



Architecture Energy and the Occupant's Perspective

PLEA 2009
Québec, Canada



- PLEA2009Québec MANIFESTO -

Considering the current urgency for carbon reduction to counteract climate change and that the building sector alone accounts for 40% of the world's energy use and the resulting carbon emissions,

Considering that absolute comfort is a privilege, not a right and that comfort is a relative state strongly dependent on the liberty to choose,

Considering that the overall mechanization of architecture has led to a disconnection between the occupants and the building,

Considering that a dynamic and responsible interaction between inhabitants and architecture can lead to important energy and carbon reductions, and consequently

That buildings do not consume energy, inhabitants do through the medium of architecture,

The PLEA delegates assembled in Québec City from 22-24 June 2009 to debate on Architecture, Energy and the Occupant's Perspective propose that:

- **Communities should provide comfortable and healthy outdoor environments sustaining the applicability of passive environmental strategies such as daylighting, passive heating and cooling,**
- **Buildings should provide their inhabitants with several adaptive opportunities optimizing health, satisfaction and productivity,**
- **Inhabitants should be responsible to take an 'active' role for the provision of relative comfort using robust 'passive and low energy' strategies,**
- **Pre and post occupancy evaluations in new and existing buildings should become mandatory steps within the integrated design process to accelerate our understanding of the systemic inhabitants-architecture interactions, and**
- **Professionals, educators and developers should reconsider the design and building process as an opportunity for the rehumanisation of architecture through inhabitants' increased *autonomy* rather than *automation*.**

Signed in Québec City, 24 June 2009

[illegible]











