PODCAST SUMMARIES
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Climate Imaginary Podcast: Planning for Community Resilience

Run time 35:00 minutes

Host: Am Johal

Guest: Dr. Andréanne Doyon RPP, MCIP, Assistant Professor at the School of Resource and Environmental Management at Simon Fraser University

Podcast link
https://www.sfu.ca/vancity-office-community-engagement/below-the-radar-podcast/series/the-climate-imaginary/195-andreanne-doyon.html

Podcast Summary
In Below the Radar's The Climate Imaginary Series, hosts and guests touch on disinformation, links between the arts and climate activism, and the challenges in making real environmental change. To visualize a better future, Below the Radar invites guests from across artistic and academic disciplines to discuss ways of working in solidarity amidst the climate crisis. This podcast features conversations that range from the unique power of creative works to mobilize people, to the importance of collaboration and interdependence across fields.

The series is recorded on the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

Why Planners Should Listen
Dr. Andréanne Doyon is a Register Professional Planner (RPP) and explores the integration of social and technical aspects of sustainability. She discusses the overlap and difference between sustainability and resilience, particularly in the context of planning and the built environment. She further elaborates how both concepts aim for a better future and respond to climate change but they approach it differently. Doyon critiques a narrow focus on climate change mitigation, which often overlooks social and ecological dimensions, and advocates for a more inclusive and context-aware strategy that incorporates biodiversity conservation alongside climate adaptation.

This is a great podcast for planners, especially the ones leading climate research projects and those writing climate policies. Doyon emphasizes the critical role of academia in training the next generation of professionals who will lead climate adaptation efforts. She takes her role in educating future planners and policymakers seriously, aiming to instill values and critical thinking that will influence their work.

AI for Social Good

Run time 9 minutes per episode, 7 episodes totalling to an hour

Host: Acast

Guests: Dr. Graham Taylor (AI in Environment)
Mike Branch (AI in Transportation)
Dr. Golnoosh Farnadi (AI in Human Resource)
Craig Alleva (AI in Business)
Dr. Devin Singh (AI in Healthcare)
Mariel Marshall (AI in Art)
Navneet Alang (AI in Debate).

Podcast link
https://shows.acast.com/ai-for-social-good

Podcast Summary
AI for Social Good is a seven-episode podcast series where experts representing different industries discuss and explore the rapidly changing phenomenon of artificial intelligence (AI). The guests tackle questions with no easy answers and present listeners with the best social use case to face today's most pressing challenges.

Why Planners Should Listen
Planners may be particularly interested in these two episodes below:

In **'AI in Environment'**, Dr. Graham Taylor, Professor and Canada Research Chair of Machine Learning at the School of Engineering at University of Guelph, Research Director at the Vector Institute and Canada CIFAR AI Chair, talks about the importance of protecting biological diversity, pushing boundaries with AI, driving future behaviours to improve life, and advanced machine learning challenges.

In **'AI in Transportation'**, Mike Branch, Vice President of Data and Analytics at Geotab, discusses how AI is helping reduce emissions in the global transportation sector, a major contributor to pollution. Branch visualizes a future where AI will enable fleet managers to ask questions about decarbonization and receive tailored, actionable plans in real-time, helping to achieve a greener, cleaner, and more sustainable future.

Other episodes offer valuable insights and perspectives in areas already impacted by AI:

AI in Human Resource – Dr. Golnoosh Farnadi, an assistant professor at McGill University, shares her own experience of realizing the potential consequences of AI in hiring and highlights several examples where AI systems have perpetuated discrimination.

AI in Business – Craig Alleva, Director of Customer Engineering at Google Cloud, emphasizes the importance of using AI responsibly, highlighting Google's AI principles, which ensure social benefit, prevent bias, and implement safeguards against misuse.

AI in Healthcare – Dr. Devin Singh, an emergency physician and expert in clinical AI at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, discusses his vision to leverage AI to transform healthcare in Canada while ensuring technologies respect the cultural diversity and values of the country.

AI in Art – Mariel Marshall, an artist and entrepreneur, discusses how the pandemic has significantly impacted the arts community, and that the future of art will be shaped by bold, innovative uses of technology where artists must embrace experimentation to move forward.

AI in Debate – Navneet Alang, a tech columnist, critiques AI's current limitations, highlighting that it excels at pattern recognition rather than genuine intelligence. Alang concludes by stressing that while technology can drive change, it is ultimately up to humans to shape its impact.