

# USING CASE STUDIES IN THE CANADIAN TEACHING CONTEXT

REN THOMAS  
VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

POLICY IDEA

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

POLICY IDEA



# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

POLICY IDEA



Borrowing country

POLICY IDEA

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

POLICY IDEA



incomplete transfer

Borrowing country

POLICY IDEA

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

POLICY IDEA



incomplete transfer  
uninformed transfer

Borrowing country

POLICY IDEA

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

POLICY IDEA



incomplete transfer  
uninformed transfer  
inappropriate transfer

Borrowing country

POLICY IDEA



# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

POLICY IDEA



incomplete transfer  
uninformed transfer  
inappropriate transfer

Borrowing country

POLICY IDEA

What can the policy transfer process tell us about the use of case studies in the classroom?

# CASE STUDIES AS A PEDAGOGICAL TOOL

REAL EXAMPLES OF  
THEORIES,  
METHODS, IDEAS

MULTIDISCIPLINARY  
PROBLEM SOLVING

VARIOUS PLANNING  
ROLES

EVALUATION OF  
SUCCESSFUL  
IMPLEMENTATION

CONFLICTS  
WITHOUT OBVIOUS  
SOLUTIONS

SOURCE OF POLICY  
IDEAS?

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

POLICY IDEA

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

POLICY IDEA

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

Lending country

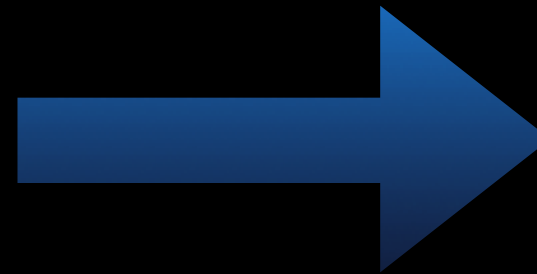
POLICY IDEA

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

Lending country

POLICY IDEA



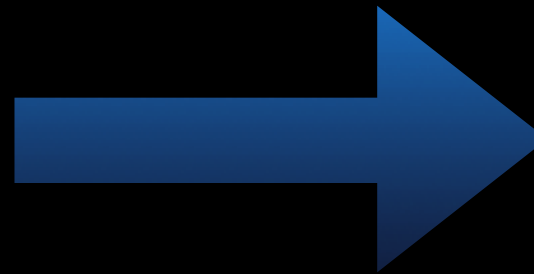
# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

Lending country

POLICY IDEA

Borrowing country





# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

Lending country

POLICY IDEA



Borrowing country

POLICY LESSON

POLICY LESSON

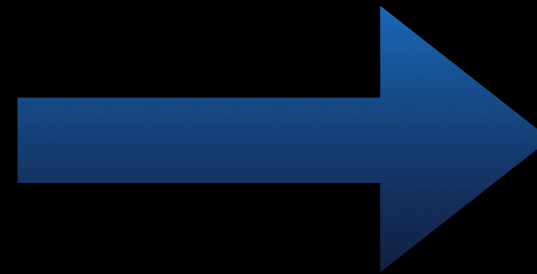
POLICY LESSON

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

Lending country

POLICY IDEA

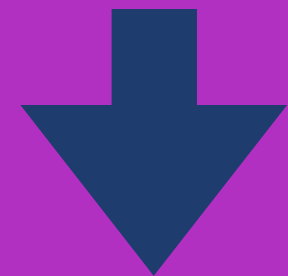


Borrowing country

POLICY LESSON

POLICY LESSON

POLICY LESSON



# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

Lending country

POLICY IDEA

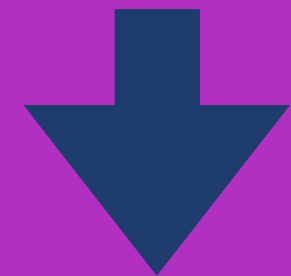
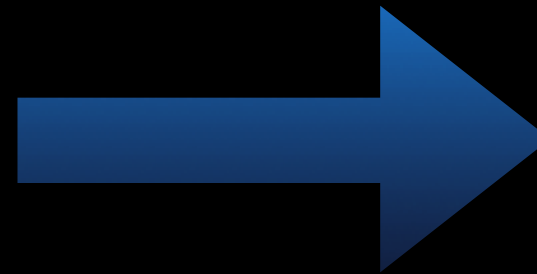
Borrowing country

POLICY LESSON

POLICY LESSON

POLICY LESSON

HYBRID POLICY



# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

Lending country

POLICY IDEA

Borrowing country

POLICY LESSON

POLICY LESSON

POLICY LESSON

HYBRID POLICY

Assignment: Students compare several municipal by-laws on secondary suites and develop a hybrid that works in their own municipality

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

Lending country

POLICY IDEA

learning

Borrowing country

POLICY LESSON

POLICY LESSON

POLICY LESSON

HYBRID POLICY

Assignment: Students compare several municipal by-laws on secondary suites and develop a hybrid that works in their own municipality

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

Lending country

Lending country

POLICY IDEA



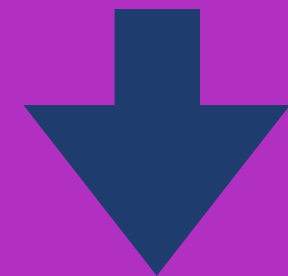
learning  
inspiration

Borrowing country

POLICY LESSON

POLICY LESSON

POLICY LESSON



HYBRID POLICY

Assignment: Students compare several municipal by-laws on secondary suites and develop a hybrid that works in their own municipality

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

USA



# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

## USA

## Canada

Federal/provincial/municipal roles in planning—lack of coordination

Public good prioritized over individual property rights

Denser city centers, less highway infrastructure

Lower levels of spatial segregation

Major increases in immigration  
1960s and 1990s

# POLICY TRANSFER PROCESS

## USA

## Canada

Federal/provincial/municipal roles in planning—lack of coordination

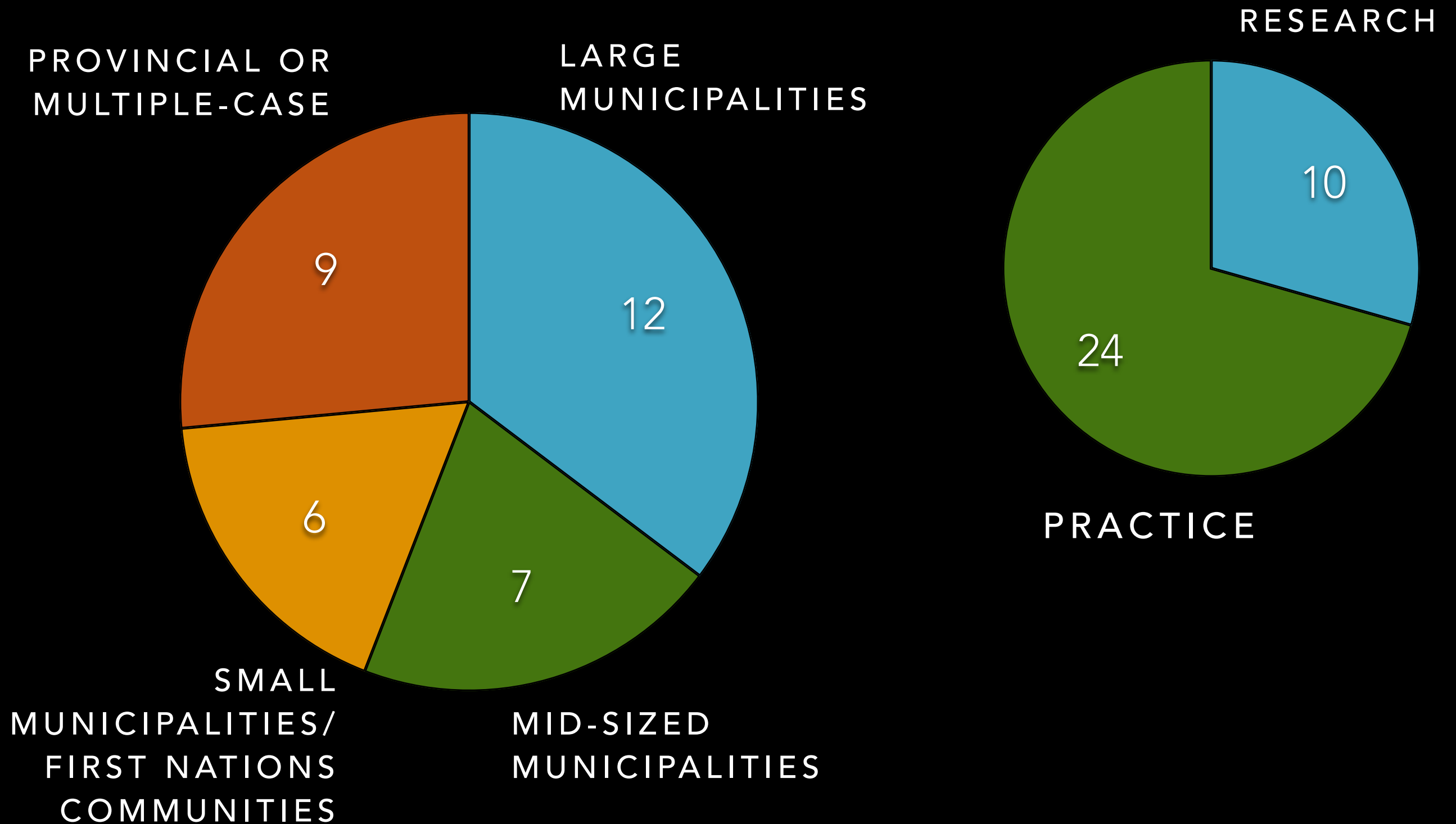
Public good prioritized over individual property rights

Denser city centers, less highway infrastructure

Lower levels of spatial segregation

Major increases in immigration  
1960s and 1990s

# PLANNING CANADA: A CASE STUDY APPROACH (FEB 2016)



# HOW ARE THE CASES BEING USED?

INTRO TO  
DISCIPLINE/  
PLANNING ROLES

UNDERSTANDING  
CONFLICT AND  
DISAGREEMENT

CASE COMPARISON

EVALUATION OF  
SUCCESSFUL  
IMPLEMENTATION

SIMULATING POLICY  
TRANSFER  
PROCESSES

ILLUSTRATING  
COMMON  
PROBLEMS  
(INTERNATIONAL)

# POSSIBLE METHODOLOGY

INSTRUCTOR  
SURVEY



ANALYSIS OF  
PUBLISHER DATA



ANALYSIS OF  
COURSE SYLLABI



STUDENT SURVEY



# POSSIBLE METHODOLOGY

INSTRUCTOR  
SURVEY



Type of preparation for instructors/students,  
techniques used in discussion, assignments/  
exercises, evaluation techniques

ANALYSIS OF  
PUBLISHER DATA



ANALYSIS OF  
COURSE SYLLABI



STUDENT SURVEY



# POSSIBLE METHODOLOGY

INSTRUCTOR  
SURVEY



Type of preparation for instructors/students, techniques used in discussion, assignments/exercises, evaluation techniques

ANALYSIS OF  
PUBLISHER DATA



Use of the e-book or print book, geographic distribution of users, type of program (e.g. planning, geography)

ANALYSIS OF  
COURSE SYLLABI



STUDENT SURVEY



# POSSIBLE METHODOLOGY

INSTRUCTOR  
SURVEY



Type of preparation for instructors/students, techniques used in discussion, assignments/exercises, evaluation techniques

ANALYSIS OF  
PUBLISHER DATA



Use of the e-book or print book, geographic distribution of users, type of program (e.g. planning, geography)

ANALYSIS OF  
COURSE SYLLABI



Use of the cases on reading lists (single chapters, entire sections, entire book), assignments

STUDENT SURVEY





# POSSIBLE METHODOLOGY

INSTRUCTOR  
SURVEY



Type of preparation for instructors/students, techniques used in discussion, assignments/exercises, evaluation techniques

ANALYSIS OF  
PUBLISHER DATA



Use of the e-book or print book, geographic distribution of users, type of program (e.g. planning, geography)

ANALYSIS OF  
COURSE SYLLABI



Use of the cases on reading lists (single chapters, entire sections, entire book), assignments

STUDENT SURVEY



Knowledge on local planning context, planning practice, planning research, incorporation of ideas from other courses

[www.renthomas.ca](http://www.renthomas.ca)

[rthomas5@uoregon.edu](mailto:rthomas5@uoregon.edu)

Thomas, R. (Ed.) (2016) *Planning Canada: A Case Study Approach*. Don Mills, Ont.: Oxford University Press  
Canada.