

PLANNING PRACTICE & RECONCILIATION:

The Institute's Planning Practice & Reconciliation Committee was established as a standing committee in 2021 as an evolution from the previously established Indigenous planning working group. The Committee was created in keeping with the Institute's ongoing strategic goals and objectives related to truth and reconciliation with respect to Indigenous peoples and communities. It is responsible for acting as representatives of the Institute and the planning profession in BC and Yukon who are asked to seek truth, to assist in the active decolonization of planning practices in BC and Yukon, and to support members in advancing this work. The volunteer membership of the Committee continued to be chaired throughout 2022 by Sarah Atkinson RPP, MCIP.

INITIAL RESEARCH WORK:

As previously reported in 2021, the Committee reviewed and considered Canada's *Truth and Reconciliation Commission Final Report and Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*. The Committee identified that throughout those documents, the message that came through is a demand for the fundamental right for respect for: First Nations, and First Nations rights, culture, knowledge, and traditions. A continuation of the 'business, as usual', is not going to heal these deep wounds that affect us all. And the positive impact that these lessons can have for the profession is profound.

TRUTH & LEARNING:

The Committee continued to acknowledge and recognize that its work was still, in many respects, at the 'truth' stage. The Committee continued its learning journey by further engaging in opportunities to hear about Indigenous experience with planning and planning institutions. With the support of the Board, the Committee moved forward with its ongoing process of engaging, listening, and learning with various Indigenous and other sources, to undertake various truth and learning sessions and activities.

During 2022 this learning included a presentation about the Lil'wat Nation as well as a two-part set of workshops and learning sessions provided by Sky Spirit Studio + Consulting that explored Indigenous history and design approaches, and the decolonization of design from a Coast Salish perspective and context.

The Committee also undertook work to explore participating in delivering conference sessions as part of the programs at the upcoming PIBC annual conference in Sun Peaks, and the national planning conference in Halifax in the summer of 2023.

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE & EXPERIENCE AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP:

In 2022, based in part on inquiries received as well as on advancing the overall goals in the area of planning practice and reconciliation, the Committee also began to take up the question of how the planning profession can and should understand, recognize, and acknowledge Indigenous learning, knowledge, and experience as it would apply to professional certification and membership processes.

With the support of the Board, the Committee began to develop a request for proposals to engage appropriate, knowledgeable external expertise to undertake initial work in this area. The engagement of the external expertise and initial work is anticipated to take place in 2023.

CONTINUED STRATEGIC SUPPORT:

Support and resources have continued to be allocated and provided by the Board to assist in the Committee's ongoing work and, as previously reported, the strategic importance of the work was carried forward by the Board in the revised Strategic Plan as well.

LOOKING AHEAD:

The Committee continues to move ahead with its deliberative and meaningful truth and learning work, and is looking ahead to the anticipated work on Indigenous knowledge and experience in the context of professional membership. The Committee continues to explore ways in which the Institute can develop and implement truth and reconciliation for the planning profession in BC and Yukon.