

## **PROFESSOR JAMES MCKELLAR, FRAIC, FRICS**

Professor James McKellar, Brookfield Centre in Real Estate and Infrastructure, Schulich School of Business, York University, was Associate Dean, External Relations and former Director of the Brookfield Centre. Prior to joining York University, he was a faculty member at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and served as the Founding Director of the Center for Real Estate at MIT. In addition to MIT, he held faculty appointments at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Calgary. He was also Visiting Professor at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C. He has lectured at universities in North America, Asia and Europe and addressed various industry and government groups across the world.

At the Schulich School, Professor McKellar he was the long-standing Chair of Faculty Council, Chair of Executive Committee and Chair of the Student Appeals Panel. He was a member of the Schulich Management Committee, the Dean's Advisory Committee, the Schulich Art Committee and York University's Master Planning Committee. He oversaw the development of Schulich's physical facilities including the Nadal Management Centre in downtown Toronto (1995), the Schulich Building (2003), the Executive Learning Centre (2004), the Schulich campus in Hyderabad, India (2013) and most recently, the Rob and Cheryl McEwen Graduate Study & Research Building. Professor McKellar was also responsible for overseeing the business operations of the Schulich School including its retail outlets, the 300-seat Dining Room, the 60-room hotel, and the Executive Learning Center.

Professor McKellar has both a Master in Architecture (M. Arch) and Master in City Planning (M.C.P) from the University of Pennsylvania and a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Toronto. He was a faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania in the Urban Design Program and then at the Faculty of Environmental Design, University of Calgary where he held the positions of Chair, Architecture and then Chair, Urban Planning. At MIT, in addition to being Director of the Center for Real Estate, he was Professor in Architecture and in Urban Studies and Planning. He has been a visiting lecturer in architecture and in real estate in India, China, Japan, Russia, Poland and Turkey.

Professor McKellar has a life-long involvement in the real estate industry and has consulted to businesses and governments in many parts of the world on real estate matters covering housing, development, finance and investment, asset management, and market performance. He is co-editor with Olga Kaganova of *Managing Government Property Assets: Sharing International Experiences*, May 2006, published by the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C. He is co-author of a new book *The Business of Infrastructure* to be released in 2022.

His recent his teaching and research has focused on the emerging field of infrastructure in addition to real estate. He has taught graduate level courses in the MBA and the one-year Master of Real Estate and Infrastructure (MREI) including Development Prototypes, Case Studies in Infrastructure, and Sustainable Cities that examines infrastructure in the context of rapid urbanization, population growth, and sustainable infrastructure, particularly in emerging economies where new technologies, new business models and socio-cultural factors play a significant role.

A focus of his recent efforts is heading up the Sustainable Infrastructure Fellowship Program announced in June 2018 to coincide with the G7 held in Quebec City that year. This prestigious global program is

supported by 14 of the largest global pension funds who launched the Investors Leadership Network (ILN) to support this initiative. They selected Schulich as their education partner. The program commenced in summer of 2019 and Fellows are drawn from the top ranks of government officials in emerging economies directly involved in infrastructure in their respective countries.

In addition to his academic work, James McKellar has been involved in strategic issues related to real estate and infrastructure in both the private and public sectors. At the federal level in Canada, he has worked with the Office of the Auditor General, Public Works, Foreign Affairs, Treasury Board, the National Capital Commission, Department of National Defense, and Canada Lands. He was involved in the late 1980s and early 1990s through World Bank in assisting the former Soviet Union and Poland in establishing land markets and establishing the basics of a real estate industry. In 1989 he served as Technical Advisor to the Third International Shelter Conference held in Washington DC dealing with shelter issues across the globe. At the municipal level he has work with many Canadian cities including Montreal, Edmonton, Calgary, Kitchener, Guelph, Brampton and Newmarket. Other clients in Canada include the Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA), Waterfront Toronto, Tridel Corporation, Mattamy Homes, and Hullmark. He has served as process and fairness advisor, structuring and advising on RFPs for various cities across Canada.

His career is distinguished by a close relationship between practice, teaching and applied research and bringing industry into the classroom, reinforced by a global orientation. In the past he ran his own architectural practice with an emphasis on affordable housing and subsequently had his own homebuilding operation in Western Canada. More recently, as principal of McKellar Associates Ltd., he specialized in strategic issues related to real estate and infrastructure. His early research focused on housing and in particular the use of modular construction. While at MIT, this research took him to Japan where modular housing construction is still a well-established approach to housing production. This research was the basis of a course in modular housing production at MIT.

James McKellar is a former Board member, Vice-Chair and Acting Chair of the Ontario Realty Corporation, then the largest real estate operation in Canada; former member of the Oak Ridges Moraine Advisory Panel; former member of the Board of the Humber River Regional Hospital, Toronto, and Vice-Chair of the Building Committee, former member of the North Pickering Land Exchange Panel; and former Vice-Chair of the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation. He is Founding Academic Advisor to the National Executive Forum on Public Property. He was a member of the Steering Committee, Waterfront Toronto, overseeing various proposal calls. He is a member of the American Real Estate Society; the American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association; the Urban Land Institute; and an Honorary Life Member of the Society of Office and Industrial Realtors (SIOR). He is a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (FRAIC) and a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (FRICS).

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