

Alumni News



John Lewis: Designing Livable Cities

DURING A WALK with his daughter to school in one of Calgary's most walkable neighbourhoods, John Lewis (BES '97) counted 12 instances where they crossed a road or parking lot in a 500-metre span. "That's 12 chances for a little person to not be seen by a driver who might be texting," wrote Lewis, an award-winning urban planner, in his blog.

To build a better tomorrow for his daughter, Lewis takes a creative and collaborative approach. As founder of Intelligent Futures, he strives to make sustainability understandable and find fresh perspectives, from toddlers to TV hosts. In 2013, his firm received three national and international industry awards for the Wascana Centre in Regina, the Bow to Bluff project in Calgary and the Open Space Master Plan in Cochrane, Alta.

"It's an exciting time to be working in the urbanism and engagement fields," says Lewis, named one of Calgary's Top 40 Under 40 in 2010 by the city's *Avenue* magazine. "It's definitely not 'business as usual' anymore." ■