

Robert Lipka, MCIP, RPP

Email: rlipka.nz@hotmail.com

Linked In: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/robertglipka/>

Career Objective

To be a leader/contributing member of a team that requires my experience in creating innovative and cost-effective urban design/planning, universal design, crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) and transport planning solutions for an organisation that demands a highly motivated, results-oriented individual.

Professional Experience

City of Edmonton – Urban Design Team – Edmonton, Alberta

Principal Urban Designer (May 2017 - Present)

- Offer expert knowledge and guidance on urban planning/design, universal design, transport and CPTED matters internally and to many external agencies and professionals on an assortment of projects/strategic documents, guidance documents, zoning by-laws and land use applications;
- Possess an excellent ability to exercise mature judgement in the development of solutions to problems where there may be no prescribed guidance and/or a deficiency in City policy; and
- Frequently undertake a range of tasks which are unique and, in many cases, without clear precedence.

Project Examples - Review a variety of policy/guidelines (incl. [Access Design Guide](#), [City Plan](#), [Accessibility Policy C602](#), etc), neighbourhood renewal projects, community centres/parks projects, LRT projects, land use applications and much more.

University of Alberta (UofA) and the Faculty of Extension – Edmonton, Alberta

Course Instructor/Mentor/Speaker(Oct 2016 - Present)

- Currently mentoring [Mandy Chan](#) as she continues to work to becoming a full member of the [Alberta Professional Planning Institute](#) (APPI);
- Providing support and guidance to students for an online course - [EXLUP 8216: Municipal Planning II](#) - from January to March 2020 & 2021;
- Providing feedback and assistance on various documents and other policy work with the UofA's [Centre for Healthy Communities](#) and the [Department of Medicine](#);
- Over the last few years have provided scores of presentations, workshops and critiques for the following set of classes at the UofA including, but not limited to, the following: [HGP 485/PLAN 585](#) (Advanced Topics in Planning); [HGP 315/PLAN 515](#) (Community Planning and Engagement); [EXRI3499](#) (Universal Design); [CIVE 419](#) (Highway Planning & Design); [HGP381](#) (Transit Urbanism); [HGP399](#) (Research Methods in Planning); and [PERLS370](#) (Assessment and Service Delivery for Adapted Physical Activity and Therapeutic Recreation).

Robert Lipka, MCIP, RPP

Email: rlipka.nz@hotmail.com

Linked In: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/robertglipka/>

Technical Committee for Outdoor Spaces – Ottawa, Ontario

Committee Member (Oct 2020 - Present)

The role of the technical committee for standards for outdoor spaces is to:

- identify where persons with disabilities may face barriers in the outdoor environment; and
- develop a national standard or standards that will try to remove or prevent these barriers.

Barrier Free Sub-Council - Safety Codes Council – Edmonton, Alberta

Sub-Council Member (Dec 2018 - Present)

The Barrier Free Sub-Council members meet on a regular basis to discuss issues in the building industry and to make sure that our built environment is safe for people of all ages and abilities - all [Barrier Free Sub-Council meeting minutes](#) are viewable to the public.

City of Edmonton – Nodes and Corridors Team – Edmonton, Alberta

Principal Planner (Sep 2015 - April 2017)

- Provided planning advice on an assortment of projects/strategic documents, guidance documents, zoning by-laws including a number of land use applications; and
- Delivered presentations to a variety of groups through conferences and seminars to champion the integration of urban design, universal design and transport.

Project Example:

- [Norwood Boulevard Corridor Study](#) - Led project to create a study to guide the potential redevelopment of an existing arterial corridor to turn it into a “main street”.

Auckland Transport (AT) - Project Specialists Team - Auckland, New Zealand

Principal Specialist – Urban Design/Chair - Capital Project Accessibility Group

(Nov 2010 – Aug 2015)

- Offered expert knowledge, guidance, support, leadership and mentoring on urban design/planning, transport, CPTED and Universal Design to staff and other professionals;
- Provided specialist advice on an assortment of projects/strategic documents to a variety of AT teams like Asset Management, Infrastructure Development, Investigation and Design, Major Projects, Strategic Projects, Community Transport and many more; and
- Delivered advice/knowledge to an array of external organisations/groups including New Zealand Transport Agency, Foundation for the Blind, CCS Mobility, Auckland University, UNITEC, Auckland University of Technology and the Urban Design Forum.

Project Examples:

- [New Lynn Transformation Project](#) – redevelopment of an existing suburban town centre into a ‘Metropolitan Centre’;
- **Capital Project Accessibility Group** – Chair this group which met on a regular basis to ensure that all aspects of Universal Design are considered; and

Robert Lipka, MCIP, RPP

Email: rlipka.nz@hotmail.com

Linked In: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/robertglipka/>

- **UNESCO Delegate** - represented AT at the Good Policies and Practices for Disabled People in Asia and the Pacific (18-19 March 2015, Auckland, New Zealand).

Waitakere City Council – Urban Planning & Design - Waitakere City, New Zealand

Team Leader – Urban Planning/Design (May 2008 – Nov 2010)

- Offered comment and assistance in the review of plan changes to the District Plan team to promote good urban design/transport outcomes;
- Prepared and delivered a number of reports/presentations to Council staff, Directors Group and Councillors internally and to external parties through conferences and seminars to champion the integration of urban design and transport;
- Regularly prioritised urban design/transport issues with respect to Council policy and escalate to management to advocate for change where necessary; and
- Tracked and recorded all billable time to ensure appropriate cost recovery.

Project Examples:

- [Hobsonville Village and Airbase development](#) - mixed use town centre including residential, commercial, employment lands and industrial on a 167 ha site; and
- **Glen Eden Urban Plan - regeneration project** – enhancing and strengthening an existing village centre.

[Auckland Council](#) - Auckland, New Zealand

Senior Urban Designer (March 2006 – May 2008)

- Provided professional expertise, advice, support and mentoring on urban design issues for pre and post resource consent applications, transport and many other Council led projects;
- Assisted in the scoping, organising and creation of the Urban Design Framework for Auckland City Council's Urban Design Team;
- Offered input into Auckland City's Sustainability Framework, the Newmarket Town Centre Plan and Otahuhu Local Community Plan;
- Co-created and co-convened Auckland City Council's Officers Urban Design Review Team;
- Prepared and delivered presentations to Council staff, the Mayoral Task Force on Urban Design and externals to ensure urban design principles were applied appropriately; and
- Acted as an expert witness before administrative tribunals, committees and boards.

Project Examples: Newmarket Train Station, Carlaw Park Mixed Use Development, Queen Street Upgrade, Central Transport Corridor, Alfred Street Review, Tiverton Road Wolverton Street Upgrade, Stonefields Residential Development, [Auckland Manukau Eastern Transport Initiative \(AMETI\)](#) and a large number of reviews for Council's Road Safety Team.

Robert Lipka, MCIP, RPP

Email: rlipka.nz@hotmail.com

Linked In: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/robertglipka/>

City of Toronto – Community Planning – North District - Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Community Planner – (August 2001 – March 2006)

- Researched, analysed and made recommendations on development applications;
- Assessed proposals for consistency with current legislation, departmental and policies;
- Organised public meetings to obtain information on development proposals;
- Worked with owners, architects, other City Departments, agencies, elected representatives and stakeholders to ensure appropriate application of planning/policy to obtain consensus;
- Reported on issues/implications and prepared recommendations for senior staff; and
- Responded to inquiries from the public, elected representatives, City Departments and Committees and private interests on the Official Plan and the Zoning By-law.

The MBTW Group - Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Planner/Designer - (March 2000 – July 2001)

- Assisted in managing a broad range of community planning and urban design projects;
- Coordinated and prepared land use studies and facilitated consultation between our clients, consultants, stakeholders and related agencies;
- Successful in liaising with developers and other consultants to create acceptable site plans, built form solutions and community amenity plans as part of the development process; and
- Ability to combine planning and urban design with proactive problem-solving skills to assist in successfully managing a variety of projects from conception to completion.

Project Examples:

- **York University – South Precinct Lands – City of Toronto** - assisted in planning/design this mixed use development to provide for 10,000 new residents and a significant increase in office, retail and light industrial uses; and
- **Urban and Architectural Design Guidelines** - Responsible for the drafting, editing and review of Urban/Architectural Design Guides for several communities in the GTA.

Membership/Courses/Academics

Full Member - MCIP, RPP

([APPI/CIP](#) - since Nov 2003)

Training Courses (October 2006 - Present):
Universal Design, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, Report Writing, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Planning Act and Maori Language.

Dalhousie University - Halifax, Nova Scotia

(September 1996 – May 1998)

Masters of Urban and Rural Planning

Mohawk College - Hamilton, Ontario

(April 1995 – July 1996)

Geographic Information Systems Certificate

Robert Lipka, MCIP, RPP

Email: rlipka.nz@hotmail.com

Linked In: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/robertglipka/>

Concordia University - Montreal, Quebec

(September 1989 – May 1992)

Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies

Design Philosophy

To seek creative solutions that offer a balance in relationships between land uses, transport, built form, public space, architecture, landscape, accessibility, safety & connectivity within our

cities to ensure we are creating places and spaces for people of all ages and abilities.

General Skills

- Efficient, organised, flexible, great written & communication skills.
- Creative/artistic with good graphic skills.
- InDesign, Sketchup, Photoshop & AutoCad, Arcview/info etc.
- Hard-working, friendly & flexible.

Presentations/Webinars

- [Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design CPTED Webinar](#) - Apr 2021;
- Vancouver Island University - [KIN 365 \(3\) Active and Healthy Aging Course](#) - “Smooth Moving for all ages and abilities” - Apr 2021;
- [Alberta Recreation and Parks Association](#) - [Parks Forum](#) - “Smooth Moving for all ages and abilities” - Mar 2020;
- [ALUP Symposium](#) - [UofA - Faculty of Extension](#) - [Universal Design](#) - Feb 2020;
- [Child Friendly Edmonton Symposium](#) - “[Designing Our City For Children](#)” - Nov 2018;
- [Alberta Professional Planners Institute 2018 Annual Conference - Revitalize](#) - “Smooth Moving for all ages and abilities” - Sep 2018;
- [Alberta Association on Gerontology Symposium - Promoting Environments for Aging Well](#) - Jun 2018;
- [Canadian Institute of Transport Engineers \(CITE\) 2018 Annual Conference](#) - “[Main Streets Mobility in Edmonton](#)” - Jun 2018; and
- [The Sport Conference 2018](#) - “[Universal Design - Helping to make Edmonton a better place for everyone](#)” - Jun 2018.

Personal Information

In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family, playing board games, learning to play the piano, singing, cooking, gardening, cycling and of course ice skating on our local rink in the winter.

References Available on request