

PIBC South Island Chapter Membership Survey Results

The PIBC South Island Chapter Membership Survey was open from January 27th, 2016 to February 11th, 2016. In this time, we received 82 total responses (which is close to 50% of our entire chapter membership!). It has taken us some time to report back to you on the results, but below are some of the key findings of our survey. Our chapter executive is already planning future activities based upon survey results.

Professional Development

Subject Matter

When asked to rate your level of interest in a selection of planning themes, the following were the most highly rated:

- Legal skills
- Planning projects from our region,
- Climate change related planning
- Urban design, and
- Transportation planning

The second most highly rated set of topics were:

- Healthy communities
- Stakeholder engagement skills
- Local/regional “planning problems”
- First Nations planning, and
- Economic development and planning

Some good suggestions were also collected for specific speakers or case studies that you would like to learn from, these suggestions reflect the topics listed above and the chapter executive will draw from your specific suggestions in organizing future events.

Logistics/ Format

The survey indicated that:

- For lunch and learn sessions, the majority of respondents wanted the lunch provided, rather than bringing their own lunch.
- A rotating location around the region would be preferred to a consistent centralized location
- A large majority (84%) of respondents are in support of a sliding scale for professional development events to encourage more students to participate
- Between September and December is clearly the preferred period for events, but between January and June was also rated to be a convenient time for events
- You would like to see both more events, and a greater diversity of events (e.g. breakfast events, webinars, walking tours, debates)

Social Events/ Other

The survey indicated that a diversity of types of social events is desired.

The 5 most highly rated types of other events that respondents were interested in are:

- Urban walks
- Attending planning related speakers/ movies (not put on by our chapter) as a group
- Meeting up over coffee/tea,
- Meeting up over lunch, and
- Hiking.

As a first step towards facilitating this, we have set up a [PIBC South Island Chapter Facebook Page](#). All chapter members are encouraged to “like” this page, to post planning related events to this page, and to connect with one another and coordinate attending or participating in planning events (or other social activities) together. This page will only be effective if you “like” the page and add content!

As far as other activities that the South Island Chapter could undertake, the survey asked about three potential activities: 1) Raising the chapter profile by participating in events together such as the Times Colonist 10km run, 2) Promoting world town planning day, and 3) Promoting planning as a career at local universities. Of these three, the strongest interest (25%) was in the South Island Chapter playing a stronger role in promoting planning as a career at the University of Victoria and Royal Roads University. The chapter executive has historically played this role and is discussing how to strengthen this role moving forward.

Thanks Again For Participating in the Survey!