

GLOBAL FORUM PRESENTATION:
CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY
“THE LONG JOURNEY”

During this presentation we will look at a moment in time more than 3 years after the devastating Christchurch earthquake then ask the questions;

How many years is the recovery plan in your jurisdiction?

Should we expect more resilient buildings?

Are we planning for massive infrastructure damage?

Does your jurisdiction’s plan anticipate 80% of your community being under stress for a decade?

When I arrived in Christchurch in the Fall of 2013 it was to take a position in the Building Inspection team that, like every other task in the construction industry in Christchurch, was not keeping up with the demands of the construction sector. My qualifications for this work are entirely Canadian and cover all types of buildings and occupancies. I have worked for 25 years in local government positions related to building inspection, infrastructure development and senior management.

I was not ready for the experience of living amid the devastation that characterized Christchurch. The work became a comfortable routine, living was never without a feeling of having concerns that could never be addressed.

I hope through speaking to you today that I can help you address a few issues when you are involved in emergency planning in your jurisdiction.

Ron Dickinson

