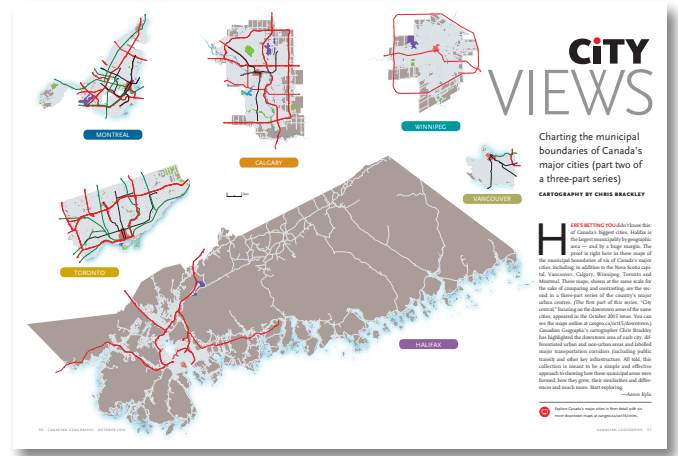


# CANADIAN GEOGRAPHIC IN THE CLASSROOM

ARTICLE: City Views  
ISSUE: October 2016



## LESSON DETAILS

Grade level: 7-12

### Purpose:

- Students examine *Canadian Geographic's* City Views feature and identify key relationships between a city's area, population density, built environment and human settlement patterns.

### Critical inquiry:

- Compare and contrast types of human settlement in Canadian cities
- How might the types of housing relate to the population, area and population density for each city?
- Why might there be particular differences among the cities (in particular, Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto)?

### Materials:

- October 2016 issue of *Canadian Geographic*
- Supplies for graphing in groups (graph paper, etc.) or computer software (MS Excel) for drawing graphs and sharing information through Google Docs/Classroom.

### Links to Six Elements of Geography - Canadian Council for Geographic Education

#### The World in Spatial Terms

- Distribution of major human features at different scales
- Major cities of the provinces

#### Places and Regions

- Critical issues and problems of places and regions

#### Human Systems

- Types and patterns of human settlement
- Population density, distribution and growth rates
- Patterns of culture (language) in Canada

### LESSON ACTIVITY:

- Divide students into six groups, labelled City Expert Teams (CETs) and give each group a different Canadian city labelled in the October 2016 issue of *Canadian Geographic* (Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Halifax). Each CET is an expert on their city's population, area, population density and housing settlements.
- In each CET, students will graph the housing settlements of their city, placing each dwelling type on the same bar graph using graphing chart paper, graph paper or graphing software (MS Excel).
- Once the graphs are complete, CETs will examine the spatial characteristics and relationships among the various types of dwellings in their city. CETs will also discuss connections between the different types of housing and the overall area, population and population density of their city.
- Each CET member must record five to 10 interesting observations, critical comments or questions during their discussion in a graphic organizer. They will discuss these points during City Sharing Team (CST) meetings. Each CST meeting will comprise one member of each CET ("Jigsaw" activity).
- During the CST meeting, each CET member from each city will share their discussion points about the relationships between population, area, population density and types of dwellings in their city.
- CSTs will come up with a "Top 5" list of points about the overall connections between population, area, population density and human settlement.

### Extend your geographical thinking:

Have CETs observe the numbers or graph the distribution of language for their city. Discuss the reasons why language differences exist (migration, geopolitics, historical settlement, etc.). Set up a quick CST meeting to allow students to share and discuss the similarities and differences as a class.