Collaborative Strategies for Urban Sustainability: Investigations in Canada and the United States

Conference by Eric Zeemering
2014 Fulbright Research Chair in Governance and Public Administration at the University of Ottawa

Tuesday, April 22, 2014
2:30 to 4:00 pm
University of Ottawa Campus, 120 University (FFS 4004)

ABSTRACT

In Canada, the United States, and around the globe, city governments are implementing new policies to promote sustainable development. Sustainable development is frequently defined as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (World Commission on Environment and Development 1987, 43). Urban sustainability initiatives integrate policies related to economic development, environmental quality, and the social health of the community. Because of limited authority and resources, city governments that pursue urban sustainability forge governance relationships with other governmental and nongovernmental organizations in order to implement sustainability policies. Focusing on examples from the United States and Canada, this presentation will explain the challenge of defining policy goals related to urban sustainability. The discussion will highlight the critical role of public administrators in developing collaborative relationships to implement urban sustainability initiatives.

INFORMATION

This is a free public conference. Places are limited, please RSVP by email at ceg-cog@uOttawa.ca by Wednesday April 16th.

This event will be presented in English.
Eric Zeemering is an assistant professor of public policy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). During the current semester, he is Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Governance and Public Administration at the University of Ottawa, where he is studying urban sustainability efforts in Canada. His research and teaching interests focus on public management, intergovernmental relations and urban policy. He has conducted research on the adoption, oversight, and termination of municipal service sharing agreements, publishing research in journals including The American Review of Public Administration, Public Administration Review, and State and Local Government Review. He also studies the multilevel governance surrounding urban sustainability initiatives. His book Collaborative Strategies for Sustainable Cities: Economy, Environment and Community in Baltimore will be published by Routledge in May. Dr. Zeemering’s interest in local government led to his elected service on the city council in Rockford, Michigan (1999-2001), and appointed service on the Kent County Housing Commission (2003-2006), and the Daly City Parks and Recreation Commission (2009-2011). He received his Ph.D. in political science from Indiana University in 2007, and his B.A. in political science from Aquinas College in 2001.