



Balanced Supply of Housing

Academic / Community Partnership

SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER

March 2023

Updates to the BSH team

We want to extend warm congratulations to Dr. Flynn and Dr. Kamakazi



Dr. Alexandra Flynn



Kuni Kamizaki

Say hello to the new Principle Investigator of the BSH Node!

Professor Flynn's teaching and research focus on municipal law and governance, administrative law, property law, and experiential education. Her previous project, "The Landscape of Local in Toronto's Governance Model," looked at the overlapping geographies and governance of city space, including the formal and informal bodies that represent residents. The project, which resulted in several peer-reviewed papers and public reports, conceptualized how cities are understood in law and how they govern. Professor Flynn recently began an SSHRC-funded project which seeks to understand the legal relationship between First Nations and municipal governments.

Professor Flynn has a long history working in law and policy. She practiced banking and securities law at Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy in New York, where she was the recipient of several Legal Aid awards. She also practiced Aboriginal Law at Ratcliff & Company in Vancouver, representing First Nations. Prior to entering academia, she worked in a senior policy role at the City of Toronto, where, amongst other files, she managed the city's review of the *City of Toronto Act* and negotiated a \$152 million gas tax agreement.

Professor Flynn is a past TEDx speaker and a frequent media commentator. She has a long history of volunteer work in the areas of homelessness and access to justice.

[Read More](#)

Say hello to the newest assistant professor of the UBC SCARP faculty!

Dr. Kuni Kamizaki is an interdisciplinary urban planning researcher with over 10 years of professional experience in housing and affordable housing, social planning and social policy, community economic development, and engaged research. With this new faculty position, SCARP ventured to bring in a true expert in the field of housing, broadly defined. Kamizaki is joining a School with close ties to the community, with opportunities for insight and partnership in benefit to the larger BC community and beyond.

Born and raised in Japan, and trained as a planner in Canada, Dr. Kamizaki now commits himself to address issues of social injustice and anti-BIPOC racism. He believes activist scholarship through engaged research and actionable questions is indispensable to planning. He says that, as a recent immigrant, he takes to heart the importance of mentoring and institution-building for creating an inclusive and reflective learning environment, often creating training and mentoring opportunities for students from BIPOC and other underrepresented groups.

He previously taught at the University of Toronto's Department of Geography and Planning. He brings with him expertise in housing systems in Canada and Japan, planning experience in community-led housing solutions, and a proven track record of high-impact engaged research.

[Read More](#)

We've been busy!

Check out what the BSH team has been up to:



Read Cloé St-Hilaire, Mikael Brunila & David Wachsmuths' publication in JAPA:
High Rises and Housing Stress *A Spatial Big Data Analysis of Rental Housing Financialization*

Problem, research strategy, and findings

"The financialization of housing is a rapidly growing concern for planning researchers and policymakers, but the opacity of property ownership in most cities has hampered efforts to rigorously measure the phenomenon. Here we introduce a new approach based on big data methods. By combining web scraping of property assessment, business registry, and rental advertisement data, we reliably identified the networks of property ownership lurking behind anonymous numbered companies

Take a look at **The Second Egress: A Wicked Problem** website by our student researcher Conrad Speckert.

"This website is a tool to make sense of the wicked problem of the second egress in Canada and prepare a building code change.

The first section documents the history of the building code and two means of egress in Canada, situates this issue within the imperative of missing middle densification and calls upon architects to challenge the legislative conditions of their work. The next section compares jurisdictions to better understand the Canadian code relative to its peers, followed by the proposed code change. The last section reimagines what could and should be built if it were legal, and illustrating these opportunities with

and established the extent of financialized rental housing ownership."

several case studies in alternative circulation."

[Read Here](#)

[Learn More](#)

Working towards a Balanced Supply of Housing

The BSH Node's co-investigators, community partners, and collaborators have engaged in meaningful research over the past year to tackle the complex problem of rising housing unaffordability in Canada. Here are two projects that showcase some of our work!



Research in Progress Webinar Series:

A crisis has emerged in housing across Canada, especially in major urban centres, with rampant homelessness and significant mismatches between housing costs and average incomes. Balanced Supply of Housing researchers are taking a deep dive into housing policies, evictions, national occupancy standards and so much more. In our webinar series, we give you an inside look into 6 on-going research studies.

Black History Month Informational Graphics

With respect to Black History Month, we wanted to highlight the ongoing systemic discrimination against Black Canadians within our housing structures. In these graphics, we provide background into the problem, focussing specifically on Hogans Alley and Africville, and present solutions identified by our community partners and cluster researchers.

[Register Here](#)[Learn More](#)

Big things are happening!

Are you as excited as we are for the HART Launch?



HART Launch

Join us for the public launch of the
Housing Assessment Resource Tools

In this online event, researchers will introduce our three innovative tools publicly for the first time, and you'll also hear from government and partner organizations on the impact of the tools in practice.

 **Weds, March 29**
10-12 PST/1-3 EST

 Register now:
bit.ly/HARTlaunch



HART is a nationwide housing research project that could transform the face of housing policy in Canada for the years to come.

On March 29, the Housing Assessment Resource Tools (HART) are going public! Join the online event to get a first look at the innovative, open-source resources and hear from housing experts and government workers on how the tools can impact policy and advocacy in Canada for years to come.

The event is on Wednesday, March 29 at 10am PST/1pm EST.

[Register Here](#)

The BSH Node in the Web

To get information about the Balanced Supply of Housing and its projects, we invite you to visit the following websites.



[Click to Visit](#)



[Click to Visit](#)