



**Wellesley Central
Health Corporation**



Urban Health and Change

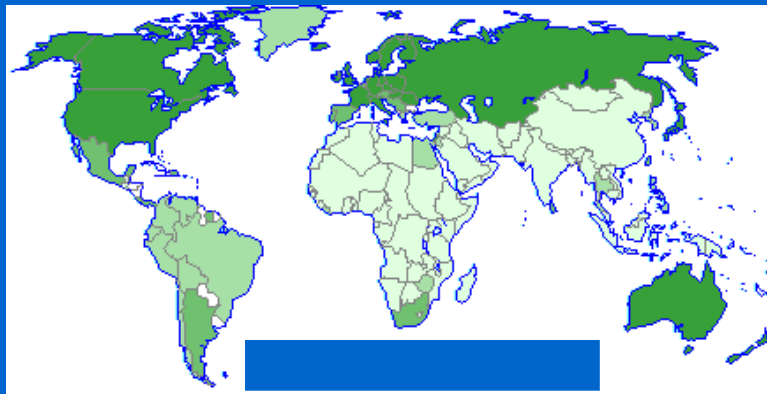
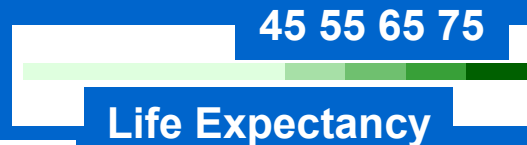
World Health is Changing



Life Expectancy 1900



Life Expectancy 1930

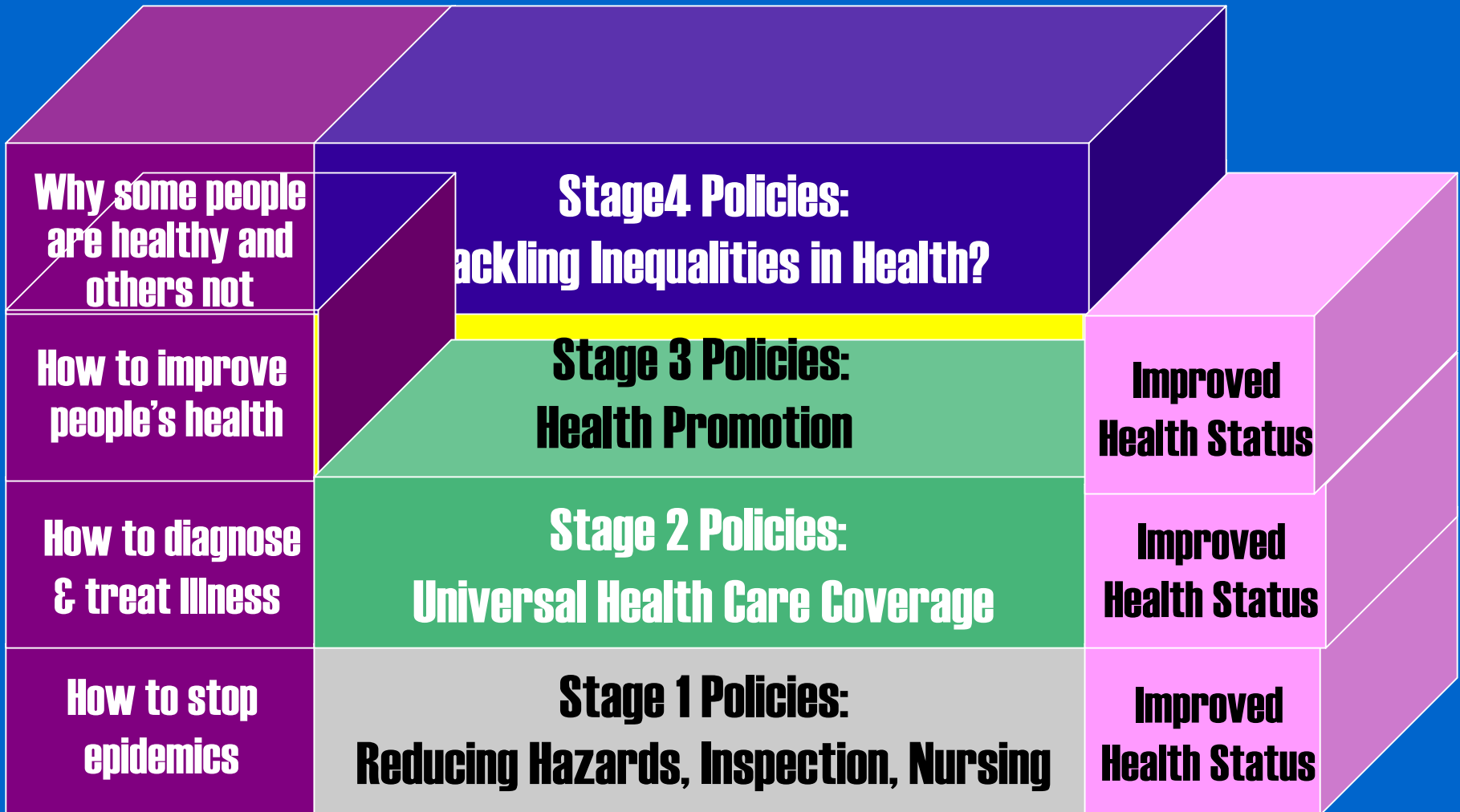


Life Expectancy 1960



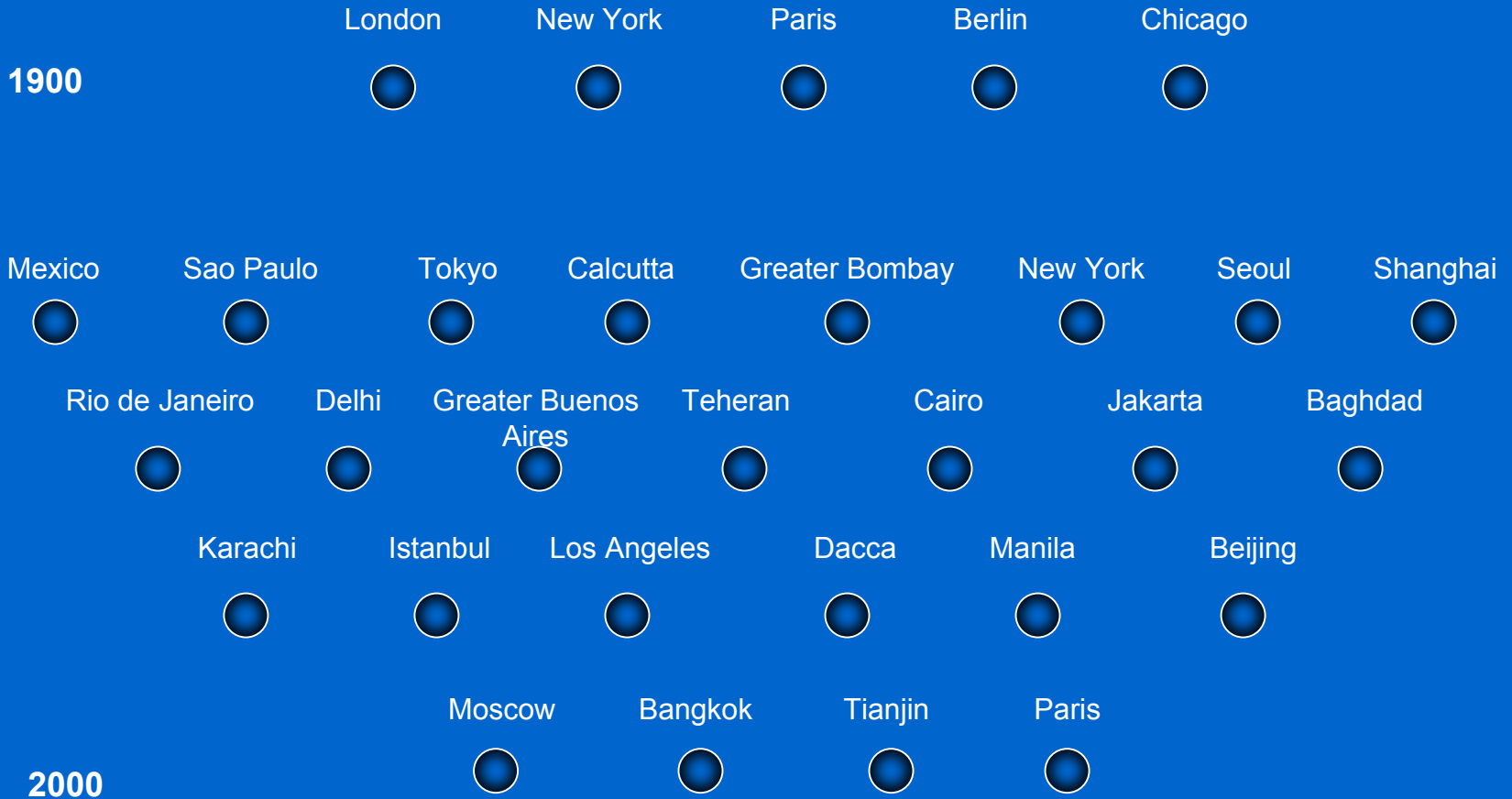
Life Expectancy 1990

Health Policies Have Changed





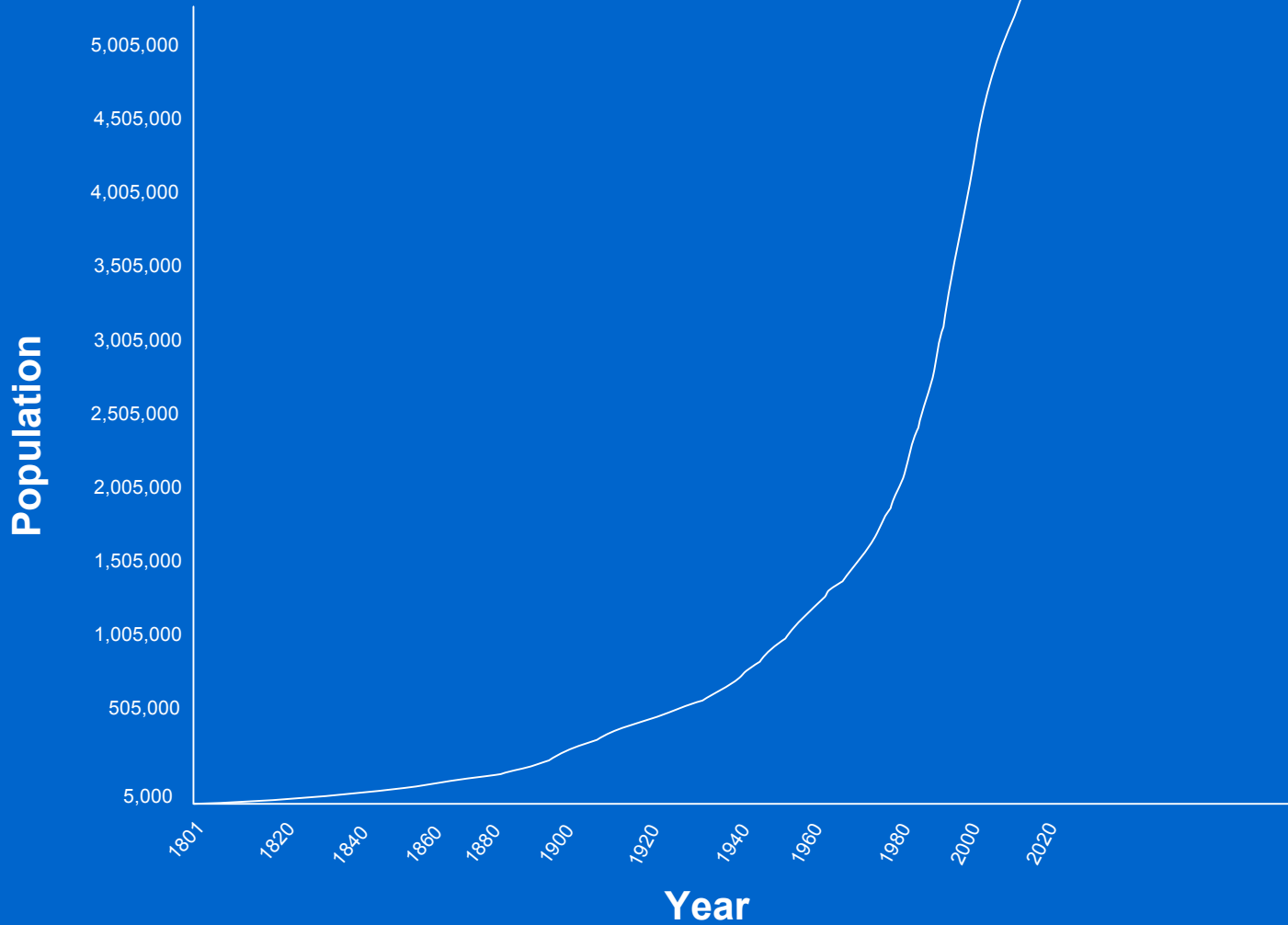
Cities are Growing



In 1900, there were 5 cities with more than one million people.
In 2000, there were 25 city regions with more than 10 million

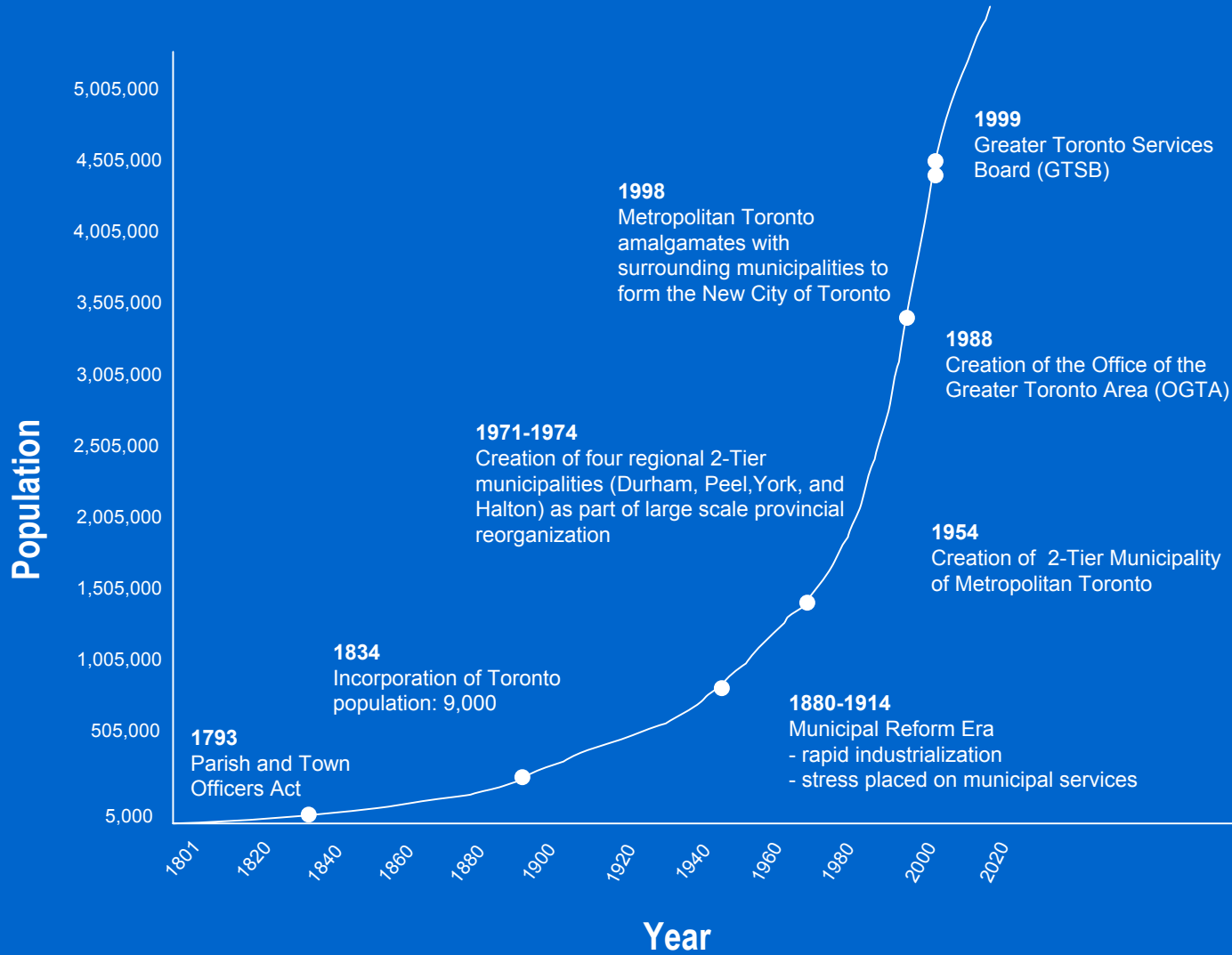


And so is Toronto



Wellesley Central Health Corporation

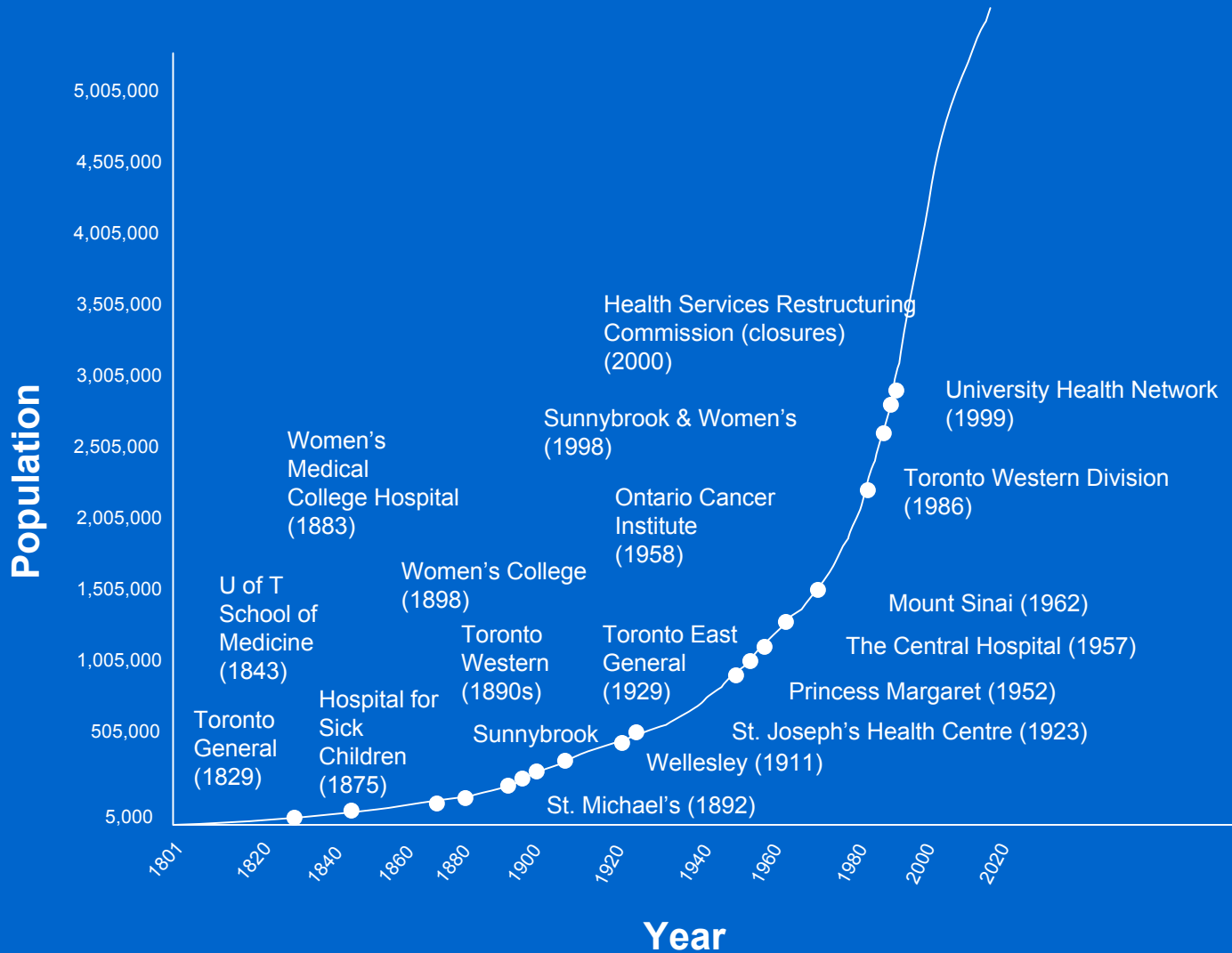
Toronto is Changing



Wellesley Central Health Corporation



Its Health Institutions Change



Legislative Powers in Canada, 1867

Federal 1867	Provincial 1867	Municipal 1867
National defense	Education	
Trade and Commerce	Hospitals	
Currency and Banking	Property	
Direct and Indirect Taxation	Civil Rights	
Criminal law	Administration of Justice	
Money and banking	Natural Resources	
Foreign policy	Agriculture (Shared with Federal)	
Citizenship	Immigration (Shared with Federal)	
The Postal Service		
Census Taking & Statistics		
Copyrights		
Federal Civil Service		
Fisheries		
Navigation		
Indians and Indian Reserves		
Naturalization		

Legislative Powers in Canada, 2001

Federal 2001	Provincial 2001	Municipal 2001
National Defense	Education	Public transit
Interprovincial and International Trade and Commerce	Property and Civil Rights	Police, ambulance, and fire services
Banking and Monetary System	Administration of Justice	Public health
Criminal Law	Hospital System	Child care
Fisheries	Health	Planning and Development
Aeronautics	Natural Resources (within their borders)	Electric utilities
Shipping	Social Security	Water and sewage
Railways	Municipal Institutions	Social housing
Telecommunications		Maintenance of local roads
Atomic Energy		Tax collection
Foreign Policy		Parks and Recreation
Postal Service		Social services
Citizenship		Garbage collection and recycling
Taxation		Airports
Old age pension		Animal control and by-law enforcement
		Library services
		Property assessment
		Long-term care and senior housing
		Arts and culture
		Economic development
		Provincial offences administration
		Side walks
		Storm sewers



Frameworks

Frameworks for understanding cities (or health organizations) do not merely describe them. They invariably indicate what a “well-functioning” city (or clinic) is like. And so they place a value on certain structures and behaviours.

As our theories change, so do our views of what is good. The “well-functioning” city (or clinic) of 1935 would be seen as dysfunctional today.

Sholom Glouberman

Ideas About Cities are Changing

- **Many ideas and metaphors for Cities**
 - Fortress – Market – Many neighborhoods
 - Religious, cultural, transport, financial Hub
- **Failure of Rational City Planning**
 - To recognize diversity of values & perspectives
- **Competitive cities in global markets**
 - Healthy citizens as a competitive advantage
- **Cities as complex environments with the interaction of multiple ideas and events.**



Some Ideas about Health

- **Traditional Public Health:**
How do we keep people healthy?
- **Universal Coverage (medicare):** How do we diagnose and treat?
- **Health Promotion:**
How do we improve people's health?
- **Inequalities in Health:**
Why are some people healthy and others not?

Health Concepts: Boxes and Arrows

- **Boxes: The individual and the body**
 - e.g. clinical medical science
 - the body as mechanism
- **Boxes: Natural, Built and social environments**
 - e.g. inequalities in health and Lalonde
 - the human as a function of environment
- **Arrows: The complex interactions between the individual and his or her social (and physical) context**
 - e.g. Sociology, Complexity Theory Talcott Parsons, Aaron Antonovsky Ilya Prigogine.
 - The human understood interactively

Individual

Socio economic &
Environment



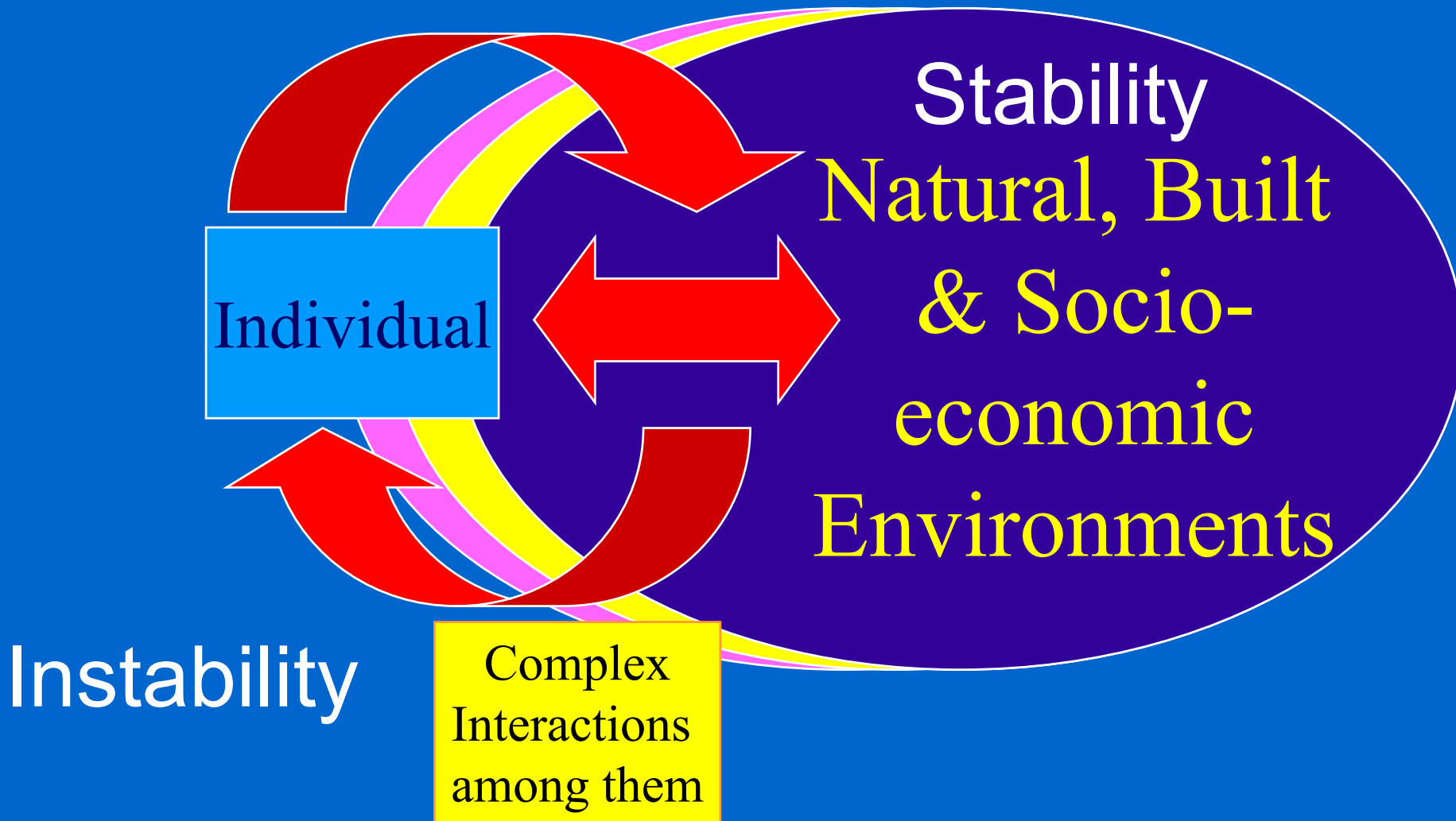
Complex
Interactions
between them



Ideas About Health are Changing

- **To 1960: Health is a state of the individual body**
- **To 1990: Health is primarily a function of the environment**
- **Now: Health is a result of the complex interactions between an individual and the various environments**

Contributions to Health



Some Typical Urban Health Problems

Populations

- Drug Users
- Unemployed Youth
- Homeless People
- the Elderly
- Single Mothers & Children
- Refugees
- People with Mental Illness
- People with Disabilities
- Gay and Lesbian Groups

Issues & Illnesses

- Ethnic Diversity
- Poverty
- Environments
- Transportation
- Urban Violence and Terrorism
- STDs
- HIV/AIDS
- Asthma
- TB

Evolution of Ideas About Urban Health

- **Individual: Providing traditional medical and social services**
- **Environment: Organizing healthy communities**
- **Interaction: Developing multiple ways to respond in complex contexts**
 - Between individuals and environments
 - Between communities and environments

Some Early Ideas about Complex Systems

- Recognize that no one can do it alone
- Believe that most people want to make things better
- Engage people to struggle through and resolve issues
- Provide resources to support such efforts
- Expect many parallel endeavors
- Support developing relationships across existing boundaries



Elements of a Framework

- **New understanding of what already exists**
- **Variation** – focus on a wide variety of different small interventions with a similar variety of scope
- **Interaction** – Health interacts in complex ways with socio-economic determinants. Consider interactions
- **Selection** – Necessary in complex and hence, relatively unpredictable systems
- **Iteration** – Multiple tries gradually clarify issues and make them amenable to change
- **Self-organization** – Systems spontaneously generate adaptive solutions without external input. Solutions may be outside the formally organized system. It is critical to facilitate, rather than block, them.

We Don't Have Answers Yet

- Trying to build on a strong Toronto tradition
- Trying to get the right questions about urban healthy communities
- Appealing for help in the next stages of this clarification
- Looking for interventions that will strengthen healthy community in the complex urban environment of Toronto

To Help Contact

- **Sholom Glouberman**
 - email sholom@glouberman.com
 - Telephone: **416 785 2500** ext **2150**
 - Web site: www.healthandeverything.org
- **Glenn Miller**
 - email gmler@canurb.com
 - Telephone: **416 365 0816**
 - Web site: www.canurb.com