

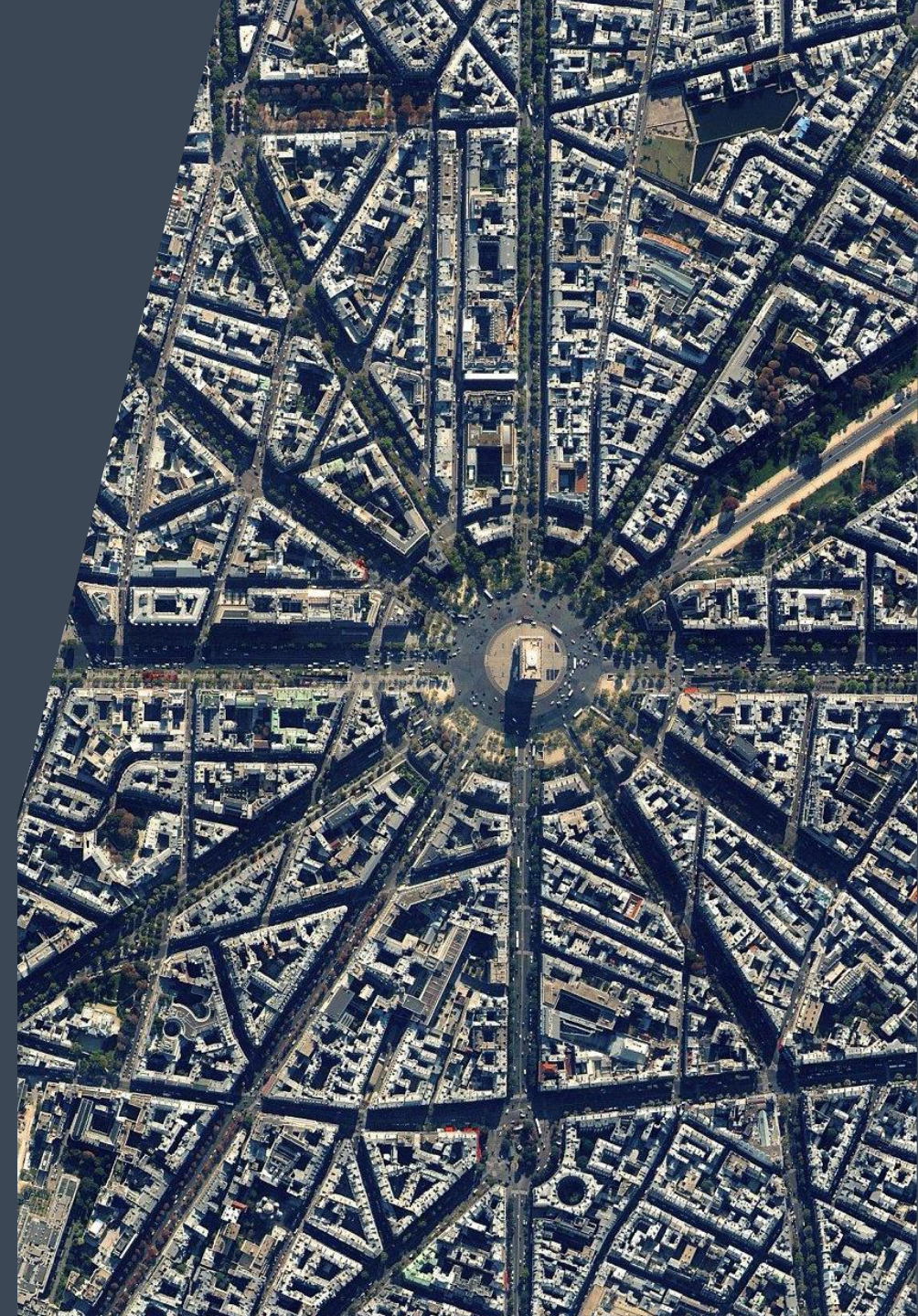


Ontario
**Professional
Planners**
Institute

Planning 101

Insights breakfast

Vibrant communities for everyone?
We're planning on it.



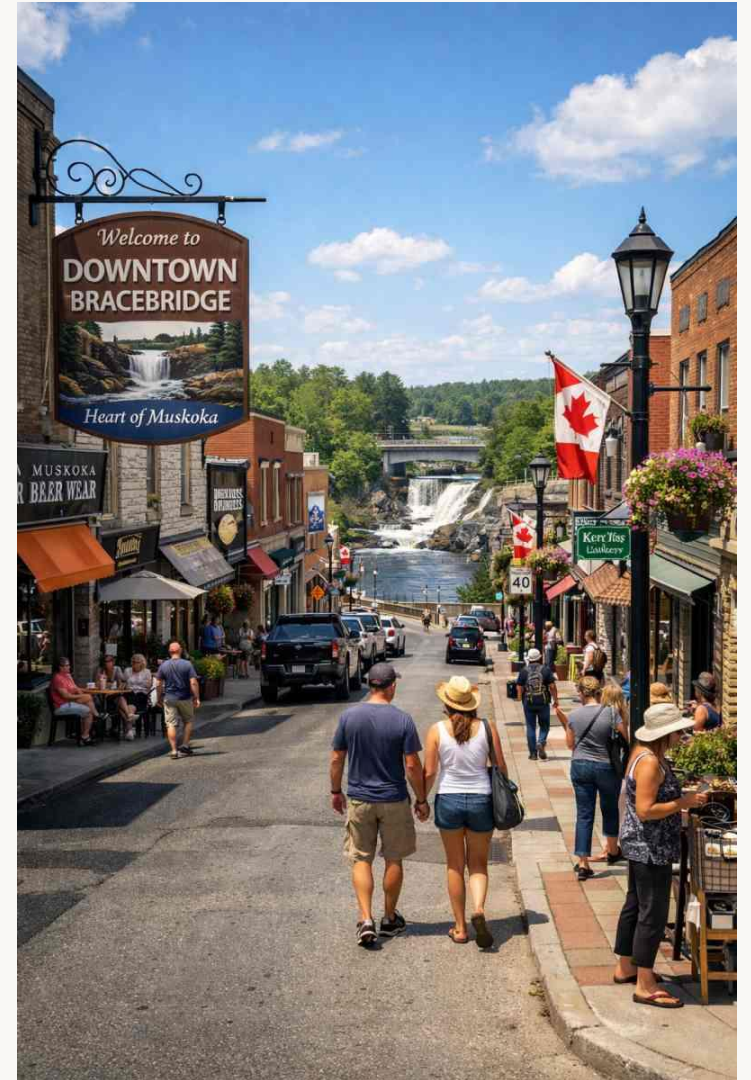
About OPPI



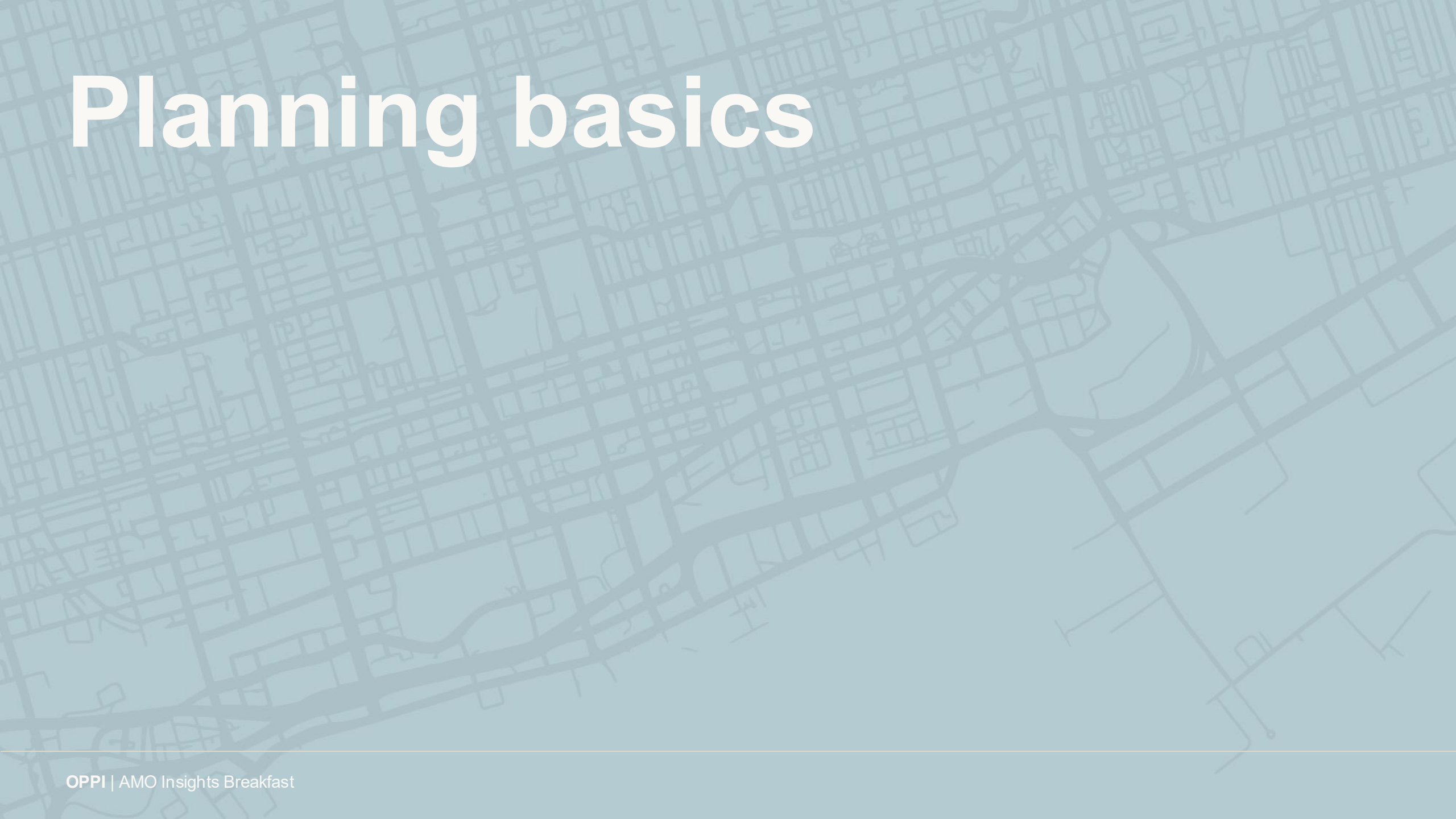
- **Ontario's champion for professional planning:**
 - member association
 - learning institute
 - regulator for the profession
- Created in 1994 through provincial legislation, the OPPI Act
- Comparable institutions include:
 - for architects: Ontario Association of Architects
 - for teachers: Ontario College of Teachers & Ontario Federation of Teachers
 - for engineers: Professional Engineers Ontario & Ontario Society of Professional Engineers

Our members

- Registered Professional Planners (RPP's) work in:
 - urban/rural planning
 - municipal/regional planning
 - transportation/transit planning
 - and many other specializations!
- With over 6,000 members within:
 - **municipal government**
 - provincial and regional government/agencies
 - housing developers
 - planning, architecture, and design firms
 - post-secondary institutions



Planning basics

A faint, light blue background map of a city grid. The map shows a dense network of streets and a prominent river or canal winding through the center-right portion of the image. The overall tone is professional and urban.

What do planners care about?

**Good planning
is the key to
building great
communities.**

People

Place

Resources

Public
interest

Principles

Patience

Planners shape your every day, door-to-door

Home



Neighbourhood



Drive



Ride



Explore



Shop



Build

Resource

Work of an RPP

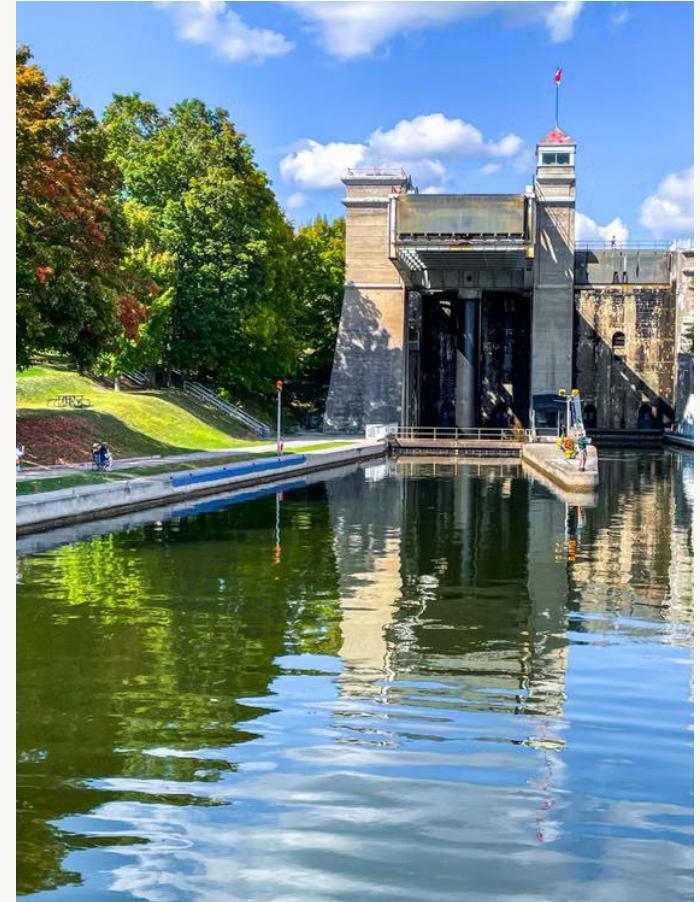
- Acting as facilitators
- Considering a range of perspectives and priorities
- Integrating within local contexts

Your role in planning

RPP's help inform the work of local decision makers like you.

Your role as a Councillor/Mayor:

- Establish long-term strategic goals for communities and implement goals through policy and By-laws (e.g., Official Plans, Zoning By-laws)
- Review staff's planning recommendations and make land use planning decisions (e.g., development applications)
- Engage with constituents on matters affecting the community
- Act as a liaison between various interested parties (e.g., members of the public, community organizations, municipal staff, developers)



Enabling statutes

- The **Planning Act** sets out the basis for land use planning in Ontario, a provincial policy-led system
- The **Municipal Act** governs the creation, administration, and powers of Ontario's municipalities

Mayors/Councillors are bound by this legislation in their decision making.



Planning in Ontario

The Province sets parameters for municipal planning:

- Through legislation (e.g. Planning Act)
- Through strategic plans (e.g. Niagara Escarpment Plan)

Municipalities create planning policy and legislation that conforms to the Provincial framework.

Land use planning decisions must confirm to municipal **and** Provincial policy.



The background of the slide is a dark red, semi-transparent map of a city grid, likely New York City, showing streets and parks. The map is oriented diagonally, with the top-left corner of the image showing the upper part of the grid.

**OPPI is committed to
solutions that create
efficiencies and capacities in
the planning system.**

OPPI supporting change

1. Increased Use of Community Permit Planning System (CPPS)

What this tool offers:

- For developers: A flexible tool to streamline planning approvals
- For planners: Delegated authority where it makes sense
- For municipalities: A proven way to secure community benefits
- For everyone: A way to build more homes faster!

What OPPI is working on:

- **Case studies to show/prove how CPPS can be effective**
- **A Practice Guide to inform the work of planners and municipalities**
- **Advocacy to preserve the impact of this powerful tool**

OPPI supporting change

In collaboration with the Ontario Home Builders Association (OHBA):

2. Improvements to Site Plan Control

- Increasing process efficiency, reducing duplication, tightening timelines
- Building a framework to scale/triage requirements based on scope of development
- Reducing wait-times for inputs from external agencies (e.g. rail, utility, transportation)

3. Refining requirements for Reports & Studies

- Reducing unneeded burden on developers
- Empowering municipalities to identify which studies are required for a “complete” application, rather than be constrained to always ask for studies that may not be needed

OPPI supporting change

4. Enhanced support for specialized, rural, and northern planners

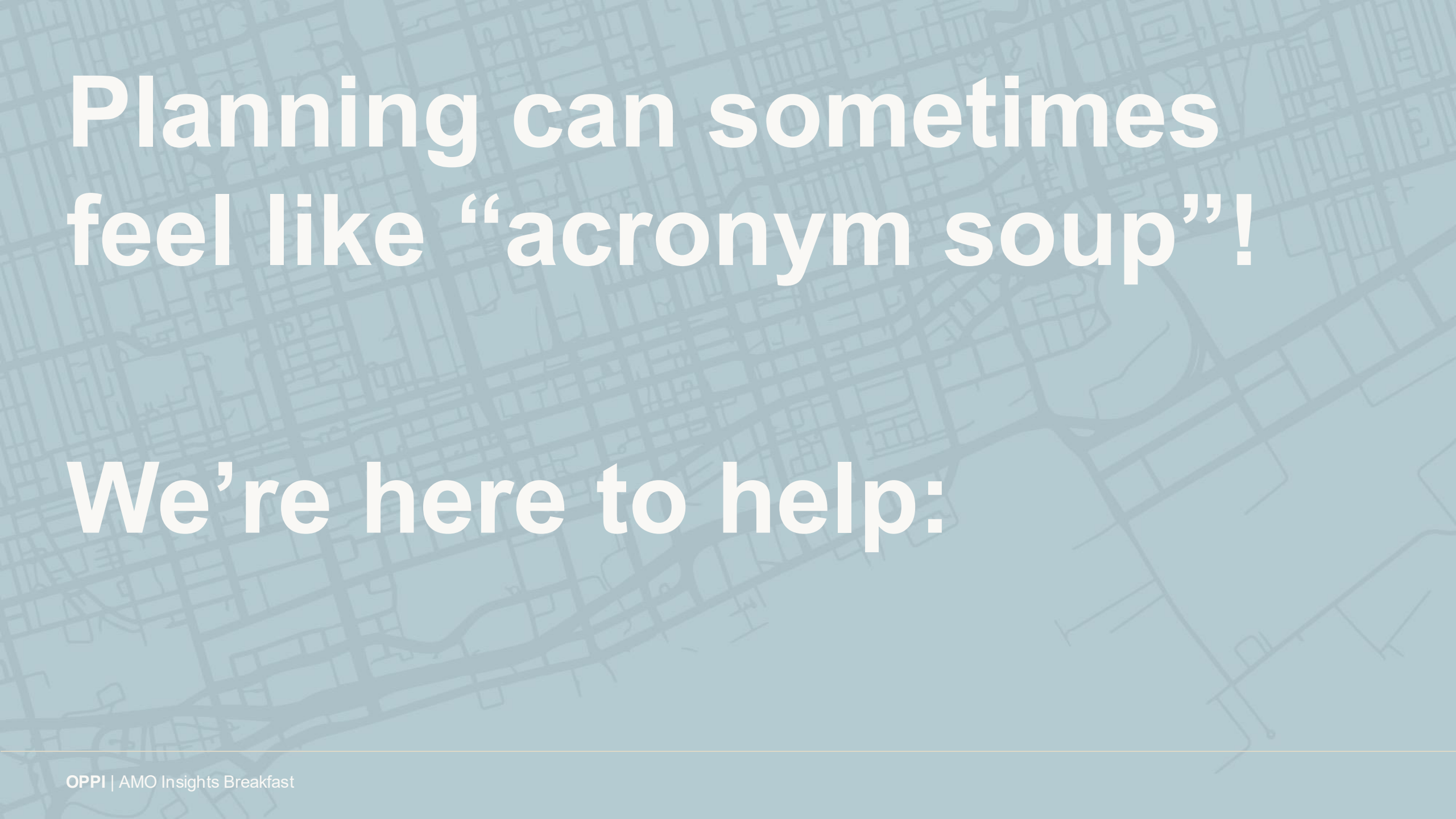
What OPPI is working on:

- Symposia and skills-development for specialized planners (e.g. transportation, environment)
- Stronger connection points for rural/northern planners, developers, agencies, and municipalities
- Supporting development of new post-secondary programs focused on rural planning

5. Career pipeline

What OPPI is working on:

- Supporting new post-secondary programs that will deliver more planners, especially for rural communities
- Growing more networking and career-building opportunities for students and emerging workers

A faint, light blue background map of a city grid, showing streets and a river, covering the entire slide.

**Planning can sometimes
feel like “acronym soup”!**

We’re here to help:

Planning Basics workshop

OPPI and AMO have co-developed a “Planning 101” workshop specifically for Mayors and City Councillors.

It covers all the essentials, such as:

- Your role in the planning process
- How RPP’s can support you
- Key policies and mechanisms, including:
 - Strong Mayor Powers
 - Official Plans
 - Zoning By-laws
 - Minister’s Zoning Orders (MZO)
- Development control
- Paying for growth
- Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT)



Advanced Planning workshop

Together we're developing a "Planning 201", available later in 2027.

Here we'll offer a deep dive with real-life examples to inform your work:

1. Case Study #1 – Residential Infill
2. Case Study #2 – Employment Lands and Land Use Compatibility
3. Case Study #4 – Affordable Housing
4. Ontario Land Tribunal Case #1 – Urban Boundary Expansions
5. Ontario Land Tribunal Case #2 – Settlements
6. Ontario Land Tribunal Case #3 – Contested Hearings



Let's connect so we can support you!



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Questions?

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