach lapsed. Limited funds have been a continuing challenge. Most recently, our volunteer Editor, Michael Broadway, had to step down and we miss his valued help.

While we look for a new Editor, this issue has been put together by several members of the Board. We hope you enjoy the result and find the contents interesting. We have dedicated it to the affectionate memory of Jack Royle, the founder of the Liveable Winter Cities Association. The theme, "Building Linkages between Winter Cities", was suggested by Board member Mayor John Rowswell. Articles have been included which describe the valuable linkages that have been made throughout the circumpolar north, how people are applying what they have learned through these contacts and the economic and other benefits that have accrued to those cities that have hosted Winter Cities conferences. If you would like more information about hosting a conference, and what is required to do so, please contact us.



The penguin logo that appears at intervals indicates the insertion of facts from Antarctica that are of interest to those of us who live closer to the other Pole. On a recent visit to New Zealand, I visited the Antarctic Institute in Christchurch. This privately operated facility has become a premier tourist attraction in its nine years of operation. The association with the Antarctic of the famous New Zealander, Sir Edmund Hillary, and the presence of New Zealand's year-round research facility at Scott Base, must account for some of its popularity. There is also a general interest in penguins and a fascination with the mystery of the Antarctic that is unchanged since the first explorers were there.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish you health, peace and prosperity in 2002. A number of us will be in Japan in February for Winter Cities 2002 Aomori Conference and we hope to see you there.

Anne Martin, President

On the cover: The site of a Jōmon-era settlement with recreated structures.

Winter Cities
Volume 21 • Number 1
January 2002

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Winter Cities magazine is published by
Winter Cities Association
c/o The City of Prince George;
1100 Patricia Boulevard,
Prince George, British Columbia,
Canada V2L 3V9

The *Winter Cities* Association is dedicated to
realizing the potential of all northern
communities. Through publishing, networking,
organizing conferences, facilitating research
and other means, the Association seeks to
make available northern solutions
to northern problems and to promote
awareness of opportunities associated
with the winter season.

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Subscription Rates
Cdn. \$40.00 - 1 year
Cdn. \$75.00 - 2 years
Cdn. \$100.00 - 3 years



Winter Cities

Volume 21 • Number 1

C O N T E N T S

- 2 In Memoriam**
- 3 A History of the Winter Cities Movement
and the Liveable Winter Cities Association**
Jack Royle
edited by Anne Martin
- 6 Linking Up With Shenyang**
- 7 Building Linkages Between Winter Cities**
Colin Kinsley
- 8 Children in Winter Climate**
Leif Wikman
- 9 New Downtown Marquette Park to Feature Winter Activity**
Patrick J. Coleman
- 11 Building Linkages Between Winter Cities**
Frank Blues
- 12 Building with Snow: Northern Michigan towns
to construct snow homes**
Patrick J. Coleman
- 12 You Can Help**
- 13 Library named after a founder of the
Circumpolar Universities Association**
- 14 Conference Report**
Dr. John Curry
- 15 Anchorage: next steps toward becoming an outstanding city**
René C. Akre
- 16 Hanen Archives**
- 17 Winter: a matter of culture**
Annie Lüttgen
- 18 Appreciating Winter**
Norman Pressman
- 20 Annual General Meeting Highlights**

In Memoriam

JACK ROYLE

John C. (Jack) Royle, career journalist and retired magazine publisher, died on August 15, 2001 at Kleinburg, Ontario in his ninetieth year.

Originally from Newfoundland, Jack graduated from the University of Western Ontario with a degree in Economics and History. He began his career as a reporter for the Winnipeg Tribune. Later, he moved with his wife to Toronto, and he joined MacLean Hunter, becoming Group Publisher responsible for managing several business publications. He took early retirement and moved to a property in Caledon outside Toronto where he ran a nursery business in ornamental trees. It was at this time that he began his northern studies.



Jack was a pioneer in the Winter Cities movement. He founded the Liveable Winter Cities Association in 1983 and the organization was incorporated the following year. Jack served on the Board of Directors, edited the magazine and later became Editor Emeritus. He contributed many articles himself, often writing about the achievements of others. He wrote the preface to the Winter Cities Design Manual, prepared in 1991 by Hough Stansbury Woodland Limited in co-operation with the Winter Cities Association. In recent months, he sent the Association his

Winter Cities archives.

Jack is remembered by his family, friends and colleagues as someone who was genuinely interested in others and who gave people his unlimited encouragement and enthusiastic support. He was a great networker and facilitator. He was quick to credit people with their contributions to the Winter Cities movement but remained modest about his own accomplishments. We all feel his loss.

We are most grateful to his family for selecting the Winter Cities Association as the recipient of donations in Jack's memory. We extend to them our sincere condolences.

A History of the Winter Cities Movement and the Liveable Winter Cities Association

from draft written in 1991 by JACK ROYLE, edited by ANNE MARTIN

Some would say The North has played a self-sacrificial role in human evolution, rating high in achievement, low in recognition, high in the stuff of leadership, low in the ability to attract followers. Northerners have been said to have contributed more per capita than the human average in such areas as technology, government, entertainment, business, sports, transportation and communication. It didn't help The North that a large proportion of its most energetic and creative people followed the example of Alexander Graham Bell and moved south to put over their ideas and reap the benefits.

The Winter Cities Movement, sweeping the world, could be called the beginning of a trend in the opposite direction. Really for the first time, northerners are seriously joining forces to face up to their nordicity and carve themselves a more positive role in human affairs. It is a most constructive development to see northern regions of Japan, U.S.S.R. and China joining with other countries and areas of the northern fringe in working out programs for improved livability and viability of their cities and communities. Membership and activities of the Winter Cities Association now fully circle the globe. It could only have happened in these times of boiling change and miracle commu-

nications. Largely within the past decade a transformation in attitude towards living in the north has touched almost a quarter of the world's population who inhabit close to half of its land mass.

British-born Ralph Erskine, an architect practicing in Sweden, is acknowledged to have been the first to have widely proclaimed that northerners were serving themselves badly by down-playing their environment in designing their structures and cities and in other aspects of their lives. Overwhelmed by communications and innovations from the more populous warm climate belts, Swedish builders found it easier to imitate than to develop technologies appropriate to the snow and cold of the climate. The resulting discomfort, inconvenience and added cost increased, rather than diminished, the handicap of a severe climate.

Beginning about 1945, Erskine pointed out that user-unfriendly northern cities helped to drive their residents away, swelling the southward migration of people and economic power, slowing down northern progress. To prove his point, he began to design structures and cities appropriate to the Swedish climate. He is still active, still expounding the "winter cities" message, is presently re-planning the winter city of Luleå. He has participated in

activities of the Winter Cities Association and the International Winter Cities Committee.

On the other side of the globe, residents of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island-prefecture, had become aware that their problems in the design and construction of buildings and cities were different from temperate and semi-tropical regions that composed the remainder of Japan. Leaders of Hokkaido, including Mayor Takeshi Itagaki, chief officer of Sapporo its largest city, began in the 1970's to look abroad to other northern areas for solutions to such problems as proper insulation of buildings, suitable transportation modes and the arrangements of utilities.

In 1982, Mayor Itagaki invited mayors of a number of northern cities to meet with him in Sapporo to exchange information on how problems of winter cities might be solved and how the promotion of arts, sports, culture and recreation in the northern regions might be achieved. Representatives of nine cities in six countries attended. In 1985, a second "Northern Intercity Conference" was held in Shenyang, China with ten cities from six countries represented.

From this beginning developed the Northern Intercity Conference Committee, based in Sapporo, with Mayor Itagaki as Chairman. This

committee was the third pillar of the Winter Cities movement, the other two being the Winter Cities Association and the International Winter Cities Committee.

The Winter Cities Association had its origins in the activities of Dr. William C. Rogers, a professor at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Knowing nothing of the actions taken by Ralph Erskine or the stirrings in Hokkaido, Rogers looked round the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul in 1979 and decided they were failing their citizens by ignoring or downplaying the severe climate. In public statements and letters to the Mayor, he declared Minneapolis was a "winter wasteland" that focused on summer and pretended winter away. (Dr. Rogers was often called "Conifer Bill" because of his preaching that winter cities should plant more evergreen trees. He was also a founding member of both the Winter Cities Association and the International Winter Cities Committee).

As Director of the University's "World Affairs Center", he organized a "Liveable Winter City Conference" and invited as participants more than a hundred leading urbanists from around the world. This first conference concluded that the problem of downgrading and neglecting winter was not peculiar to the Twin Cities and that a second conference should be held a year later. The second conference was attended by Alfred Savage, then Chief Commissioner of Edmonton, and the author (Jack Royle) who was a keynote speaker. Through the efforts of these two participants, and as a result of Rogers' promotional activities, the idea quickly spread

through Canada. Interest stirred in Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto and Ottawa.

In Toronto, "Planning for Tomorrow" Forums in 1980 and 1982, organized for the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs by George Przybylowski, featured discussion panels on the "winter cities" idea. Ralph Erskine was brought from Stockholm, William Rogers from Minneapolis and Arni Fullerton, widely known for his forward-looking designs of northern cities and communities, from his home in Creston, B.C. Eberhard Zeidler, one of Canada's foremost architects, participated. In 1982, a public evening session bringing these speakers together drew an audience of more than 650.

In Winnipeg, a group known as "Winnipeg A.M." took up the cause and organized workshops and public rallies. Later, Val Werier, a favorite Winnipeg columnist and founding member of the Winter Cities Association, gave leadership in organizing additional seminars and in publishing their proceedings.

In Ottawa, Rick Lawford, senior officer of Environment Canada, called a "Liveable Winter City" organizational meeting. Fourteen people attended and agreed to create the organization. In subsequent meetings, held alternately in Ottawa and Toronto, a charter was drafted. Federal incorporation was obtained largely through the efforts of Byron Johnson, Ottawa consultant, and Ernest Balmer, Toronto developer and financier who inspired the group to take money from their own pockets to defray organizational expense. Patrick Chen, Ottawa city

planner, was chosen as first President. Chapters were formed in both Ottawa and Toronto. Professor Norman Pressman, University of Waterloo School of Urban and Regional Planning, in time succeeded Mr. Chen.

Thus was launched the Winter Cities Association (the word "liveable" was dropped as being restrictive) which also became a pillar of the movement. Primary objectives were to conduct educational and organizational activities as vigorously as possible within the limitation that the organization had to pay its way primarily through sale of memberships and subscriptions. Additional funding was obtained from governments or other agencies for special projects, but in reality officers and members have had to reach into their pockets to keep the Association afloat.

In 1985, the W.C.A. leaders suggested to Arni Fullerton, by then an active member and senior planner for downtown Edmonton, that his City could well be an appropriate host for an international "winter cities" conference. Climate statistics show Edmonton is on average North America's coldest city of more than half a million population. Mayor Lawrence Decore and his Council supported the project and Mr. Fullerton was placed in charge of it. Many were surprised when "Edmonton's Winter Cities Forum/Showcase 1986" turned out to be a remarkable success with more than 400 participants including Mayor Itagaki from Japan and a large contingent from Scandinavia. Sapporo generously supported the event with a large group of delegates, displays and entertainment

features.

An unexpected development was the arrival of nine civic and business leaders from Tromsø, Norway, applying for permission to put on a similar event. To meet this development, Mr. Fullerton called together the four acknowledged "founders" of the movement, Mayor Itagaki, William Rogers, Jack Royle and Fullerton himself. Thus was launched the International Winter Cities Committee, chaired by Fullerton, with a mandate to promote and assist aspects of the biennial international Forum/Showcase, except for the Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors which would become a concurrent event. Funded by and based in Edmonton, the I.W.C.C. became the third pillar of the Winter Cities Movement.

The three pillars complement one another. N.I.C.C., with input from I.W.C.C., chooses the host city for the major biennial events and organizes the Northern Intercity meeting of Mayors. I.W.C.C. supports and assists all other aspects of these events including the technical sessions, expositions and design competitions.

In this mode, Winter Cities Forum/Showcases were held in Edmonton in 1988 and in Tromsø in 1990. Events have been planned for Montreal in 1992 and Anchorage in 1994. Meanwhile, the Winter Cities Association promotes and supports the broad movement continuously in all parts of the northern world. The organization now has affiliate and supporting groups in more than twenty cities in North America, and in Scandinavia, U.S.S.R. and Asia. Currently, the Winter Cities Association is based in

Calgary and Harold Hanen, noted Calgary architect, is President.

This brief review has mentioned the names of a few early pioneers, but there are hundreds more who made important contributions. Perhaps no movement in human history has caught fire as quickly. Thanks to the Winter Cities Movement and its three pillars, northerners are indeed gaining a better grasp of the opportunities and problems presented by their northern environment while gaining new status and new reasons for self confidence and pride in their beautiful "top quarter of the globe".

(ed. Since this piece was written, several organizational changes have occurred. In 1994, the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities was established. It is the organizing body for a biennial event comprising a Northern Intercity Conference of Mayors, a Winter Cities Forum and an Exposition or Showcase. European cities now have their own organization, Winter Cities Europe. In North America, we have the Liveable Winter Cities Association, also referred to as the Winter Cities Association. The International Winter Cities Committee based in Edmonton is no longer active.)

Flying Penguin



When a medical school was being planned in Tromsø, a town in northern Norway of some 30,000 – 40,000 people at the time, the sages from the south argued that it would never succeed. No faculty would move to the north to teach there. No students would come. As events have turned out, the medical faculty at the University of Tromsø has proved to be very successful and is a world leader in training physicians for service in northern and rural communities.

Somewhere along the line a flying penguin was adopted as their symbol.. It was a reply to those who said that a university in the north, and in particular a medical school, would not work. The flying penguin is a perfect response to this skepticism because penguins don't fly, and penguins don't live in the north! So what's the problem!

Submitted by Dr. Charles Jago, President, University of Northern British Columbia, who is working with others to develop a medical school in northern British Columbia and who wears a flying penguin pin on his lapel.

Linking Up With Shenyang

an interview with LILY CHOW

Lily Chow is an ambassador for Prince George and has been involved with Winter Cities activities since 1997. She helped prepare City delegates for the Harbin conference and translated a letter of introduction into Chinese characters. During the Prince George Forum in 1999, she was an interpreter for Fan Tao, a City Planner from Harbin and she also met Wang Jingying, the Deputy Chief of the Foreign Affairs office in Shenyang, and his interpreter, Hunter Liu.

In November 2001, following a presentation she made for the History Faculty in Peking University, Lily visited Shenyang, the Capital of Liaoning Province and a cultural and historic city where the Qing Dynasty began. Hunter Liu made arrangements for Lily to speak to teachers at the Guanya American English Training Centre and to students in Shenyang University, Liaoning University and Shenyang Institute of Technology. She talked about the Canadian education system, the lives of Chinese Canadians and introduced Prince George. Lily says she will never forget the warm friendship and kind hospitality of the Foreign Affairs office.

Lily Chow is a researcher and the author of two books, "Sojourners in the North" and "Chasing Their Dreams", which focus on Chinese settlements in the interior of British Columbia.

Photos by Hunter Liu



The Aerolites at the 21st Century Square



The sculpture of Solar Bird, the symbol of Shenyang

Antarctic Treaty



The United States was one of the twelve nations that initialed the

Antarctic Treaty in December 1959. Today, the USA is a consultative party to the treaty and operates three year-round research stations, McMurdo, Amundsen-Scott and Palmer. Canada signed the treaty in 1988 but does not operate any research station.

Building Linkages Between Winter Cities

by COLIN KINSLEY, Mayor, City of Prince George

It gives me great pleasure to be able to contribute to this edition of the Winter Cities Journal. The title of the article "Building Linkages between Winter Cities" is a testament to the benefits the City of Prince George has gained as a member of the Winter Cities Association.

As a member of the Winter Cities Association (WCA), we have seen living conditions in the north improve significantly over the years. This increased awareness of the day-to-day issues has made us realize we are not in this alone. In fact, architects, engineers, and planners have been conceptualizing and building infrastructure more suited to these types of climates. They realize the importance of snow loads on buildings, the effects of snow and ice in our storm systems, or even the importance of snow removal from city streets. They also understand the potential hazards pedestrians face while trying to get around their respective municipalities and how to make life simpler for them.

Altogether, the Winter Cities Association has enabled us to provide more efficient and effective infrastructure for our constituents.

Our membership has also enhanced economic linkages. As an example, it has opened the door for forestry companies in the Prince George region to expand on potential new lumber markets throughout

the world. In fact, Spruce Capital Homes in Prince George, is one company that has been successful in selling its products in the past to Russia, Korea and Japan, and more recently to China and Iceland. With the increase in potential new lumber markets, the opportunity for Prince George and other cities in Canada to import products and services from other parts of the world increases, thus creating much economic growth between communities.

The mission of the Winter Cities Association is to serve as a source of information related to improving living conditions in the north. To this end, the City of Prince George has been able to share its expertise in the area of snow management. As the City of Prince George has been seen as the leader in snow removal operations, it has allowed many northern communities to learn from our successes, in hopes of developing similar systems in their communities.

Lastly, the WCA has provided municipalities with an enhanced focus, and increased winter community pride. The climate in British Columbia, as well as across Canada, differs greatly from community to community. The WCA has enabled us to share and gather new ideas with other communities instead of operating in a vacuum. In the end,

municipalities are able to share ideas and find ways to be more effective and efficient.

The City of Prince George has truly benefited from its membership with the WCA. We have been able to associate ourselves with communities with similar issues, as well as provide an avenue for information sharing. The WCA has helped to raise awareness of winter communities and the role they play not only in the Canadian economy but in the global economy too.

Three years ago Prince George had the pleasure of hosting the Winter Cities Forum which enabled us to form valuable business and social relationships with many of our colleagues in the WCA. The demonstrations of equipment and machinery used in our northern winter living conditions during the Forum were again a source of great interest to the WCA membership and in fact we are preparing to visit Aomori, Japan in 2002, for the next WCA Forum and look forward to another learning experience as a Winter Cities Association Member.

*For information about the
City of Prince George and its own
Winter City Committee, visit
www.city.pg.bc.ca*

Children in Winter Climate

by LEIF WIKMAN, President of Winter Cities Europe

Winter and snow are essential conditions for children growing up in Northern climate. In our cities we have a lot of knowledge of the special conditions for children in the arctic region. Therefore, Winter Cities Europe (WCE) arranged a conference on the theme "Children in Winter Climate" in Kiruna, Sweden last September.

The conference gave an excellent opportunity to listen to interesting lectures and exchange experiences. During the conference we had 21 discourses on different aspect of Winter Climate and Children. Let me give some example of the topics.

In the centre of the periphery. Sven Ylipää from Högalidsskolan in Kiruna, Sweden showed us how they produce Web-sites about Winter situations and how to use the Internet as a part of the education in communication with schools around the World.

Winter - a possibility for children's creativity. Marjo Rintala from Kemi, Finland described how they use the snow in preschool-care, the use of water-color direct on snow when making snow-lamps, building snowcastles, listening to the silence in the winter forest, using the winter darkness to create ice-lamps and play halloween games. Doing something together in the fresh air in nature makes everyone happy.

The Sami Culture and language as a resource in the education. Britt Allas-Labba from the Sami School Board showed us how they take advantage of the Sami culture to get an extra dimension in the education.

Growing up in Svalbard - top of the world. Hilde Bjonnes from Svalbard, Norway presented the book children in Svalbard have produced about the world's northernmost growing-up area. Svalbard is a small Norwegian village in the middle of the arctic wilderness.

The conference was a huge success. The WCE planned it for 30 participants, hoped for 50 and dreamed of 100. We got 230 teachers, students, politicians and others from Norway, Greenland, Finland and Sweden. In the evaluation they gave us top marks. Children and Winter is a theme that engages many people. Teachers, environmental specialists, computer specialists, architects, planners and politicians are some of them. We can recommend it for other Winter Cities organizations.

In the evening between the two conference days the city of Kiruna arranged a reception at the beautiful City Hall of Kiruna. One of the performances that evening was the song-and-dance group "Snowchildren" from the Vittangi school in Kiruna. Girls and boys aged 8-13 years gave us a cultural aspect of snow and winter. We also got a visit from Father Christmas of the Luleå Christmas Calendar.

In Winter Cities Europe we are now engaged in following up the conference by recruiting new cities, universities and organizations as members. We are also discussing a new conference on the same theme in another part of our area.

FACTS

Winter Cities Europe is a European sister organization to Winter Cities Association. Members are cities in Norway, Finland, Sweden and Greenland. The organization took a very active part in preparing for the International Winter Cities Conference 2000 in Kiruna and Luleå. After the big conference Winter Cities Europe changed focus and is now working with conferences for exchange of experience, processing new ideas and information about winter climate and its possibilities and problems.



Luleå Centrum

Prevention of suicide in Nuup. Stephen Hakesberg from Nuuk, Greenland and Peter Berlinder from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark told us how to use the resources of nature in the treatment of aggressive young boys.

New Downtown Marquette Park to Feature Winter Activity

by PATRICK J. COLEMAN, AICP

The conversion of an abandoned rail corridor through the heart of the City of Marquette, Michigan, USA, will include the development of a new town square that will feature winter activities. City and downtown leaders envision a public gathering space that will combine public art and year-round recreational facilities.

The City of Marquette, population 20,000, is located on the south shore of Lake Superior and is the largest city in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. This geographic region, fondly known as the "U.P.", is a remote area nearly surrounded by the Great Lakes. Marquette is over 500 miles north of Detroit.

Due to the proximity of Lake Superior, the Marquette area receives tremendous "lake effect" snowfall, as a result of cold winter winds blowing across the large expanse of Lake Superior.

Former Rail Corridor Important to Marquette's Development

Marquette was originally developed in the 1860's as a port on Lake Superior to serve a growing iron mining industry. The mines, located some 10 miles inland from Lake Superior, relied on lake transportation to ship iron ore to refineries in Ohio and Pennsylvania via the Great Lakes.

In the early 1930's, an ore dock was constructed in Marquette's lower harbor near downtown. An elevated trestle structure was built through the downtown district, effectively splitting the central business district in two.

The elevated trestle and ore dock served its purpose for many years. In the 1970's, use of this transportation corridor ceased, with all iron subsequently shipped out of another city harbor. For nearly 30 years, the elevated trestle was unused. In 2000, the City of Marquette was able to acquire this corridor, envisioning a "linear park" that would primarily be used for a bike and walking trail.

Community Planning Process

In November of 1999, community planning workshops were convened to determine the future of a three block segment of the corridor through the downtown district. A walking tour, design workshops and public hearings were held as part of this process. The planning process was well attended by a variety of citizens and business owners.

Participants envisioned using much of the corridor for biking and walking trails. This corridor segment will link other city bike trails into one large loop around the city.

One particular area of the rail corridor in downtown split two separate public parking areas on either side of the corridor. With the trestle gone, planners noted that combining these parking areas created some efficiency of space utilization, yielding room for something more than just a trail corridor. The idea of using this space for a town square and central gathering area resulted.

Community participants desired a town square-type space that would provide a comfort station and rest rooms for trail users, space

for a farmers market, casual music performances, public art, and ice skating.

Winter Use Important Consideration

The support for a multi-seasonal trail corridor and town square stems from Marquette's involvement with the Liveable Winter Cities Association (LWCA) and desire to improve winter livability. Marquette hosted the 1997 Winter Cities Forum and has been represented at a number of the LWCA and International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities (IAMNC) conferences. Marquette has also participated in a winter maintenance/management exchange involving public works personnel with the cities of Prince George, BC, Canada and Luleå and Kiruna, Sweden.

It is the city's desire to improve livability, particularly during the five month winter season, which can include annual snowfalls exceeding 250 inches. As a winter city, Marquette has looked beyond the typical seasonal use of a bike and walking trail and will pack and groom snow on the trail system for winter walking and skiing. The trail network will link directly into the proposed town square. Thus, residents from many areas of the city may soon be able to ski, bike or walk downtown for shopping and entertainment.

Concept Plan Developed

Based upon input from the community planning process, a concept for the town square was developed by



This section of an abandoned rail corridor and parking area will be redeveloped into a new town square in downtown Marquette.

the city's design consultant on the project, U.P. Engineers & Architects. The concept's features include:

- Separate bike and walking pathways designed for winter cross-country skiing.
- An outdoor skating rink with refrigerated ice surface and sheltering roof system. The ice rink area will be usable for performances, a farmer's market and skateboarding/rollerblading when ice is not present.
- Adaptation of an existing on-site retaining wall to become an "art wall" for display of heritage interpretation and public art.
- A large public art work featuring water (and ice).
- A park building to include an indoor gathering and warming area, public restrooms, and storage lockers for bicycles and skis.
- An outdoor fire pit.

The project will be constructed in phases beginning in 2002.

Positive Outcomes Expected

The project will have positive benefits for the Marquette community. The project converts underutilized and blighted space to a central gathering space, with activities in all seasons. The ice skating rink is expected to attract numerous persons throughout the winter season to the downtown, and improve winter livability in the city. The trail access will enhance quality of life and promote healthy lifestyles. The park will create opportunities for the local arts community. Finally, the project is an important component in the city's downtown revitalization program and is expected to create development opportunities, investment and job creation.

Patrick Coleman, AICP, is the President of U.P. Engineers & Architects, Inc., a multi-disciplinary firm serving the Upper Great Lakes region. He is the immediate past president of the Liveable Winter Cities Association.

New buildings for the South Pole Station



New buildings are under construction at the South Pole Station for completion in 2005. The structure will have a ten foot elevation and can be raised to accommodate an accumulation of snow. It will be modular and panelized and is designed so the components can be transported in an LC-130 Hercules aircraft. The two-story structure will stand forty feet high and will have two "C" shaped pods, 400 feet long with 100 foot extended wings. It will use alternate sources of energy (waste heat recovery, photo voltaic, sunlight and solar). The architects are Ferraro Choi and Associates Ltd.

Links Between Winter Cities

a personal perspective

by FRANK BLUES

In February 1999, I had the privilege of attending the Winter Cities Conference in my hometown Prince George, British Columbia. The Conference presentations included many aspects of designing for and living in northern communities, with presenters sharing their views on various aspect of life in their communities. I learned of different ways to view similar issues in my community. Site visits were conducted to various areas of cultural and professional interest including winter operations where the rubber hits the road so to speak. It was a pleasure to share information with attentive audiences from other communities with similar interests such as snow management. This was the first time there had been an opportunity to highlight the skills and knowledge of our City employees in the business of managing snow, and our employees were stimulated by the attention and questions of the international conference attendees. Our visitors appreciated the skills and knowledge of our City staff as discussions and demonstrations took place. It is important to me that all involved employees receive the recognition they deserve as they contribute to the success of operations by wrestling with the introduction of new ideas and challenges.

In October 2000, Prince George was the venue for the first meeting of a Snow Management Sub Committee to be established under the banner of the International Association of Mayors of Northern Cities (IAMNC). This meeting was personally stimulating



as we got down to the business of snow management. Here was an opportunity for a sharing of technical ideas and cultures in terms of community expectations for winter services. This was my first opportunity to meet with a significant number of Japanese and Chinese guests in a business setting. Presentations were made and it surprised me that there were very few questions at their conclusion as may normally happen in a North American style meeting. I soon learned that questions came at breaks in the proceedings. This was indeed a different way of doing business. Other differences in culture were evident throughout the meetings and at meals. As I reflected on my conference experience, I recalled how our visitors in some cases quietly huddled to apparently discuss the presentation material. Shortly after the "huddle", one representative would approach and ask questions of the presenter for additional information or clarification. I also learned that the senior individual within the group brought the questions to the presenter. I was impressed with this organized and respectful approach to follow up on the presentation.

For a few days in February 2001, we had the pleasure of hosting City workers from the Cities of

Marquette, Michigan, USA; and Luleå and Kiruna, Sweden. The visitors were keenly interested in recent changes we had made in snow operations, and indeed the residents of Prince George are appreciative of the high level of winter services delivered. Many thoughts and ideas were exchanged with our visitors, resulting in an understanding of the winter challenges in each of our communities. I believe I have grown from these experiences and am more aware of the vast knowledge available "out there". I also believe the employees of our City have benefited from the recognition of the things we do well, and of the different approaches to similar issues in other northern communities.

It is clear to me that our visitors shared a common desire to deliver excellent service to the residents of our communities. Staff exchanges to broaden our awareness of other approaches to service delivery will stimulate new ideas, shorten learning curves, and will assist in developing expert contacts in other communities that may have already developed the technology or approaches desired by another. Written resources are an excellent information source, but are not a substitute for seeing first hand the application of a desired service and meeting with the implementers of that service to learn from their experiences.

*Frank Blues is the
Manager of Transportation in
the City of Prince George.*

Building with Snow: *northern Michigan towns to construct snow houses*

by PATRICK J. COLEMAN, AICP

The heavy lake effect snowfalls experienced by some communities in Michigan's Upper Peninsula have not always been welcomed. Annual snowfall amounts exceeding 250 inches (600 cm) create additional costs for snow management, difficult driving and walking conditions, and extend winter's effects well into the spring season.

In the last fifteen years however, the region has developed a strong winter tourism industry based upon snowmobiling and skiing that takes advantage of the excellent and reliable snow conditions and the area's natural beauty. A new response to winter has evolved, based upon the winter cities model.

The cities of Houghton and Hancock are located on the Keweenaw Peninsula, a finger of land extending into Lake Superior. In this area, recorded snowfalls are among the highest in North America. The cities face each other on steep hillsides across the waters of Portage Lake and share a rich history from a century of copper mining. The mines have been closed for

more than 30 years, but the area economy has stabilized due to the presence of Michigan Technological University (MTU). In recent years, the cities have benefited from the development of small, high-tech firms who locate there for the high quality of life, despite the remote location of the region.

Snow has long been used to construct large, elaborate statues for MTU's Winter Carnival. This annual event has run for over 75 years, and the student organizations have developed snow statue building to a fine art. This winter, however, Houghton and Hancock residents and visitors will experience something new. Several snow buildings will be constructed as a cooperative pilot project in Houghton and Hancock. This will be the first project of its type in the United States.

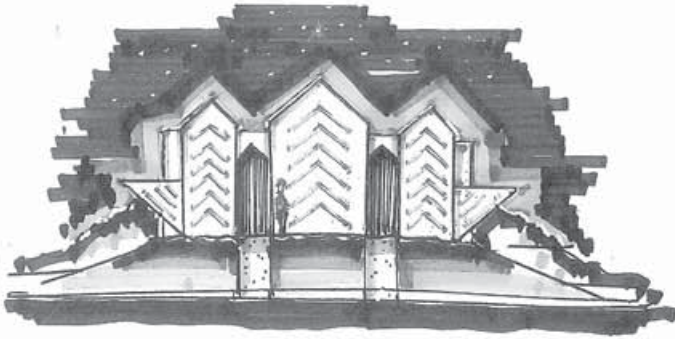
In the last decade, constructing buildings with snow has been done successfully at several sites in the northern areas of Finland and Sweden. The Ice Hotel at Jukkasjarvi, Sweden and the LummiLinna Snowcastle in Kemi, Finland have attracted international

attention and visitation. Houghton and Hancock learned of these developments through their involvement with the Liveable Winter Cities Association. It was determined that something similar could be done, given the area's snowfall, experience with snowbuilding, and tourism markets. In addition, many area residents are of Finnish heritage and the cities are developing business and sister city relationships with Finland.

The pilot snowbuilding project will consist of two separate structures, one in each city. The project is being developed as a community volunteer effort. Funding for the pilot has been raised from contributions from the two cities, the Keweenaw Tourism Council, and an arts grant from the State of Michigan. Technical and project management support is being provided by U.P. Engineers & Architects, a regional design firm. The cities will contribute equipment and workers to construct the building shell. Labor and finishing details will be provided by students from MTU and Finlandia

You Can Help

The City of Prince George has recently contributed to the clearing efforts at Ground Zero in New York City. We were informed either in-kind (winter fire fighters uniforms and other winter overalls, work gloves, etc.) or direct financial donations would be gratefully accepted. Contact Jane Petrella in New York at 718-999-1319 if you would like to help.



LUMITALO-SNOW HOUSE

390 M.R. ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS, Inc.
DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING THE FUTURE

University, a small college in Hancock. Local artists will contribute works of art for the interior of the structures.

The pilot project has contracted for professional assistance from one of the world's leading experts on snow construction. Seppo Makinen, of Snowhow Co. of Oulu, Finland has been providing technical expertise to the design of the structures and will travel to Houghton/Hancock to oversee construction in early January 2002. Mr. Makinen has been involved with snowbuildings at Kemi, Lahti and Helsinki, Finland.

Each building will consist of arched snow vaults of over 1000 square feet of enclosed space. The interiors and exteriors will be embellished with art work and ice. In Hancock, the "Lumitalo", (Finnish for snowhouse), will include an ice café, where visitors can have a coffee and a snack, and a frozen art gallery. In Houghton, the structure will be used as a visitors center for Winter Carnival.

As a pilot project, the goal is to test the feasibility of creating large, more elaborate structure as a tourism attraction. Impacts of the climate on the structure, visitation

and community support will be measured and evaluated. Local officials will also be considering whether snow buildings can be economically constructed for other special purposes. One idea is to use a snow structure to house a curling rink. Other uses, such as a bar, lodging, and ski resort shelter will also be considered.

The cities of Houghton and Hancock are learning that their tremendous annual snowfall is something very unique. The snow-building project uses snow as a resource for economic development and is an exciting way for the communities to celebrate this uniqueness.

Library named after a founder of the Circumpolar Universities Association

On October 29, 2001, the library at the University of Northern British Columbia was dedicated as the Geoffrey Weller Library in honour of the Founding President. Professor Weller took up the post of President on January 1, 1990 and oversaw the early development of the University, its construction, its academic plan and regional mandate and the hiring of faculty and staff. He placed particular importance on the development of the library. The main campus was opened in August 1994 by Queen Elizabeth.

Geoffrey Weller was passionate about the north and promoted the building of relationships between universities across the circumpolar regions. He was a founder of the Circumpolar Universities Association. He was awarded an honorary doctoral degree from the University of Lapland, Finland, for his contribution to northern studies and development. Sadly, Dr. Weller died in July 2000.

Conference Report

International Symposium on sustainability appraisal

by DR. JOHN CURRY, Chair of the Environmental Studies Program,
University of Northern British Columbia

In October 2001, over fifty community leaders, researchers, and students gathered at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) to discuss methods to measure movement towards community sustainability within a northern multi-season context. The symposium entitled "Sustainability Appraisal in Northern Climes" was the first stage in a multi-year research project which will begin to address sustainability issues in two relatively rural and remote areas of the world. The Highlands and Islands of Scotland and northern British Columbia and the Yukon suffer from conditions of peripherality and unique solutions are required to facilitate the transition from economies and societies dependent on resource exploitation to economies and societies which exhibit conditions of sustainability.

The symposium was designed to introduce community leaders, researchers and students to the initial results of research comparing northern British Columbia and the Yukon with the Scottish Highlands and Islands in a rapidly developing new planning methodology. Sustainability Appraisal offers a means of appraising, monitoring, and evaluating the policies, plans and programs (PPPs) applied to land use and economic development, in terms of their impact on sustainable development. It is a natural extension of the methodology which has been pioneered by those engaged in environmental assessment (EA). There is general agreement on the need for EA of PPPs, an approach which has been labeled Strategic

Environmental Assessment (SEA). Sustainability Appraisal extends the same principles beyond the environmental impact of PPPs, to consider their impact on the other elements of sustainability as well: the economic and social aspects of land use and economic development planning.

The symposium began with presentations on current research underway at the University of Dundee in Scotland. Dr. Greg Lloyd, Head of the School of Town and Regional Planning discussed Sustainable Development in the Scottish Highlands and Islands after Scottish Devolution. Dr. Tony Jackson of the Geddes Centre for Planning Research discussed Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Development Assistance in Remote Rural Economies: The Case of the Scottish Highlands and Islands. Researchers from northern British Columbia then presented their current research activities. Dr. Orland Wilkerson, the Northeast Regional Chair for UNBC provided an overview of the State-of-Sustainability Reporting in British Columbia. Dr. John Curry, Chair of the Environmental Studies Program at UNBC and Christine Slanz, Graduate Student presented their initial research results Appraising the Sustainability of Northern BC Official Community Plans.

The presentations concluded with two practical case studies examining efforts underway, and barriers which impede, progress towards sustainability. John Backhouse, Northern Commissioner, Leslie Lax, Executive Director, Office of the

Northern Commissioner, and Dr. Paul Bowles, Chair of the Economics Program UNBC presented a paper entitled The Northern Development Commission: One model for supporting community economic development in northern BC. Emily Bulmer, Environmental Consultant and UNBC Environmental Planning Student from Smithers presented The Economy of Zero Waste: A New Direction for Northern Sustainability.

The day's activities concluded with a round table discussion session on developing a long-term research strategy to support sustainable community and regional development efforts in Northern British Columbia. The goal of the symposium is that the papers presented and the ensuing discussion will provide a stimulating launch for this joint research initiative between UNBC and the University of Dundee, and the regions and communities they serve.

Additional information can be obtained from Dr. John Curry at e-mail: curryj@unbc.ca

(ed. The Office of the Northern Commissioner was closed on December 31, 2001. It has been replaced by a Northern Caucus made up of ten Members of the Legislative Assembly from northern constituencies. They report directly to the Premier of British Columbia.)

Anchorage:

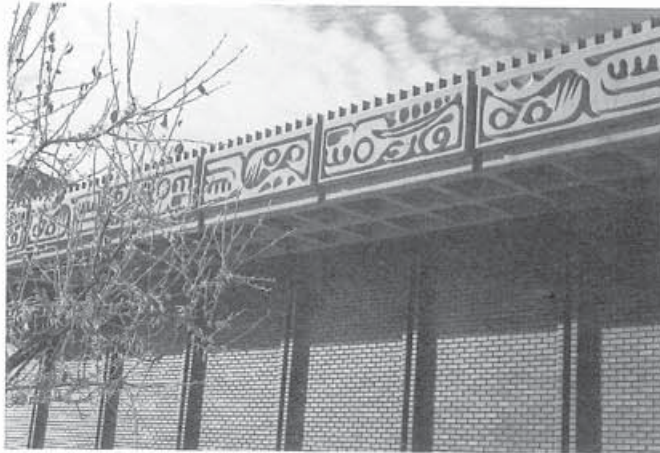
next steps toward becoming an outstanding city

by RENÉ C. AKRE

Last winter, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly adopted *Anchorage 2020*, the city's new comprehensive plan, which includes a northern city design component. This was significant because it articulated the city's first northern city design initiative. It also officially elevated northern design concerns to the level of other planning issues traditionally addressed by the city, including land use, transportation, public facilities, economic development and housing. It marks a shift in the thinking of how planning and development should occur in Anchorage. As in many communities, the challenge remains to make northern design second-nature in the planning and development process. This article outlines seven steps that Anchorage and other communities can take to assimilate northern design concepts into everyday planning and development decisions.

1. *Continue Public Involvement*

Public involvement succeeded in integrating a northern design com-



Facade, Anchorage Museum

ponent into the city's comprehensive plan. However, the only goal stated for each policy related to northern city design in *Anchorage 2020* was simply "northern city." Clear and specific goals are needed to reflect community consensus and link the policies to expected outcomes.

2. *Review Concepts: Explore the possible*

The city should collect examples of other communities' design solutions, hold charrettes and create computerized images that illustrate design concepts for a variety of possible projects. Images should provide views in winter conditions. Visuals help people comprehend what is at stake and develop a shared community vision.

3. *Define Goals and Objectives:*

Articulate the Desirable

The goals and objectives should be put in writing, reviewed and debated at public hearings and submitted to the Municipal Assembly for adoption as an addendum to the comprehensive plan.

4. *Establish Design Criteria*

Anchorage residents need to decide whether they want guidelines that are suggestive and voluntary or standards and criteria that are clearly defined and compulsory for project approval. In either case, drawings that illustrate the concepts should be provided with written explanations in the resulting document.

5. *Design a Review Process*

A winter city review process should evaluate government and private development projects in respect to how they respond functionally and aesthetically to northern design concepts. Even if design guidelines are suggestive and voluntary, a review process would provide valuable feedback. The city planning staff could evaluate the projects or a volunteer board could be charged with that task.



Open lots in Anchorage

6. *Create an Action Plan*

The action plan should expand on the strategies for the northern design policies that now are only briefly described in the Anchorage 2020 plan, and clarify the role of the city and private enterprise. It should also outline funding strategies. In addition to public sources of funding, the city should work with private lenders to consider the inclusion of northern design principles when they review financing applications. Private lenders can thereby influence urban form through what they are willing to finance.

7. *Establish a "Winter City" Program*

The city stated its desire in the Anchorage 2020 plan to use northern city concepts "for education, inspiration and reference, where needed, to comply with special design standards or design guidelines." To accomplish this, the city should start a "Winter City" program similar to the "Green

Building" program in Austin, Texas. Such a program might attract interest and support, from other winter cities or from the Winter Cities Association, to partner in its development for their mutual benefit.

Anchorage is to be commended for taking an important first step by including northern design in its *Anchorage 2020* plan. The extent to which northern design concepts are successfully integrated into its urban form now depends on the steps that will follow.

René Akre is originally from Anchorage, Alaska, but currently resides in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is completing her master's degree in urban planning at the University of Michigan, for which she produced her professional project, "Northern City Design: Celebrating Winter in Anchorage." She can be reached by email: rcakre@aol.com or phone: 734-997-0542.

Hanen Archives

On September 17, 2001, the memory of the late Harold Hanen was honoured at a reception in the Glenbow Museum, Calgary, by the presentation of his archival papers to the Museum. Harold, who studied for a period with Frank Lloyd Wright, was an architect, planner and creator of the "Plus 15" elevated walkways in Calgary. He was also a founding member of the Liveable Winter Cities Association, a former President and Editor of the *Journal* for a number of years.

Besides the Glenbow Museum itself, Harold's archive papers are of interest to the Canadian Architectural Archives at the University of Calgary and the Centre for Architecture in Montreal and each of those institutions were represented at the event. Michael Robinson, President and CEO of the Glenbow Alberta Institute (and also a former L.W.C.A. vice-President) hosted the evening. Anne Martin, President, attended the reception with her husband and spoke about our Association and Harold's contribution to it.

Winter:

a matter of culture

by ANNIE LÜTTGEN

Most of the time, the pleasures of the cold season relate to rural winter scenes like the Cornelius Krieghoff's paintings and others that we are very fond of around the festive season.

Through generations of severe weather conditions, seasonal experiences have defined and shaped a socio-psychological culture where winter equates with images of harsh environments that linger in the collective psyche.

This imaginary heritage has helped develop the negative state of mind we all present against winter, the same attitude the discoverers had, after reaching Canadian shores some 400 years ago: winter is harsh, unyielding and seems invincible. Indeed winter generally leaves us with memories of day-to-day problems if not mayhem. This perception is common in the northern countries. Therefore, with a balmy "summer dream" in the back of our minds, we have imported city forms from milder climates. As a result now, very little of the genius of winter settlements organization remains from the past.

One could observe for that purpose, that through the ages, some human societies have installed themselves in very stressful climatic regions and yet developed fairly sophisticated ways of survival: Lapps, Inuit, Ainu ... etc ... Nature itself has adapted to winter!

From the quest for physical comfort (the sauna in Finland) to psychosocial comfort (keeping in touch with friends and family around the kitchen stove in Quebec, Canada), today, warmth, light, comfortable clothing,

protection and enclosure, advanced heating systems and building insulation, hermetically-sealed environments ... in brief, technological advances have provided a suitable enough milieu to allow sublimation of the negative aspects of the cold season. To demystify the unpleasant notion of winter, communities are now turned towards the enjoyment of winter. Winter becomes a wide cultural experience. The idea of "winter culture" in "winter societies" is emerging. And although architects very seldom have conceived buildings to promote winter, nor have planners thought of ways to use the city in "winter rather than tropical conditions". Painters, photographers, writers, musicians, athletes, seniors and children from everywhere are inspired by winter. Winter is a matter of culture! Because winter is fun, stimulating and challenging; winter is traditional values and heritage; winter is "learning something"; winter is dainty, refined and beautiful; winter has expression and is a reason to celebrate. As a first step towards defining winter culturally, northern societies express and celebrate winter through carnivals and festivals: Bal de neige / Winterlude in Ottawa/Gatineau; Carnaval de Québec; Fêtes des neiges in Montréal; Ice Lantern Festival in Harbin; Ice Sculpture Festival in Saas-Fee; Ottawa/Gatineau Festival of Lights; Sapporo Snow Festival. Slowly, the awareness of winter and the conviction of its positive values are established through all kinds of experiences: individual or collective, physical or intellectual, sensory or perceptive as well as spiritual. Winter appears as a normality.

Nowadays, in the midst of glob-

alization transfer, the migration of people from diverse climatic zones towards the northern urban areas poses new challenges of socio-climatic adaptation. Since climate has a profound impact on cultural lifestyles, new concerns arise today with the arrival of people from various places of considerable climatic differences. This demands a collective effort in finding integrated ways of dealing with the cold season not only with the exclusive response from the community but also at the policy level.

Beyond the basic physical requirements for comfort and shelter, how will winter urban space integrate the "need of belonging" for the people coming originally from extreme hot areas of the world? How will urban space educate, hence generate a positive attitude towards the cold season for all newcomers in winter cities? How therefore will urban space demonstrate the composite "genius loci" henceforth heterogeneous, so that multiple perceptions are taken into account in winter city settings?

Inclusive of all influences, needs and expressions, it is a duty for all of us involved in the art of urban design to use the winter as a motive to develop a "northern city art". It is our responsibility to make the "winter city" that has yet to be created, possible.

Annie Lüttgen is a Landscape Architect for Municipal Management and International Affairs Ottawa/Gatineau, Canada.

Appreciating Winter:

thoughts and reflections

by NORMAN PRESSMAN

In excess of 750 million people dwell in circumpolar zones where the urban landscape normally grows out of the natural forces and conditions dominating these diverse geographical regions. Successful adaptation to such natural features necessitates sensitive recognition of the limitations and restraints imposed by them. Of all the influences that impact upon urban form and social organization, one of the most compelling is climate. Therefore, from the outset, it is sensible to make decisions and formulate policies based on these circumstances.

The distinguished urban geographer, Sir Peter Hall, in his book *Cities in Civilization* concludes that "no one kind of city, nor any one size of city, has a monopoly on creativity or the good life; but the biggest and most cosmopolitan cities, for all their evident disadvantages and obvious problems, have throughout history been the places that ignited the sacred flame of the human intelligence and the human imagination."

The largest and generally most cosmopolitan cities have not usually been located in northern regions. On the contrary, northern towns and cities share some common elements:

1. their populations live on the 'edge' of urbanized regions.
 2. their climates are, on the whole, generally inhospitable.
 3. their challenges are driven by the need to enrich lifestyles on a multi-seasonal basis, in step with nature's changing rhythms.
- This 'northern edge' must make

them more competitive than their southern counterparts. They have to be more innovative and take full advantage of winter and its complementary seasons. The planning of public and private sector strategies and actions must, in the end, portray and exhibit planning and design prototypes that embrace harsh climates, integrate winter within the prevailing cultural values, and increase economic competitiveness while attaining the highest quality of life.

My country is winter

Winter symbolizes both joy and misery depending on one's interests, background, character, cultural experiences, age, well-being, and overall disposition. Whether we ski in beautiful natural surroundings or walk to the bus-stop and wait for public transit in bone-chilling conditions, there is always a price - in human terms - and a financial burden to pay (especially in energy costs). This applies to individuals and to the community; to the wealthy as well as to the economically-disadvantaged; to small towns and to large urban regions. The shape and organization of the built environment is, to a large extent, responsible for the price paid in terms of inconvenience, aggravation, discomfort, monetary cost, and even fear, despite the ways that have emerged to enjoy winter. Often, in urban centres, cold has a negative image while warmth has a positive one. Hence, interventions must provide a framework that will make it possible to reverse these perceptions.

This is needed more than anything else, since an idealized imagery from warmer places has created a disconnection from the realities of winter life (e.g. huge shopping malls emulating tropical places with plastic palm trees, bird sanctuaries, mediterranean squares - all weather-protected, that deny winter as a "normal" fact of life).

Creating a winter culture

How can we, as Northerners, change our attitudes and accept, respect and appreciate winter rather than suffer and feel hostility to this season of the north? Clearly, different approach will be essential - one that embraces winter as friend rather than foe. The following aspects will have to play an important role:

• *Think winter*

A radical readjustment must occur in our ingrained habit of seeing winter as a negative force. More ways of inducing positive images must evolve, e.g. attitude modification through education and intercultural studies, especially a greater understanding of our Nordic neighbours to the east, from whom there is much to learn about embracing winter by adopting a positive approach. Believe it or not, Scandinavians adore winter!

• *Shift attitudes and lifestyles*

Perhaps a reallocation of the way we spend our time should be studied to more effectively utilize shorter daylight hours during mid-winter at high latitudes. We must take advantage of the dramatic sea-

sonal contrasts and even consider cross-country skiing or ice-skating as a mode of travel within city areas. We must provide the appropriate tools and know-how for adapting to winter and enjoying it.

• *Develop educational strategies*

We should make cross-country skiing a mandatory subject (wherever possible) in elementary school curricula so that children will be well-equipped to take advantage of opportunities created by winter. This is done in all Nordic countries. Snow and ice sculpture are also subjects included in Scandinavian schools. As well, skid-control driving techniques should be obligatory - as they have been for over 20 years in most Nordic nations. We have to be taught both how to cope with winter and how to enjoy it.

• *Generate local and regional pride*

We should take measures to curtail the importing of 'Californian' or 'Floridian' ideas in urban development and architectural styles, and conceive of appropriate 'northern' urban forms, perhaps even inventing a new 'grammar for the north'. We should explicitly acknowledge winter in urban development policy and formulate design guidelines that accommodate winter's demands making everyday life less inconvenient, and we must encourage innovation in every field through incentives and design competitions.

Conclusion

Rather than seeing winter only as a negative force - biting cold and relentless wind - we must learn to discover the magic and wonder of what, at first, might appear trifling and insignificant but which, in fact, is quite magnificent - infinite numbers of miniscule ice crystals, each one unique and beautiful, together forming snow and clear ice, further

enhanced by the luminosity and colour of nature. It is precisely the variation of seasons that provides northern inhabitants with that special experience which resonates year-round. Why only see spring as a prelude to the enjoyment of summer? Why not celebrate it as a season in its own right - this is done in many countries as a cultural event. As gardeners usually spend the late winter dreaming about their gardens for the next summer, why not spend autumn thinking about winter's attractions and activities, its joy and immense beauty? The Sami people of Lapland speak of eight seasons where each is both meaningful and distinct.

Architecturally, we have to conceive of built and natural landscapes as a continuum of the outside and the inside where design becomes a matter of mediating between the exterior and the interior, never forgetting those inevitable fluctuations of weather and seasons, of time and place.

Adopting a 'winter-approach' will allow urban planners and social engineers to make a significant and environmentally responsible contribution to the creation of sustainable living spaces that reflect northern values and lifestyles. Celebrating winter through the annual carnivals makes for a welcome 'relief' but in no way resolves many of the deeper issues and problems that are endemic to living in winter regions. More than organizing winter carnivals, we must fashion built environments - where people live on a daily basis - that celebrate geophysical and climatic diversity, rather than negate it. With the irreversible momentum of urbanization, planning and design will continue to play an ever-increasing role in the 21st century.

We must live for today, for the "here and now", and have the courage to seize the moment, living life to its fullest and making dreams come true. Perhaps during one cold

winter day - with the sun shining brightly, reflecting off the snow-covered landscape - we will see beauty and find inspiration. In the same way in which, frequently, we think of summer all winter long, if we can capture the beauty of winter, in our minds, eyes and hearts, then we will have the ability to be thinking of winter ... all summer long.

We should appreciate the value of each and every season with all of nature's shifting nuances. We must celebrate all seasons. Our cities must be well adapted functionally and visually to the demands of these seasons. Once this occurs, we shall truly have multi-seasonal communities where life is enriched year-round. Increasingly, winter will be viewed in terms of the positive and beneficial aspects it can provide to urban and rural life in northern regions. Societies will move from the present state of merely tolerating or barely accepting winter, to respecting, and appreciating it - and perhaps even to celebrating it on a regular basis. That is what we must all aspire to achieve.

Norman Pressman is a consultant in cold-climate urban planning and design, and Professor Emeritus of Urban Planning (University of Waterloo). He has worked across the circumpolar nations and is an international authority on climate-adapted urban design. His book Northern Cityscape, received an Award for Planning Excellence from the Canadian Institute of Planners and has been translated into Japanese (2001).

AGM

highlights from the Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Liveable Winter Cities Association was held on Saturday, September 15, 2001 at the College of New Caledonia in Prince George, British Columbia. Twelve members attended in person and another seven joined in by telephone.

The meeting was chaired by Anne Martin. In her opening remarks, she commented on the horrific events of September 11th and expressed thanks that all participants at the meeting were safe. She wanted our American colleagues to know that we had been thinking about them and their country constantly. Prince George, like many other cities across the continent, had held a memorial service the previous day and people had been coming together in many ways to share their grief and sorrow for what had happened in America. Our sympathies and heartfelt thoughts were extended to our American friends.

Reports were received from Patrick Coleman, Past President; Anne Martin, Acting President and Chair of the Bylaws Committee; George Paul, Treasurer; and Terry Weninger, Secretary and Chair of the Membership and Nominations Committees. The financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2000 were received. The overall result was a surplus of \$23,000. The Association received an estimated year end result for 2001 and referred a draft budget for 2002 to the Secretariat for further review. The Association also approved the Incorporated Bylaws which had required some minor adjustments

since the adoption of the revised bylaws at the Special Meeting of December 2, 2000.

The following individuals were elected as Officers and Directors.

PRESIDENT:

Anne Martin, Prince George, BC

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Michael Barton, Whitehorse, YT

TREASURER:

George Paul, Prince George, BC

SECRETARY:

Vacant

PAST PRESIDENT:

Patrick Coleman, Marquette, MI

DIRECTORS:

Dr. Terry Weninger,

Prince George, BC

Prof. Norman Pressman,

Waterloo, ON

Dr. Larry Neal, Eugene, OR

Barry Braitman, Regina, SK

Mayor Steve Wallace, Quesnel, BC

Bernard Pâquet, Quebec, QC

Tony Zedda, Whitehorse, YT

Dr. Doug Nord, Dayton, OH

Mayor Tom Merz, Houghton, MI

Dr. John Curry, Prince George, BC

Mayor John Rowsell,

Sault Ste Marie, ON

The Association adopted a new Committee structure with the Secretariat, currently located in Prince George, B.C., continuing to be responsible for providing secretarial and financial services to the Association, development of short and long term goals and co-ordination of activities. The Communications and Marketing Committee will promote the aims of

the organization through the development and evaluation of communications and marketing strategies, including the publication of the Journal and development of a web site. The Fund Development Committee works to ensure that the organization has the funds required to achieve its objectives.

The Association also approved a senior (65 years and older) and student membership rate of \$30.00 per year.

The date for the next Annual General Meeting is March 2, 2002 at 1:00pm PST.

Transportation in the Antarctic



The south pole is accessible for only four months of the year during the austral summer and only by airplane. The LC-130 Hercules aircraft is used extensively. Helicopters ferry research workers around the Antarctic. On the ground, the Hagglund all-terrain vehicle is used. Imported from Sweden, this heavily-built amphibious tracked vehicle is designed for operation in temperatures down to -40 degrees Centigrade. The vehicle exerts half the ground pressure of a single human footprint.