

## MARIANNE F. POTVIN

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### EDUCATION

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**Ph.D., Urban Studies and Planning**, Harvard University, 2018 (expected)

**Master in Design Studies (MDesS) with distinction**, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, 2013

- *Concentration in Risk and Resilience*  
*Thesis topic: Urban Displacement and Humanitarian Response in Kabul (2002-2010)*

**Master in Architecture (M.Arch), Honors**, Université de Montréal, 2003

**Bachelor of Science of Design in Architecture (B.Sc)**, Université de Montréal, 2001

- Academic Exchange at the *Facultad de Arquitectura, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)*, Mexico (November 2000-August 2001)

### LANGUAGES

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French (native) | English (fluent) | Spanish (working knowledge) | Italian (reading) | Arabic (British Council in Cairo, 2 months, 2000) | Dari (Afghanistan, 3 months, 2009) | Mandarin (Tongji University, Shanghai, China, Mandarin Intensive Course, 5 weeks, 2005)

### AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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UN-Habitat Doctoral Travel Award, November 2013.

Dimitris Pikionis Award for outstanding performance in the MDesS program, Harvard Graduate School of Design, May 2013.

Harvard Humanitarian Initiative & Cogan Family Fund Climate Internship Award, Summer 2012. (Declined)

Royal Architecture Institute of Canada (RAIC) Student Honor Roll. 2003.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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#### **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**

**Iraq**

Water and Habitat Delegate

May 2011–January 2012

- Assessed the water and housing needs of IDPs population affected by the conflict and oversaw ICRC Water and Habitat activities in rural and urban areas of Northern Iraq and Kurdistan including Mosul, Kirkuk, Erbil and Diyala (Budget of activities in 2011: 4,5M CHF).

#### **Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)**

**Afghanistan**

**NGO, implementing partner of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)**

Program Manager - Kabul Area Shelter & Settlements Program

April 2009–July 2010

- Implemented a post-conflict urban reconstruction program aimed at improving living conditions of IDPs, returnees and urban poor in informal settlements of Kabul through housing self-construction, upgrading of services and promotion of sustainable urban development practices. (Intervention funded by the Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) of USAID).
- Advised Donor Agencies, Kabul Municipality, international partners and other stakeholders on needs and on future housing policies at municipal level.

#### **Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) Canada**

**Ramallah, West Bank**

Construction Consultant at the Representative Office of Canada to the Palestinian Authority

July 2008

#### **Emergency Architects Foundation (*Fondation des architectes de l'urgence*)**

**Chad, Darfur border**

Field Program Manager

November 2007–May 2008

- Implemented programs in Sudanese Refugee Camps of Eastern Chad in collaboration with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) and the International Refugee Committee (IRC).

**Saia Barbares Topouzanov Architects**

**Montreal, Canada**

Architect. June 2007–November 2007 | Intern Architect. August 2003–June 2007

- Conceptualized, designed and developed large-scale educational, institutional and residential projects, including the Montreal Congress Center, and the University of Quebec in Montreal Downtown Science Campus.

**ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE (TEACHING, JURY AND OTHER ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTIONS)**

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**Harvard University**

Doctoral Research Assistant, Urban Theory Lab, GSD. “Planetary Urbanization of Extreme Territories”. On-going.

Teaching Fellow, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Fall 2014:

ESPP 90j: Environmental Crisis, Climate Change and Population Flight (with Dr. J. Leaning and Prof. J. McCarthy)

Academic Tutor Harvard Summer School, June-August 2014:

GOVT S-90QB: International Law and Human Rights Seminar.

GOVT S-1740: Public International Law.

GOVT S-1732: War Crimes, Genocide and Justice.

Presidential Instructional Technology Fellow, Fall 2012:

GSD 5469: Environmental Justice and Climate Resilience in Planning and Design.

Researcher, “Study on the Occupational Health of Humanitarian Aid Workers”, HSPH. On-going.

Volunteer, “Humanitarian Response Intensive Course” Field Simulation, Harvard Humanitarian Academy. April 2014.

Fellow, Harvard Graduate Schools Leadership Institute. Fall 2013.

Research Assistant, Social Agency Lab. 2012-2013.

**Boston Architectural College**

Lead Faculty, Summer Academy: “Design for Disaster Response” & “Urban Explorers” Studio. July 2014.

**Canadian Center for Architecture (CCA)**

Member of the Jury. Inter-University Charrette 12th Edition. Fall 2006.

**École Nationale Supérieure d’Architecture de Versailles**

Graduate Research Assistant. Laboratoire de Recherche en Histoire Architecturale et Urbaine – Sociétés (LADRHAUS) October 2002–January 2003.

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND TRAINING**

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**Architecture**

Member, Board of Architects, Province of Quebec, Canada. Since June 2007.

National Council of Architectural Registration Board (NCARB) Certification. June 2007.

**Humanitarianism**

ICRC Delegate Integration Course – Geneva/Ecogia, Switzerland – May 2011.

International Mobilization and Preparation for ACTION (IMPACT) – Canadian Red Cross & IFRC Delegate Training Course on Disaster Risk Management – Canada, February 2011.

Co-Chair of the Technical Working Group for the Emergency Shelter Cluster (ESC), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). Kabul, Afghanistan. July 2009 – July 2010.

## PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

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### Conferences and Presentations

"The Ethics and Politics of Crisis Mapping." Panel organizer and presenter on the use of information technologies in humanitarian assistance. Held at the Design for Urban Disaster Conference held at Harvard University (Harvard Graduate School of Design and Harvard Humanitarian Initiative). May 2014.

"Humanitarian Urbanism: Defining new sites of humanitarian interventions and challenging the informality-vulnerability correlation". Doctoral presentation, Metropolis Nonformal – Anticipation Symposium and launch of the UN-Habitat Hub on Informal Urbanism. Technical University Munich, Germany. November 2013.

"Humanitarian Urbanism under a Neoliberal Regime: Lessons from Kabul". Presentation at the "Urban Camps in a Global Perspective", RC21 Conference 2013 "Resourceful Cities". Sociology of Urban and Regional Development. Berlin, Germany. August 2013

"Sharing ACTED's Lessons Learned on the Kabul Area Shelter and Settlements Programme". "Kabul City Information Sharing Workshop" held by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Kabul, Afghanistan. 23 June 2010.

"Sharing the Lessons of the USAID/OFDA Shelter and Settlements Programme in Kabul". Workshop held at the Kabul Municipality. Kabul, Afghanistan. 19 May 2010.

"Evaluation of Land Allocation Schemes for Afghan Returnees". Consultations held with the United States Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and CARE International. Kabul, Afghanistan. 22 October 2009.

### Articles

Potvin, Marianne. "Kabul: The Humanitarian City." *Cities in Conflict series*, OpenDemocracy.net. 2013.

Marianne Potvin. "Mission Tchad: la mission des Architectes de l'urgence et le rôle de l'architecte humanitaire". *ARQ Architecture Québec #144 : Architecture de l'urgence*. 2008. 30-31.

### Translations

Brenner, N., Corroyer, L and Potvin, M.: Henri Lefebvre, "Dissolving city, planetary metamorphosis."  
In Brenner, N. Ed. *Implosions /Explosions: Towards a Study of Planetary Urbanization*. 2013. Jovis, Berlin. Originally published in French as "Quand la ville se perd dans une métamorphose planétaire," in *Le monde diplomatique*, May 1989; republished in *Manière de voir 114, Le monde diplomatique*, December 2010/January 2011, 20-23.

Potvin, Marianne: Basbous, Karim, "Ex-Murus: Escaping Gaze." *New Geographies 05 Journal of the Harvard University Graduate School of Design*. 2013. 265-272.

Potvin, Marianne: Peraldi, Michel, "The Maghreb: A Laboratory of New Migrations." *New Geographies 05 Journal of the Harvard University Graduate School of Design*. 2013. 153-164.

"10 Ideas for Haiti. Dix idées pour Haiti". *Disaster Field Lab GSD 5343*. Harvard University Graduate School of Design. Spring 2012. (unpublished)

### Technical Reviews, Reports and Online Dissemination of Research Data

Marianne Potvin. 2011. "Al Wand River: vulnerability and risk assessment". 5 pages. Report on potential transboundary water issues on the Iran-Iraq border, produced for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Iraq Delegation.

Marianne Potvin. 2009. "Kabul Area Shelter & Settlements (KASS) Annual Report 2009". 17 pages. Report submitted to the Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Marianne Potvin. 2008. "UNICEF School Structures Baseline Survey Report". 22 pages. Fact-finding missions and assessments of UNICEF funded educational infrastructures in 12 refugee camps of Eastern Chad (Darfur Border). Report submitted to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Chad.

“Standard Designs and Guidelines for Flood Response Housing in Northern Afghanistan” and “Shelter and Settlements Needs Assessment Tools”. Technical reviews conducted in collaboration with UNDP, UNHCR, UN-Habitat and the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA). September 2009.

UNHCR Emergency Shelter Cluster Technical Working Group in Afghanistan Online Database (2009 to 2010). In collaboration with the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Link: <http://ochaonline.un.org/afghanistan/Clusters/EmergencyShelter/tabid/5585/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Catalogue des Concours Canadiens/ Canadian Competitions Catalogue. Search Engine elaborated by the Laboratoire d'Etude de l'Architecture Potentielle (L.E.A.P.) Link: [www.ccc.umontreal.ca](http://www.ccc.umontreal.ca)

## **FIELDWORK AND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL**

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Afghanistan (2009-2010), Belgium, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chad/Darfur (2007-2008), China (2005), Cuba, Egypt (1997-2000), Ethiopia, France (1984-1985), Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Iraq (2011-2012), Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Lebanon, Mali (1981-1984), Mexico (2000-2001), Morocco, Niger (1987-1991), Peru (1980-1981), Spain, Switzerland, Syria (2006), Thailand (1991-1993), Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates (2008-2009), USA (2012-2013), West Bank (2008).

## **COMPUTER SKILLS**

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ArcGIS, AutoCAD, Adobe Suite (Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop), Office. PC and Mac platforms.