

The City Institute at York University



Critical Urban Research for a Changing World

Cities, as rich and diverse intersections of people, politics, art, culture, economics, and social practices, are agents of change and engines of wealth. They also produce sites of poverty, neglect and stagnant inequality. With few spaces in the world today outside the urban network, the need to understand these intersections has never been greater.

A Better Shared Understanding

The City Institute brings together York's urban scholars conducting both applied and theoretical research across a broad range of fields. The interdisciplinary institute facilitates critical and collaborative research on urban issues, promotes dialogue on Canada's urban agenda, and encourages participation in public policy and community activism as an essential form of knowledge mobilization.

The Cost of Not Acting

Interdisciplinary and collaborative urban research will provide crucial new knowledge on how to further social justice, equity, democracy, peace, sustainability and health. With cities no longer confined to the 'downtown', interdisciplinary and innovative approaches to urbanization are essential to comprehend and address the complexity of the city. Urbanization impacts all areas of human life. Without this knowledge, we will fail to address the most pressing socioeconomic problems of our time.

Real-World Solutions to Real-World Challenges

Real-world challenges demand different angles, different approaches, and different attitudes. Interdisciplinary and collaborative, York University research delivers relevant insights and meaningful solutions that address today's complex social issues.