Rural Vs. Urban Settlement Patterns And Land Use

Rural
- Occurs outside cities and towns
- Low population density and a dispersed population distribution pattern

Factors That Influence Rural Settlement?
1. The Kind of resources found in the area \( \rightarrow \) What resource attracts people to the area?  
   Eg: Southwestern Ontario’s rich agricultural resources
2. The transportation methods available at the time of settlement \( \rightarrow \) Before 1880, settlement occurred in areas near water (boats); after 1880, settlement occurred in areas near roads and railroads; now, you can settle almost anywhere with technology advancing and transportation routes almost everywhere
3. The role played by government policy \( \rightarrow \) Some areas settle with little government input; other areas settle based on a set of rules that controls how land will be settled (“survey system”)

* The combination of these factors results in 3 distinct rural settlement patterns in Canada that are clearly visible on topographic maps and in aerial photographs and satellite images.

What are these 3 historical types of rural settlement?
   i. Long Lots: wanted narrow lots because taxes were based on river frontage (e.g. Southern Quebec)
   ii. Concession System: land surveyed into blocks separated by roads and railway (e.g. Southern Ontario)
   iii. Section System: survey section system divided into blocks each with the same area (e.g. Southern Prairies)

See the PowerPoint on the website for better understanding of these types of settlements!

** Remember, Canadians have settled into other rural areas besides Southern Quebec, Southern Ontario and the Prairies.

Main Reasons For Scattered Settlement:
1. Resource-Based Settlement \( \rightarrow \) The presence of resources has been the cause of isolated rural settlements  
   Eg.: Atlantic Maritimes
2. Service-Based Settlement \( \rightarrow \) Some people settle in isolated rural areas because they can earn a living by providing services to residents and to travelers passing through  
   Eg: Along the Trans-Canada Highway (gas stations, souvenir shops, motels, restaurants, etc.)

Urban
- more than 1000 people living together in a city or town
- nearly 80% of Canadians live in urban areas

City \( \rightarrow \) group of more than 10 000 people can be considered a city in Canada

Metropolitan Area \( \rightarrow \) a large city (>100 000 people) and the attached urban areas not directly part of the city

How do cities start?
1. As transportation “stop” areas. Eg. Montreal is at the junction of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers
2. As a central place for providing markets and services for the surrounding area. Eg. Regina, SK
3. As a special function city built around a specific industry. Eg. Sudbury is a mining city

NOTE: Some cities grow so large they incorporate all of the above and become multipurpose cities. Eg. Toronto
Other important factors of where cities:
- On transport routes (water is most important)
- Reasonably flat land
- Close to some form of industry (mining, forestry)

How do we divide land in cities?
There are 6 major land uses in cities.
Can you guess what percentage of the land each of these takes up (on average)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land Use</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>% of Urban Space</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Residential</td>
<td>– single unit, row housing, apartments</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Commercial</td>
<td>– stores, malls, offices, banks, restaurants, cinemas</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Industrial</td>
<td>– factories, warehouses, manufacturing</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Transportation</td>
<td>– roads, parking lots</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Open Space &amp; Recreational</td>
<td>– parks, bikepaths, beaches, museums</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Institutional</td>
<td>– schools, churches, courts, police and fire stations, government</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is “new urbanism”?  
“NEW URBANISM promotes the creation and restoration of diverse, walkable, compact, vibrant, mixed-use communities composed of the same components as conventional development, but assembled in a more integrated fashion, in the form of complete communities.”—NewUrbanism.org

Sooo......
- Focus on walkability from homes to businesses/services/theatres/schools/parks
- Focus away from roads/garages/automobiles and more on public transit/porches/community building
- Effort made to use earth-friendly structures, energy conservation, and historical preservation

Do you see this at work in Barrhaven? Do you see areas in Barrhaven where it seems developers are trying to go in that direction? Has it been successful? Why or why not?