The Return of Urban Design to the City of Calgary

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SENIOR URBAN DESIGNER, Citywide Planning & Design
70% of the world's population will live in cities.

Cities are responsible for 75-80% of the world's greenhouse gases and 70-80% of National GDP's.

Source: Jeb Brugmann
PROLOGUE

CITY PLANNING IS NOT THE ATTEMPT TO PULL DOWN YOUR CITY AND REBUILD IT AT RUINOUS EXPENSE. IT IS MERELY DECIDING WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE DONE WHEN YOU GET THE CHANCE, SO THAT WHEN THE CHANCE DOES COME, LITTLE BY LITTLE YOU MAY MAKE THE CITY PLAN CONFORM TO YOUR IDEALS.

(Speech delivered at Calgary in the Autumn of 1912, By Thomas H. Mawson, Hon. A.R.I.B.A.)
Back to the future
Urban Designer Leading the Team: View that an “Urban Designer”, trained across professional boundaries can weave the interests together into a physical plan that can represent the different professional interests (see Edmond N. Bacon, Design of Cities, 1974, Putting the Ideas to Work — Philadelphia, p. 264)
Challenge: Create Great Streets
Challenge: Winter city climate
Challenge and Transformation: +15 and street presence
Transformation: Differentiating the City

National Music Centre – Allied/DSR Architects
Transformation: Policy for public realm improvement
Transformation: Placemaking through public realm improvement
Fostering Creativity and Risk Taking: Public Infrastructure

Peace Bridge
Santiago Calatrava

Saint-Patrick’s Bridge competition
The Fabric of Downtown Public Realm & Design Excellence
Encouraging material quality, visual distinctiveness, mixed-use and active street edge
Differentiating the City: Illumination Guideline

www.worldarchitecturenwews/interiorawards/lighting
Transformation and Corridor Potential – Urban Design Overlay
New comprehensive developments in Centre City
Riverfront Promenade 2011

Face the Bow River
Differentiating the City: CPR Railroad corridor
Densification and TOD public realm
Suburban design challenges: Neighbourhood centres
Make no little plans. Visit us in Calgary.