



Biography
Michael Shapcott

Michael Shapcott is Director Affordable Housing and Community Innovation at the Wellesley Institute, an independent, non-profit policy, research and social enterprise / innovation institute that is celebrating ten years of advancing urban health. Michael has worked extensively in Toronto, in many parts of Canada, nationally and internationally on housing and housing rights, poverty, social exclusion, urban health and health equity. He has worked on housing rights issues with the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva. He is co-chair of Canada's National Housing and Homelessness Network.

He is active internationally with the Habitat International Coalition and has worked with community partners on housing issues in Beijing, Istanbul and Nairobi, as well as seven U.S. cities. Michael has worked with community and municipal officials in a dozen Canadian cities to develop local housing plans. He has worked with Aboriginal housing and service providers nationally and in a number of communities to develop practical and effective strategies for Aboriginal housing under Aboriginal control.

Michael is co-author, with Jack Layton, of "Homelessness: The Making and Unmaking of a Crisis" (Penguin, 2008) and co-editor, with David Hulchanski, of "Finding Room: Policy Options for a Canadian Rental Housing Strategy" (CUCS Press, 2004). Michael attended the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto and the Faculty of General Studies at the University of Calgary. He has completed advanced economic work at the London School of Economics and Political Science in Britain and in September of 2008 was invited by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development to be part of a workshop with two dozen participants from around the world at the University of Siena in Italy. He has developed hundreds of units of affordable and supportive housing. He lives with Ann, his wife, and Malcolm and Nicole, his two teenage children, in Toronto.