

Parkdale CLT Newsletter #4

March 18, 2013

From Parkdale:

Our CLT name is now "Neighborhood Land Trust" (NLT)!

Our CLT name is now Neighbourhood Land Trust. CLTs are usually, if not always, the place-based organizations that have geographic catchment areas (i.e. service area). Such geographic boundaries are important as they define who the CLTs should serve (membership) as well as what land opportunity they can/should access. For our first geographic boundaries (i.e. service area), it is those of Ward 14 - Parkdale-High Park area.

Report back from the CLT workshop held at UofT

On February 15th 2013, Neighbourhood Land Trust, was invited to a Community Land Trust Workshop at the University of Toronto, organized by Susannah Bunce from UofT and a collaborative researcher, Yesim Sungu-Eryilmaz from Boston University. The workshop featured John Emmeus Davis, a CLT consultant from Burlington Associates, while convening practitioners, researchers, and students from various organizations in Toronto who are interested in the possibility of CLT. The session was two-fold: CLT 101 session by John and the discussion of the possibility of organizing and implementing a CLT in Toronto. A [short report back from the workshop is here!](#)

NLT will have a table at Parkdale BIA's Spring into Parkdale

The Parkdale Village Business Improvement Area (PVBIA) is organizing [Spring into Parkdale](#) on April 20-21, 2013! This is an street event for sidewalk sale deals and free fun for the family. NLT will be there to showcase our up-to-date works and engage you in participatory (and fun!) exercise for community land trust and neighbourhood visioning. See you there?

From Elsewhere:

One-stop CLT resource centre

Burlington Associates, where John E Davis works, has set up a “CLT Resource Center” that houses resources and reports for a wide range of topics and issues related to CLT development and operation. Please go to <http://www.burlingtonassociates.com/#!/resources> for more details. It is worth checking.

Planners Network Conference in June

Planners Network, an association of professionals, activists, academics, and students involved in progressive planning scholarship and practice, is holding its [2013 conference in New York City](#) in June 6th - 8th. The conference's overall theme is "Beyond Resilience: Actions for Just Metropolis", building on the previous 2010 conference in San Francisco. This year is far more exciting as the conference has one proposed conference track dedicated for [Community Land Trust](#) along with other

exciting tracks! It is an indication of increasing interests in CLTs and of the real potential that practitioners and researchers believe in CLTs to promote social function of property and land to achieve a more just city. Compared to Canadian context, there are more precedents and ongoing CLT organizing in the United States that add more insights and experiences to the discussion. Of course, NLT will be there.

The amazing combination of CLT and Land Bank in Atlanta

An exciting innovation comes from the City of Atlanta, where the city is pursuing the most comprehensive transit-oriented development projects that involve the development of citywide light rail system and trail network, called the Atlanta Beltline (and sounds familiar?). Of course the foreseeable outcome is a better integrated transit system, but the question remains: will it preserve or even create affordable housing so that everyone can benefit fairly from the transit development? The answer is perhaps, "not sure unless any proactive measure is taken". For Atlanta, such proactive action is utilizing the Community land trust ([Atlanta Land Trust Collaborative](#)) in conjunction with interesting financing mechanisms. What is even more interesting is that they are attempting to combine the CLT with the Land Bank to complement each other's weakness and strength. Here is a [quick review](#).