City planning in most market economies now faces a huge challenge – accommodating growing populations requires urban renewal and greater housing density in existing urban areas, which in turn requires the renewal of older areas of multi-unit housing. This raises multiple social, legal and financial issues unforeseen by legislators, developers and planners alike.

In this seminar, Dr Hazel Easthope will present findings from a two-year research study of strata scheme termination and renewal in Greater Metropolitan Sydney (in the state of New South Wales, Australia). This study outlined the tensions arising from the conflicting interests of the multiple stakeholders involved including tenants, owners, developers, bankers and property managers. The research used innovative methods to examine how best to deliver outcomes that are both economically viable and socially sustainable in the context of private-sector driven housing development.

The outcomes of this research informed details of the legislation that was passed in New South Wales at the end of 2015 and that will come into effect in July 2016. This legislation, which includes provision to terminate a strata scheme with the approval of 75% of all owners, has some striking similarities with that proposed for British Columbia.

This event qualifies for 1 CPD credit.

**DR HAZEL EASTHOPE** PhD BA
Senior Research Fellow. University of New South Wales.

Dr Hazel Easthope is a Senior Research Fellow at the City Futures Research Centre at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. Hazel has been working in the area of housing and urban research for over a decade. In the nine years since she joined City Futures, Hazel’s research has focused on strata title and apartment living. She holds a prestigious Australian Research Council Future Fellowship and has received awards from the Planning Institute of Australia and Strata Community Australia (NSW) for her research on strata title.