

# Canada Weekly

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## Steps to halt the deterioration of the urban environment

*In an address to the Pacific Science Congress in Vancouver, British Columbia, August 27, Urban Affairs Minister Barney Danson spoke of the "tri-level process", a mechanism used in Canada in an effort to prevent the deterioration of the urban environment. This process, he said, brought together federal, provincial and municipal leaders to determine the objectives to ensure "rational and deliberate planning".*

*As an example, the Minister used Winnipeg, Manitoba, to illustrate what was being done to solve the problems common to most Canadian cities:*

\* \* \* \*

Winnipeg possesses all of the elements of a good city — universities, cultural centres, sport facilities, examples of fine architecture and the economic base which is essential to its function. Because of the open spaces, however, these are often spread far apart.

Walking becomes less and less practical as the core dies. This is particularly so in a city where the winter climate frequently sees the temperatures drop to 40 degrees below zero, where wind velocities of 30 miles an hour are not uncommon.

The precious natural features of the rivers with their potential for beauty and recreation are there but thousands of citizens of Winnipeg are denied their enjoyment.

### City could be worse — or better

This is far from a disaster area. It is an enjoyable civilized city with the potential to be even better. It also has the potential to become worse and the citizens of Winnipeg along with their political representatives at all levels are determined, as are those of other cities, to do their very best to effect change for the better.

And there is this startling fact: There's enough unused or misused space in downtown Winnipeg alone to accommodate its natural growth for the next 15 to 20 years.

It is our responsibility in Urban Affairs to work with the other governments and other interested parties to come to an agreement on what needs to be done, what policies need to be in place to do something about this situation.

When we sat down with the other two levels of government to assess the situation, we found that there were over 30 independent major activities in the public sector alone, each affecting the growth of the city in an *ad hoc*, fragmented way and frequently at cross purposes.

In the private sector a number of major projects were in the planning stages. One of these was a huge complex of office buildings at the main corner in the central business section.

The intersection of Portage and Main streets is famous across Canada particularly in mid-winter where some of the statues have been known to stamp their feet and hug themselves and comment on the cold.

At the same time, another commercial office complex was planned for the western part of the central core. One of the biggest commercial operations on the main street was planning a significant expansion. This raises the question of whether or not any one of these can be viable if all proceed at the same time.

The railroads were talking of moving their marshalling yards out while at the same time another plan was being studied by another body to build an overpass over these same railyards.

Another railway and a major service enterprise are investigating a massive joint-development program including office space and commercial uses. This plan alone would be of such a scale that it would have enormous impact on the whole future of the central core.

These are just some of the examples of private plans unilaterally conceived — a pattern which is being repeated in city after city across our country.

## Finance Minister resigns

John Turner, the Minister of Finance, resigned from the Cabinet on September 11.

In a letter to the Prime Minister, Mr. Turner said that he would retain his seat in the House of Commons "until there has been ample opportunity for an orderly transition...."

"I have come to the conclusion that after almost four years in the finance portfolio and almost ten years in the Government of Canada I should return to private life," he said.

Details in next week's issue.

### Citizens' groups

At the same time citizens' groups were getting into the action, proposing developments of communities of their own. It is essential that such groups be brought into the consultative process at a very early stage, but it is equally essential that their efforts are not expended in a vacuum.

The Chinese community had recently completed a study with the help of consultants, to revitalize that section known as Chinatown, a unique and attractive community in many of our cities which adds vitality and adds to the cultural mosaic which gives Canada a special dimension in which we all take considerable pride and are mutually enriched.

At the same time the municipality, as would any progressive municipality, had its own plans.

The city was already concerned about the lack of co-ordination of the many activities in the inner city and its paucity of resources to tackle the root problems in that area.

They had made a proposal to the province to solve the "skid-row" problem. They had also devoted manpower and money to neighbourhood improvement programs sponsored by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation — the housing arm of my portfolio, which extends its activities beyond housing into the area of community enrichment and planning.

The province's interests in Winnipeg's development was certainly far more than casual. Winnipeg is the capital of Manitoba and is also the province's largest urban region with something like half the population of the province and a greater percentage of the provincial income.

The government of Manitoba had declared the inner city an urban priority and had undertaken a number of major reviews with the intention of launching a comprehensive attack in the area of economic and human resources. Provincial activity was mainly affected through its social welfare, health, housing and cultural development assistance programs.

Finally we, the Federal Government, because of our jurisdiction over such sectoral concerns as the airport, jurisdiction over the railways, defence installations, the site of government buildings and offices for various fed-

eral government services, the numerous urban renewal or neighbourhood improvement programs, had intrinsic interest and influence in the growth of Winnipeg. My Ministry's role, as I have mentioned, is to bring all of these actors together. Winnipeg presented a great challenge and a great opportunity to all of us.

### Tri-level organization

We have established a tri-level body incorporating the municipal, provincial and federal governments to co-ordinate all these disparate intentions and to develop our role together to achieve the objectives which will best serve the people of Winnipeg.

At the federal level we have a maze of activities, some of which I have mentioned. In addition we have very specific legislation such as our Railway Relocation Act which can be used as the mechanism to relocate the rail yards and lines so that they are not an area of urban blight but provide service and make available large tracts of land in the central core so that this core can be regenerated and new or improved neighbourhoods developed. This requires the initiative and participation of both the city and the province.

Through the Ministry of Transport's Transportation Development Agency we are working with the City of Winnipeg and have engaged consultants to examine the feasibility of mass transit in one of the existing rail corridors which fans out from the city centre to the periphery.

We have our Urbex program which develops better use for federal properties and the areas in which they are located.

Our neighbourhood improvement programs are working in two designated areas where we have planning under way to revitalize these older areas in the city core rather than bulldoze them and build spanking new shiny white inhuman and impersonal areas which destroy the character and continuity of a community. This is done through Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation which has also, in the last 18 months alone, financed 23 public land assembly projects involving 3,500 acres along future trunk lines.

And also through CMHC, Winnipeg is one of the 22 major metropolitan areas

### CDC shares prove to be popular

Early indications of public interest in the planned Canada Development Corporation (CDC) public share offering have exceeded all expectations, says one of the four head underwriters for the offering. Many dealers are keeping offices open until 8 p.m. to provide information on the issue.

The size of the offering, while not definite, is planned to be as large as the largest equity issues ever offered in Canada, or a minimum of \$125 million.

The CDC was formed by the Federal Government to promote Canadian ownership in industry in areas of economic importance, and as an investment vehicle that would ultimately be offered widely to the Canadian public. CDC holdings include ownership of Polysar Ltd of Sarnia, a 30 percent interest in Texasgulf Inc. of New York, ownership of Connlab Holdings Ltd and various other investments. Shares will be sold to the public at \$100 each and instalment plans will be available for orders of two or more shares.

### Government joins polar gas venture

Donald S. Macdonald, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources announced recently that the Federal Government had approved the participation by Petro-Canada in the polar gas study group. The company will be joining TransCanada Pipelines Limited, Panarctic Oils Ltd, Pacific Lighting Gas Development Company, Tenneco Oil & Minerals Limited, and Texas Eastern Transmission Corporation in the "polar gas project".

The purpose of the Government's participation in this venture through Petro-Canada is to help the development of an information base on the technical feasibility as well as on the economic, social and environmental costs and benefits of transporting natural gas from the high Arctic to the Canadian consumer. Such information is essential in the formulation of national energy policies and is a critical factor in the evaluation of the various options available to the Government in its efforts to assure the adequate supply of energy to the economy.

(Continued on P. 6)

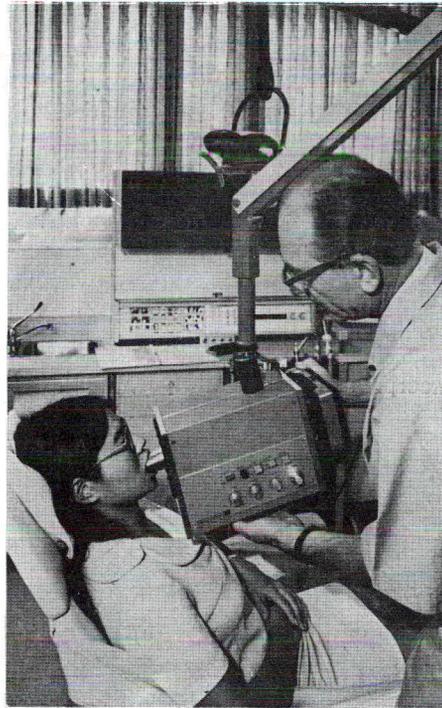
### Ultra-violet dental camera

Alphametrics Ltd, a Winnipeg, Manitoba manufacturer best known for its advanced electro-optical equipment, has introduced an ultra-violet dental camera for use in a variety of clinical and laboratory studies including the early detection of tooth decay.

Developed by Alphametrics in co-operation with the University of Manitoba Dental School and the Manitoba Research Council, an agency of the Department of Industry and Commerce, the UV31 dental camera makes it possible to take reproducible photographs inside the oral cavity with either ultra-violet or visible light.

"With this ultra-violet camera," says Alphametrics president R.J. Tarry, "tooth decay can be detected many months earlier than by conventional methods."

Initially, the camera is being used in



universities for caries research, plaque studies, oral biology, restorative materials, soft-tissue studies and the evaluation of prophylactic compounds.

"We have sold three units to the State University of New York for use in dental research," Mr. Tarry said.

The camera, which sells for approximately \$8,000, was developed on a cost-sharing basis with the Manitoba Research Council.

The UV31 ultra-violet camera is used for surface examinations and is intended to supplement the X-ray. It employs a special lens which uses only quartz-fluorite elements to achieve high resolution from the far ultra-violet to near infrared wavelength regions without refocusing.

A feature of the unit is a patented interchangeable mouthpiece set designed for quick sterilization and easy attachment. It allows labial-buccal, lingual and occlusal tooth surfaces and soft-tissue areas to be photographed.

### Multidimensional approach to international aid

A combination of aid with new trade arrangements, capital-investments flows and other means of transferring resources – a multidimensional approach – will be one of the main thrusts in Canada's future relations with developing countries.

The paper *Strategy for International Development Co-operation 1975-80*, described by Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen in his address to the United Nations in New York on September 3 (see *Canada Weekly* dated September 10), states that Canada's development assistance programs will become much broader in scope.

Development aid, administered by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), will be directed mainly to the problems of food production, education, public health, housing and energy. In addition to limiting its assistance to fewer sectors, Canada will concentrate efforts on the poorer developing nations and on the poorest of their inhabitants. Up to 90 per cent of bilateral assistance, in the form of grants and interest-free loans, will go to countries having *per capita* incomes of less than \$375.

The energy crisis and skyrocketing prices, which have created unre-

cedented needs in the developing countries, have caused the Canadian Government to reaffirm its intention of achieving the United Nations' target of providing development assistance funds equal to .7 per cent of gross national product. Last year, Canadian assistance represented .53 of GNP.

#### Assistance will be more flexible

CIDA will continue to use such means as its bilateral and multilateral programs to transfer resources to developing countries, but they will be used in a more flexible way. The Cabinet will determine the shares of each program annually. For the next few years, food aid is expected to take up to 25 per cent of the budget. Of the remaining funds, 25 to 35 per cent will be allocated for international institutions, such as the World Bank and UN agencies, 50 to 70 per cent will go to bilateral programs, direct Canada-to-country assistance, and the balance to support the development programs of Canadian and international voluntary agencies. A greater role will be taken in tackling major world problems through assistance to international research institutions, such as the Ottawa-based International Development Research Centre.

In world emergencies planning will be improved and CIDA will work closer with the Canadian Armed Forces and international relief agencies.

A wide range of measures will be used to ensure a more flexible and liquid means of transferring resources to developing countries.

Future Canadian assistance will take account of the particular needs of the "better off" developing countries. A large variety of technical and management assistance could be provided to speed up technology advances.

As such countries have a reduced need for concessional financing, future CDA loans to them will have an interest rate of 3 per cent and a 30-year repayment schedule. Also, CIDA and the Canadian Development Corporation will consult on the types of financing these countries require as they become less dependent on foreign-exchange assistance. Greater use will be made of more liquid forms of resource transfers such as lines-of-credit and program assistance to key sectors of the economy.

#### "Untied" loans

In other measures to provide increased assistance, the Government is allowing the bilateral development loans to

be untied so that developing countries will be eligible to compete for contracts. This, however, is expected to have little impact on Canadian exporters as experience in other countries has shown that the developing countries do not have the capacity to produce most of the materials and equipment required for major aid projects. In any event, the untying of aid should be viewed in relation to the impact this will have on the industrial potential of

some developing countries.

Canada also will support international efforts to alleviate the burden of foreign debts of developing countries and will seek out tripartite and multipartite agreements with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and other resource-rich countries for large-scale development projects. These forms of co-operation should give Canadian efforts a substantial "multiplier" effect.

### Family food expenditures

A survey of private households in 14 cities shows average weekly family expenditure on food in 1974 was \$40.70 for all families and single individuals combined and \$45.75 for families of two or more persons.

The survey covered 5,952 families and unattached individuals in St. John's, Halifax, Saint John, Quebec City, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Thunder Bay, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver.

The proportion of spending for food away from home against total food expenditure, for families of two or more, rose from 11.5 per cent for those with income under \$6,000 to 31.8 per cent for those with income of \$20,000 and over. For all families and unattached individuals, the corresponding proportions were 20.2 per cent and 32.0 per cent, with the higher proportion in the lower-income category because of a preponderance of single persons.

### Ship stamps

Four 8-cent stamps commemorating Canada's old coastal ships will be issued on September 24.

The *Beaver*, in dark green, the *Neptune*, in slate blue, the *William D. Lawrence*, in dark sepia and the *Quadra*, in lighter sepia, are shown in the horizontal stamps that measure 40 mm by 24 mm, designed by Tom Bjarnason of Toronto.

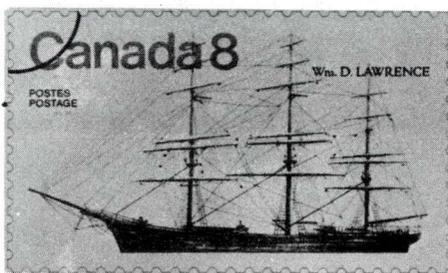
The *Beaver*, built in 1834 for the Hudson's Bay Company, was the first steamship in the North Pacific. The vessel was a wooden paddle-steamer about 101 feet long, 33 feet wide (including the paddle boxes) and of 109 tons burden. She was used to carry furs and other freight, as well as passengers, and to tow log booms and conduct surveys. She ran aground near Vancouver, British Columbia in 1888, was abandoned and, four years later, she broke up.

During the career of the *Neptune*, built about 1873, she carried over a million seal pelts. The vessel was also used by the Canadian Government for surveys in the Hudson Bay. *Neptune* sank in stormy weather near St. John's, Newfoundland, in 1943.

*Quadra*, named after Juan Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra, a Spanish explorer, was built to Canadian Government specifications in 1891. She was used in British Columbia for servicing aids to navigation, surveying, transporting dignitaries and policing fishing and sealing activities.

The vessel collided with another ship in 1917, and was beached to prevent her from sinking. When she was refloated she became an ore carrier. In 1924, she was seized for rum-running and was later auctioned off for scrap.

The largest wooden square-rigged



sailing ship built in Nova Scotia, the *William D. Lawrence*, was 262 feet long with 8,000 square yards of sail. She was constructed at Maitland between 1872 and 1874. William Lawrence, the builder and owner, designed her with the idea that one big ship could do the

### Deep-sea shipping possibility for CN

The federally-owned Canadian National Railways is planning to re-enter international deep-sea shipping through the purchase of a minority interest in two foreign-based holding companies controlling the Cast shipping organization.

The railway has asked for approval from the Federal Government to buy 18 per cent of Eurocanada Shipping Co. Ltd of Bermuda, and Intercast Co. Ltd of Switzerland. In parallel, the two companies own Cast North America and Cast Europe of Antwerp and other shipping subsidiaries. The purchase price is believed to be about \$12-million.

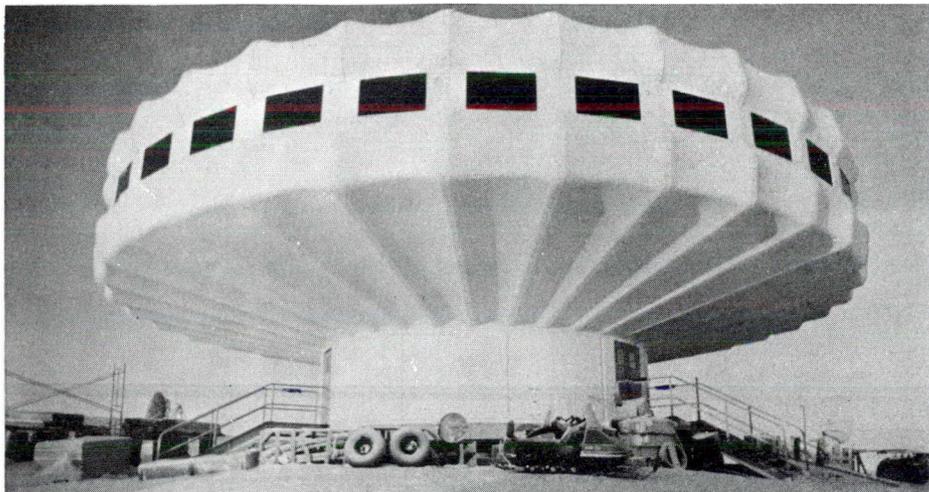
work of two small ones. Much doubt was expressed that she would ever be seaworthy but in October 1874 the "notorious and much abused ship" was launched before a crowd of 4,000 people and proved to be a commercial success for eight years in the Atlantic and in Eastern trading. In 1883, the ship was sold to Norwegian interests and, later, sank at Dakar while being used as a coal barge.

### Igloolik research lab opens

Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Judd Buchanan opened on August 30 the Eastern Arctic Research Laboratory in Igloolik, the main Eskimo settlement in the Foxe Basin area of the Northwest Territories.

Its circular design permits offices and laboratories to open off a central area so that minimal floor space is wasted in the halls. Other features include a steel frame covered with "plastic sandwiches" enclosing foam insulation and utilities such as heating and water storage located in the "stem" of the building.

The Igloolik lab is part of the Government's plan to encourage integrated research in the North; it follows the opening of a similar lab in Inuvik in N.W.T. in 1963. Before the Inuvik lab opened, Canadian research facilities in the North were mainly temporary field stations. Mr. Buchanan said that



Construction of the Igloolik research lab began in 1973. Its mushroom-like this situation tended to be costly, led to duplication and did not provide for integrated research.

The Advisory Committee on Northern Development recommended, in 1960, that a lab be built at Inuvik for the use

structure has already won two architectural awards.

of government and private research agencies. The Inuvik lab was successful and the next step was the establishment of a facility in the Eastern Arctic to be followed by other facilities in the Yukon and the Upper Mackenzie Valley.

### Another wheat sale to the U.S.S.R.

Canada has made its third sale of grain to the Soviet Union in recent weeks.

The Canadian Wheat Board sold 800,000 long tons of old-crop grain to V-O Exportkhele, the Soviet grain-trading agency. The sale comprises 750,000 long tons — about 28 million bushels — of No. 3 utility grade wheat and 50,000 long tons — about 3.3 million bushels — of feed oats.

The Board recently sold to the Soviet Union two million tons of this autumn's spring wheat crop and one million tons of this autumn's durum wheat crop. No. 3 utility is a grade of wheat not usually used for human consumption but for livestock feed. Last summer's wheat crop produced far more of this grade than normal because of an early frost. The Wheat Board indicated that this sale disposed of old crop supplies not previously committed.

### Human rights a two-way street

The settlement by the Manitoba Human Rights Commission of alleged discrimination on the basis of sex — male — in a compulsory company pen-

sion plan, may be a landmark case.

The complaint was first lodged with the Commission in May 1974 by a male employee of a company which was closing down operations in Manitoba.

The complainant alleged discrimination in that the compulsory company pension plan provided for normal retirement for females at age 60; but for males the age was 65. Similarly, female employees were eligible for early retirement at age 50, and males at age 55.

Some employees of the company, who were not transferred out of the province, were granted early retirement. A female employee of similar age and years of service to the male complainant was granted early retirement at \$2,152 a year, payable immediately.

The male complainant, however, falling short of the early retirement age, was only granted a deferred pension at \$1,180 a year, to commence in 1987.

Investigation determined that there was no actuarial basis for retiring women earlier. (Female employees have a longer life-expectancy than males.)

Paternalism and tradition appeared to be the main motivation for the established policy.

Harvey Moats, the executive director of the Manitoba Human Rights Commission, reported: "After a year of negotiations between the Human Rights Commission and the company, an equitable solution, satisfactory to the complainant, was worked out."

The male employee received an immediate cash payment of \$2,399, to compensate for the difference in receiving the pension at age 60 (as females did), compared to age 65.

The company also increased by \$1,682, the annual value of the deferred pension.

Mr. Moats said that, although the majority of sex complainants were female, "human rights legislation, as demonstrated by this settlement, is a two-edged sword".

### German students visit Ottawa

At the request of the Department of External Affairs, the Canadian Bureau for International Education organized a brief visit to Ottawa in July for a group of 43 German students working in Canada this summer. The students obtained their jobs through an exchange program between Canada and Germany organized by the German-Canadian

Society of Hanover, the Department of Manpower and Immigration and the German embassy in Canada.

While in Ottawa, the students stayed at the University of Ottawa residence, visited the Parliament Buildings, the National Arts Centre, the National Gallery, enjoyed a picnic lunch in a downtown park and had a guided bus tour of the city.

The German students were chosen by the German-Canadian Society of Hanover; Manpower and Immigration offices across Canada secured jobs for them and assisted with accommodation arrangements and general orientation. Although there is no official cultural agreement between the two countries for the exchange of youth, a group of Canadian students visit Germany each summer to work or study under the auspices of the Canadian-German Academic Exchange Association in Canada.

### Diplomatic appointments

Further to the diplomatic changes announced recently by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (see *Canada Weekly*, dated August 13), the following appointments have also been announced:

Robert Key Thomson, Consul General and Senior Trade Commissioner in Milan, will be the first Canadian High Commissioner in Singapore.

James Edward Hyndman, Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy in Moscow, to be Ambassador to Cuba with concurrent accreditation to Haiti.

Mr. Hyndman replaces Malcolm Bow, who returns to Canada to take up a position at External Affairs headquarters.

Robert W. McLaren, Canadian High Commissioner to Bangladesh, to be

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High Commissioner to Tanzania, with concurrent accreditation to Mauritius and the Somali Democratic Republic.

Mr. McLaren replaces James R. Barker, whose appointment as Chief of Protocol in the Department of External Affairs was announced earlier.

Willard George Pybus, Minister Counsellor (Economic) in the Canadian Embassy in Moscow, to be Consul General in Sydney, Australia.

Mr. Pybus replaces G.A. Browne, who has returned to Ottawa.

Christian Hardy, Director General of Personnel, and Special Adviser to the Under-Secretary on Foreign Service Appointments and Related Policies, to be Deputy High Commissioner in London.

Mr. Hardy replaces Pierre-André Bissonnette, who will take up an assignment at External Affairs headquarters.

Pierre-André Bissonnette, Deputy High Commissioner at the Canadian High Commission in London, to be Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Peter Milburn Towe, Canadian Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, to be Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

William Edward Bauer, whose appointment as Ambassador to Thailand was announced in July, to be concurrently accredited as Ambassador to Laos.

Michel de Gaumois, whose appointment as Ambassador to the Ivory Coast and Niger was announced earlier, to be concurrently accredited to Upper Volta.

### World cools off

It might be hard to believe after the heat of the summer, but the world is actually in a cooling trend which will continue till about the turn of the century.

This is the opinion of experts, including Moira Dunbar, head of the geotechnical section of the Defence Research Establishment Ottawa, (DREO), at Shirley Bay. On September 2 she took over as acting director of the Earth Sciences Division of DREO.

Miss Dunbar says that the apparent contradiction is because in periods of

climatic cooling there are greater fluctuations between high and low temperatures. Hence this year's comparatively long excessively hot spell.

She explained it all in a paper "Increasing Severity of Ice Conditions in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait and its Effect on the Extreme Limits of Ice", presented to the Sea Ice Conference in Reykjavik, Iceland.

### Steps to halt the deterioration of the urban environment

(Continued from P. 2)

in Canada involved in a special urban mapping program. It plots all present land holdings, shows existing and future services related to urban growth, indicates impediments to growth and desirable directions in which growth could take place.

Winnipeg, then, is an example of just what can be done when various elements are brought together by the public and private sectors and one of which we can be proud. We are well on our way to protecting the interests of all parties concerned while we coordinate all efforts towards keeping the city a more human and productive place in which to work and in which to live.

\* \* \* \*

Instead of seeing further deterioration and emptying of the urban core with our land development, commercial and housing development spreading further and further out on the Prairie it can be compacted and revitalized, making it far more efficient and far more livable.

\* \* \* \*

I don't know how this might apply to the cities in the countries from which you have come, but I thought that you might find it of interest to know the direction in which we are trying to move. We are interested in exchanging ideas with you in your countries, in the knowledge that we can all benefit from one another's experience and in applying them to our own unique situations. Indeed this is one of the main reasons for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements to take place in this city next June.

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