

PLANNING INSTITUTE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

# PLANNING WEST

Fall 2022

*FORWARD THINKING  
SHAPING COMMUNITIES*



**2022 NATIONAL  
PLANNING CONFERENCE  
AND PIBC AWARDS**





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### **VANCOUVER OFFICE**

1616-808 Nelson Street  
Box 12147 - Nelson Square  
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2H2  
T: 604.689.7400  
F: 604.689.3444  
Toll Free: 1.800.665.3540

---

### **KELOWNA OFFICE**

201-1456 St. Paul Street  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 2E6  
T: 250.712.1130  
F: 250.712.1880

[www.younganderson.ca](http://www.younganderson.ca)

# PLANNING WEST

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Dave Crossley  
Executive Director  
Tel: 604.696.5031 Fax: 604.696.5032  
Email: dave.crossley@pibc.bc.ca

Opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of PIBC, its Board of Directors, or the Planning West Editorial Team

The primary contact for Planning West is **Maria Stanborough** RPP, MCIP  
Editor

Please send submissions to editor@pibc.bc.ca

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Tel: 604.696.5031  
Fax: 604.696.5032  
Email: info@pibc.bc.ca

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**PIBC** PLANNING INSTITUTE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

FORWARD THINKING  
SHAPING COMMUNITIES

The Planning Institute of British Columbia (PIBC) recognizes, acknowledges, and appreciates that we are able to live, work, and learn on the traditional territories of the First Nations and Indigenous peoples of BC and Yukon. Acknowledging the principles of truth and reconciliation, we recognize and respect the history, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Metis, Inuit, and all Indigenous peoples of Canada whose presence continues to enrich our lives and our country.



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### ON THE COVER

This year's national planning conference was jointly hosted by the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) and PIBC in Whistler, BC. This was the first back-in-person annual conference for PIBC since 2019.



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It's already October and cooler crisp mornings signal the change from Summer to Fall. It can be a time to look ahead, and also at time to reflect as the break that summer brought for many, with vacations and more relaxed routines, has passed. And for a number of us it was a chance to gather, connect and learn at Elevation 2.0 in beautiful Whistler this past July. The returning national conference co-hosted by PIBC and CIP was a memorable one in many ways. Highlights from my experience were the in-person reconnections with familiar colleagues as well as meeting many new ones.

In my role as President, the week in Whistler was also filled with various meetings as well – ranging different national meetings to our own PIBC Annual General Meeting (thank you to everyone who attended) and our own Board meeting as well. I will always cherish the meaningful opportunity to experience a Blanket Ceremony hosted at the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre for myself and the other Presidents from our profession across Canada. It was a moving and powerful contemplative experience in an amazing setting.

Special thanks to all those who worked diligently over several years to bring this year's amazing conference to reality following an unexpectedly challenging period. It was truly a time to celebrate our profession and acknowledge the amazing work happening in BC, Yukon, across Canada, and beyond. Our sincere thanks to the many local volunteers, presenters, sponsors, attendees, and staff who all contributed to a successful conference. And make sure you note the dates and call for program proposals for next year's PIBC annual conference taking place May 31st – June 2nd in Sun Peaks. I encourage members to mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Congratulations to all our 2022 PIBC award winners for continuing to set the bar for excellence with your planning work and for our profession! The many winners were recognized at the conference in Whistler this past July. And if you haven't had a chance yet to review the details of the winning submissions, I encourage you to check them out here in this issue of *Planning West* and on our website as well.

The PIBC Board got together in August to participate in a facilitated equity, diversity, and inclusion training workshop, in keeping with our strategic plan objectives. This was an informative and helpful initial session with Board members learning and sharing experiences. It was undertaken in support of PIBC's broader strategic goals around improving accessibility and inclusivity for our Institute and profession.

Other work of the Board continued with a workshop session and regular meeting in early October, where we finalized our 2023 operating budget and determined membership fees for the coming year. With a strong financial position, the Board was able to keep PIBC's membership fees unchanged while also

giving consideration to how our resources, capacity, and financial reserves could be leveraged to support key initiatives identified in the strategic plan (including work on justice, equity, diversity, decolonization & inclusion) as well as to maintain ongoing programs and services. The new budget includes enhanced resources to support local PIBC chapters, volunteer recognition, conference funding for student members, and new resources for work to support other emerging professionals and diverse future leaders (under the Member Engagement Committee), among other areas.

The Board received an informative and valuable presentation and update from our Planning Practice & Reconciliation Committee, with the Board providing its support and approving additional funding for their work towards meaningful actions to guide our profession and the Institute in coming years. The Board also reviewed and finalized initial terms of reference for a new JEDDI (justice, equity, diversity, decolonization & inclusion) task force to move forward with some of the key strategic goals in this area over the coming months.

Members of the Board and other volunteer members and Registered Professional Planners (RPPs) remain actively engaged in various national activities and initiatives within our profession across Canada. Ongoing work under the national Professional Standards Committee (SC) has included continued progress on the development of a new National Competencies Framework underpinning the shared national standards for professional certification and university program accreditation. The Board benefited from a valuable online presentation in September from the SC reviewing the process to date and background information on the development of the new Framework. Further work on refining the proposed Framework by the SC is upcoming, as is the remaining process of engagement with and final approval by the various professional institutes and associations across Canada.

As we move through the coming months, we look ahead to the return of our annual in-person meeting of local Chapter representatives, our annual celebratory World Town Planning Day event on November 5th, and our next Board meeting in Nanaimo, which will be held in conjunction with a Vancouver Island University (VIU) student and member event (following the successful UBC-SFU student event held in Vancouver in early October). We look forward to these events and activities as we move through the Fall of this year.

**David Block** RPP, MCIP



# OUTLINES



What's Trending?... Member in Focus...



Women Transforming Cities (WTC) works with community partners and local municipalities to create "places where everyone can belong." Photo courtesy of WTC.

## What's Trending?

by **Cindy Cheung** PIBC Communications & Marketing Specialist

In this issue, we continue to highlight passionate organizations and advocacy groups that reach out with education, training and useful resources for creating more equitable communities. From an Indigenous-led society working to foster and share deeper understanding of Indigenous cultural perspectives to volunteers and advocates pushing for more equitable and stronger cities, take a read or listen to what they have to offer to enhance the worldview lens for planners.

### Indigenous Perspectives Society – Community Education

@IPSociety\_ca

Action Through Education. The Indigenous Perspectives Society (IPS) is a charitable, not-for-profit social organization that offers training and consulting services to help foster a deeper understanding of Indigenous perspectives, cultural differences, and the need for self-determination. Since the Society began 30 years ago as the Caring for First Nations Children

Society, its core mandate has been to support Indigenous children, youth, families and businesses.

IPS's education and training are strongly grounded in Indigenous worldviews to help deepen understanding of Indigenous perspectives and cultural differences. Strategic planning, cultural knowledge needs assessments, and policy development are some of the consulting services offered.

Visit the [IPS Training Calendar](https://ipsociety.ca/training) for more details on its Community Education workshops at <https://ipsociety.ca/training>.

### Women Transforming Cities – Monthly Newsletter

@womentcities

This year, Women Transforming Cities (WTC) celebrates its 10 year anniversary. A grassroots community of self-identifying women who contribute their expertise, time and passion as volunteers, WTC works with community partners and municipalities to continually advocate for transforming cities into "places where everyone can belong, participate, and have social, economic and political equity."

#### Stay Updated with PIBC e-News!

Keep up-to-date regularly with current Institute & local planning news, events and job opportunities with PIBC e-News! The Institute's electronic newsletter is emailed to members every other Wednesday. Haven't seen your PIBC e-News? Check your spam/junk email folder and be sure to add [enews@pibc.bc.ca](mailto:enews@pibc.bc.ca) to your contacts.

## You should read

- ... their latest newsletters! Be sure to check out their Take Action and Read, Watch and Learn sections to find out what partner organizations and advocacy groups are currently working on. With informative links to articles & podcasts shared each month, you can:
- Listen to a CBC podcast about Buffy Sainte-Marie, one of the most prolific singer-songwriters of the past century (August)
- Read *The Road to Safety – Indigenous Survivors in BC Speak Out Against Intimate Partner Violence During the Covid-19 Pandemic* report (August)
- Learn more about the Vancouver Aboriginal Health Society's *30 Days of Truth and Reconciliation* where one personal action “that promotes genuine understanding and commitment to change” is posted per day (September)
- Read an article from *UN Women* on how gender inequality and climate change are interconnected. (September)

Want more? Sign up for WTC's monthly newsletter at:  
<https://www.womentransformingcities.org/newsletters>

## Strong Towns – Podcasts

@StrongTowns

During the PIBC 2021 Annual Conference, Charles Marohn (Strong Towns founder & President) joined us online as one of our keynote speakers, sharing his experiences as a land planner and professional engineer. He spoke of how North American towns can be rejuvenated to become safe, liveable and financially resilient. Now you can hear and learn more from the Strong Towns team through their three podcasts, all aimed at sharing ideas and resources to help elevate local communities and their governments in actionable collaboration to make cities of any size safe, inviting and financially viable.

Strong Towns' podcast series includes *The Bottom-Up Revolution*, *Upzoned* and the original weekly *Strong Towns Podcast*. Each podcast, featuring special guests, brings incisive and thoughtful analysis, and aims to inspire positive change.

**The Strong Towns** podcast is a weekly conversation on the Strong Towns movement, hosted by Strong Towns founder and President Charles Marohn with special guests. The podcast explores how we can financially strengthen our cities, towns, and neighborhoods.

**The Bottom-Up Revolution** podcast shines a spotlight on regular people who stepped up to make positive changes in their communities, showcasing the Strong Towns movement in action.

**The Upzoned** podcast focuses on current hot stories that need to be talked about right away.

Find all Strong Town podcasts at <https://www.strongtowns.org/podcasts>.

## Planning West Call for Submissions

Winter 2023 (February) Issue:  
**World Town Planning Day**  
**Celebrating New & Long-standing RPPs**  
Deadline for submissions: Dec 15, 2022

Spring 2023 Issue:  
**The Water Issue**  
Deadline for submissions: Mar 15, 2023

Articles should be 1000-1200 words in length in an unformatted MS Word document. **Please note:** not all articles may be accommodated based on editorial decisions and the number of submissions received.

# Member in Focus

**Bob Sokol** RPP, MCIP, AICP

Director of Planning and Capital Projects, Squamish Nation, and Member of PIBC's Planning Practice and Reconciliation Committee



Over the summer, we reached out to Bob Sokol who works with Squamish Nation to lead planning and capital projects that positively influence and shape Indigenous communities. Originally an electrical engineer from the US East Coast, Bob's desire to help improve people's lives changed his professional trajectory and inspired him to become a Registered Professional Planner. Find out what brought him and his family from the City of Vancouver in Washington State to our City of Vancouver in BC, and why this Canadian planner (Bob became a Canadian citizen this summer – congrats!) finds his current planning and volunteering work the most rewarding and enjoyable to date.

**How did you get your start in the planning profession? Was there someone or something that inspired you?**

Planning is my second career. My first career was as an electrical engineer working for a company that made scientific instrumentations. While the work was interesting – I designed and built a component of an instrument that flew to Jupiter – I felt that something was missing. I didn't see how my work would contribute to bettering people's lives. I wanted to do something more.



I had always been fascinated by cities. I grew up outside of New York and I spent a lot of time when I was growing up with my family exploring its neighbourhoods. I chose to go to university and work in Boston because it was a large, interesting city. While living there in the 1980's, I witnessed transformative change – an elevated transit line was put underground; a new sewage treatment plant resulted in a cleanup of the harbor; there was talk of moving a highway which cut through downtown underground and; gentrification and lack of housing affordability were displacing long term residents.

I didn't even know that city planning was something that a person did for a career but I knew that I wanted to be involved with making sure that all residents of a city benefitted from change. I applied to graduate school, returning to New York to attend Columbia University.

**You started your planning studies and career in the United States. What originally brought you to Canada and the West Coast?**

I completed graduate school in 1991. Washington State had just passed the Growth Management Act, which required all cities to update their plans to comply with state-wide goals. It was one of the few places in the US that was hiring planners at the time. I had long been intrigued by the Pacific Northwest as it combined the opportunity to live and work in interesting cities with amazing recreational opportunities. As an avid hiker, backpacker, backcountry skier and trail runner, Washington State was an ideal place to be. My first planning job was with the City of Vancouver, WA.

Over time, I worked my way northward to cities near Seattle. My family and I frequently travelled to Vancouver, BC, and to the Lower Mainland. We loved Vancouver and wondered if there was any way we could find work and move there. In 2007, I saw the District of West Vancouver's Planning Director position posting. I applied even though I was quite sure that it would never work out. I started my job

there in March 2008. As a postscript, I became a Canadian citizen this summer!

**You've generally worked throughout your career as a municipal planner. You are now working with the Squamish Nation to enhance and optimize their long-term sustainable land use. What excites or inspires you about this work?**

My work with the Squamish Nation is the most rewarding work of my career. There's so much for me to learn – cultural values, processes, protocols, and history. I have really honed my listening skills as I have met and spoken with people whose lives and experiences have been so different than my own.

Capacity building is also an important component of my work – how can I pass my knowledge and experience to Squamish Nation members? A Squamish youth who was considering a business degree is assisting us in outreach to other youth as we work on developing a Squamish Nation Comprehensive Community Plan. He is now asking about classes and programs in planning!

I also treasure the enthusiasm and positive feedback I receive for my work. After one presentation to Squamish Nation Council, I was told that, as a result of my work, "our ancestors are dancing." I now have a new standard for success in all of my work! My department also serves as the general contractor building homes for members. I have been present as the keys were turned over to the new homeowners, who were in tears because they never imagined they would live somewhere so beautiful.

More than any other place I have worked, every day I am reminded of the reason I became a planner in the first place; I want to make sure that everyone can influence the processes that shape their communities so that they can benefit from changes to their physical environment.

**You are a member of PIBC's Planning Practice & Reconciliation Committee. How did you become involved with this newer Committee and what are your thoughts on its role and the work ahead?**

I volunteered to become a member of PIBC's Planning Practice and Reconciliation Committee as an extension of my work with the Squamish Nation. It was a chance for me to learn more about the role that planners have played in the colonization of the territories of the Indigenous Nations of BC, and how I can influence the planning profession to change its practices to better support Indigenous ways of supporting their communities.

The Committee's work to date has focused on learning more about how planning has negatively impacted the lives of the Indigenous people of BC. The Committee will make recommendations to the PIBC Board to ensure that planners will play positive roles in supporting the rights of the Indigenous people of BC, and to plan for and build their vibrant cultures and communities as they have done since time immemorial.

It's challenging work and we have a very committed and thoughtful group of volunteers. I look forward to our regular meetings and hearing what others have to say about this important topic. I think all members of PIBC and Canadians in general will benefit from our work.

**What's something you've really enjoyed doing or experiencing this summer?**

This summer, my family and I have tried our best to be together – to be outdoors and enjoy all that the Lower Mainland has to offer, from backpacking trips in Garibaldi Provincial Park to blueberry picking in the Fraser Valley to the Richmond Night Market. ■





# REFRESHED, REINVIGORATED, RECONNECTED Plenaries, Workshops & Socials

/ Maria Stanborough RPP, MCIP

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM ELEVATION 2.0  
2022 NATIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE**







Keynote Mitchell Silver shared his passion for park planning and how planners can make a huge and lasting impact on the wellbeing of communities through placemaking.



Conference Co-Chair Sawngjai (Dear) Bhokanandh RPP, MCIP (top) and CIP President Dan Huang RPP, MCIP, welcomed delegates to Elevation 2.0.

THE 2022 NATIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE WAS HELD THIS JULY IN WHISTLER, BC, a partnership between the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) and the Planning Institute of BC (PIBC). While the conference provided options for both online and in-person attendance, this brief summary focuses on the in-person experience.

Below are some of my key takeaways from the plenaries, sessions, and socials.

### Excitement!

Mitchell Silver, the former Parks Commissioner for New York City, presented the conference's second plenary and provided a shot of energy into our professional outlook. He focused on the wellness aspect of planning, specifically through park planning, and paid homage to our profession as one that is dedicated to the public interest. His anecdotes about creating accessible, welcoming, and safe public spaces – and the impact they had on their communities – reminded us of the importance of our work.

Conference attendees & special guests at the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre for the Elevation 2.0 Welcome Reception.

### Innovation

A 'Planning and Biometrics' workshop explored the use of scientific tools to understand how people experience spaces in order to plan better, more welcoming, and more supportive environments for everyone – something very new in the planning toolkit!

### Reconnection

Talking in-person, going for walks, and catching up face-to-face. Everyone I spoke with at the conference felt a sense of reconnection to the purpose of our work after two hard years of isolation and ongoing crises, and to our colleagues at the conference.

### Compassion

More than ever, this year's discussion around planning included the emotional impact of our work and planning decisions on the well-being of our communities. We heard this clearly in the first plenary, with speakers representing diverse governmental and non-profit organizations who focused on the societal importance of affordable housing.

### Equity

Equity was a hot topic in a number of workshops. Speakers discussed how to do this work well at a time when it is hard to simply attract and retain staff. Presenters also explored the challenges of addressing equity in our work while operating in a colonial, racist, and patriarchal system where some voices have privilege over others.

### Relevance

While planners understand the significance of the work we do – creating communities that support and welcome all – we are not always supported in our efforts. One of the key moments for me was when Mitchell Silver shared a story of planning school graduates revisiting aspirational goals they had written 10 years previously – and how 10 years of working in the challenging field of planning had impacted their visions. The room full of planners unabashedly laughed at this, all understanding how our own aspirations become modified over time. Despite this, we were encouraged to revisit our aspirations and focus on the long game.



Planning for Housing plenary panel with Ren Thomas, Lilian Chau RPP, MCIP, Deanna Grinnell RPP, MCIP, Patricia Roset-Zuppa, & Esther De Vos

## Change

Planning is inherently about change – how best to plan for growth and new impacts on our work and our communities. Much of the conversation at the conference explored how we can approach our work differently. For example, one of the thought-provoking discussions included a careful study of the harm that can be caused by zoning bylaws and the importance of approaching bylaws with an

understanding that they are created in a system that is built upon privilege.

### In other moments:

Some of the other conference ideas that stand out include:

- Ensuring evaluation in the design of a project, rather than as an afterthought, can ensure its relevance. This issue also touched on the difficult question of how we measure success in ways that cannot always be quantified.
- Lilian Chau, CEO of Entre Chez Nous Housing Society, invited planners to consider how our own pension funds could better support non-profit housing, inviting us to look at our personal role in finding solutions.
- Embracing the use of ‘pilots’ to introduce change through nimble, low-cost approaches that may or may not be expanded into a larger initiative.
- Developing skills and strategies to both mitigate and adapt to climate change all

Delegates enjoyed connecting and learning at Elevation 2.0, the first in-person national planning conference co-hosted by CIP and PIBC since the start of the pandemic.







Conference closing reception at the Roundhouse Lodge high atop Whistler Mountain

across British Columbia, as required by each unique community.

- Making room for change from the grassroots up – whether in the Regional District of Metro Vancouver’s delivery of equity or through the Eastside Arts Society advocating for the protection of artists’ spaces in East Vancouver.
- The emphasis on the “all hands on deck” approach that is necessary to ensure affordable and accessible housing for

everyone that was stressed in the first plenary on housing.

Next year’s PIBC annual conference will be held at Sun Peaks near Kamloops. It will, no doubt, be another great event both online and in-person.

Mitchell Silver’s and other Conference presentations can be accessed on the CIP website: <https://www.cip-icu.ca/News-Events/National-Conference-/Elevation-2-0-2022-Presentations#> ■

Maria Stanborough is the former editor of *Planning West* and is grateful for the five years she could contribute to PIBC while better understanding planning across the province. She especially appreciates the involvement and commitment of the PIBC’s members (and some non-members) in making this publication and organization a success.

We were honoured to have members of the Skwxwú7mesh and Lil’wat Nations lead a traditional drumming procession to the Welcome Reception.



# ASKING TOUGH QUESTIONS: USING AN EQUITY LENS IN SOCIAL PLANNING AND POVERTY REDUCTION

Conference session summary by Steffi Sunny, PIBC Candidate Member

## Speakers from LevelUp Planning:

**Dr. Victoria Barr – Principal**

**Lavleen Sahota – Community Health and Equity**

**Celeste Zimmer – Community Engagement**

Dr. Victoria Barr began the session by presenting the difference between equality and equity. Equality means to give everyone the same because we assume that everyone has the same needs, but in reality everyone's needs and wants are not the same. Victoria highlighted that people have different lived experiences and listening to their unique experiences is the first step towards integrating equity.

We all know the golden rule (treat everyone the way you would like to be treated), but Victoria shared a **platinum rule**, which is treat everyone the way *they* would like to be treated. She further defined intersectionality as a complex and cumulative way in which the effects of multiple forms of discrimination (race, sex, class, etc.) combine, overlap and intersect the experiences of marginalized individuals or groups. Without considering intersectionality, an action that aims to address justice towards one group may end up inflicting systems of inequity experienced by other groups, says Victoria.

She emphasized the importance of reflecting deeply on who gets to engage in planning processes and who gets left out. Finally, she encouraged all of us to recognize the biases and privileges we bring into our everyday interactions and planning work.

Lavleen Sahota presented the approach the consulting team took for poverty reduction plans through the engagement, data collection, reporting and implementation phases. The consulting team formed a Steering Committee consisting of individuals and organizations who had already

built a foundation of trust with individuals who would be hard to reach otherwise. Innovations in their approach included how the team put in the effort to connect with the Punjabi international student community in Delta by going to the Sikh temple (Gurdwara), cricket fields and to other community locations.

Some of the key learning points that were shared by Lavleen, Celeste and Victoria were:

## Community engagement:

- Do intentional outreach.
- Use an equity lens for meeting people where they are at.
- Start by building trust in relationships with those people who have already established those relationship.
- Provide honoraria as a token of appreciation for people's time.

## Data analysis

- Centre voices of those who typically are not represented
- Recognize that at the end of the day, data numbers represent real people
- Be critical of data, how it is collected, and how it is presented

## Reporting

- Make sure to bring equity issues to the forefront of any reporting, despite stigma or how uncomfortable that may make people feel.
- Emphasize quotes as much as possible, but get people's permission before sharing

- Find balance between being true to the data you are collecting and presenting it in a consumable way.

## Relationships

- Take time to check in with one another before working or setting an agenda
- Honour the relationships made and the time taken to build them. Remember that building trust and relationships is not necessarily a straight road and that's okay.

## Language matters

- 'Visible minority' is an offensive term – be specific as to ethnocultural representations
- Be aware that your non-reaction to something that someone else may react to is a sign of your privilege.

## Being intentional

- Ask who is going to benefit from a policy, program, initiative or service and who might be excluded or harmed
- Bring your whole self to work. Your personal identity shapes the world that you experience

## Balance upstream (root causes) and downstream (impacts) actions

- Offer a wide range of actions that address immediate needs as well as the root causes
- Focusing too heavily on tangible quick wins (e.g. a food bank) has the potential to solidify something that could be problematic in the long term (e.g. dependence on external 'saviours') ■

*“We need to walk with people on their journey, not to get too far ahead of them or push them from behind.”*

– Dr. Victoria Barr



## LET'S JUST MAKE IT A PILOT!? AN INTERACTIVE PRESENTATION AND DIALOGUE

Conference session summary by  
Lindsay Allman RPP, MCIP

### Speakers:

**Spencer Croil – Land Development Manager with City of Lethbridge**

**Melanie Messier – Planner with Town of Coaldale**

Calling all planners who are struggling to implement new ideas, fighting with their excel project budgets, lacking motivation in their planning practice, or burnt out from their stale routine: this session is speaking to you!

Planners Spencer Coil (City of Lethbridge) and Melanie Messier (Town of Coaldale) presented their interactive session, “Let’s Just Make it a Pilot!?” with the same enthusiasm as the punctuation in their presentation title. Together the duo created a dialogue with lively energy, starting the room off by initiating a group “woooo!” and Spencer admitting that he is “convinced we’re all living in a big experiment.” Have Spencer and Melanie piqued your interest yet?



So, what is a pilot project? According to the Project Management Institute, “fundamentally a pilot often means a leading effort intended to determine viability.” Melanie simplified this on a practical level, explaining that a pilot project is testing out your ideas with a limited budget. Some common examples that you may have heard of include food trucks; allowing backyard hens or bees; permitting alcohol in parks, parklets, street patios; and installing temporary bike lanes.

As planners, we all know that securing a reasonable project budget can be frustrating. Other departments are fighting for money from the same bucket and sometimes we have to admit defeat and let the engineers take more from the funding pool for their flood mitigation project (which arguably IS more important, so we will accept it). So, how can we get our projects that will create healthy, happier communities off the ground? Pilot projects are your friend – it is always easier to say “yes” to a small budget of perhaps under \$10,000!

When planning your pilot, you must outline 3 important pieces to move forward and show to your boss and to your Council why this is a project to support:

1. Geography: Where do you want the pilot project to occur? How much space will it take up? What time of the year do you plan to initiate the project?
2. Time: How long will the pilot be operating? Is it 24/7, or only during a certain time of the day?
3. Money: How much money do you need to get this test off the ground? Try to utilize relationships as much as possible – local high school students may be able to provide more assistance as part of a school credit than you think.



Once you get the green light and initiate the pilot, your work is just beginning. Whether you are aware of your inner creativity or not, the design thinking process which you are undertaking in your pilot project is a loop:

Identify/empathize with stakeholders → define problem/opportunity → identify/design solutions with stakeholders → design pilot and present to decision makers → launch pilot and record results → repeat → repeat → repeat → hopefully permanently implement.

For the remainder of the session the presenters showcased several pilot projects that they had successfully implemented. These included improving accessibility, developing wayfinding, creating a healthy community toolkit, and gamifying the downtown to activate the streets. Attendees were scribbling away ideas that they could take back to their own employers and thoughts were popping out across the audience.

Spencer and Melanie finished their presentation with several key takeaways:

1. “The proof is in the pudding.” The pilot being the delicious pudding, of course.
2. A successful pilot project relies on four things: relationships (old and new), empathy, willingness to fail, and a good pitch.
3. Failure is part of the creative process. If your pilot is cancelled or a hilarious disaster, try not to be dissuaded – your ideas are appreciated and needed in the community. Chances are, residents WANT you to try something else for pilot 2.0 or even 5.0.

So, are you ready to plan your next pilot project? ■

# DECOLONIZING PLANNING THROUGH CULTIVATING SAFE SPACES

Conference session summary by Lindsay Allman RPP, MCIP

## Speakers from Alderhill Planning Inc:

**Elaine Mackensie Alec – Partner & Operations**

**Kate Davis – Planner**

telxnitkw (“Standing by Water”), also known as Elaine Alec, is a Syilx and Secwepemc woman and an author, political advisor, women’s advocate, spiritual thought leader and teacher. Elaine is one of the founding partners of Alderhill Planning Inc., and is a leading expert in Indigenous community planning. Her session “Decolonizing Planning through Cultivating Safe Spaces” invited the room to pause, reflect, and begin to decolonize ourselves and our space through two important strategies: listen with discipline and speak from the heart.

What does this mean? Listening with discipline means actively listening when someone is talking to you. Rather than working up a response as they share their thoughts, stop and truly listen – even if you disagree with the person in front of you. Speaking from the heart is a reminder to be authentic, real and honest. Colonized society often frowns upon displaying emotions in professional settings; Elaine encouraged us to remove this stigma so

that we may embrace and understand our raw human emotions.

“Decolonization is an act,” and decolonization IS cultivating safe spaces. Elaine explained that colonized systems are based on fear and control, and decolonization aims to break this narrative down by fostering safe spaces. Elaine also noted that decolonizing requires trusting yourself and recognizing that, as individuals, we must create our own safe spaces. This might seem like an unpopular notion in our current media environment, but Elaine explained that creating your own safe space is empowering yourself to take control of your life.

### How can we cultivate safe spaces?

#### Four key points were:

##### Understand self:

- Two big questions you should ask yourself are “Who am I?” and “What’s on my heart?”.

##### Foster a love-based practice (trust):

- Frequent ask yourself the question, “how do we decolonize?”. Listen to your gut feelings – they exist for a reason. For example, if enforcing a policy feels bad, then what are we going to do about it?

Ask yourself if you are making decisions from a place of fear or a place of trust?

##### Patience:

- Patience for ourselves and for others. Forgive yourself and others because you do not know their past traumas.

##### Discipline:

- Not listening is a tool of colonization to allow people to assert dominance through fear and control. Work to listen without judging despite whether what a person says is good or bad. Do not focus on trying to change someone’s opinion. This allows everyone to feel heard and seen.

Elaine’s presentation was riveting, thought provoking, and emotional. Her unapologetic guidance to create inclusive, safe spaces for others while taking responsibility to create safe spaces for ourselves resonated with the crowd. As Elaine reflected, “Reconciliation can only happen when we become accountable.”

To learn more about Elaine and her story, be sure to check out her podcasts and her book *Calling My Spirit Back*. ■

Traditional drumming procession by members of the Skwxwú7mesh and Lilwat Nations leading delegates to the welcome reception.







## IMPLEMENTING CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY AT THE MUNICIPAL LEVEL – LESSONS FROM ONTARIO’S MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE REVIEWS

Conference session summary by Alison McNeil, PIBC Retired Member

### Speakers:

**Jacyln Hall** – Senior Consultant with Hemson Consulting

**Russell Mathew** – Partner with Hemson Consulting

**Laura Taylor** – Principal with Laura Taylor Designs and Associate Professor with York University

Reaching the federal target of net zero emissions by 2050 will require significant action by municipalities. In the words of speaker Laura Taylor, cities have to make the most change and focus on the highest emitting sectors within their boundaries – buildings and transportation.

Regions and municipalities in southern Ontario’s Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH) area in particular have a major challenge and role to play given their collective population size, density and growth rate. Currently this area is home to 10 million people (26% of Canada’s population and economy) and will increase to 15 million by 2051.

From their experience as consultants working with GGH municipalities, the three speakers provided reflections on how municipalities and regions are meeting this challenge through land use planning. For those in the audience not from Ontario, the session also provided a crash course on Ontario’s labyrinthine planning framework and hierarchy.

The Province of Ontario has set a 2051 planning horizon for Municipal Comprehensive Reviews (MCRs) for the GGH Regions of Peel and Halton, the County of Simcoe, and City of Brampton. Plans at both the regional and local levels must be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and Provincial Growth Plan.

The Provincial Growth Plan sets population and employment targets that these municipalities must plan to meet, while also achieving the federal target of net zero by 2050. Speaker Jacyln Hall noted that these requirements pose almost competing objectives, given to date that growth has co-evolved with use of fossil fuels.

Laura Taylor noted that Municipal Comprehensive Reviews, which are major multi-year undertakings, will at best, result in good growth management. This will bring more compact urban form, greater building efficiencies (e.g. through green building codes), and low carbon infrastructure.

How are southern Ontario municipalities in the GGH doing? Through her work with municipalities for their MCR process, Laura Taylor sees three types: those that are proactive, those that are reactive, and those that are “otherwise preoccupied.”

Proactive municipalities, such as the City of Brampton, embrace reduced energy use as a part of spatial planning. They go beyond the basics by integrating GHG reductions in all planning tools and all phases of development review and approval. They support policy implementation, and the regional and local municipalities are in sync and working together.

Reactive municipalities in Greater Golden Horseshoe, such as the Region of Halton, started the MCR process but have not completed it due to shifting priorities including, ironically, declaration of climate emergencies.

Otherwise preoccupied municipalities, such as Simcoe County, are meeting the minimum compliance with provincial requirements. However, energy and emission reduction strategies have been punted to subsequent planning exercises and the

roles of upper and lower tier municipalities are still to be worked out.

The final speaker, Russell Mathew, provided another perspective on efficacy of municipal action on climate change. He observed that results from planning to achieve climate change goals vary by scale. At the local scale, we know how to deliver practical measures at the subdivision level, including greener building codes, and regulation and easements for new utility models.

At the larger and longer-term scale, community and regional plans provide less certainty that planning will result in the change we need. Getting large infrastructure built takes a lot of aligned resources, and in the case of transportation, just because we have more public transit doesn’t guarantee that it will be used. In his view, the biggest source of uncertainty is us, the public, and how we will support change through our own actions.

Russell pointed out that we have done a quick energy transition before, following the first oil crisis in 1974. Within five years, a large share of buildings converted to natural gas from oil heating. Additionally, most vehicles in North America were twice as fuel efficient by 1980. These are concrete examples that we can move quickly if we have to, which is good news given we are running out of time to meet 2050 emission targets.

Through their work as consultants, they have learned that planning can be proactive, innovative, and that good planning is as important as ever. They have also learned that regional and local municipalities must be in sync, and that public education, participation and political champions are all essential to meet our climate change goals. ■

# OTTAWA'S NEW OFFICIAL PLAN: APPLYING A CLIMATE LENS & CANADA'S FIRST TRANSECT-BASED PLAN

Conference session summary by Alison McNeil, PIBC Retired Member

## Speakers:

**Don Herweyer – Director, Economic Development & Long Range Planning with City of Ottawa**

**Melissa Jort-Conway – Planner II with City of Ottawa**

City of Ottawa planners Don Herweyer and Melissa Jort-Conway teamed up in this engaging session to give us two angles on Ottawa's new Official Plan (OP).

Don focused on the use of the “transect-based” approach while Melissa focused on applying a climate lens.

A “transect-approach” is a response to the sheer size and variability of Ottawa's planning area, which is comprised of rural, suburban and urban environments. Don explained that transect planning is a new urbanism concept focused on “form and function” and identifies key patterns of development from the core moving outward. As such, it provides a better approach than Ottawa's previous 2003 Official Plan which was an amalgamation of a dozen smaller plans.

In 2001, Ottawa became the largest city in North America after amalgamation of 11 surrounding municipalities. This makes Ottawa bigger in area than the five largest cities in Canada combined.

The City is expected to grow from a population of 1 million to 1.4 million by 2046. This population growth will be accommodated within six transect areas,

with most intensification in the downtown core, followed by the inner urban area, described as mostly residential and primed for more density.

“Growth Management” – seeking higher density in existing developed areas – and “Sustainability Mobility” – aimed at a majority of trips to be by public transit – comprise two of the Plan's five ‘big moves’ or main goals.

One of the primary transportation objectives is to connect the suburbs to the downtown core by light rail transit (LRT), shifting away from reliance on buses and cars. It would have been interesting to hear more about how public transit planning and governance is coordinated with land use plans, given the Ontario government's call in November 2021 for a public inquiry into the Ottawa LRT.

Another big move is focused on economic development. This goal will require coordination with multiple actors, including the National Capital Commission and Ottawa airport, as well as focusing on different economic sectors, including local food production.

In the session's second half, Melissa Jort-Conway focused on the how and what of including a climate change response in the OP, the Plan's third big move. City Council's adoption of Ottawa's Climate Change Master Plan in 2020 paved the way for integration of its key goals and

actions in the OP, with direct links to specific greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and adaption strategies to build climate resilience. Melissa noted that the City's land use plan *is* its Climate Plan, an important take-away for any planner.

As the only planner in the Climate Change unit, Melissa described how she brought together professionals from other agencies, including Ottawa Public Health. These partners contributed vital resources such as heat maps to show the predicted impacts of climate change in the Ottawa area. The collaborative approach was vital for the development of the Climate Change Master Plan and its subsequent integration into the OP.

The session ended with plans for implementation and monitoring of Ottawa's new OP. Among these are future policy studies on inclusionary zoning around transit stations, and adding new metrics to monitor progress, such as the number of ‘15 minute’ proximate neighbourhood amenities.

Melissa and Don provided final reflections on their lessons learned and successes. Through the process “intensification” became a target for push-back from some in the community. This showed the need to emphasize a balanced approach to growth management and the need for political champions, all good reminders for planners engaged in similar work. ■





# ALL PLANNERS ARE ADAPTATION PLANNERS

Conference session summary by Alison McNeil, PIBC Retired Member

## Speaker:

### Megan Geregthy – *Climate Change Adaption Planner with Climate Risk Institute*

This session provided by Megan Geregthy from the Ontario-based non-profit Climate Risk Institute was both highly educational and inspiring. Megan provided concrete resources and examples of how planners can help their communities adapt to climate change. She also reminded us that planners have an ethical obligation to consider climate change, noting the Canadian Institute of Planners' (CIP) Climate Change Policy “calls planners to action to create communities that are resilient and contribute to climate stability”. (see [cip-icu.ca/climatechange](http://cip-icu.ca/climatechange)).

Megan began by providing a primer on climate change – what it is, the evidence and key facts, including that Canada is warming at double the global rate. She also provided an overview of the international context and Canada's response to the Paris Agreement. Megan referenced the Pan-Canadian Framework on Climate Change as a key resource for planners and noted that the National Adaption Strategy is currently under development (consultation was open until July 15, 2022).

If the “why” of climate change adaptation is found in CIP's policy and our professional obligation as planners, the

primary goal, or “what”, is to build community resilience. This may sound simple at first glance and overwhelming at second. Either way, planners are in a key position to make a difference given our skill set, robust networks, and role with public plans and policies. Paraphrasing Megan, we don't all need to be experts, but by educating ourselves and identifying our role, we can incorporate adaptation actions in our work, one policy, one conversation at a time.

How do we as planners go about this? Megan described the adaptation planning process, starting with first visualizing your community and what your role could be, as well as identifying key parties that should be involved. Next, risks and vulnerabilities for your community should be assessed; she recommended the Climate Atlas of Canada, developed in part by CIP, as a key resource in this regard (see [climateatlas.ca](http://climateatlas.ca)).

Megan described three types of adaptation action to consider: grey (human-made infrastructure), green (natural assets) and soft (legal, socio-cultural, political, policies, etc.). To build knowledge of the entire process, she advised that climate adaption training be available to planners. The Adaptation Resource Pathway for Planners (ARPP) and BRACE resource library were identified as valuable resources (see [climateriskinstitute.ca/arp](http://climateriskinstitute.ca/arp)).

Megan concluded her interactive session with the underlying message that climate change isn't going to stop and planners can be part of the solution. She encouraged us to:

- **Investigate** opportunities and challenges for our communities.
- **Connect** with others.
- **Incorporate** climate change adaption into everything we do.
- **Be bold!**

In the final Q and A session, a couple of key points were emphasized that provide valuable take-aways for planners:

- Look for co-benefits of adaptation actions and link them to other municipal priorities (e.g. job creation). This can help get the reluctant on-board and also move multiple priorities forward simultaneously.
- Declaring climate change emergencies in communities is important but has to lead to big picture master planning.
- Look for resources for municipal capacity building in your province and from agencies like the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.
- Overwhelmingly, adaptation planning will be less expensive than reacting to extreme climate events. ■



# 2022 PIBC AWARDS

/ Kelly Chan *PIBC Member Services Coordinator*

The PIBC Awards for Excellence in Planning honour the best in professional planning work undertaken by members in communities and regions across British Columbia and Yukon.

Award winners were celebrated in Whistler, BC on July 6, 2022, at CIP & PIBC's joint national conference, Elevation 2.0.



## **Award for Excellence in Planning Practice, City & Urban Areas Gold Winner**

**TITLE: Community-led Approach to Neighbourhood Character**

**AUTHORS: The District of West Vancouver and Neighbourhood Character Working Group**

The West Vancouver Neighbourhood Character Working Group was tasked with proposing regulations and policies that respect and sustain the character and heritage of West Vancouver single-family neighbourhoods. Through the dedication of the Working Group, their extensive community consultation over 26 months, interdepartmental collaboration between staff, and Council's commitment to implement workable solutions to a perennial community concern, regulations are now in place across 11,000 lots. These regulations ensure that new homes not only

## **Award for Excellence in Planning Practice, Small Town & Rural Areas Gold Winner**

**TITLE: Uptown District Revitalization Strategy**

**AUTHORS: City of Port Alberni, Vancouver Island University, and Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Research Institute**

Amidst both a housing crisis and a sudden renewal of development interest, the Uptown District Revitalization Strategy provides recommendations for partnerships and policies intended to address the effects of historic economic decline on a downtown commercial core. This strategy recognizes the complexity of neighbourhood renewal and the need to take a multifaceted approach to address the needs of the small community in ways that are socially, environmentally, and economically viable through a lens that seeks justice, equity, and inclusion for the diversity of community members.

The strategy's recommendations are based on best practices and community input. The strategy will inform future policy goals and objectives in the Official



preserve but enhance West Vancouver’s neighbourhood character.

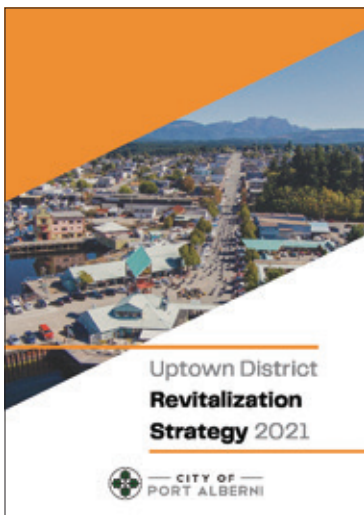
This community-led approach has led to coach houses being the norm rather than the exception for both new and existing homes in West Vancouver. Floor area can be transferred from main houses to coach houses, limits now exist for the size of new houses, and smaller homes on smaller lots can be achieved through subdivision. The District has delivered innovative solutions to address increasing building bulk, lack of housing diversity, and threats to neighbourhood vibrancy.

The jury appreciated the thoughtful strategy to intensify, diversify, and socially integrate housing by this initiative. While changes delivered were incremental, it is an impressive feat to successfully get approval through the politically fraught process of zoning amendments in a municipality that is not fond of change. This effort showed great creativity, forward thinking, and courage.



Community Plan, including Development Permit Areas, updates to the Zoning Bylaw, future neighbourhood plans, and other relevant policies and regulations.

The jury appreciated that the strategy addresses very real issues of crime prevention, poverty reduction, and economic development, especially in the wake of the pandemic. They were impressed that despite a small budget, it did not compromise on timeline and public engagement.



## Award for Excellence in Planning Practice, Small Town & Rural Areas Silver Winner

**TITLE:** Prince Rupert OCP and Visioning Processes

**AUTHORS:** City of Prince Rupert, iPlan Planning and Development Services, Beasley & Associates, and CIVITAS Studio

The City of Prince Rupert Official Community Plan is intended to manage and guide anticipated growth from future Port development. As the final stage in a six-year planning process, it was heavily influenced by the Redesign Rupert visioning initiative. The visioning initiative featured extensive community engagement and collaboration with First Nations, industry,

local businesses, and grassroots organizations, which culminated in the Prince Rupert 2030 Vision document.

The final OCP addresses principles specific to Prince Rupert that grew out of the Vision 2030 process. Through extensive mapping, detailed guidelines, and progressive policies, including a chapter on food systems planning, it directs future development and policy planning in the City.

The jury felt that the focus on food security and resilience added an aspect of sustainability that would not normally be a focus for a downtown visioning process or an OCP in a small northern community. They appreciated such an ambitious plan for growth and requirements for development, including policies for all aspects of community development.



## Award for Excellence in Policy Planning, City & Urban Areas Gold Winner

**TITLE:** Seven Bold Steps for Climate Action

**AUTHOR:** City of New Westminster

In 2019, New Westminster was the second municipality in Metro Vancouver and the third in the Province of BC to issue a Climate Emergency Declaration. In response, the City announced their **Seven Bold Steps for Climate Action** around which City staff, residents and businesses would rally, serving as a manifesto that translates the abstract notion of a climate emergency into clear actions and goals for the City and its citizens.

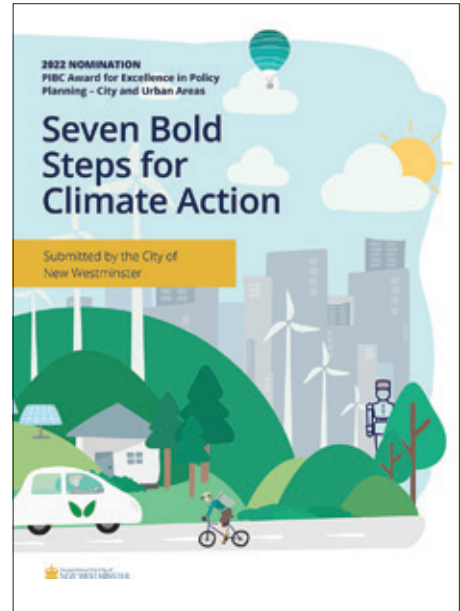
The Seven Bold Steps are:

1. Carbon-Free Corporation
2. Car-Light Community
3. Carbon-Free Homes and Buildings
4. Pollution-Free Vehicles
5. Carbon-Free Energy
6. Robust Urban Forest
7. People-Centred Public Realm

The jury felt that with this program, New Westminster has positioned itself at the forefront of applied climate action at the municipal level within Canada. The propositions are clear, vivid, practical, and compelling to the average citizen. It is an excellent example of ensuring climate action and social equity are at the forefront of all municipal decision-making, prioritizing capital projects, achieving climate action goals, and leading by example.









*The jury granted three Silver Awards for Excellence in Policy Planning, City & Urban Areas. These submissions all tackled big issues which are often given little priority, especially in communities of their size. Working with very modest budgets, these policies all punch above their weight.*

### **Award for Excellence in Policy Planning, City & Urban Areas Silver Winner**

**TITLE: Our Thriving Community: Township of Langley Social Sustainability Strategy**

**AUTHORS: Township of Langley, MODUS Planning, Design & Engagement, Solstice Sustainability Works, and Strandberg Consulting**

Our Thriving Community: Township of Langley Social Sustainability Strategy is a visionary document with concrete priorities and actions for building a more sustainable Township. Informed by extensive research and inclusive community engagement, the strategy will help sustain the positive qualities of the community through growth and change, harness the opportunities to tackle social challenges, and thrive in the face of uncertainty. The strategy establishes a clear vision for the future — a connected, inclusive, and resilient community where everyone can enjoy and contribute to a great quality of life — and sets a course to get there in collaboration with community partners.



The jury appreciated such an exciting initiative in a smaller community and suburban context. The principles and policy directions are progressive, and this community will be a more liveable place for a wider spectrum of people because of this strategy. The jury felt that this direction can be replicated for other communities in similar circumstances.



### **Award for Excellence in Policy Planning, City & Urban Areas Silver Winner**

**TITLE: City of Coquitlam Child Care Partnership Strategy**

**AUTHOR: City of Coquitlam**

As a fast-growing city with significant family and child population growth projected over the next decade, there is great and growing need in Coquitlam for equitable access to affordable, high quality child care. The Child Care Partnership Strategy provides clarity with respect to the City's role and establishes pathways for the City to support improvement of the local child care system.

The strategy includes a child care needs assessment that provides background and baseline information; a vision statement; long and short-term targets for new licensed child care spaces; evidence-based, concrete actions to improve child care in four strategic directions; and an implementation plan with clear timelines and defined roles and responsibilities. Since improvement of child care systems requires the cooperation, coordination, and support of all







levels of government as well as private and non-profit actors, the strategy emphasizes a partnership-based approach.

The jury found this submission tackled a topic that has been under-resourced for years. Through its innovative use of impact assessment and targets for child care provision based on growth and needs, it sets a good reference of social planning for other Canadian suburbs.

**Award for Excellence in Policy Planning, City & Urban Areas Silver Winner**

**TITLE: Saanich Housing Strategy**  
**AUTHOR: District of Saanich**

The Saanich Housing Strategy is a 10-year planning framework that provides a roadmap for action, with clear direction on how Saanich can achieve greater housing supply, affordability and diversity, accommodating a broad range of community housing needs. The strategy builds on existing actions, supports partnerships, and focuses efforts on areas within municipal influence.

Through an expedited process, the strategy determines the most effective way forward to address complex housing issues that are vital to overall community health and well-being. Actions in the strategy focus on urban areas in close proximity to centers, villages and corridors, supporting broader Saanich goals of addressing climate change, preserving the natural environment, achieving transit-oriented development, and building walkable and healthy communities.

The jury felt that this submission was progressive with tangible implementation strategies and were happy to see the final Strategy's close alignment with Task Force recommendations.





### **Award for Excellence in Policy Planning, Small Town & Rural Areas Gold Winner**

**TITLE: City of Vernon Climate Action Plan**

**AUTHOR: City of Vernon**

With active support from its Climate Action Advisory Committee, the City of Vernon prepared its first Climate Action Plan (CAP), which was endorsed by Council in 2021. Through eight focus areas, Vernon's CAP sets out a clear path to achieve net zero GHGs by 2050. Each focus area articulates specific calls to action

for the City and for community members. The plan is in alignment with the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) targets, and includes community adaptation needed for anticipated climate impacts.

The City developed a Climate Ambassador program to reach a wide range of community members. These Ambassadors inspired and mobilized community members to work with the City to implement the Plan and become climate champions. Its success has led to a scaling up of the program, and has become a model of great interest in the Okanagan Valley. The City is now mentoring neighbouring communities on how to develop a successful Climate Ambassador volunteer engagement program.

The jury appreciated the focus on plain language public education and engagement designed for specific communities, such as through the Climate Storymap and Climate Workbook. Complex issues were made easy to understand for the general public. The training and development of Climate Ambassadors is an innovative and effective way for community mobilization.

### **Award for Excellence in Policy Planning, Small Town & Rural Areas Silver Winner**

**TITLE: City of Castlegar Housing Strategy**

**AUTHOR: City of Castlegar and Resilience Planning**

The City of Castlegar Housing Strategy outlines a five-year plan for the municipality to respond to the City's unique housing needs, addressing a full range of housing options from supportive housing, rental housing, to home ownership. It outlines two guiding principles: housing as a human right, and

an integrated systems approach. The Housing Strategy is also supplemented by an Implementation Plan that the City and its Housing Advisory Committee are actively working to apply.

The five strategies for the City to address housing needs are:

1. Create the conditions to support housing development and remove barriers
2. Embed wellness in housing
3. Municipal leadership
4. Innovation
5. Monitoring and evaluation

The jury were inspired to see a small community take the lead and coordinate with so many community groups and partners to tackle the pressing and complex issue of housing, especially with efforts to interview people with lived experience of homelessness and to compensate them for their time.



### **Award for Research & New Directions Gold Winner**

**TITLE: A Path to Partnership: A Guide to Navigating Non-Profit Partnerships with Developers in Mixed-Tenure Developments**

**AUTHORS: CitySpaces Consulting Ltd. and BC Non-Profit Housing Association**

The Mixed Tenure Partnership Guide is intended for non-profit housing providers that are exploring the idea of obtaining ownership or a long-term lease in a privately-led new development project. It was developed through a combination of research, key informant interviews, and a focus group with non-profit sector leaders. Partnerships between non-profits and developers are becoming more commonplace in British Columbia, building on the availability and increasing use of local government tools that require non-market units in multi-unit development projects.

This Guide provides clarity and direction to non-profits who are exploring new partnerships and addresses key questions such as:

- What does a non-profit need to know about the development process and their role in it?
- What kind of stake can a non-profit have in a private development?
- What questions does the non-profit need to ask when exploring a partnership?
- What are the financial commitments and risks of partnership in a mixed-tenure building?

The jury felt that this guide fills a gap that planners may not even realize exists. It is easy to read, summarizes what can be a very complex process, and provides a new level of understanding for municipal planners with respect to the risks non-profits consider prior to entering into agreements with developers. The jury hopes that this tool will accelerate the development of more non-market housing.





### Award for Research & New Directions Silver Winner

**Title: Local Government Low Carbon Building Policy Toolkit**

**Authors: Origin Sustainable Design + Planning and AES Engineering**

Many local governments have developed climate plans with ambitious GHG emission reduction targets, declared climate emergencies, and adopted the BC Energy Step Code as a means of addressing GHG emissions reduction in the building sector. Concurrently, many of these local governments also have policies and bylaws that do not support, and in some cases inhibit, construction of low carbon, high performance buildings. The BC Hydro Low Carbon Building Policy Toolkit is a new resource for local governments seeking to address barriers and make it easier to build low carbon, high performance buildings in their communities.

The jury found this toolkit to be relevant and timely, and expect that it will create benefits in municipalities small and large. Written and illustrated simply and in plain language, the approaches taken to the work are sound. The relationship between building and planning is always a challenge and this document allows for creation of better planning policies and guidelines.





**Awards for Individual Achievement**  
**Award for Leadership in Advocacy & Innovation:**  
**Kim A. Fowler RPP, MCIP**

Kim received her Master of Science in Planning degree from the University of Toronto and has had an exemplary career as a practicing planner over the last 30 years. She is the Manager of Long-Range Planning, Energy & Sustainability at the Regional District of Nanaimo and has a rich history of working in a variety of jurisdictions focusing on a diversity of planning topics. As an innovator and advocate for constructive change, four of the areas where she has excelled include:

- Providing sustainability leadership at a local and regional level;
- Helping initiate and carry out climate action;
- Introducing a Triple Bottom Line approach to development planning; and
- Being involved in social, affordable, and integrative housing.

Kim has also worked on a Lifecycle Infrastructure Cost Tool, assisted with adding a sustainability component to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Local Asset Management program, and represented PIBC on Asset Management BC for over a decade. Kim is an innovator who refuses to accept conventional wisdom and ways of doing things and strives to push the envelope and take planning to a higher level.

**Annual Student Fellowship**  
**Award Winners**



**AUTHOR: Jasmin Senghera. UBC, School of Community & Regional Planning**

**PRESENTATION: The 15-Minute Suburb: Determining the Accessibility of Amenities in the City of Surrey**

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought the 15-minute city concept back to the forefront. While there has been considerable discussion on the potential of the 15-minute city in many cities around the world, there is a lack of research on the feasibility of this concept in the Canadian suburban context. This research study hones in on the City of Surrey as a case study to address this gap and explore the feasibility of the 15-minute suburb, specifically for the seniors in the city.



**AUTHOR: Chris (Crystal) Oberg, Vancouver Island University, Master of Community Planning**

**PRESENTATION: Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas Certificate – Building Capacity for Professional Planners in BC**

The IISAAK OLAM Foundation and Vancouver Island University have the first post-secondary program specializing in lands, natural resources, and conservation: Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs). The IPCA Planning Certificate will help educate a new generation of planners with the skills, knowledge, and capacity to support the establishment and stewardship of IPCAs and other Indigenous-led conservation initiatives in the BC context. This research shared how the certificate was developed and how it can enrich planners' practice.





**AUTHOR: Mailyn Lai, Vancouver Island University, Master of Community Planning**

**PRESENTATION: "Natural" Disasters and Natural Assets: The Path to Climate Change Resiliency**

Natural assets are environmental features that provide vital services for our communities. However, they are largely undervalued and unrecognized as valued assets. This research explores how natural assets can serve as a change element for municipalities to bridge the gap between case study results and policy implementation.



**AUTHOR: Kristina Bell, Vancouver Island University, Master of Community Planning**

**Presentation: Unpacking Form-based Codes in a British Columbia Planning Context**

Form-based codes (FBCs) have been advertised as the answer to our planning problems, but where are BC's FBCs? Kristina's research examines the applicability of FBCs to planning under the Local Government Act in BC and explores the implications of trying to approximate them in practice with a case study on Whistler. This work shared key lessons learned and recommendations for local government planning.

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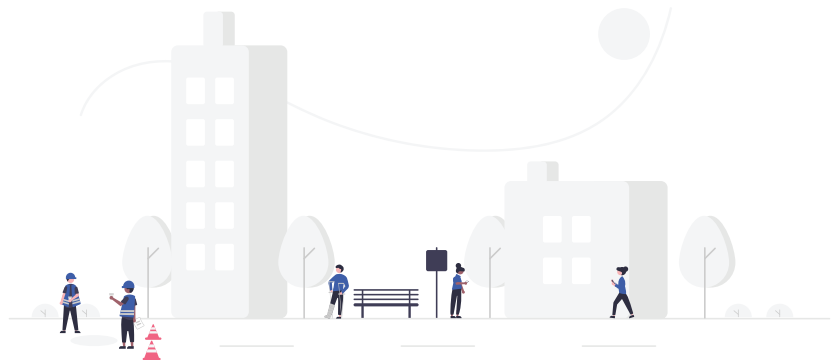


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# SOCIAL HOUSING IN MORE BACK YARDS: ADDRESSING THE HOUSING CRISIS USING “THE FAIRNESS PRINCIPLE”

/ Emilie Adin RPP, MCIP and Sara Jellicoe RPP, MCIP

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, municipalities stepped up in innovative ways to address community needs, such as safe outdoor gathering and slow streets for cyclists and pedestrians. Many are now seeing that this quick response can extend to other crises.

In BC, municipalities generally spend anywhere from two to five years building or updating their Official Community Plans (OCPs). OCPs tend to recognize the integral community benefit of social housing at a policy level, but the existing zoning may not align with the OCP vision.

Following the adoption of an OCP, municipalities don't typically pre-zone

lands to align with the OCP designations for housing. Instead, municipalities seek case-by-case “spot rezonings,” requiring a variety of development approvals and a public engagement process.

While almost all communities across BC are facing a housing crisis, getting approval for social and/or affordable housing at the neighbourhood level can often be difficult. Now more than ever it is important to engage the public in an approvals process that centres on fairness and social justice in order to address the housing crisis.

Some municipalities have begun to see social housing as being so strongly in the

public's interest that “spot-zoning” should not be required. They see the broad social benefit of deeply affordable social housing, and are pursuing as-of-right developments rather than negotiating for a variety of community amenities.

Municipalities have been inventing creative policy fixes that meet the “Fairness Principle”: removing personal bias by offering blanket policies that are applicable community-wide in an impartial manner. This idea borrows from political philosopher John Rawls' concept that ‘behind a veil of ignorance’ of your own position you can see what is fair. A number of municipalities have changed regulations without knowing yet where developments may be constructed, including in their own back yards.

The District of Squamish, the City of Victoria and the City of New Westminster have all sought to avoid site-specific Council approvals by pre-zoning for social housing.

## The District of Squamish

In September 2018, the District of Squamish passed a Zoning Bylaw amendment titled “OCP Implementation Priorities.” Along with many other changes, this amendment added the following uses as permitted in all zones: Assisted Living, Community Care, Transitional Housing (defined as “affordable, supported and independent housing for individuals making the transition from homelessness to permanent independent living... stays from 30 days to 24 months”), and Emergency Shelter.

The District's approach recognized the time, effort, and energy that residents had invested into the OCP that had been approved just earlier that year. The newly adopted OCP allowed as-of-right supportive housing options.

Building on the momentum of the OCP process, the District pre-zoned for uses that create broad social benefit, which





was seen to be a suitable response and a successful strategy, to avoid engagement fatigue. Squamish staff noted that there was little public concern with their zoning amendment. This is despite it allowing for as-of-right supportive housing, strikingly controversial in many municipalities. The bylaw enabled the District to achieve its “Bridge to Housing” temporary shelter during the pandemic in just 8 weeks.

### The City of New Westminster

In December 2021, the City of New Westminster adopted amendments to their Zoning Bylaw and Official Community Plan. These “Crisis Response Bylaw Amendments” were “to permit in all land use designations, any land uses that address... [among other things] a crisis affecting the Metro Vancouver region.” There were three conditions set on these permitted new land uses:

1. They must be provided on publicly owned/leased land;
2. They must be operated by a non-profit or public agency; and
3. They must be in response to an identified emergency or crisis.

Where Squamish’s bylaw dealt only with use, New Westminster allows any form of building as long as the use addresses a recognized crisis.

New Westminster’s focus on efficient crisis response sees municipalities as leaders in today’s dynamic world, needing to cut red tape and respond quickly to crises of all kinds: new ones (heat dome, COVID-19 pandemic), and long-standing/worsening ones (homelessness/housing, opioid poisoning). New Westminster’s relatively open interpretation of the definition of “crisis” allows the municipality to act nimbly, with some discretion, and without having to know what future crises might emerge.

New Westminster bundled consultation on several site-specific affordable housing project bylaws together with the city-wide response bylaws. Community engagement included multiple public information sessions in the fall of 2021. Municipal staff, Indigenous housing providers, and BC Housing were in attendance for questions and comments.

While there were public responses that were in opposition to site-specific bylaws, there were not to the blanket bylaws. When there was no knowledge of whether the benefit to fellow community members will occur in one’s back yard or not, there was generally less concern. This is “The Fairness Principle” in action.

### The City of Victoria

In April 2022, the City of Victoria adopted “Bylaws for Rapid Deployment of Affordable Housing.” These bylaws allow all OCP-compliant densities and housing forms intended for public housing (government-owned or non-profit) or co-operative housing to be permitted as-of-right. This essentially “pre-zones” the lands to allow for social housing along with their current zoning designations.

While Victoria’s rationale for the bylaws was to achieve OCP objectives, the word ‘crisis’ is mentioned eight times in the January staff report to Council, including: “Victoria is in a housing crisis,” and

“Victoria deals with a labour shortage that is exacerbated by the housing crisis.”

Municipalities have their part to play in securing housing for all. Squamish, New Westminster, and Victoria offer examples of how this can be done. Their bylaw amendments have been a gamechanger for the non-profit societies and governments who are working to deliver on housing projects that confer broad social benefit. Through these changes, several potential BC Housing projects are in the works. By planning for the community we want, and using “The Fairness Principle” in our engagement efforts, we can secure homes for those who need them the most. ■

Emilie is the Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development at the City of New Westminster and an Adjunct Professor at the UBC School of Community and Regional Planning.

Sara is a Development Manager at BC Housing.

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# GETTING TRACTION IN PLANNING EDUCATION – VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY’S UPDATE

/ Pamela Shaw PhD, RPP, FCIP, Mark Holland RPP, FCIP, and Tove Lundsten, PIBC Student Member Representative

It has been exciting to watch the growth and investment in planning education in the province. Each university is shaping their planning program differently – with new undergraduate programs being offered and refinements to existing graduate planning programs being undertaken.

Vancouver Island University (VIU) is a regional, special-purpose university with a long history of focusing on excellence in teaching. The Master of Community Planning Program is rooted in a concept of applied scholarship - building a disciplined academic foundation in planning, and then tying classroom-based learning to practical examples and real-life experiences.

Fall 2022 is our eighth cohort! In the lead-up to the launch of the planning school in 2015, faculty spent time answering a key question: “What does a planner need to know to be effective in practice in the 21st century?”

The challenge then was to translate the responses into a refined and intensive, two-year graduate program. The ongoing task has been to hone the initial curriculum and range of experiences each year to keep up-to-date with new and evolving issues through continuous improvement.

Prospective students are required to submit a Statement of Intent that speaks to their interest area(s), along with transcripts, a resume, and three references. The admissions process is highly competitive with many more applications than spaces in the program.

Approximately 20 to 25 students are selected for the program each year. All course work is completed between September and April over two years (a total of four semesters) and students spend the intervening summer between first and second year either conducting their research or engaging in employment in the planning field.



VIU’s professors are respected and published academics and our curriculum meets all of the Professional Standards Board’s current functional and enabling competencies relating to academics. Required courses include history, theory, research methods, policy analysis, ethics, and First Nations planning. As well, all students must complete a minimum 100-page thesis/major project.

Most all who teach in the school are also full time practitioners (“prac-academics”). As such, the focus of the curriculum is very much on the daily practice of planning in BC communities, including local government roles, consulting, First Nations, housing, and real estate development.

We are also strongly rooted in the geography of our location - issues



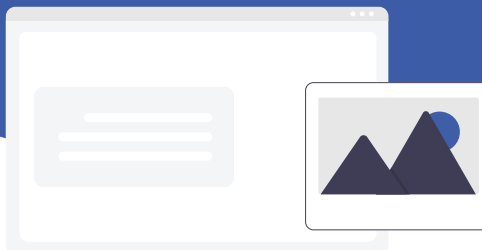


Images courtesy of the Community Planning Program

relating to islands, coasts, urban/rural interfaces, small communities, and the economics of our location. Conceptualizing the world through a focus on islands necessarily leads to intensive learnings around sustainability, equity, and the impacts of humans on fragile landscapes.

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- Understand the interconnected issues and wicked problems facing planners in the 21st century.
- Connect to PIBC/CIP and develop a commitment to becoming a Registered Professional Planner (RPP) with high standards in ethics and professionalism.

Over the years, a range of new opportunities have developed to encourage the students to learn and explore areas of personal interest through a wide range of para-academic offerings, including:

- Orientation Week: the first week of September engages students in a “deep dive” into a planning issue with a First

Nation community or local government, including a three-day charrette on a challenging site with many physical, social, cultural, environmental and contextual issues.

- Mentor Program: every student is assigned a member who is an RPP in good standing at the annual Mentors’ Banquet, a “posh affair” that happens in September of each year. The mentor program connects students to practitioners from the start of the student’s program, and ideally this mentor will be a trusted advisor for the student throughout their academic life and remain a mentor and colleague as the student advances their career.
- Research Boot Camp: all students are engaged in a two-day research experience intended to provide insight into conducting research at the highest ethical and academic standards.
- Current Planning Boot Camp: this three-day intensive puts students into the two main roles on a development

application. All students have the opportunity to play the roles of both a current planner and a developer for different applications in different municipalities. The boot camp concludes with faculty playing a mock council with all teams presenting both as applicants and as planning staff.

- Colloquia: students have the opportunity to attend many formally organized presentations each term on a range of interesting issues, delivered by RPPs or others in related professions.
- Certificate Courses: Students can choose to complete the Urban and Regional Planning Certificate while enrolled at VIU in addition to their degree. These six one-day courses focus on issues not otherwise addressed in the classroom. Students may also choose to extend their education through two additional larger academic Certificate programs that are part of the MCP “ecosystem” – the Professional Indigenous Lands Management

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Certificate (<https://socialsciences.viu.ca/indigenous-lands-management>) and the Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas Planning Advanced Certificate (<https://socialsciences.viu.ca/indigenous-protected-and-conserved-areas-planning>).

- Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Research Institute (MABRRI): the Program is affiliated with a UNESCO-designated Biosphere Region and many students are employed each year on community-based applied research projects. This institute has grown to be the largest research and engagement institute at VIU within a few years.
- Future Plans: Students founded “Future Plans”, a peer-reviewed journal for students all across Canada. All students are invited to publish an article or review and the journal specifications are available at [www.futureplansjournal.com](http://www.futureplansjournal.com).
- Connecting to the Profession: Students are invited to engage in a broad range of formal and informal events and experiences with PIBC’s Vancouver Island North Chapter. Highlights for this year include Park(ing) Day in September and the Urban Issues Film Festival, which is held annually in conjunction with the local celebration of World Town Planning Day.

The planning landscape is ever-changing. Recent years have exposed systemic inequities and brought to light issues relating to justice, equity, inclusion, and diversity. The MCP Program at VIU will continue to evolve and adapt to meet the challenge of graduating the next generations of planners who can “hit the ground running” as effective, contributing, and world-changing professionals. ■

Pamela Shaw is the Director of the Master of Community Planning Program.

Mark Holland is a professor in the Community Planning Program and a Principal at Westplan Consulting Group.

Tove Lundsten is a Master of Community Planning Candidate.

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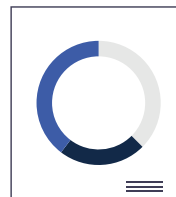
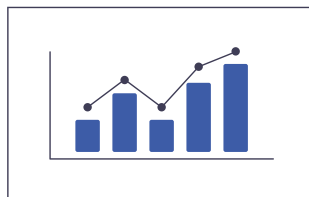


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## REMEMBERING LINDA LESLIE ALLEN RPP, FCIP 1949–2022



Prepared by Noha Sedky RPP, MCIP  
and Jada Basi RPP, MCIP

*A legend of the planning profession in Canada, Linda Allen made a lasting impact on communities across the country, inspiring young planners, and blazing a path for women in planning and business.*

Originally from Ontario, Linda studied Community and Regional Planning at the University of Waterloo and received her Master's degree at Carleton University. Early in her career, Linda moved to Edmonton and worked with the Alberta Task Force on Urbanization before she returned to Ontario to become a Senior City Planner for the City of Ottawa. She worked on formative projects including the City's Official Community Plan and the creation of the Rideau Centre.

Linda moved to British Columbia in the 1980s, where she co-founded CitySpaces Consulting as a planning and development firm with partner and co-founder Gwyn Symmons. Linda was a visionary entrepreneur, establishing a values-based firm committed to "building lasting and livable communities." A brilliant strategist, Linda developed the company's core values and expanded the business into Vancouver

and throughout the province. She was its President and Principal for 35 years.

*"As a friend and colleague in planning for over 40 years, I have always admired Linda's energy, brilliant mind, integrity, and her sense of adventure and fun. Our profession will miss a great influencer and I will miss a very dear friend."*

– Andy Hiscox RPP, MCIP

Linda was a skilled policy analyst, enthusiastic researcher, and highly effective writer. She was known for communicating complex issues clearly and concisely; striving for the highest standards and ethics; and always exploring innovative solutions in policy and practice that were true to the communities in which she worked. Linda crafted numerous plans, strategies, and policy documents, including authoring sections of the *Local Government Act*, which continues to guide municipalities to include affordable housing and special needs housing in their Official Community Plans. She was a creative thinker and problem solver, encouraging clients and colleagues to identify real solutions, draw on innovation and good practice, and ultimately achieve better communities.

*"Linda was a true leader and mentor who saw the potential in peoples' abilities long before they did. She was a connector and facilitator of many great relationships, projects and processes, a warm-hearted people person who will be missed tremendously."*

– Heike Schmidt RPP, MCIP

She made countless contributions to the profession including her former role as the President of the Planning Institute of British Columbia and as a mentor and supporter of students and young professionals. Linda was appointed to the accreditation board for the School of Community and Regional Planning and a member of the Real Estate Council of BC for several years. In 2002, she became a Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Planners and in 2020, PIBC granted Linda a Life Member designation of the Institute.

The breadth of Linda's influence and impact is extraordinary. With quiet strength, she inspired many young planners to take initiative and drive change in their communities. Linda believed that every community had a story to tell. She always enjoyed travelling to new communities,

highlighting what was unique and special about each place, and encouraging them to build on the foundation of their past while moving toward a more healthy and inclusive future.

*"Linda was an entrance point to the planning profession for so many of us. She was a memorable first encounter with a planner for me. She highlighted the best of planning practice — deep listening and engagement, a deft hand with policy writing, curiosity about people and the places they called home, commitment to social justice and equity, and a deep joy at being part of building community in diverse places. May we all take those attributes forward with us in her memory."*

– Lindsay Chase RPP, MCIP

As a community planner, Linda was driven by her ideals of equity, affordability, and social sustainability. Through her values-based approach and commitment to affordable housing, effective solutions to homelessness, and good quality community planning, Linda made a lasting imprint on the communities she served and helped improve the lives of thousands of Canadians.

*"I am deeply grateful I met Linda at the very beginning of my career and for the guidance and friendship she offered me in the 20 years that followed. Reflecting on Linda's life is reminder for me to integrate more of her spunk, curiosity and problem-solving into my own practice and approach the challenges ahead with the collaborative spirit she valued so much."*

– Elizabeth FitzZaland RPP, MCIP

Linda will forever be an icon in the planning profession – an inspirational role model and mentor, a strategic thinker and natural leader. She paved the way for so many of us in the profession. She had prowess and style and a wide array of interests and abilities, from baseball and jazz to fashion and gardening. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, and friend. She will be deeply missed.





## PIBC BOARD NOTES

On **May 27th, 2022**, the PIBC Board of Directors met by online videoconference.

While the meeting was held remotely, it was acknowledged that we are able to live, work, and learn on the traditional territories of the First Nations and Indigenous peoples of BC and Yukon.

It was confirmed that an electronic resolution of the Board confirming final approval of the draft revised Climate Action Policy developed by the Institute's Climate Action Sub-Committee had been approved.

### PRESIDENT

David Block RPP, MCIP provided an update on various activities. It was noted that there were a number of upcoming national meetings that would take place at the national conference in Whistler. Additionally, the newly revised strategic plan was noted, with follow up anticipated on a number of key strategic goals outlined in the plan.

### BOARD & GOVERNANCE

The Board discussed the appointment of members to fill outstanding vacancies in the roles of chairs for certain Institute standing committees. Sara Muir RPP, MCIP was appointed as the new chair of the Policy & Public Affairs Committee, and Andy Yan RPP, MCIP was appointed as the new chair of the Member Engagement Committee.

The Board also discussed and approved revisions to the current Board meeting schedule to accommodate a future meeting in Nanaimo, in conjunction with potential outreach with the VIU planning program, while also continuing with a meeting in Victoria, in conjunction with potential government outreach. Additionally, the Board confirmed the date, time, and location of the 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Whistler.

### ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Executive Director Dave Crossley reported on the ongoing and key projects, initiatives, and activities at the PIBC office, including substantial work preparing for the upcoming AGM and national conference, which was

being jointly organized and co-hosted by PIBC in Whistler in July.

The Board reviewed and approved the 2021 audited financial statements, auditor's report and findings as prepared by the Institute's external auditors. There were no substantive issues arising from the audit, and it was noted that the Institute ended the fiscal year with a financial surplus. It was further agreed that the Institute's current external auditors be recommended for re-appointment for the 2022 fiscal year at the upcoming AGM. Additionally, the current unaudited year-to-date financial statements for the period ending on April 30, 2022, were reviewed, and received for information.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS & BUSINESS

**Professional Standards & Certification:** The Board approved the admission of a number of new members, and also approved or acknowledged a number of membership transfers and other membership changes, including recent membership resignations and removals due to non-payment of current membership fees.

**Academic Liaison:** The Board approved revised terms of reference for the Institute's Academic Liaison Sub-Committee, updating and clarifying certain aspects of the sub-committee's structure and operations.

### INSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS & BUSINESS

The Student member representative from UBC provided a brief update to the Board on activities at the UBC School of Community & Regional Planning.

### OTHER BUSINESS

The Board discussed recent legal cases decided in BC and their impacts related to requirements and expectations for the engagement of the professional services of an architect within municipal planning and development processes.

### NEXT MEETING(S)

It was noted that the next Board meeting would be held in person at the national conference in Whistler, July 5-8, 2022.

## 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTES

The Institute's 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Tuesday **July 5th, 2022**, in Whistler, BC.

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

President David Block RPP, MCIP, presided over the AGM and welcomed members and guests attending. The traditional territories of First Nations and Indigenous people were acknowledged, including the traditional territories of the Squamish and Lil'wat nations.

### MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETINGS

Copies of the Institute's 2021 Annual Report, including the minutes from the June 18th, 2021, AGM held online were distributed and are available on the Institute's website. The minutes of the 2021 AGM were approved as presented.

### 2021 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD & COMMITTEES

President David Block RPP, MCIP presented highlights from the 2021 Annual Report on behalf of the PIBC Board of Directors and the Institute's various committees. The Annual Report, including the audited Financial Statements, is available on the Institute's website. Key sections of the report included:

- The President's Report
- The Executive Director's Report
- The Secretary-Treasurer's Report
- The Professional Standards & Certification Report
- The Professional Conduct Review Report
- The Governance & Nominating Report
- The Policy & Public Affairs Report
- The Member Engagement Report
- The Student Internship Program Report
- The Continuous Professional Learning Report
- The Communications Report
- The Awards & Recognition Report
- The Local Chapters Report
- The National Affairs Report
- Committees & Volunteers – Thank You
- 2021 Audited Financial Statements

## 2021 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Secretary-Treasurer Kenna Jonkman RPP, MCIP presented the audited Financial Statements for the 2021 fiscal year. A copy is also available as part of the Annual Report. It was noted that the Institute maintained a very healthy financial position with a net surplus earned in 2021.

The Institute's auditors – Tompkins Wozny LLP, Chartered Professional Accounts – were reappointed as auditors for the current (2022) fiscal year.

## ADJOURNMENT

President David Block RPP, MCIP thanked members for attending, and thanked the many members who volunteered on behalf of the Institute over the past year. Thanks were also extended to the Executive Director and staff for their service and work for the Institute.

It was noted that the next annual conference would be taking place in Sun Peaks, BC, and members were encouraged to plan to attend.

The meeting adjourned.

## FOR REFERENCE: 2021 ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Copies of the complete 2021 Annual Report and audited Financial Statements are available online at: [www.pibc.bc.ca/official-documents](http://www.pibc.bc.ca/official-documents)



# MEMBERSHIP REPORT MAY 27, 2022

## Welcome New Members!

### Congratulations and welcome to all the new PIBC Members!

At its meeting of May 27, 2022, it was recommended to and approved by the Board to admit the following individuals to membership in the Institute in the appropriate categories as noted:

#### CERTIFIED:

Jessie Abraham  
Joseph Balderston  
Thomas Bevan  
Holden Blue  
Janna Bradshaw  
Shareen Chin  
Glen Chua  
Odessa Cohen  
Nicolas Copes  
Laurel Cowan  
Julie Edney  
Tyler Erickson  
MacLean Fitzgerald  
Carley Friesen  
Chris Hardwicke (Joint with APPI)  
Melanie Hare (Joint with OPPI)  
Marina Jozipovic  
Jared Kassel (Transfer from APPI)  
Christopher Kuno  
Shannon Lambie  
Allison Lasocha  
Kamelli Mark  
Shelby Mark (Transfer from OPPI)  
Hollie McKeil  
Fang Ning Mei  
Brian Murray (Joint with APPI)  
Meghan Murray  
Andrew Picard  
Jordan Rea  
Patricia Reynes  
Hailey Rilkoﬀ  
Alannah Rodgers  
Erin Sparks  
Peter Thicke  
Dylan Thiessen  
Mariah VanZerr

#### CANDIDATE:

Jessica Brodeur  
Rupert Campbell

Natasha Cheong  
Alex Costin  
Leah Curtis  
Bryce Deveau  
Natalie Douglas  
Natasha Ewashen  
Hamza Farooqui  
Liang (Cliff) Feng  
Joanne Fitzgibbons  
Helen Garbiec-Ho  
Difei He  
Randy Houle  
Jakub Lisowski  
Mary Miles  
Graeme Muir  
Ka Bo (Jodee) Ng  
Jimin Park  
Lily Shields-Anderson  
Anna Sokolowski

#### PRE-CANDIDATE:

Aaron Brandoli  
Sophie Eckard  
Geoffrey Genge

#### RETIRED:

Robert Lawrance

#### STUDENT:

Pauline Alamay (University of Montreal)  
Elinor Anderson (Dalhousie)  
Marika Butzelaar (University of Calgary)  
Bella Johnston (Dalhousie)  
Emma Liang (Dalhousie)

## Member Changes

It was further recommended to and approved by the Board to grant or acknowledge the following membership transfers and changes in membership status for the following individuals as noted:

#### FROM CERTIFIED TO MEMBER ON LEAVE:

Kristin Aasen  
Patrick Foong Chan  
Emily Gray  
Tara Johnson  
Shelby Mark  
Winnie Yip

#### FROM CANDIDATE TO MEMBER ON LEAVE:

Nicole Fraser  
Larissa Lychenko



SAVE THE DATES!

## UPCOMING WEBINARS

Save the Dates for these exciting and informative Winter PIBC Webinars!

### Provincial Planning Outlook 2023: Strategic Statistics "to Get the Job Done!" Overview January 25, 2023

This popular annual webinar offers a succinct overview of the vital information that real estate and planning professionals need "to get the job done". Start the year off right with the economic, demographic, housing, and industrial/commercial market information that will help you formulate a strategic planning perspective for 2023.

*For current webinar information, registration, and the latest details on other CPL webinar offerings, please visit [www.pibc.bc.ca/pibc-webinars](http://www.pibc.bc.ca/pibc-webinars).*

### Models of 'Missing Middle' Market Housing November 30, 2022

This webinar explores innovative affordable market housing or what is often referred to as the "missing middle". Speakers from different jurisdictions in both the public and private sectors will present the latest approaches to achieving this much needed housing option in their communities. Thank you to our learning partner, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) for supporting this webinar!

#### FROM MEMBER ON LEAVE TO CERTIFIED:

- Leonard Rodrigues
- Lauren Sanbrooks
- Wendy Tse

#### RESIGNED:

- Ericka Amador
- Marli Bodhi
- Kelsey Chow
- Doris Dryer
- Layne French
- Carolyn Gisborne
- Kari Huhtala
- Purnesh Jani
- Stephen Jesso
- Lee Nicol
- Susan Palmer
- Janice Richmond
- Kenneth Rogers
- Ashley Smith
- Molly Steeves
- Megan Vicente
- Rachael Ward
- Robyn Wark
- Jacob Woeller

#### Membership Renewals & Removals

At the PIBC Board meeting of May 27, 2022, it was also reported and confirmed that the following individuals had not renewed their membership in the Institute for the current year (2022) and in accordance with the Institute's bylaws ceased to be members effective as of May 27, 2022:

#### CERTIFIED:

- Robin Mills
- Katelyn Morphet
- Leifka Vissers

#### CANDIDATE:

- Sherry Adjenim-Boateng
- Elizabeth Meagher
- Austin Norrie

#### RETIRED:

- Terry W. McEachen
- Jeffrey Ward
- Raymond E. Young

#### PRE-CANDIDATE:

- Lisa De Silva
- Natasha Letchford
- Patricia (Tracey) Maile



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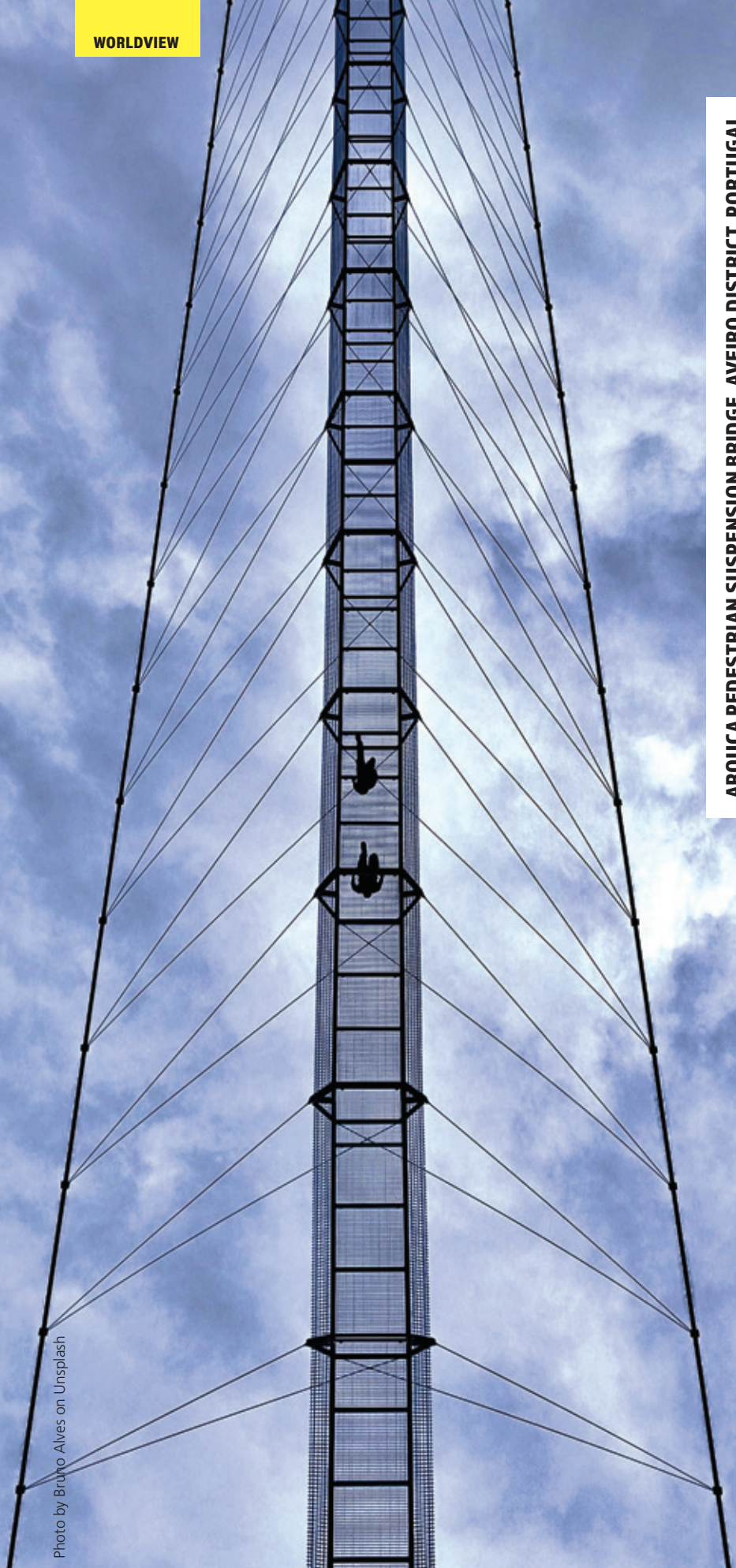


Photo by Bruno Alves on Unsplash

### AROUCA PEDESTRIAN SUSPENSION BRIDGE, AVEIRO DISTRICT, PORTUGAL

Receiving global attention for its engineering and recording-breaking length, the Arouca Bridge located in the Aveiro district of Portugal is the longest pedestrian suspension bridge in the world. It is 516 meters in length at an elevation of 175 meters above the Rio Pavia River. Connecting the banks of the river, adventurous locals and travellers alike crossing the bridge are treated to the elevated breathtaking (and at times shaky) views of the Aguieiras waterfall and Arouca Geopark, part of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) European Geoparks Network.

The bridge's design and function were inspired by Inca bridges used to cross valleys in the Andes Mountains. Made from steel cables and suspended 574 feet above the river, it takes around 10 minutes to cross. The Arouca Geopark is also known for its steep and zigzagging 5.1-mile-long wooden walking path that leads to Roman and medieval ruins and the Monastery of Arouca, one of the country's largest granite buildings.

With the official opening and launch of the world's longest pedestrian suspension bridge in 2021, local officials hoped to continue enticing visitors and newcomers to the region.

#### Sources

<https://ponte516arouca.com/en/516-arouca-worlds-longest-pedestrian-suspension-bridge>

<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/news/arouca-suspension-bridge-portugal>







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