

For Immediate Release
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MEDIA RELEASE

Ryerson CBI Launches “Urban Innovation Cafe” Series with Innovations in Housing Affordability on May 7

TORONTO, ON – Policy makers see the high cost of housing in the GTA as a supply issue, when in fact the challenge is building the right supply, in the right locations, at lower cost. The **Ryerson City Building Institute**, with sponsor the **Ontario Association of Architects** and event partner **SvN**, is hosting “Innovations in Housing Affordability” on May 7 to rethink current standards and norms in housing to achieve greater affordability and environmental benefits.

Speakers include industry leaders and innovators **Cheryl Atkinson**, [Architect and Ryerson professor](#); **Leith Moore**, Co-Founder of [R-Hauz Developments](#); **John van Nostrand**, [Founding Principal of SvN and CEO of PARCEL Development](#); and **Heather Tremain**, [CEO of Options for Homes](#). Together, they will discuss innovations in design, construction, factory manufacturing, and shared equity programs to reduce housing costs.

Happening at Ryerson University’s Centre for Urban Innovation, “Innovations in Housing Affordability” is the first in the Ryerson City Building Institute’s new *Urban Innovation Cafe* discussion series, examining out-of-the-box solutions to urban challenges and contemporary urban research from Ryerson University academics.

There is no cost to attend. Limited seats are available on Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/innovations-in-housing-affordability-tickets-59014532054>.

Media may register to attend. Scheduled interviews with the presenters are available, as well as **Cherise Burda**, Executive Director of the [Ryerson City Building Institute](#) and **Kathleen Kurtin**, President of the [Ontario Association of Architects](#).

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Please inquire via Claire Pfeiffer: cpfeiffer@ryerson.ca, 416-979-5000 x 3460.

About the Ryerson City Building Institute

The Ryerson City Building Institute envisions a future in which all cities are prosperous, equitable, environmentally sustainable and resilient. In collaboration with the Ryerson community and external partners, Ryerson CBI produces public policy research and shares insights addressing diverse urban challenges to promote healthy neighbourhoods, cities and regions, starting with the GTHA. It is recognized for its accessible approach to knowledge mobilization, its multi-disciplinary perspective, and for providing leadership and dialogue that motivates action on important issues. To learn more, visit citybuildinginstitute.ca and follow [@RyersonCBI](#).