



“Understanding the Status of Visitability in Canada”

PROJECT INFORMATION

Vision and Purpose

The purpose and long-term outcome of this project is to determine the impact of Visitability on communities. This project will be a major step forward in creating inclusive and livable communities. The project focuses on Canada to discover where Visitability initiatives are taking place and what factors are facilitating its growth or are creating barriers to implementation.

Objectives

- To create a first time ever baseline assessment and data base of the state of Visitability in Canada
- To host a first time ever Think Tank meeting on Visitability in Canada
- To develop a website that will provide best practices, information, and advice on designing VISIBLE homes in Canada
- Establishment of a network of people interested in developing VISIBLE housing and communities across Canada

Timeline August 1, 2006 to August 16, 2007

Funding Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the Government of Manitoba, Department of Housing and Family Services

Implementation Plan

The project will be completed in August 2007 and will have produced the following documents/activities:

- *Literature Review:* The literature review includes references on visitability, universal design, inclusive, livable and sustainable communities as well as on aging, disability, health, safety, and well being in the built environment.
- *Environmental Scan:* The environmental scan creates a baseline of visitable housing and similar initiatives occurring across Canada so we can determine best practices, create connections between organizations and understand what is needed to move visitable housing policy forward.
- *Think Tank:* The Think Tank conference hosted more than 60 people from across Canada in Winnipeg on May 11-13, 2007. Proceedings included learning about national trends, initiatives, successes and challenges while establishing links between visitability, environmentally sustainable and affordable housing markets. The think tank was a catalyst for change through the production of a Framework for Action' on Visitability in Canada to determine what the participants see as the next steps forward in the

acceptance and adoption of an inclusive, sustainable community model that includes visitable housing.

- *Website:* The website is a resource for both the public and professionals to share news, events, technical information, and information on current projects occurring in Canada and internationally.

Project Team

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