

## The Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals Launches North America's First Local Chapter in British Columbia!

## INFORMATIONAL FACT SHEET

The Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) is North America's leading professional organization providing expertise in sustainable transportation. There are currently over 1,300 APBP members across North America, including employees of all levels of government, consulting firms and non-profit organizations. APBP members work in the engineering, planning, landscape architecture, law enforcement, safety, and health promotion fields. A group of transportation and public health professionals across British Columbia have recently come together to create APBP's first North American local chapter.

One of APBP's key initiatives is the establishment of local and regional chapters to create more local-level opportunities to bring together active transportation professionals. Local chapters serve to generate professional development opportunities and career networking activities, and to establish a voice throughout communities on the needs of this dynamic and growing field. The goals of APBP's local chapters are to provide APBP members with:

- A forum for exchanging ideas
- · Social and networking activities
- Career development opportunities
- Cross-pollination of ideas, energy and programs across regions and professional fields
- Mentoring opportunities
- Student engagement
- Opportunities to build expertise
- Enhanced recognition as an active transportation professional
- · Opportunities to build a base for potentially hosting and participating in Professional Development Seminars

APBP includes members from across British Columbia, including Metro Vancouver, Greater Victoria, and other locations within Vancouver Island and the BC Interior. The new APBP-BC local chapter will provide increased opportunities for knowledge-sharing and networking among existing members throughout the Province, and will encourage expanding the network of pedestrian and bicycle professionals who are members of APBP across the Province.

To launch the APBP-BC local chapter, a steering committee has been established to develop its vision, goals and programming for the next year, including creating a program to organize meetings, informal networking events, learning opportunities, and to continue to solicit ideas for the chapter's goals and activities. The APBP-BC local chapter also seeks to develop responsive programming that meets the needs and interests of active transportation professionals throughout BC, while also raising APBP's visibility and potential for membership growth. Some of the key activities that have been identified in the near-term include:

- BC local chapter hosted APBP webinars
- Regular informal and formal meet-and-greets and networking events throughout BC
- Cycling and walking learning tours
- Other activities to spread awareness about pedestrian and cycling issues and practices throughout BC.

We invite you to join APBP and to become involved in the APBP-BC local chapter! The APBP-BC local chapter is an exciting opportunity to connect with other active transportation professionals in your community and beyond. To find out more about APBP and how to become a member, please visit: <a href="www.apbp.org">www.apbp.org</a>. You can also join our facebook page at <a href="www.facebook.com/groups/apbpbc">www.facebook.com/groups/apbpbc</a> or our LinkedIn group. For more information about APBP and the APBP-BC local chapter, please contact either of our APBP-BC local chapter co-chairs shown below: