RAY TOMALTY *and* ALAN MALLACH

AMERICA'S URBAN FUTURE

Lessons from North of the Border

America's Urban Future

America's Urban Future

Lessons from North of the Border

Ray Tomalty and Alan Mallach

Washington | Covelo | London

Copyright © 2015 Ray Tomalty and Alan Mallach

All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any means without permission in writing from the publisher: Island Press, 2000 M Street, NW, Suite 650, Washington, DC 20036

Island Press is a trademark of The Center for Resource Economics.

Library of Congress Control Number: 2015943854

Printed on recycled, acid-free paper

Manufactured in the United States of America

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Keywords: Density, equalization, governance, immigration, land use, livability, social policy, suburban sprawl, sustainability, sustainable suburbs, transit, transportation, urban connectivity, urban development, urban form, urban policy

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction i

- 1** Changing World, Changing Cities ii
- 2** Canada and the United States: Similar yet Different 33
- 3** Differences in Livability and Sustainability 51
- 4** Differences in Urban Form and Transportation Systems 71
- 5** Organizing Government: Powers, Boundaries, and Governance Systems 99
- 6** Urban Connectivity: Integrated Transportation Planning 129
- 7** Social Policy and a More Inclusive Society 155
- 8** Vibrant, Diverse Central Cities 171
- 9** Growing Sustainable Suburbs 196
- 10** Learning from Canada: Conclusion and Recommendations 223

Notes 244

Bibliography 274

Index 289

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many people shared their time, information, and insights with us from the very beginning to make this book possible. Its origins lie in a report that we prepared at the behest of Richard Oram, chairman of the Fund for the Environment and Urban Life (FEUL), who then encouraged us to turn it into this book. Al Cormier, a member of the FEUL board of directors, and Tom Wright and Chris Jones of the Regional Plan Association in New York provided valuable initial guidance.

In Canada, we have benefited from the insights of numerous scholars and practitioners, including Zack Taylor and Larry Bourne of the University of Toronto, Marcy Burchfield of the Neptis Institute, Caroline Andrew of the University of Ottawa, Craig Townsend of Concordia University, and Martin Wexler and Nancy Shoiry of the City of Montreal.

Kate Thompson of Dalhousie University contributed much of the material on Halifax to chapter 8, and Alon Goldstein and Keharn Yawngnhwe provided invaluable research assistance. Paul Schimek of TranSystems and Michael Lewyn at the Touro Law Center helped us update some of the data they gathered for their previous work comparing US and Canadian cities. Meghan Winters of Simon Fraser University generously provided us with data on cycling facilities in several US and Canadian cities.

At Island Press, Heather Boyer was instrumental in ferrying the manuscript through its various stages and helping us organize the figures and tables, much of it redrawn by Marce Rackstraw.

Finally, as with any such project, this book would not have been possible without the constant support and encouragement of our partners, Michele Luchs (Ray Tomalty) and Robin Gould (Alan Mallach).