



Upwind Downwind: Cities, Air and Health

Air Quality, Public Health and Planning
Science for Decision-Making
Airshed Agreements and Regulations
Partnerships



February 27 & 28, 2006
Hamilton Convention Centre
Hamilton, Ontario

For Conference Information:

"Upwind Downwind"
McMaster Institute of Environment and Health
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2006 Upwind Downwind Conference

Cities, Air and Health is the theme of the 4th biennial **Upwind Downwind** Air Quality Conference.

The conference focuses on the health impacts of poor air quality and how land use decisions impact air quality. It serves as an important networking and information forum for the exchange of research findings and innovative ideas to measure and improve air quality. The conference also highlights the roles that industry, community groups, academia and government play in achieving air quality improvements.

Conference Format

Day 1: Air Quality, Public Health and Planning

Focuses on the newly emerging partnership between public health and planning with respect to improving air quality in urban environments.

Science for Decision-Making

Illustrates the use of science in decision-making and development of new projects, policies and regulations.

Day 2: Airshed Agreements and Regulations

Examples of airshed agreements in North America, in addition to Ontario's new air quality regulations, will be highlighted.

Partnerships

Concrete examples of citizen groups, non-government organizations, industry, academia and local, provincial and federal governments partnering to improve air quality.

Who should attend?

This conference is intended to provide meaningful information on current air quality issues and an opportunity for open discussion between **planners, public health officials, policy makers, environmental managers, community groups, non-government organizations, industry, academics** and **politicians** in a small conference, multi-stakeholder environment.

FEATURED SPEAKER



Lawrence D. Frank, Ph.D., AICP, ASLA

Dr. Frank is the Bombardier Chairholder in Sustainable Transportation in the School of Community and Regional Planning and Institute for Resources and Environmental Sustainability at the University of British Columbia. He specializes in the interaction between land use, travel behavior, air quality, and health and in the synergy between public and active forms of transport. He has co-authored numerous papers on these topics and published two books in the past two years: Health and Community Design, The Impacts of The Built Environment on Physical Activity and Urban Sprawl and Public Health.

In June of 2004, his study "*Obesity Relationships with Community Design, Physical Activity, and Time Spent in Cars*" was released documenting for the first time relationships between travel habits, neighborhood design characteristics, and the odds of being obese. This study was featured in Time Magazine, on CNN, ABC news, and over 300 media outlets worldwide. This past year he lead another study documenting that residents of the most walkable areas of the Atlanta region are 2.4 times more likely to get recommended levels of physical activity than residents of the most sprawling areas of that region. More recently, his study, *Multiple Pathways from Land Use to Health* documents how the same measures of community design translate into improved air quality, less auto dependence and obesity, and increased physical activity.

Dr. Frank has been a pioneer in exploring how the physical environment impacts our quality of life and is a "pracademic" who believes in the importance of translating research into action; and works closely with local government officials, transit agencies, and developers who make transportation investments and land use decisions.