

Call for Proposals

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

PLANNING INSTITUTE
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE





INTRODUCTION

The 2023 Annual Conference of the Planning Institute of British Columbia (PIBC) will be held May 31st to June 2nd in the stunning mountain resort of Sun Peaks, B.C. To help us create an educational and memorable experience for all attendees, we are pleased to invite submissions of qualified proposals for inclusion in the conference program.

Please take time to read the following Call for Program Proposals package to gain a better understanding of the conference, and what the PIBC Annual Conference Committee will be looking for while reviewing proposals.

CONFERENCE THEME



IT TAKES A VILLAGE

The theme for the PIBC 2023 Annual Conference is influenced by its location in Sun Peaks, a picturesque mountain village, and our profession's commitment to embracing a collaborative "village" mentality. Our profession is rooted in a desire to improve the quality of life for all community members, respecting the diversity of needs, values, and aspirations. As planners, we are committed to advocating for the public good and continue to be propelled by the goal of strengthening our communities.

The term "village" in the context of this conference theme is used to describe the wide range of communities that we belong to, live in, work for, advocate on behalf of, or visit. Villages can be tangible, physical spaces, or intangible, like the bonds that tie communities together or intrinsic value we place on space. As you will see through the five sub-themes, we want to hear about how villages are dealing with the many challenges and opportunities they encounter.

To name a few, challenges may range from the intensifying housing crises, the impacts of climate change, social inequalities, urbanization pressures, impacts of the COVID pandemic, and calls for Truth and Reconciliation. As the planning profession collectively navigates these challenges, there are many stories and experiences we can share.

We want to hear from new, soon-to-be, academic, and seasoned planners about how your work is embracing the village concept aspect of planning. Whether your expertise is concentrated within the largest metropolitan area, or extends into the most remote communities, we all move and navigate through the complex challenges facing communities, but we certainly don't do it alone – it takes a village.

SUB-THEMES

Presenters are asked to submit proposals for presentations or workshops about planning topics related to the conference theme, *It Takes a Village*. The following five sub-themes have been identified to help focus proposals and highlight challenges the Committee believes to be topical or specifically-relevant at this time. The sample topics provided within each sub-theme are intended as examples only; it is recognized that many topics may fit within several sub-themes.



SUB-THEME #1 – HOUSING CRISIS, WITH SOLUTIONS

Access to adequate housing is a human right; however, many villages are in crisis as communities attempt to manage and remove significant challenges that are negatively impacting housing. This sub-theme is intended to focus on the challenges causing issues, and either solutions or opportunities to improve these situations.

Not intended as a prescriptive list, possible topics to be considered in this sub-theme include:

- Affordability and the housing continuum: housing design considerations, balancing the housing stock through policy
- Emergency and/or supportive housing projects or programs
- Innovative approaches to housing or neighbourhood design
- New or emerging housing designs and livability features: tiny houses, multi-generational housing, co-housing, communal housing
- Context-specific challenges: metropolitan areas, cities, resort communities, small and/or remote communities
- Post-pandemic changes
- Adapting housing design to changing environmental, social, and economic dynamics (i.e. multigenerational living, work from home, tiny homes, net-zero)
- Improving energy efficiency in housing: design, policy, engagement, BC Energy Step Code, Net Zero

SUB-THEME #2 - SMALL IDEAS, BIG IMPACT

When people come together, there's no telling what they can do! We want to hear stories about small ideas, projects, or interventions that have made a big impact. This sub-theme is intended to focus on navigating the barriers and getting things done, regardless of scale.

Not intended as a prescriptive list, possible topics to be considered in this sub-theme include:

- Incremental revitalization of existing areas
- Stakeholder or community-led projects
- Urban design initiatives
- Collaborative design projects for small spaces or communities
- Successful community engagement processes
- Multi-disciplinary efforts, partnerships, or unexpected collaborators with exciting outcomes

SUB-THEME #3 - CONNECTING TO OUR ROOTS

We want to hear about how your 'village' has evolved to become stronger. This sub-theme is intended to focus on authentically connecting to local culture, old or new, to share stories and support communities.

Not intended as a prescriptive list, possible topics to be considered in this sub-theme include:



- Respecting/reviving historic industries (e.g., forestry, mining, fishing, agriculture)
- Context-specific tourism (e.g., ghost towns, agri-tourism, ecotourism, Indigenous culture)
- Truth and Reconciliation projects or Indigenous-led planning
- Historic or cultural neighbourhoods (including the village centre/ downtown) and/or heritage resources (e.g., buildings, routes, parks, districts)
- Incorporating, protecting, or showcasing culture through historical, cultural, or art resources
- Showcasing communities' shifting demographics or diversity

SUB-THEME #4 – ENHANCING RESILIENCY

Between a changing climate, demographics, economies, technologies, and preferences; there are many ways that villages (built or otherwise) are changing. This sub-theme is intended to focus on planning for change, adapting to change, and enhancing resiliency.

Not intended as a prescriptive list, possible topics to be considered in this sub-theme include:

- Changing behaviours and technology that encourage climate change mitigation
- Initiatives aimed at increasing social equity
- Urban planning and design for local adaptation
- Emergency preparedness or response programs and projects
- Enhancing environmental resilience by embracing and integrating natural systems and the built environment
- Increased energy efficiency and nature-based solutions (green infrastructure) projects



SUB-THEME #5 – SUPPORTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic stability is a critical part of any village, from managing fiscal responsibilities at the municipal-level, to supporting and attracting industries that provide job opportunities to residents. This sub-theme is intended to focus on topics that tell stories of where economic development has played a role in advancing a village (built or otherwise), improving local economic sustainability, and/ or what advances still need to be made in order for villages to thrive.

Not intended as a prescriptive list, possible topics to be considered in this sub-theme include:

- Balancing growth with municipal sustainability
- Rural or remote economic issues and/or opportunities
- Shifting dynamics of local economies and industries: may be a result of changing dynamics, cultures, environments, etc.
- Municipal asset management (natural and engineered assets)
- Industry-specific challenges and opportunities (e.g., tourism, forestry, mining, fishing, agriculture)
- Investing in our communities (enhancing the tourism sector, diversifying the economy, enhancing places and spaces etc.)
- Supporting and advancing local entrepreneurship
- Considering, bidding on, and planning for major local events (e.g., sporting events, festivals, etc.)

TYPES OF PROGRAM ELEMENTS

At this time, we are seeking diverse, original, practical, and insightful proposals to fulfill the following program elements, which collectively are intended to provide a range of learning opportunities for attendees.

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| Speed Sessions | 10 minutes | To be combined with other speed sessions, these short presentations are intended to provide a 'fast, furious, and/ or fun' overview of your topic. |
| Poster Session | 1 hour | The poster session is intended to give students an opportunity to showcase their graduate research, capstone project, or other course work. Presenters will showcase their work in the form of a poster board and engage with attendees for one hour in a common space designated for poster boards. |
| Learning Sessions | 75 minutes | Learning sessions are a more typical presentation taking the form of a talk with visual aids followed by a Q&A period. To increase interest and variability between learning sessions, presenters are encouraged to include innovative, interactive formats into their presentations. |
| Active Workshops | 2.5 hours | Active workshops provide attendees with hands-on, interactive skill development through a training session or class. These workshops may take place at the conference location or include an outing to a nearby area. |
| Mobile Workshops | 3-4 hours | Mobile workshops are bus, bike, or other tours that take attendees somewhere they can interact with unique planning projects in the Sun Peaks region. |

Note: These workshops are not intended to be solely social events, which will be organized outside of the formal proposal process.

Please note that while we are hoping to host the entirety of this conference in-person in Sun Peaks next year, the PIBC 2023 Annual Conference may also include some program components that are streamed online for remote attendance, or have some components that are delivered either partly or wholly online. Information regarding anticipated online components will be provided early in the new year.

KEY SUBMISSION CRITERIA



It is the PIBC Annual Conference Committee's goal to design a conference that provides interest and value to all attendees. It should be recognized that attendees will range in experience and areas of expertise including professionals and students from BC, Yukon, and beyond. To reflect the diversity of attendees, we would like to have a diverse program that provides an interesting and relevant balance of topics. When reviewing the proposals, the PIBC Annual Conference Committee will be looking for the best content possible to deliver value for attendees, and advance the planning profession in British Columbia and Yukon.

Regardless of the sub-theme or type of program session selected, all presenters should consider the following key criteria:

BE BOLD...

Emphasize how your program element will consider the complexities of planning realities or how it will tackle a familiar topic in a new way. Don't be afraid to explore ideas and topics that might seem unorthodox at first glance.

BE ENGAGING...

Describe how your program element will give attendees an opportunity to contribute to the discussion. Demonstrate how the conversation will offer practical solutions to challenges facing planners today.

BE BRIEF...

Submit a clear and concise proposal that highlights top learning outcomes for participants. Be sure to adhere to the maximum word lengths outlined below.

BE COMPREHENSIVE...

Provide a fully developed proposal for an entire program element. Connect with colleagues and others in related professions to put together a proposal for a complete and valuable conference session or element.

SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

The PIBC Annual Conference Committee invites proposals from all interested proponents.

Potential presenters should:

- Review this Call for Program Proposals carefully, including the criteria listed above and the Terms and Conditions appended to this document.
- Be sure to coordinate and collaborate with colleagues to fully explore your topic, including related professionals and those that represent different stakeholders, specialties, and perspectives.

To submit a proposal, fully complete the *online* [Program Proposal Submission Form here](#).



All submissions must include the following information:

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHY

50 word maximum per presenter

SHORT DESCRIPTION

50 word maximum

Provide a brief and captivating overview of your topic, to be used in advertising your presentation during the conference.

LONG DESCRIPTION

250 word maximum

Provide a more in-depth description of your presentation to help the PIBC Annual Conference Committee understand your topic.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

List 3 learning outcomes.

MEETING THE VISION

50 word maximum

What makes your proposal unique and how does it support the conference theme of "It Takes a Village".

DESCRIPTIVE TAGS

Provide 5 key tag words that describe the themes covered in your proposal; this is intended to help the PIBC Annual Conference Committee review, consider, and group proposals.

The deadline for receipt of all proposals is **11:59 PM (PST) Monday, October 24th, 2022**. Successful proponents will be contacted regarding selected proposals by Friday, January 20, 2023.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

The Call for Program Proposals for PIBC 2023 Annual Conference | Sun Peaks | “It Takes a Village” and all proposals submitted in response to it, are subject to the following terms and conditions:

- In Spring 2023, we will assess the situation and decide whether the conference will be online, a hybrid, or in-person; we will inform speakers as soon as possible of this decision.
- All proposals submitted are subject to review and consideration by the PIBC Annual Conference Committee.
- Receipt of a proposal does not constitute the acceptance or approval of such a proposal for inclusion in the program of the PIBC 2023 Annual Conference.
- Proposals submitted, including any supporting materials or information, are the property of PIBC and will not be returned to proponents.
- All proposals for consideration must be received no later than 11:59 PM (Pacific) Monday, October 24th, 2022. Successful proponents of selected proposals will be contacted by the PIBC Annual Conference Committee by Friday, January 20, 2023.
- The PIBC Annual Conference Committee will give strong preference and priority consideration to qualified proposals that best meet the criteria and overall program goals and objectives as outlined in the Call for Program Proposals.
- The PIBC Annual Conference Committee reserves the right to reject any proposal for any reason, at any time. Due to levels of interest, space, and schedule limitations, it is expected that only a limited selection of all proposals submitted will be selected.
- Normal set-up and audio-visual support for regular conference sessions will include: a meeting room at the conference venue with a podium and a microphone, a laptop computer, a digital projector, and a projection screen. The PIBC Annual Conference Committee cannot guarantee that all requests or suggestions for additional logistical support or set-up requirements (e.g. audio-visual equipment, room set-up, etc.) can be accommodated for any proposal selected for inclusion in the PIBC 2023 Annual Conference Program.
- In order to ensure the highest quality of program content, the PIBC Annual Conference Committee reserves the right to amend the proposed format of any proposal, or otherwise amend or adjust the nature, content, or requirements for any proposal selected for inclusion in the annual conference program as may be required from time to time.
- Successful proponents of selected proposals and associated conference presenters will, subject to reasonable limitation by PIBC, be entitled to a substantially reduced registration rate for the PIBC 2023 Annual Conference. Proponents and presenters are otherwise responsible for all their own independently arranged travel, accommodation, and other incidental expenses related to participating in the annual conference.
- PIBC reserves the right to record (through audio, video, transcription, or other means), publish, reproduce and distribute (in whole or in part) all submissions and subsequent conference elements, presentations, materials and related content as part of any conference proceedings or legacy materials.