

Capital Urban Lands Plan

MISSION STATEMENT

The Capital's Urban Lands support the vision of an inspiring and dynamic Capital and serve national purposes.

The Capital's Urban Lands protect, improve and showcase the natural and picturesque quality of the Capital, they offer a welcoming and memorable experience for residents and visitors alike, and contribute significantly to the character and liveability of Canada's Capital Region.

Underlying Presumptions

- Urban lands are federal public lands that are essential to the role of a Capital and the Capital's long-term development.
- Together with Gatineau Park, the Core Area and the Greenbelt, the Capital Urban Lands are spaces that showcase Canada's Capital.
- Urban lands are inherited -- representing a legacy to be passed on to future generations of Canadians.

Key Challenges

- Contributing to a dynamic and resilient Capital Region in a context of global competitiveness;
- Ensuring balance between land uses and site capacity;
- Contributing to the quality of life by providing well-designed, animated and well-integrated spaces within the urban fabric; and
- Promoting design excellence.

Guiding Principles

- Plan and manage the Capital's assets to enhance its symbolism, dignity and prestige.
- Develop and manage federal lands to jointly benefit the Capital and the region.
- Apply context-sensitive, sustainable, and responsible urban planning practices.
- Ensure that actions reflect a spirit of openness and collaboration.

Shared Regional Planning Objectives

- To protect biodiversity and ecosystem health;
- To support sustainable and active mobility;
- To create high quality urban environments; and
- To promote cultural vitality and contribute to the Capital Region's meaning and identity.

ROLES

Create and foster high quality and meaningful places

Support the essential functions of the Capital. Create high quality spaces that contribute to the inspiring character of the Capital.

Support the Capital's Urban Green and Blue Space Network

Strengthen the Capital Urban Green and Blue Space Network. Provide opportunities for the enjoyment of valued green and blue spaces.

Contribute to the building of a liveable Capital Region

Plan and design federal sites to maximize positive contributions and animation to the urban environment.

GOALS

Improve, safeguard and enrich the Capital's cultural heritage
Promote design excellence and site-sensitive approaches that preserve and enhance the character of federal sites and cultural landscapes. Highlight the Capital's signature features and build meaningful places.

Develop a network of Capital Discovery Routes
Develop discovery routes for residents and visitors that enrich and complement attractions in the Core Area. Provide a variety of sites to host a range of activities that vary from quiet and contemplative to festive and animated.

Protect valued natural habitats and regional biodiversity
Safeguard, restore and strengthen valued habitats that support the Capital Region's ecological functions and biodiversity.

Reinforce urban vegetation cover and conserve the Capital's picturesque landscapes
Protect urban trees and enhance the Capital's cherished landscapes.

Provide improved access to green and blue spaces all year round
Ensure that access and use are compatible with site character, context and capacity.

Enhance the accessibility and integration of federal sites
Ensure that federal greenspaces and employment sites are animated and welcoming places that enliven their urban environment. Improve site integration and accessibility.

Promote sustainable urbanism and active mobility
Consolidate built federal sites to maximize land efficiency and prioritize investments that support sustainable urbanism and active mobility. Ensure that the redevelopment of federal sites contributes to the building of a liveable, compact and sustainable urban region.