

1. [A Blueprint for Action - An Integrated Approach To Address The Ontario Housing Crisis Revised 2022-03-11-1.pdf](#)

This is a comprehensive plan with great ideas and strategies for all levels of government. I believe there is not “one answer for all” but that we as a small, rural community may need different measures than a large city would. We need to revisit zoning practices and explore planning solutions that could include zero-lot-line housing, tiny homes on wheels, ADU housing, flex housing, shared housing, and other types that reduce land costs and increase density. Municipal lands that are vacant and unused can be used to provide the homeless with transitional shelters (like the Koda - Kodasema portable homes). I believe development levies should be on par with the level of household income. Someone who makes 200k per year should not perhaps pay the same as someone who makes 50k per year. We need more incentives and grants to allow low to moderate income families the ability to build. It is a human right to have housing (at least it should be). If our human rights are being violated, then it is up to the governments to change policies and procedures to help alleviate that.

2. I believe we need to implement strategies to reduce embodied carbon. Increase the use of recycled aggregates, greener concrete options, reclaimed steel and plant-based materials where possible. Procure the supplies from likeminded suppliers. Request supplies that are made up of low carbon materials. We need to implement low carbon procurement policies. If an entire building’s potential environmental impact is studied beforehand, then the designers can plan accordingly to take the best route for an environmentally responsible product that has the lowest negative impact upon our earth.
3. I am a big fan of pps.org – Project for Public Places. Embodying the principals of placemaking, it is centered around observing, listening to, and asking questions of the people who live, work, and play in their space in order to understand their needs and desires for that space and for their community. With this knowledge, we can come together to create a common vision for that place. The vision can progress quickly into an implementation plan, improvements that bring immediate benefits to the spaces themselves and the people who use them. This information is available on their website. Tying this in with low carbon, environmentally sound building policies and practices makes present and future maintenance of our buildings less arduous and thereby potentially less expensive.