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Fall 2020

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2020

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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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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

this issue of *Planning West*. Congratulations everyone, and I look forward to when we can all gather and celebrate together in person again soon.

I'd also like to highlight the ongoing activity and success of our continuous professional learning webinars, which have not only continued throughout this rather unprecedented year, but have achieved new milestones of success in terms of content and levels of member participation. Adding to this, we are pleased to be co-hosting, along with CIP, the joint national Elevation 2020 Webinar Series this November, recognizing that we were not able to all meet, learn and network together in Whistler this past July.

And speaking of keeping busy and moving things forward, we are pleased to also be continuing key work at PIBC on various strategic initiatives and projects. I'd like to thank all the members and others who are participating in our new Indigenous Planning Work Group, which is now meeting regularly and moving ahead with work on our strategic tasks related to the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and the Commission Report from the Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women and Girls. Work is underway to put in place a funded student intern who will help with this important work, while also supporting a BC or Yukon student in their academic and professional development.

In other areas, our Governance & Nominating Committee is reconnecting and will begin the work of seeking nominees for next year's PIBC Board elections next spring, as well as continuing the valuable policy work related to diversity and inclusion. Work by the Climate Action Sub-Committee also continues, as we look to keep engaged with senior levels of government on climate policy, and to advance climate knowledge, understanding and best practices amongst our member practitioners.

Additionally, the Member Engagement Committee is diving into the feedback and insights gained from the recent member survey to identify opportunities and needs for possible new, enhanced or updated member benefits. The goals are to support member resiliency and well-being and continue to meet members' evolving needs as professional planners.

While we are all continuing to adapt to a "new normal", and still dealing with change well beyond the usual seasonal falling leaves and colder weather, we continue to strive to keep connected, active, and engaged. I continue to encourage you all to keep well, stay safe, and take care.

Lesley Cabott RPP, MCIP

want to start by congratulating our own Dan Huang RPP, MCIP as CIP's new President. I have had the pleasure of both working with Dan professionally and on the PIBC Board. Dan will be a great representative of planners across Canada and particularly us here in the west and up north. I look forward to working with you in your new role. Congratulations Dan! Fall is a season of change and transition, the leaves change colour and drop and the nights get longer and cold. Here in the north we are already seeing the clear changes that autumn brings with shorter days and colder temperatures. It is also a season of change for many of us professionally and personally, as we return from summer vacations, resume key ongoing projects, and see kids return to school. Yet some things haven't changed with the new season, such as our continued adaptations to the "new normal" brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, and its myriad of impacts.

At PIBC we've also been getting back down to business with a number of important tasks and projects. I would first like to thank all the many members who responded and participated in our COVID-19 Impact & Member Engagement survey this past August. The information gathered is being reviewed and analyzed and will be very useful in helping us manage the current circumstances as well as plan and steer programs and services into the future. Thank you.

The Board met for the first time this fall at the end of September. A key agenda item was work on developing our budget for next year (2021). Though PIBC is in a fairly strong financial position, we are not immune to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic disruption. We are seeing it affect our operations and finances and we expect this to continue to be a COVID impact through 2021. The budget for next year we anticipate reduced revenues from certain activities, such as advertising sales and events. We have reduced expenditures related to in person meetings, events, and in some administrative areas, while at the same time maintaining overall operations, programs, and member services. While we are looking at a small deficit in 2021, it will be fully covered by our existing contingency reserve funds. You will see a small incremental increase in CIP fees for 2021, but our PIBC membership fees will remain essentially the same, and there is no change to professional insurance premiums for 2021.

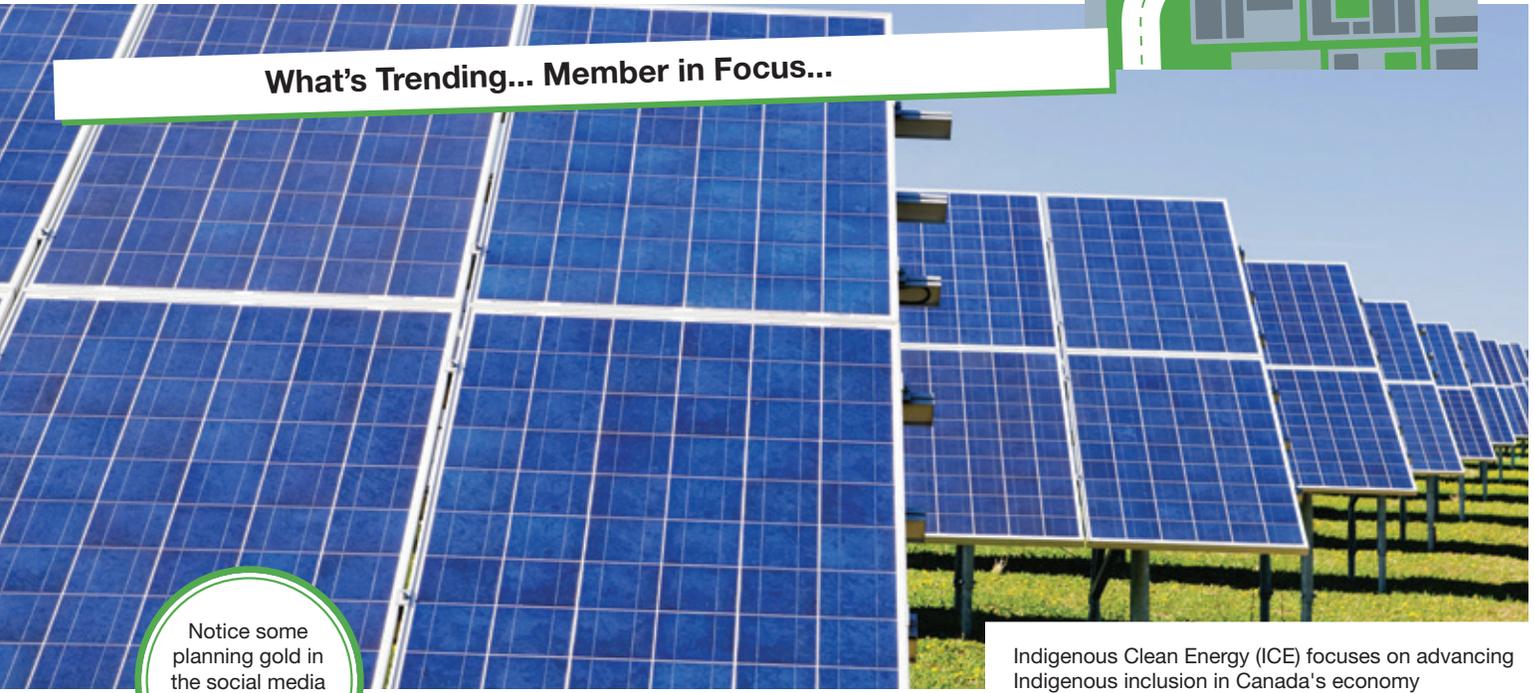
Although we are still unable to hold regular in person meetings and events as usual, we are pleased to be able to proceed with our postponed 2020 AGM online this November, as well as an online presentation to mark World Town Planning Day and celebrate our professional members. Special congratulations to all the new Registered Professional Planners, members who've achieved 25+ years of professional membership, and our newest Life Member honorees: Linda Allen RPP, FCIP and Gwyn Symmons RPP, MCIP. I am very disappointed that I will not be able to congratulate you all in person. Also watch for this fall's release of our video celebrating all of this year's winners of the Awards for Excellence in Planning and Individual Achievement, which were announced earlier, and are highlighted in

OUTLINES



Photo by Zbzynek Burival on Unsplash

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



Notice some planning gold in the social media universe? Share it @PIBC

Indigenous Clean Energy (ICE) focuses on advancing Indigenous inclusion in Canada's economy

What's Trending?

> **Cindy Cheung**, PIBC Communications & Marketing Specialist

The last six months have shifted the landscape, globally and locally, for many communities & peoples. This shifting landscape has forced important and long-muffled issues to burst through the cracks to the surface in loud and sometimes disruptive ways, from protests for social justice, to unprecedented raging wildfires. In this issue, we share how some individuals and organizations are adding their voices and power to positively engage in social injustice and push forward environmental advocacy and innovation.

Stephanie Allen @BuiltJustice

Listed with 32 other Black Canadian women “making change now” by Chatelaine Magazine, Stephanie Allen continues to “raise the volume” on systemic racism. In her day job, Stephanie is the Associate VP, Strategic Business Operations and Performance, at BC Housing where she specializes in affordable housing and equitable community building across the province. Outside of work, Stephanie is a founding board member of Hogan's Alley Society (www.hogansalleysociety.org), is on the interim board of the Federation of Black Canadians (fbcfcn.ca), and serves on the City of Vancouver's Poverty Action Advisory Committee. You can hear Stephanie clear and strong on Twitter @BuiltJustice. Follow her online and add your voice to challenge systemic racism and help build more equitable communities.

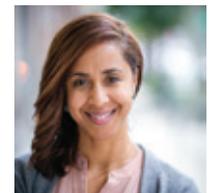


Photo credit: www.hogansalleysociety.org



Indigenous Clean Energy (ICE) @IndigClnEnergy

Indigenous Clean Energy (ICE) is a not-for-profit organization with a mission to “stimulate collaboration that facilitates leadership by, and meaningful collaboration with, Indigenous peoples in the transition to a clean energy future.”

Based in Ottawa, Ontario, ICE focuses on advancing Indigenous inclusion in Canada’s energy economy through Indigenous leadership and collaboration

with energy companies, governments, development firms, cleantech innovators, the academic sector, and capital markets.

ICE is also working on creating future climate leaders with its 20/20 Catalyst program. This award-winning hands-on program connects First Nations, Inuit and Métis “Catalysts” to a network of Clean Energy Project Mentors and Coaching Specialists. Aside from involving them in clean energy project developments, Catalysts also gain the skills and tools needed to maximize the social and economic benefits Indigenous communities gain through clean energy initiatives.

Learn more about ICE at www.indigenouscleanenergy.com.



David Suzuki Fellows www.davidsuzuki.org

Research. Collaborate. Inspire. These are the pillars of the David Suzuki Fellowship program that empowers emerging scholars to tackle complex environmental problems. The program reduces financial barriers, provides mentorship, and fosters leadership and creativity so Fellows can conduct research, and engage and inform

the public and policymakers on game-changing environmental opportunities. Renowned for being in the forefront of environmental activism, the David Suzuki Foundation is helping the next generation of Canadian climate and sustainability leaders tackle complex environmental problems and take meaningful action to protect the planet.

Check out current Fellows at <https://davidsuzuki.org/experts/fellows>.

Watch this: Meet the David Suzuki Fellows on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/chfolb2vjsg>

MEMBER IN FOCUS



Planning West Call for Submissions

Winter 2021 Issue:
World Town Planning Day;
Elevation Annual CIP/PIBC Conference
2020 goes online; Emerging Issues.

Deadline December 15, 2020

Spring 2021 Issue:
Indigenizing Planning –
what Reconciliation and Decolonization
mean to urban planning.

Deadline March 15, 2021

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

Kristy McConnel

Sustainability Consultant, Mott MacDonald

PIBC Candidate Member & 2020 PIBC Award Winner for Individual Achievement – Young Professional Leadership

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

Each year, PIBC recognizes leading young and emerging professional Members who demonstrate leadership, innovation, and contribute to the ongoing success of the planning profession. Here we talk to this year's award winner for Young Professional Leadership, Kristy McConnel, on why she's passionate about sustainability planning, and how she plans to address global climate change by building creative and innovative sustainability solutions for local communities.

Who or what got you interested in planning?

I became interested in planning as I was wrapping up my Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources Conservation at UBC Forestry. While I entered the program with a lot of passion for the natural environment, as I neared the end of my studies, I became increasingly aware of the importance of considering social issues alongside the natural sciences. Planning emerged as a career path that would bring these two critical topic areas together.

As a young professional, what have been the most rewarding and challenging aspects of your work so far?

Working with colleagues from all across the globe has been incredibly rewarding. I have had the chance to collaborate with planners, engineers, architects, and communications specialists from North America, Europe, Australia and more. I've also had

the opportunity to travel to New York City, Pittsburgh, and California for work. I am constantly being exposed to new ideas and new ways of thinking that have helped me grow as a professional – this has definitely been the most rewarding aspect of my work.

The biggest challenge I face is striking a balance between taking advantage of new opportunities while keeping focused on developing a specific area of expertise. With so much going on in the world, and so many important issues to resolve, I often find myself wanting to contribute to a wide range of social and environmental causes. I have to continually remind myself that I can't do it all, so I try to give my all to the things that are most important to me.

What are you most looking forward to professionally?

I am looking forward to seeing major action on climate change and sustainability in the coming years, at a broad scale, and to being part of making that happen.

What led you to focus on sustainability in your planning practice? What's one aspect of sustainability planning that's exciting and everyone should know about?

I was fortunate to grow up surrounded by nature in the West Kootenays and have always been fascinated by the natural world. From a young age, I knew I wanted to focus my career on creating a more sustainable planet. When I started working at Mott MacDonald in 2017, I was quickly exposed to a wide variety of major infrastructure projects. While thoughtfully planned and built

infrastructure is critically important to our society, the sheer scale of this work means there are inevitable environmental impacts. Focusing on sustainability planning, and particularly on sustainable infrastructure, means that I get to play a role in driving innovation to reduce the negative impacts of projects while serving community needs.

Is there an unexpected positive thing that's come out of the pandemic for you?

Yes, I have found myself with a lot more time to cook and have been having so much fun experimenting in the kitchen. Recently I made ceviche with local fish and tomatoes picked fresh from my garden!

When we can travel again, where would you go first?

It is hard to pick one place, but I would have to say Peru is top of my list at the moment. I want to attend a yoga retreat and hike Machu Pichu - I still haven't decided in which order!



Editor's Note: Planning in Complex Times

/ Maria Stanborough RPP, MCIP

One evening in the summer I was walking my dog on the east side of Vancouver, not far from a 300+ person encampment located in the only large greenspace in one of Canada's poorest neighbourhoods.

Four Indigenous youth were walking with a portable sound system and, I assumed, were celebrating. One of the youth asked me what I thought they were doing. I said it looked like a moving dance party. He told me it was a funeral for their friend who they found dead that morning. They continued walking in the direction of the tent city in Strathcona Park.

The layers of this moment are fairly incredible. The fact that something like this can happen casually on an evening walk is very sad, to say the least.

As an urban planner I look for solutions to bigger societal problems on a local level. I wonder how we can plan a better city, how all levels of government can come together to find solutions. But the hard truth is that zoning and land use policy aren't going to solve these bigger issues.

So how do we change this? What is the solution?

Certainly there is no quick and easy answer until we adopt a fundamental shift

in priorities. This shift will happen, albeit incrementally. The Black Lives Matter movement is a beautiful example: it is ongoing, it is present, and it has gained momentum.

In this issue of *Planning West*, we have some examples of how to shift the discussion, and what planners can focus on. In her latest installment of "Plan Girl," Emilie K. Adin identifies the need for us to consider a 'just recovery,' one centred on social equity, racial justice, and climate resilience. She explores this in terms of what is happening in Puerto Rico and compares that to what is happening in B.C.

Other articles in this issue explore effective climate change action ("Is Planting Trees *the* Solution...?"; "Accelerate Kootenays"; "Dockside Green") and creating communities for everyone ("Leaving the City Behind"; "Child in the City").

The PIBC Awards also offer examples of innovation that are not from the typical sites of urban planning.

The gold winner for Excellence in Planning for Small Town and Rural Areas was guided by the Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council and had input from 108 First Nations throughout B.C. The final document *Our Sacred Land: Indigenous Peoples'*

Land Use Planning Handbook in BC was designed to support First Nation communities taking control of the land use planning process.

The Gold Winner for Research & New Directions was awarded to the Eastside Culture Crawl, a not-for-profit organization that celebrates art through an annual public event and ongoing programming. The organizers of the Crawl, seeing so many artists' spaces being lost to new, unaffordable and non-arts development, took an innovative step to identify what was being lost and how to protect it.

And the Silver Winner for Research & New Directions was a partnership with HUB Cycling and Translink. HUB is a not-for-profit organization that has 20-years' experience dedicated to removing barriers to cycling in Metro Vancouver. Their final report for Translink offers an up-to-date picture of cycling across the region and serves as a benchmark against which future progress can be measured. From a small organization comes a foundational piece of research.

To start creating better communities, we need to look at the opposite of what I would call 'neo-liberal urban planning.' Rather than maximize property value and individual wealth, we can shift to prioritizing community health and well-being. If nothing else, our current world reality would suggest that the status quo isn't working. Fortunately for us there are people committed to positive change, both in and outside of urban planning, who are directing us to a better path.

Maria Stanborough studied at the London School of Economics, holds a Masters in Urban Planning and a Diploma in Urban Land Use Economics from UBC. She is the Editor of *Planning West* and Principal Planner at C+S Planning Group.



Image of tent city in Strathcona Park, Vancouver. Photo courtesy of CBC website

2020 PIBC Awards

/ Kelly Chan, Member Services Coordinator

As with many events this year, the PIBC Awards ceremony, which usually takes place during the Annual Conference, was postponed due to the pandemic. The PIBC Awards will be formally celebrated online through a special video celebration for World Town Planning Day on the PIBC YouTube channel in early November. Visit PIBC's Youtube channel to watch these celebrations!

Award for Excellence in Policy Planning – Small Town & Rural Areas (GOLD Winner)

Title: *Our Sacred Land: Indigenous Peoples' Land Use Planning Handbook in B.C.*

Authors: Beringia Community Planning Inc. and Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council

Partners: Indigenous Advisory Committee: Pam Theodore of Canim Lake Band, Josephine Kelly of Sema:th (Sumas) First Nation, Tammy Dorward of Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation, and Colleen Jacob of Xaxli'p Band

The *Our Sacred Land: Indigenous Peoples' Land Use Planning Handbook* is designed to support B.C. First Nations' efforts to strengthen their land governance system through community-based land use planning (LUP). Beringia Community Planning Inc. created this Handbook through collaboration with the Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council (NmTC), and under the guidance of a four-person Indigenous Advisory Committee.

The Handbook draws on content and participant feedback from 18 First Nations LUP workshops held between 2015 and 2018 in which 146 individuals participated, representing 108 First Nations throughout B.C. Participants identified the need for a user-friendly guide to help overcome the often-technical complexity of LUP to enable communities to take control of the process. This hands-on, practical guide documents the context for First Nations LUP in B.C. and describes an 11-step planning cycle with the theory, methods, examples, and tools to support a community-driven LUP process.

The jury felt this was an inspirational and educational project, created by and for Indigenous communities. It is culturally relevant, represents an educational approach that uses practical models and methods, and is visual and user-friendly. The Handbook covers many facets of planning and the complexity of First Nations governance, through excellent, detailed charts and checklists, all beautifully represented.

Our Sacred Land: Indigenous Peoples' Land Use Planning Handbook in B.C. is being distributed to all First Nations province-wide in hard copy and USB. All planners can utilize this inspiring and educational resource,

and it should be mandatory reading for all planning practitioners and students.

"This Handbook would not have been possible without our team of contributors including an Indigenous Advisory Committee, Indigenous and non-Indigenous planners and thought leaders who shared their knowledge and insights, and our First Nations partners whose stories, illustrations and photographs helped this Handbook come alive."



Award for Excellence in Policy Planning – Small Town & Rural Areas (SILVER Winner)

Title: *Penticton 2045: Official Community Plan*

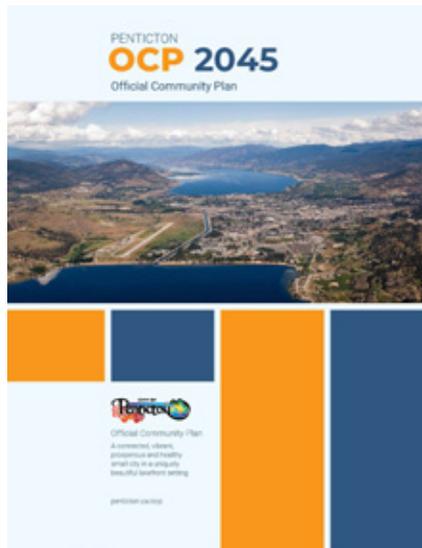
Author: City of Penticton

Partners: Penticton Official Community Plan Task Force; MODUS Planning, Design & Engagement; South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program; and C4Wise Design

In 2019, the City of Penticton, a city of 35,000 in the South Okanagan, adopted a new Official Community Plan (OCP), *Penticton 2045*, the first substantive reworking of their OCP since 2002. The OCP establishes goals and policies for a broad range of interrelated areas, a sustainable growth plan, and a range of Development Permit Area Guidelines.

The OCP creates a holistic vision for sustainable growth of the community. The process to create the new OCP was the largest engagement effort undertaken by the City, involving over 3,600 conversations and interactions in a diversity of innovative ways. The resulting plan is clear, approachable, richly illustrated and readily conveys the vision for the future of the city. The OCP was unanimously approved by City Council in July 2019.

The jury felt that the OCP is clear and direct, with a focus on being user-friendly. There is surprisingly no planner jargon in its 16-page summary. This is a superb OCP based upon extensive public consultation with illustrations and charts that provide a straightforward understanding of land use designations and where growth will occur. The OCP reflects the vision for Penticton: “A connected, vibrant, prosperous and healthy small city in a uniquely beautiful waterfront setting”.



Award for Excellence in Policy Planning – City & Urban Areas (GOLD Winner)

Title: *Rain City Strategy: A Green Rainwater Infrastructure and Rainwater Management Initiative*

Author: City of Vancouver

Partners: Rain City Strategy Staff Working Group and The Rain City Strategy Expert Panel

Award for Excellence in Policy Planning - City & Urban Areas (SILVER Winner)

Title: *2020 Climate Plan: 100% Renewable & Resilient Saanich*

Author: District of Saanich

Partners: C2MP; Stantec; Claremont Secondary School; Institute for Global Solutions, ICLEI Canada; One Earth, Bioregional, School of Construction & the Built Environment at the BC Institute of Technology; Cora Hallsworth Consulting; Federation of Canadian Municipalities; Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program; KR Foundation; and Vancity

The District of Saanich's *2020 Climate Plan: 100% Renewable & Resilient Saanich* provides a framework and action plan for a comprehensive response to climate change in Saanich over the next ten years. The plan identifies goals focused on cutting greenhouse gas emissions, transitioning to 100% renewable energy, and preparing for changing climate impacts. It addresses both climate mitigation and

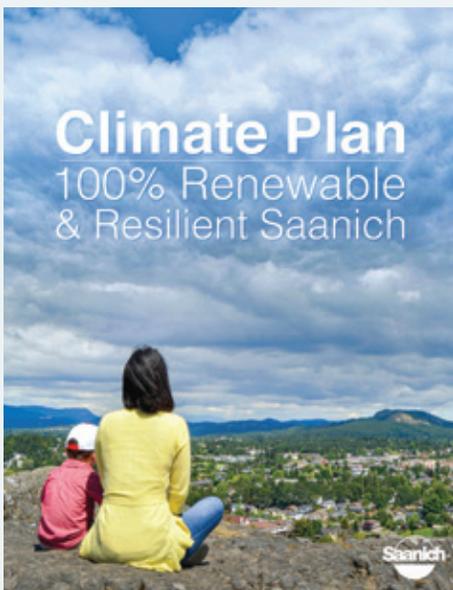
Vancouver's *Rain City Strategy* is a 30-year road map for advancing and evolving rainwater management services by integrating them into land use decisions, community plans, and urban design. Through the *Rain City Strategy*, Vancouver will advance 46 implementation objectives focused on streets, public spaces, civic facilities, buildings, parks, and beaches. These programs integrate green infrastructure across multiple City departments to help achieve City-wide goals related to climate resilience, equity, and servicing needs for population growth.

The jury felt that the Strategy offers a holistic, innovative and creative approach to rainwater infrastructure and management that is transferable to other municipalities in the province.



adaptation related to mobility, buildings & infrastructure, food & materials, ecosystems, community wellbeing, and leadership in District operations.

The jury felt that this clear and comprehensive plan, developed in consultation with many stakeholder groups in a meaningful and collaborative way, can be a template for other municipalities developing Climate Action Plans.



Back (left to right): Ting Pan, Rebecca Newlove RPP, MCIP, Deborah Herbert RPP, MCIP, Duncan Cavens RPP, MCIP Front (left to right): Maggie Baynham RPP, MCIP, Glenys Verhulst

Award for Excellence in Planning Practice – Small Town & Rural Areas (GOLD Winner)

Title: Quesnel Waterfront Plan

Authors: City of Quesnel and Urban Systems Ltd.

Partners: City of Quesnel Staff; City of Quesnel Mayor and Council; Quesnel Downtown Association; West Quesnel Business Association; Quesnel Search & Rescue; Big Canyon Rafting; Baker Creek Enhancement Society; Friends of Quesnel Museum; City of Quesnel Chamber of Commerce; Lhtako Dene First Nation; Nazko First Nation; Southern Dakelh Nation Alliance (as directed or via Lhtako or Nazko); and the Quesnel Tillicum Society/Native Friendship Centre

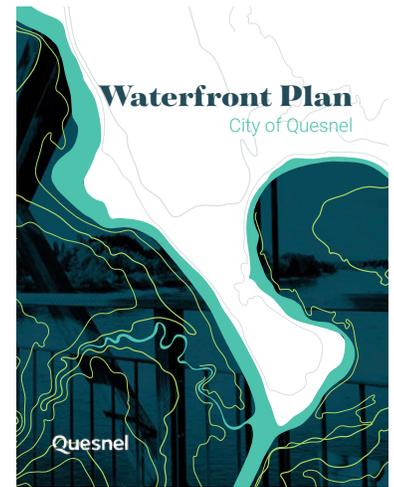
The City of Quesnel Waterfront Plan is a forward-looking document that not only focuses on the city’s waterways, but celebrates them by capitalizing on the community’s unique location at the confluence of rivers and creeks. The focus of the plan is eight kilometres of waterfront in Quesnel’s core. The final strategy identifies opportunities to improve public access to and create vibrant inclusive spaces along the waterfront. Building on market analysis, this project articulates a vision for the riverfront that is based on realistic economic development opportunities.

Respecting the dynamic nature of the river environment, the plan strategies include: trail renewal and connectivity, river access, riparian restoration, water celebration, Indigenous visibility, public art, places to rest, brand identity, and social media presence. Ambitious elements in the plan include an RV park, white-water feature enhancements, viewing towers, and an augmented reality app. The Waterfront Plan was adopted by Quesnel City Council in December of 2019.

The jury felt that this plan is forward-thinking and captures the importance of recognizing and valuing the incredible nature that surrounds the community of Quesnel. The Quesnel Waterfront Plan provides clear direction for monitoring

implementation throughout the life of the plan. The final document is fun, well-branded and versatile. It clearly identifies long- and short-term goals that can be measured and attained, and although the document included a high-level of engineering and technical components, it was easily read by many audiences, thanks to the clear maps, graphics and formatting.

“Water as an element has the potential to heal people and connect communities in a profound way. We want to extend our gratitude to the members of the community who brought their vision, passion and knowledge to this project, pushing our team to aim for excellence and a waterfront for everyone.”
– Urban Systems



Award for Excellence in Planning Practice – Small Town & Rural Areas (SILVER Winner)

Title: District of Lantzville Zoning Bylaw

Authors: Master of Community Planning Program, Vancouver Island University and Planning Department, District of Lantzville

Partners: Mark Swain, Mayor of Lantzville; Ronald Campbell, Chief Administrative Officer of Lantzville; and Vancouver Island University

The District of Lantzville partnered with Vancouver Island University’s Master of Community Planning program to improve the legibility and accessibility of the District’s zoning bylaw. More than 30 illustrations were designed for this project which explain complex definitions and regulations. The work was challenging, but ultimately resulted in a document that is interesting, informative, and attractive – something that cannot often be said for a regulatory bylaw.

The project created an opportunity for students to gain a deeper understanding of the meaning and principles behind bylaw development. Complicated regulations such as setbacks from the “top of bank” sent the students on a rabbit hole of research, tracing the path through the rationale behind setbacks. The District of Lantzville was a supportive mentor to the students, first in offering this work opportunity, and second by remaining a steadfast and positive resource for students throughout the project. The District is commended for their willingness to invest in student success, and their innovative approach to creating planning documents that are legible and interesting.

The jury felt that this unique partnership provided the District with a zoning bylaw that is interesting, informative and attractive. The method of developing the bylaw with the support and partnership of planning students can be transferred to other small communities.

The concept of providing graphics and illustrations throughout increases the accessibility of a document that is often difficult

to understand for property owners, residents and developers. The partnership was a great example of providing students with practical experience, while keeping budget costs for small communities within a reasonable amount. The document was well presented, with methods of implementation provided in short- and long-term attainable goals.

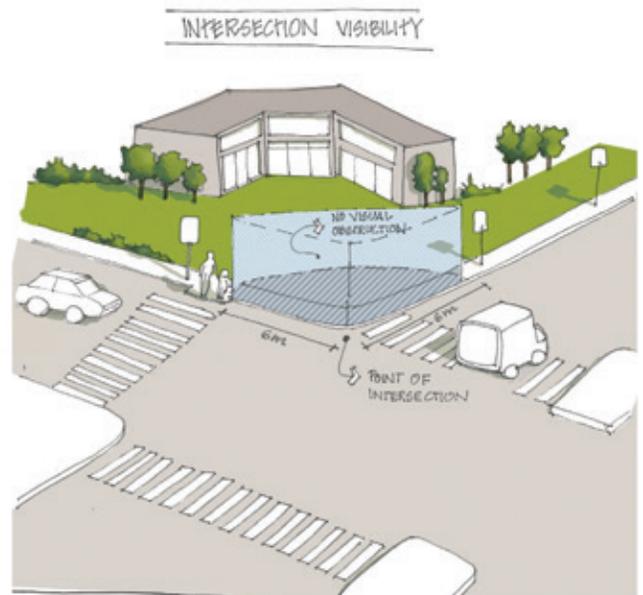
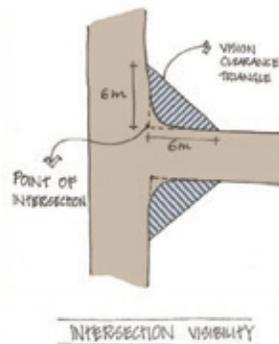


Steffi Sunni and Brian McLoughlin
(Master of Community Planning Program, Vancouver Island University)



INTERSECTION VISIBILITY

Where two highways intersect, there must not be any visual obstruction, either by buildings, structures or vegetation, to the line of vision in an area bounded by the centreline of intersecting parcel lines and a line adjoining each of the parcel lines 6 m from their point of intersection.



Award for Excellence in Planning Practice – City & Urban Areas (GOLD Winner)

Title: *Nicomekl Riverfront Park Management Plan*

Authors: City of Surrey and PFS Studio

Partners: Diamond Head Consulting; Denise Cook Design; and Lynne Werker Architect

The *Nicomekl Riverfront Park Management Plan* is a bold, adaptive management plan for a unique 3km stretch of riverfront parkland in Surrey. Building on a creative and engaging public consultation process, the plan puts into action key themes and priorities from the City's *Parks, Recreation and Culture Strategic Plan*. It sets the vision for a resilient, diverse and collaborative gem in the City's park network.

The plan integrates ecological protection and enhancement with public access, heritage, recreation, education, public art, and Indigenous stories throughout. The *Management Plan* is designed to be a living document throughout all phases of the riverfront park planning, design, construction and management.

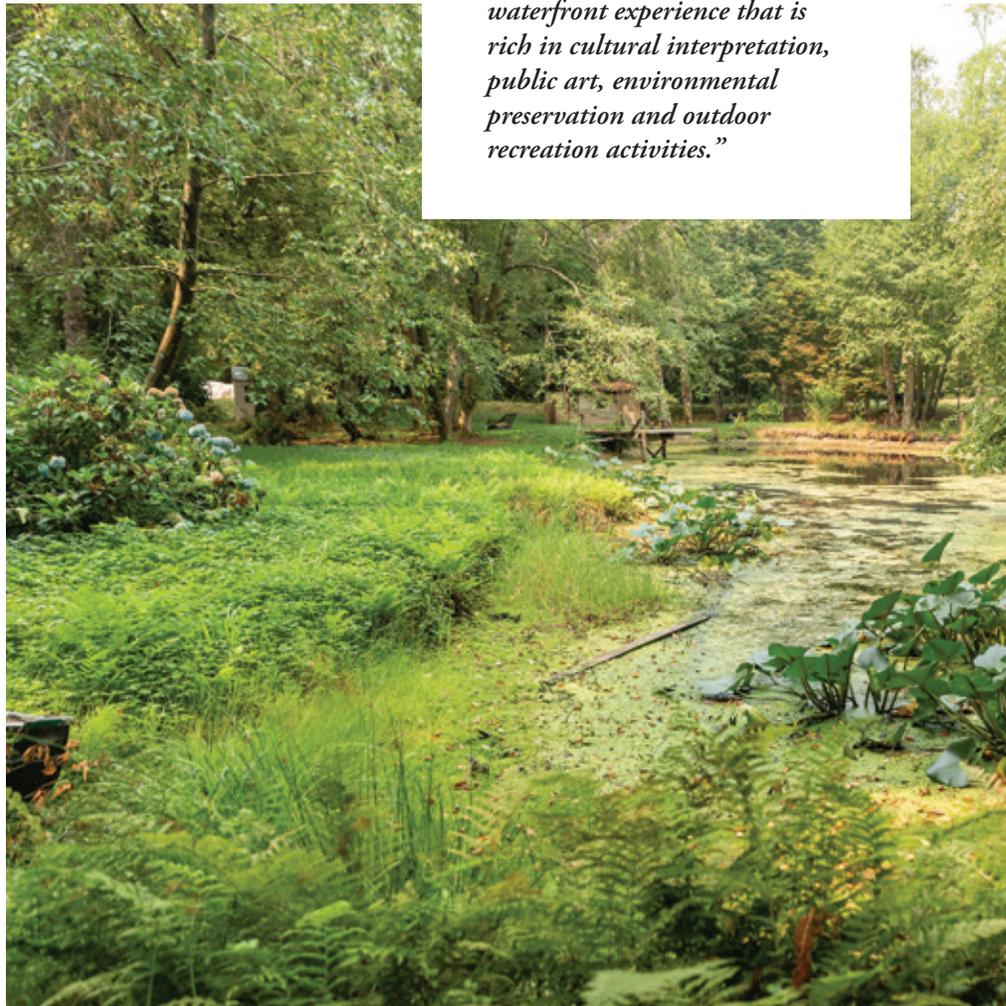
The jury was impressed with this project's holistic vision for the park, the sophistication of its ecological design, and the clarity of its presentation. The colourful document has clear diagrams and graphics, and the summary of design and management strategies provides an accessible 'plan at a glance.' The *Nicomekl Riverfront Park Management Plan* stands out for addressing flooding issues through an innovative adaptive management approach by emphasizing 'soft' engineering through landscape design and ecological resilience. This innovative approach also qualifies the City for additional Federal grants and research initiatives.



Doug Merry RPP, MCIP, and Mickella Sjoquist



“This Plan recognizes the important role that the Nicomekl River has played in the history of Indigenous peoples and what Surrey is today. It sets the stage for the development of a natural waterfront experience that is rich in cultural interpretation, public art, environmental preservation and outdoor recreation activities.”





Award for Excellence in Planning Practice – City & Urban Areas (SILVER Winner)

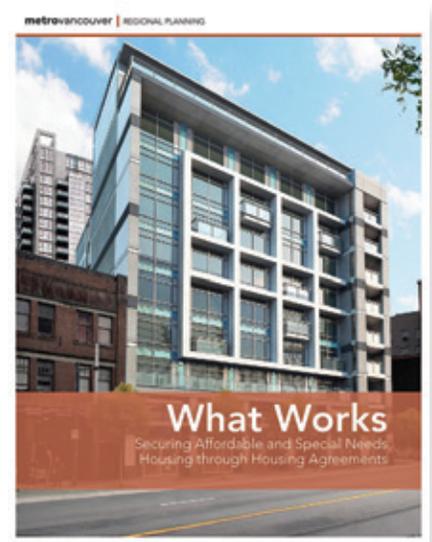
Title: *What Works: Securing Affordable and Special Needs Housing through Housing Agreements*

Authors: Metro Vancouver and CitySpaces Consulting Ltd.

Partners: BC Housing and Young Anderson Barristers and Solicitors

What Works: Securing Affordable and Special Needs Housing through Housing Agreements was initiated in November 2018, and concluded with the release of a comprehensive resource guide in the spring of 2020. Working collaboratively with housing planners, the housing development sector and non-profit housing providers across British Columbia, the project identifies key factors that contribute to the successful creation and implementation of housing agreements.

This project is intended to help local governments by identifying key considerations for entering into, administering, monitoring, and enforcing a housing agreement. It highlights common challenges and proposed solutions for local governments, and presents illustrative scenarios of best practices for a diversity of housing types. The outcome is practical guidance to support local governments across British Columbia as they develop housing agreements to



secure affordable and special needs housing in their communities.

The jury found this project to be an important resource in how to draft, administer and monitor housing agreements – a key tool to securing affordable and special needs housing in a region with high demand for such projects. The final document is relatively simple and straightforward, and the jury recognized its clarity and its importance. The jury appreciated the focus on implementation and the utility for local governments in the region and beyond. In addition, the project builds on the experience of stakeholders and applied practice, and extends the learning through workshops and conference presentation.



Attendees at the Housing Agreements Implementation Workshop

Award for Research & New Directions in Planning (GOLD Winner)

Title: *City Without Art? No Net Loss, Plus!*

Authors: Eastside Culture Crawl Society (ECCS)

Partners: ECCS Space Committee; Vancouver Economic Commission; and Licker Geospatial Consulting

The Eastside Culture Crawl Society's *City Without Art? No Net Loss, Plus!* was created to fill a significant data gap and to inform public planning policy. It was composed of several parts:

(1) documentation of the loss of Vancouver's Eastside visual art production space based on artist surveys, field work, and other data sources — a total of almost 400,000 ft² lost over a decade

(2) identification of causal factors such as planning policies, lack of tenure, shifting real estate markets, redevelopment, the growth of the high-tech sector, land assessment processes, etc.

(3) recommendation of a suite of potential strategies, such as new policies and incentives, to counteract the displacement of artists by protecting, enhancing and growing the supply of quality artist spaces (summarized by the phrase "No Net Loss, Plus!")

(4) presentation and discussion through a two-day forum in conjunction with an art exhibition called "Displacement." It has had an almost immediate impact on municipal policy direction through the City of Vancouver's support of an Eastside Arts District.

The jury found this project to be an outstanding and highly innovative joint effort between a not-for-profit society and the artistic community. The emphasis on protecting and sustaining an important arts ecosystem is greatly inspirational to planners. The jury felt that the research process utilized is fully transferable as a model for collecting data on artist production spaces, and for collaboratively developing policy related to the protection and enhancement of arts and cultural spaces.



"...an outstanding and highly innovative joint effort between a not-for-profit society and the artistic community. The emphasis on protecting and sustaining an important arts ecosystem will be greatly inspirational to planners."



Left to Right: John Steil RPP, FCIP, Ammar Mahimwalla (McGill U Planning School) and Esther Rausenberg

Award for Research & New Directions in Planning (SILVER Winner)

Title: *Benchmarking the State of Cycling in Metro Vancouver 2019*

Authors: HUB Cycling and TransLink

Partners: The Real Estate Foundation of BC; the BC Ministry of Social Development; and private sector firms including Bunt and Associates, Binnie, McElhanney and Urban Racks

HUB Cycling and TransLink partnered to release the first ever *State of Cycling Report* for Metro Vancouver. The report assesses the quality and quantity of bikeways in Metro Vancouver, the number of residents regularly cycling, the safety of the cycling network, and details existing cycling supportive policies and practices.

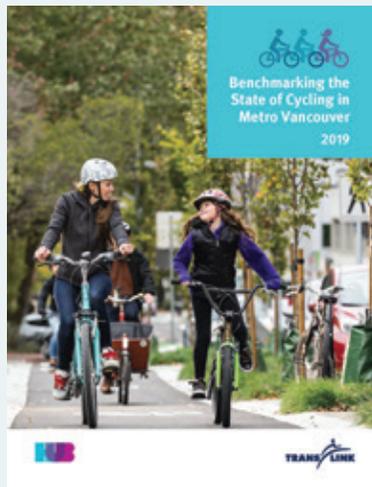
By reporting on the bikeway network and related data, this report offers an up-to-date picture of cycling across the region, and serves as a benchmark against which future progress can be measured. The data compiled through this study will be shared with municipalities, TransLink and the Province of British Columbia, and will be available to the public through an open data portal on TransLink's website.

The jury felt that this inclusive, impactful model for assessing Metro Vancouver's bikeways will set the region up for success for its progress with cycling infrastructure and cycling supportive policies. The jury

was impressed by the comprehensiveness of the study, and by the methodology that was utilized in the research project.

Transportation and land use planners in the region will benefit from the timely and user-friendly "State of Cycling" data that was produced in this project, while planners outside the region will benefit from the transferability of the research model. This benchmarking project has long-term benefits as it lays the groundwork for tracking success for a long time to come.

"Transportation and land use planners in the region will benefit from the timely and user-friendly "State of Cycling" data that was produced in this research project."



Award for Young Professional Leadership: Kristy McConnell

Sustainability Consultant,
Mott MacDonald



Kristy is a PIBC Candidate Member and Planner at Mott MacDonald. She holds a Master of Community and Regional Planning degree and a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources Conservation from the University of British Columbia. She is also a certified Envision Sustainability Professional (ENV SP).

Kristy has worked on many transportation planning and climate resilience projects both locally and across North America, including the award-winning Safestroll app, the Arbutus Greenway Project, various Port of Vancouver projects, and several planning projects in California. She has also been instrumental in delivering strategic advice on sustainability policies for various transportation agencies.

Kristy has not hesitated to provide mentorship to other young professionals and has consistently sought opportunities to innovate and get creative in serving her community and society; with a colleague she developed a workshop at the UBC SCARP Symposium on gender mainstreaming and applying the Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+) toolkit to public infrastructure projects.

"When I became aware I had been put forward by my colleagues for this award, I felt extremely honoured both by the award and to work with colleagues who thought of me and nominated me; it is humbling."

Award for Research & New Directions in Planning (Honourable Mention)

Title: *Sparwood Livability Study*

Author: Intelligent Futures

Partners: District of Sparwood

The District of Sparwood engaged Intelligent Futures to complete a *Livability Study*. The consultants involved the residents in guiding the document, building on the community's strengths, and managing some of the challenges in this resource-rich area. *The Livability Study* was managed by the District of Sparwood, with support by Teck Resources, the largest employer in the area. The process was undertaken to respond to quality of life and planning

issues in the community as related to Teck's application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate in 2014.

The jury was impressed that a small community with many unique challenges was able to partner with a private company to produce a robust set of 'wellbeing' indicators. The jury felt that this study would assist the community well into the future. In particular, the jury valued the District's description of how the *Sparwood Livability Study* would enable them to track and measure the impact of mining in their community over time. Given the larger context of PIBC's mandate for British Columbia and the Yukon, the jury appreciated the innovative direction of this study as livability studies are not generally a focus in more rural communities.

Introducing PIBC's Climate Action Subcommittee

/ Sean Tynan RPP, MCIP and Patricia Dehnel RPP, MCIP

Building on the work of the Climate Action Task Force, PIBC has established the new Climate Action Subcommittee. With oversight from the PIBC Board and PIBC's Policy & Public Affairs Committee, the Subcommittee's role is to build strategic partnerships, conduct research, and advocate on matters related to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Following a Call for Volunteers in Fall 2019, Subcommittee members were affirmed by the PIBC Board, and the Subcommittee held its first meeting in December 2019. The Committee members have been appointed for the duration of the current PIBC Board of Directors' two-year term.

Subcommittee members include: Sean Tynan RPP, MCIP (Co-Chair); Patricia (Trish) Dehnel RPP, MCIP (Co-chair); Sara Muir-Owen RPP, MCIP; Jeff Zukiwsky RPP, MCIP; John Ingram RPP, MCIP; Devon Miller, Candidate Member; Clarissa (Claire) Huffman, Candidate Member, and: Dave Crossley, PIBC Staff (non-voting).

Climate Action Update

The following actions are complete or well underway:

- Updated the workplan for the Subcommittee's current term (completed)
- Provided input on behalf of PIBC to *Climate Ready BC*, the Province's new climate preparedness and adaptation strategy (completed)
- Provided input on behalf of PIBC on updates to the BC *Emergency Program Act*, the legislative framework for the management of disasters and emergencies in BC. (completed)
- Two Subcommittee members representing PIBC as part of *Inspiring Climate Action*. This initiative helps professionals in British Columbia who work at the front line of climate adaptation to integrate adaptation competencies into their professional practice through education, training and networking – see: <https://climateactionbc.com/> (ongoing)
- A Subcommittee member is participating in the BC Regional Adaptation Collaborative's *Climate Risk Network*. The Network aims to increase awareness of climate adaptation activities among its members, strengthen relationships between academia and government, and strategically develop new activities to address gaps in adaptation programming – see: https://www.fraserbasin.bc.ca/ccaq_bcrac.html (ongoing)

Priority tasks for 2020 include:

- Making BC and Yukon climate action case studies a regular part of *Planning West* – see *Accelerate Kootenays* in this issue
- Building strategic partnerships with other organizations that have a strong mandate for climate action, such as APEGBC or BCSLA.
- Updating PIBC's *Climate: A Call to Action* (2017). The Call to Action is strongly focused on climate change mitigation and the Subcommittee feels there is an opportunity to strengthen climate change adaptation.
- Providing input to the Professional Standards and Certification Committee on climate-related competencies for professional planners.
- Work with the Continuous Professional Learning Committee regarding climate action PIBC webinars.

Over to You

We would like to open it up to you, our fellow members, to share ideas for climate action that you think could be addressed by the Subcommittee. We would be happy to hear your ideas for:

- Advocacy, such as legislative changes or requests for resources to support climate action.
- Future case studies to profile in *Planning West*.
- Other ideas you have for how PIBC could support its membership in climate mitigation and adaptation efforts.

You can reach out directly to the Sub-committee co-chairs with your climate action ideas:

Sean is available at seantynan1@gmail.com

Trish is available at pdehnel@communityenergy.bc.ca

We look forward to hearing from you. ■

Sean Tynan RPP, MCIP is a planner with the City of Vancouver.

Patricia Dehnel RPP, MCIP is a PIBC Board Member and a Community Relations Manager/Carbon Neutral Specialist with Community Energy Association. She lives in Nelson, BC.

Accelerate Kootenays: BC's first clean transportation network

/ Patricia Dehnel RPP, MCIP and Megan Lohmann MSc

“You can't get there from here” could have been used to describe an electric vehicle (EV) driver's plight to access the Kootenays pre-2016. At the time there was one Nissan Leaf (range 130 km) owned in the region and zero publicly accessible charging stations. A Nelson EV enthusiast blogged about the 650km Nelson to Vancouver trip taking 4 days!

When fast charging infrastructure was introduced to the dense and urban areas of the province pre-2014, the Kootenays were excluded. This infrastructure gap in the Kootenays would preclude residents from considering EVs as a viable option for travel.

In the Kootenays, over 60% of community-wide emissions originate from the transportation sector. The area's rural, dispersed communities with fewer travel options, such as active transportation or transit, results in higher transportation emissions than in urban areas.

Enter the Highway 3 Mayors' and Chairs' Coalition, a group of municipal leaders with a mandate to improve the Highway 3 corridor for travelers to the region. In 2014, the Coalition unveiled their dream to electrify the route from Hope to Alberta to improve EV tourism opportunities. In 2016, the Regional District of East Kootenay Community Energy Manager was given the task to identify ways to reduce community transportation emissions. These two programs aligned and the visionary *Accelerate Kootenays* was born.

Accelerate Kootenays is Canada's first community-driven, collaborative strategy to build a clean transportation network. Situated in the mountainous rural southeast corner of B.C., the *Accelerate Kootenays*



Energy Mines and Petroleum Resource Minister Michelle Mungall (and local MLA), announces the official opening of the *Accelerate Kootenays* network.

areas encompass over 65,000 km² and is home to about 150,000 people.

Beginning with a “think bold” planning idea in 2016, it became a two-year, \$1.9 million initiative of the Regional Districts of East Kootenay, Central Kootenay and Kootenay Boundary, with additional financial and implementation support from Columbia Basin Trust, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Government of Canada, Teck, the Province of BC, FortisBC, and BC Hydro.

The project was facilitated by the Community Energy Association (CEA) and supported by the Ktunaxa Nation, all 27 Kootenay-Boundary-Columbia

region local governments and many unincorporated electoral area communities.

Each regional district provided \$30,000 seed funding to leverage funding to develop and implement an innovative plan promoting local expertise to overcome a regional barrier. Funding from provincial, federal and regional partners would not have been accessible, nor a network developed, if each community and regional government pursued EV station siting independently.

The project created a robust electric vehicle charging station network so EV travel to and within the region could flourish to become convenient and reliable. The resulting network is publicly funded, accessible and includes 13 DC Fast Charging stations and 42 Level 2 stations.

Addressing the charging infrastructure gap also allows for electric vehicle tourism, as EV drivers tend to determine their travel plans based on access to charging infrastructure. EV owners on vacation use charging stations while they recreate, eat, and shop. Most of the local economic benefits to communities will be the result of Level 2 stations: the ‘stop and shop’ stations. They are a slower charge, and open communities up as an EV destination. Level 2 stations will hold visitors for up to 4-6 hours in a location, facilitating economic and tourism benefits. DC fast chargers provide on-the-go charging for an 80% charge in 30-40 minutes. They are quick stops on main routes.

From idea to implementation *Accelerate Kootenays* embraced good planning: local community engagement and collaboration; the idea that place and design matter; accessibility/inclusivity for all; and use of data. Each station was sited with community input and based on design criteria, distance to community amenities and safety for EV

drivers. The network was computer modeled, with additional advice from local EV owners on the maximum distance between stations to eliminate “range anxiety” for the lower range EV models, and to ensure consideration of winter and mountain pass driving conditions.

Electrical consumption data compiled for the first 11 DC Fast Charging Stations at the end of the implementation phase in December 2018 totalled 17,338.26 kWh of electricity. The project to-date has supported 86,891 km of hydroelectricity-fueled travel. This equates to approximately 9,250 litres of gasoline saved and 21 tonnes CO₂e reduced. The expected long-term impacts of the project, based on conservative EV adoption rates, estimate that by 2030 the direct emission reductions will exceed 25,000 tonnes of CO₂e.

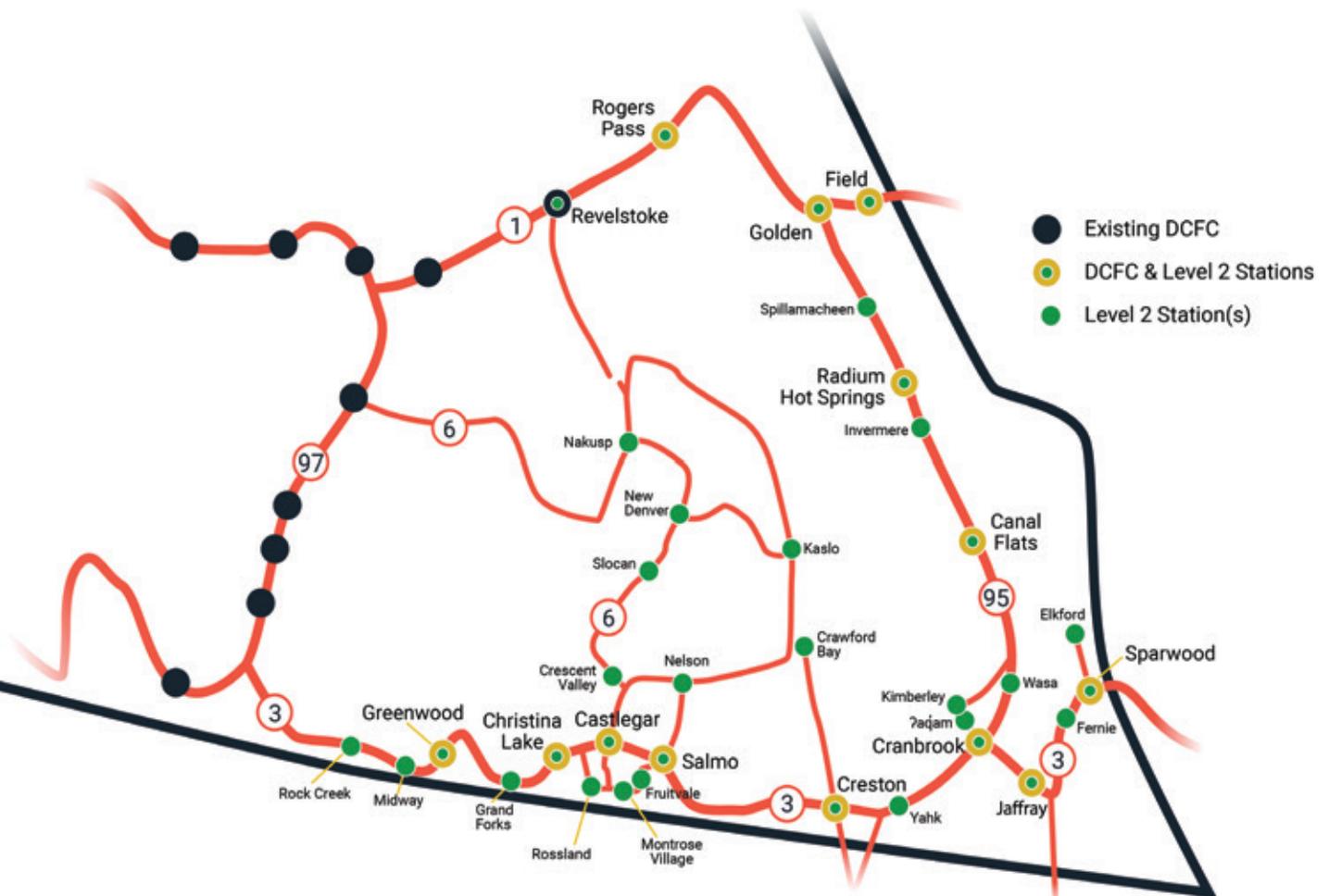
The collaborative, region-wide approach has been replicated in southern Alberta with its 1,600km² “Peaks to Prairies” which connects to the Kootenay network. The Yukon

Government is in early reflection on an EV network for the Territory. Coming soon to northern BC is “Charge North,” bringing together over 40 local governments and linking almost 2,800 km of highway from south of Kamloops to Prince George, along Highway 16 and onto Haida Gwaii.

Since 2019 project wrap-up, more private and community funded fast charging and level 2 chargers have been installed. Demand for electric vehicles outpaced supply almost immediately after the initiation of the first network DC Fast Charging station in Cranbrook in April 2017.

That lone resident Nissan Leaf of 2016, has been joined by over 70 locally owned EVs by 2019, including two Hyundai Konas, a Chevrolet Bolt and a part-time Tesla that are part of the regionally operated Kootenay Carshare Cooperative fleet. For the Kootenay EV driver and visitors, thanks to the *Accelerate Kootenays* planning strategy and implementation, now “*you can get there from here!*”

Accelerate Kootenays network map





The ribbon cut by Energy Mines and Petroleum Resource Minister Michelle Mungall, with project funding partners.

In September 2020, the Regional Districts of Central Kootenay, East Kootenay and Kootenay-Boundary were honoured with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2020 Sustainable Communities: Visionary Award for *Accelerate Kootenays*. ■

Megan Lohmann is Head of Community Energy Management for CEA, is Accelerate Kootenays Project Manager and the Regional District of East Kootenay contract Community Energy Manager.

Patricia Dehnel RPP, MCIP is Board Member and co-chair of the PIBC Policy and Public Affairs Committee, Climate Action Sub-Committee. Patricia is Community Relations Manager / Carbon Neutral Specialist with CEA and Accelerate Kootenays West Kootenay Project Liaison.

Community Energy Association (CEA) supports local governments and First Nations on climate and energy activities. CEA offers services and capacity to help deliver community projects, deploy infrastructure, build capacity and lead collaboration between local governments. The Planning Institute of BC is a founding and long-time member of CEA.



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY MEDIA RELEASE

September 14, 2020
For immediate release



RDCK wins a 2020 Sustainable Communities Award

Nelson, BC: The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is pleased to announce it has been selected as a winner of a 2020 Sustainable Communities Award for exceptional work in the Visionary Award category for Accelerate Kootenays. The award honours and celebrates the most innovative environmental initiatives in cities and communities across Canada.

In collaboration with the Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK), the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB) and Columbia Basin Trust, the Accelerate Kootenays Project was the first community driven collaborative strategy to build a clean transportation network by installing public charging infrastructure for electric vehicles (EV) throughout the region within communities. It was coordinated over three years, at the cost of \$1.89 million, and involved multiple partners with varying expertise to transform a rural region into one that facilitates EV travel.

The project successfully demonstrated how regional governments and organizations can collaborate to deploy a charging network through strategic partnerships: to locate station siting and regional appropriate technology and outreach. It effectively increased traffic at charging stations in rural areas, bolstered economic development opportunities for local businesses, contributed to reducing greenhouse gases in the transportation sector, and has been recognized provincially, nationally and internationally.

The RDCK is one of the 11 winners (local government or municipality) from across the country chosen by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for their outstanding efforts in one of nine categories: asset management, brownfields, climate change, energy, neighbourhoods, transportation, waste, water and a new category in honour of Green Municipal Fund (GMF's) 20th anniversary.

Winners will each deliver a live, TED-talk-style presentation on their projects at FCM's virtual Sustainable Communities Conference – held on October 20-22, 2020. Recipients in each category are also eligible for the Inspire Award, given to the most creative and innovative project following the conference.

The [announcement](#) was made earlier today by FCM.

PLANGIRL TRAVELS: LESSONS TO BRING HOME

Installment #16

Recovery Planning in Puerto Rico

/ Emilie K. Adin RPP, MCIP, LEED AP

North America is struggling under a confluence of steep challenges: the COVID-19 pandemic; the legacy of systemic racism; and the climate crisis, including the massive forest fires along the West Coast of the United States. Each threat compounds and complicates the others.

Climate justice, economic hardship, disproportionate health impacts, a just recovery, social safety nets, environmental degradation, climate resilience, structural racism: these are all part of the planning lexicon for our times.

Pandemic response and recovery planning are hard, financially challenging, and critically important. Working on racial justice and climate solutions is difficult and heartbreaking because real and abiding solutions cost money and require sustained political commitment. Governments balk at the initial costs of transitioning our energy infrastructure, our built environments, and our funding priorities. At the same time many government bodies, non-profit organizations, and businesses have faced an abrupt drop in revenues.

Planners have an important role to play in addressing these issues. Transitioning our economies and our communities towards a just recovery – one that is centred on social equity, racial justice, and climate resilience

– will be the greatest challenge of our profession in this decade.

So what can we do about it? First, we take lessons from people with lived experience – from youth and emerging leaders, but also from elsewhere in the world. In this column, I consider lessons to be learned from Puerto Rico.

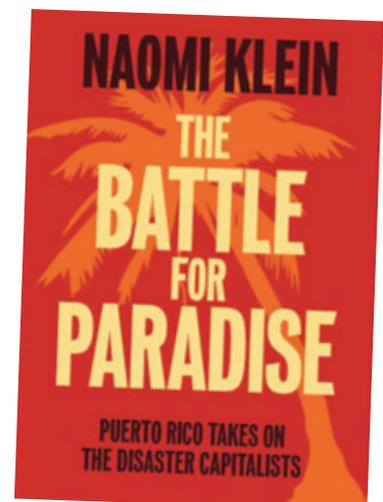
Lessons from Puerto Rico

In September 2017, Hurricane Maria landed with devastating effect on the island of Puerto Rico, an unincorporated territory of the United States. A mere six months later, Naomi Klein published a short volume that shone a light on the disaster’s aftermath entitled, “The Battle for Paradise.” Klein’s treatise, informed by Puerto Rican activists she interviewed, was that unpopular reforms towards privatization and deregulation were being passed when the population was dealing with a crisis and did not have the strength to react.

Klein wrote about a rise in gated communities and luxury real estate, which did not slow down even in the wake of Hurricane Maria. Puerto Rico was marketed to other Americans for its status as a tax haven, only 3.5 hours’ flight from New York City. Even in the wake of the almost \$100 billion in damages and a devastating humanitarian crisis, former (and disgraced)

Puerto Rican Governor Ricardo Rossello called his territory a “blank canvas on which investors could paint their very own dream world.”

The “Puertopians,” Klein argued, responded to that call and stepped up to invest. This was much to the dismay of the majority of Puerto Ricans. As Juan E. Rosario, a long-time community organizer and environmentalist, said “at such a high-stakes moment ... we need to know what paradise looks like ... that actually works for the majority of Puerto Ricans.”



In 2019, I attended a land economics conference in Puerto Rico and had the opportunity to see post-Maria San Juan for myself. As an urban planner, I was saddened by what I found. Even before Hurricane Maria, San Juan was a car-oriented city (picture the worst stereotypes of Los Angeles, writ large). Everywhere there are highways, overpasses, surface parking lots and structured parkades.

Even though Puerto Rico is quite a poor territory (the average household income is about \$19,000), with a great divide between the majority and the wealthy elite, it has one of the highest car ownership rates in America. Public transit is grossly inadequate. Vital neighbourhoods are relatively few, scattered and isolated.

However, rather than concentrating investment and regulatory supports around those few key neighbourhoods, which have suffered greatly from the effects of the hurricane, investment turned away from the existing cities and towns. Whatever urban fabric remained was abandoned for disparate, disconnected and car-oriented communities. Gated enclaves sprung up not only on hilltops far from any future effects of hurricanes, but also scattered along the shorelines of the island. Yet, only a short drive from the pricey beachfront resorts and luxury homes, hundreds of residents still live under leaky roofs and blue tarp.

Are there silver linings? Other than the highway system, Puerto Rican towns and cities do have “good bones” – there are small blocks and fine-grained urban fabric. There is only one place in all of San Juan’s waterfront without public access to the water. Perhaps most impressive of all is the history of intense activism in Puerto Rico, including student revolts, popular movements, calls for action, and strong political participation. Puerto Ricans are powerful in fighting for change. Protests forced the Governor to resign in July 2019. That same year Airbnb was ousted from Puerto Rico’s Viesques Island.

Even a proposed land-use zoning map sparked a large protest in 2019. Over 12,000 Puerto Ricans signed a petition, with Puerto Rico’s main newspaper calling the proposed land-use document “a map without a plan.” The argument was that the impacts of sprawling development, which the new zoning allowed, had not been studied, including impacts on agriculture, health care, education, and the environment. Adoption of the plan was delayed.

In support of the Black Lives Matter movement, Puerto Rican artist and reggaeton singer Bad Bunny stated, “In a world like this, none of us can breathe.” A just recovery will mean strong voices, and good listening. Many Puerto Ricans are ready for the challenge.

British Columbia: What now and what next?

Recovery planning is not a new phenomenon. Working to solve compounded social challenges, building community resilience, and diverting from business-as-usual are already at the forefront of many planning efforts in B.C. and around the world. The confluence of the COVID-19 pandemic, systemic racism and the climate crisis adds urgency and complexity. Climate change is happening and we need to both prepare for inevitable warming and the continuing need to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions in order to save ecosystems and lives.

New approaches are meeting the challenges head on. Particularly noteworthy are agile, action-oriented, multi-stakeholder partnerships and initiatives aimed at changing systems rather than just making plans. Provincial planners and planning consultants in B.C. are well regarded across Canada. They lead the field on energy and emissions planning, affordable housing, climate adaptation and mitigation, and otherwise responding to complexity and questions of social equity on a myriad of core planning issues. The Province’s successful creation of the BC Energy Step Code is one recent example of an iterative multi-sectoral project.

These are early days on the path to a just recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, but there are lessons to be learned from Puerto Rico. We are at a deep inflexion point. To soar upwards to resolution of this “triple threat,” we need to focus planning efforts for the most vulnerable amongst us, while assuring a just recovery for all. In the B.C. context, we must address historic injustice, including the fact that we are living on unceded Indigenous lands. Sometimes our job as planners is not to listen to whose voices are louder, but to amplify those voices that speak to justice for past and future generations. ■

Emilie K. Adin RPP, MCIP, LEED AP is the City of New Westminster’s Director of Planning and Development Services as well as an Adjunct Professor at the UBC School of Community and Regional Planning.



Photo by John Middelkoop courtesy of UnSplash



Is Planting Trees *the* Solution to Climate Change?

/ Bev Windjack BCSLA, CSLA
/ Christine Callihoo RPP, MCIP
/ Megan Hanacek RPF, RPBio
/ Harshan Radhakrishnan MASc., P.Eng.
/ Tristan Flock



In 2019's Federal election, several campaigns suggested that we plant millions of trees to respond to climate change. This idea has been echoed in headlines around the world, which a number of us — professionals in forestry, landscape architecture, planning and engineering — have found curious. We gathered to discuss the opportunities and obstacles in using tree planting to combat climate change.

To be clear, we have great respect for trees. They play a significant role in mitigating the current and anticipated effects of climate change, including:

- providing beauty, shade, cooling and wind shelter for humans and animals
- creating opportunities for understory and groundcover growth, i.e. the vegetative layers needed to complete an ecosystem and provide habitat and food for birds, wildlife, and beneficial insects
- mitigating erosion and decompaction of soil, improving water infiltration and supporting new vegetative growth
- sequestering carbon

However, planting trees to achieve long-term climate change benefits, especially carbon sequestration, may not be as straightforward as it sounds. While tree planting can contribute to our collective efforts to adapt to the changing climate, we worry that Canadians may become overly focused on this solution, leading them to neglect crucial considerations and other viable solutions.

Tree planting is an appealing solution because as trees grow, they absorb carbon from the atmosphere. Some of this carbon gets sequestered in the leaves and trunk, while a considerable amount is sent underground to support roots and associated microorganisms.

Not all trees sequester carbon equally, and rates of sequestration depend on many factors. Some studies indicate that young trees growing in open and sunny deforested areas may sequester carbon more quickly than older trees competing with neighbours for space and sunlight.¹ Other studies suggest that tree carbon accumulation increases with tree age and size.² Regardless of the

specifics of carbon sequestration, when a tree is cut down or otherwise dies, carbon intake stops and even reverses.

Sequestered carbon is released back into the atmosphere through rotting trees, burning wood, or land use that disturbs soil. The latter point often goes under-appreciated, as most people are not aware that soil contains approximately three times more carbon than the atmosphere. Although trees used for lumber sequester carbon long-term, those used for firewood, compost, or otherwise hold no sequestration value. This last point is especially relevant when considering urban trees.

A 2019 study identifies the high carbon cost associated with urban trees which includes nursery production, transport, planting, irrigation, pruning, removal and disposal. These trees must live for 26 to 33 years to attain carbon neutrality. While trees in private urban gardens and parks may live past 30, typical urban street trees do not. Because urban street trees are unlikely candidates for lumber, their long-term carbon sequestration value — and therefore potential as a climate change solution — is questionable.

The current government has said that it aims to plant 2 billion trees over the next decade. Canada has 347 million hectares (ha) of forest, in mostly remote and sparsely populated areas that are not under pressure for development or agriculture (www.nrcan.gc.ca). Sixty-two (62) million ha of these forests are in BC. Although BC's forests currently appear stable, they will increasingly be impacted by climate change, influencing their ability to sequester carbon.

Coastal forests will likely see an increase in the number and intensity of storms, thereby increasing their susceptibility to fire, disease and wind damage. Drier areas of the southern interior may experience regeneration problems due to an increase in summer droughts. Forest tree growth rates will also be impacted by increased competition from new species more suited to the changing climate and species migration. These concerns are rarely raised in the press, possibly leading the public to be overly optimistic about planting trees as a seemingly straightforward solution.

‘...tree planting becomes problematic when it is promoted as a simple, silver bullet solution and overshadows other actions that have greater potential for addressing the drivers of specific environmental problems, such as taking bold and rapid steps to reduce deforestation and greenhouse gas emissions.’¹

Naitian (Tony) Wang photo courtesy of UnSplash



In light of the fact that trees only help with climate change if they live for at least 30 years or are used for lumber, we must more closely examine how they can be part of a climate change solution. Urban settings are not often not viable, and managed forests are grown for industry which may need a more immediate return than waiting three decades.

Introducing millions, or billions of trees over the coming years will be difficult. Without a science-based approach, a long-term management plan, and adaptive monitoring, this effort is doomed to disappoint.

Canadian scientists and professionals are working to develop climate adaptation strategies, which can help guide the planting of trees. Tree planting could be one of a number of useful tools as we combat climate change. Canada has committed to climate initiatives such as the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change which focuses on emissions

reductions by increasing the amount of carbon stored in our forests, wetlands and soils.

However, we need thoughtful, ongoing conversations to help us proceed to minimize the potential for ineffectual tree planting. To this end, we support initiatives which place politicians and senior bureaucrats in dialogue with sectors focusing on innovative, unique solutions to address climate change. Trees can and likely will play a role as we learn about and implement solutions. But despite their promise — or perhaps *because* of it — we run the risk of oversimplifying their potential.

Climate change is a massive problem, and no single solution will solve it. Working with experts can help to ensure that proposed projects and initiatives are both economically beneficial and fit within an overarching environmental management strategy.

To build resilience, we must temper our ambition, and accept that climate change

adaptation requires us to remain open to the landscape of possible solutions. Tree planting offers one appealing solution, but given the difficulties involved we should not assume that it is *the* singular solution to climate change. ■

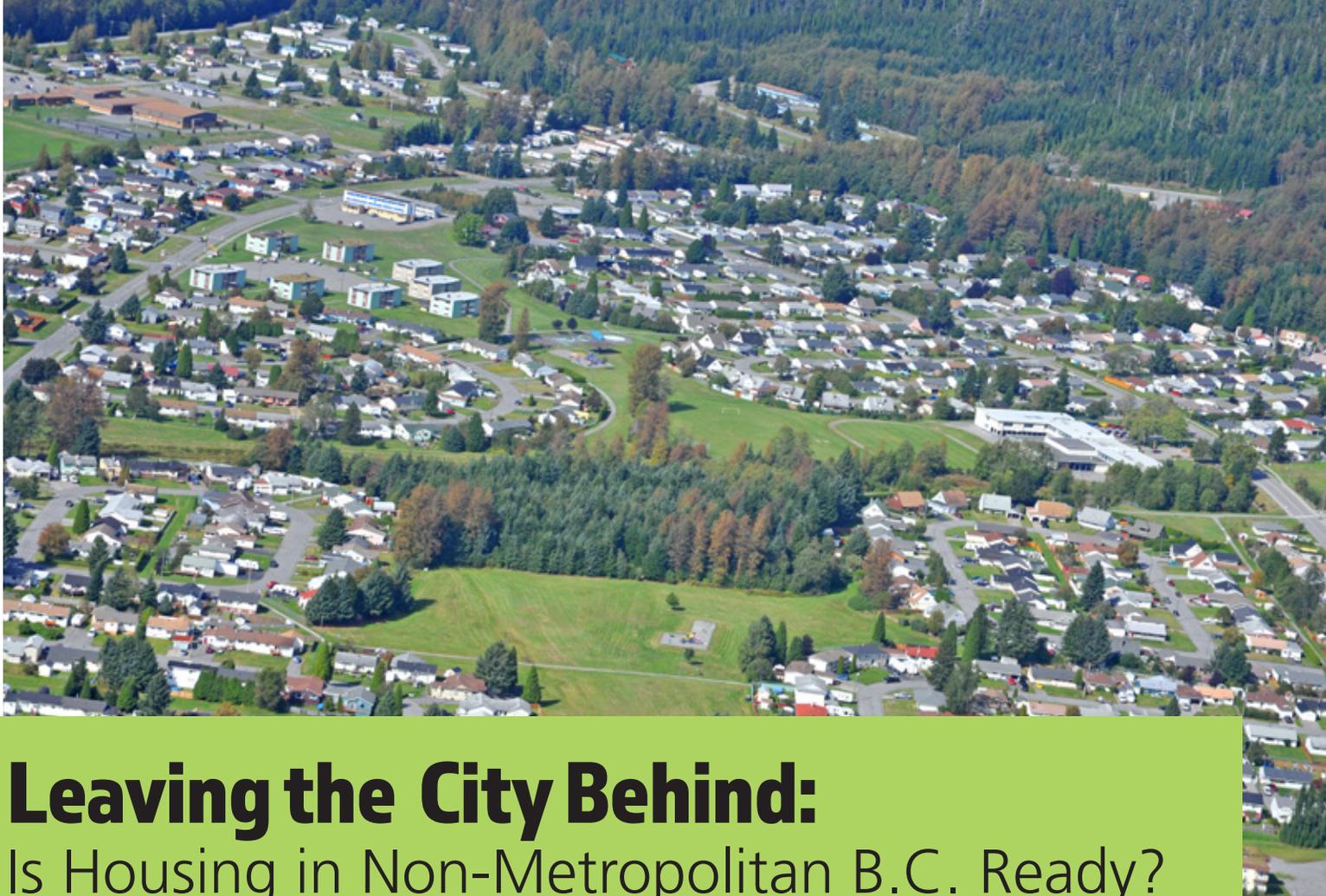
Bev Windjack is a registered landscape architect with LADR Landscape Architects Inc.

Christine Callihoo is a community climate resilience/adaptation planner with Resilience Environmental Solutions

Megan Hanacek is the CEO at Private Forest Landowners Association

Harshan Radhakrishnan is the Manager, Climate Change and Sustainability Initiatives with Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (EGBC)

Tristan Flock is an Intern with Climate Action Planning, EGBC



Leaving the City Behind: Is Housing in Non-Metropolitan B.C. Ready?

/ Marleen Morris, Julia Good, and Greg Halseth

Over the past months, British Columbians have lived through unprecedented times, staying at home for weeks in order to slow the transmission of COVID-19. It has been a challenge that has forced all of us to live differently, and has many of us thinking about living differently in the future.

Given the experience of the lockdown, it is possible that people living in high-density regions of British Columbia, such as Greater Vancouver, the Fraser Valley, and Greater Victoria, may start thinking about moving to lower density non-metropolitan communities. If they were interested in moving, what kind of housing would they find in those communities?

The Urban Lockdown Experience

During the lockdown, residents in higher density regions were confined to their homes which, in many cases, were small apartments or townhouses. With little space for a home office, people worked from

kitchen tables and counters. There may have been little or no outdoor or green space, and indoor common areas were closed and locked. When leaving their homes, residents encountered situations that put them at risk for virus transmission: small spaces such as elevators, long line-ups when shopping, and crowded destinations including stores, parks, sidewalks, and transit.

We have heard from health experts that there is a very good chance that B.C. will experience a second and even third wave of COVID-19, which could lead to additional lockdowns. There is also a strong possibility that there will be other pandemics in the future, and that the likelihood of these pandemics will increase as a result of climate change and a host of other factors.

With the first lockdown, employers and staff realized that people can work from home. Some companies, such as Shopify, have already indicated that working from home will become a permanent

arrangement. An office can be anywhere there is internet service.

If life in dense metropolitan areas has become challenging and uncertain because of the possibility of public health emergencies, and technology makes it possible to work from anywhere, will some urban British Columbians consider moving out of large metropolitan areas? According to recent media reports, this outmigration is already beginning to happen. A CBC report from August 2020 reported that, after the initial slowdown during lockdown, housing sales in Okanagan and Shuswap were markedly increasing. The boom in sales was being attributed to “the increased number of people looking for a change after experiencing life in lockdown.”¹

Given that it would take only a small percentage of the urban population to move to create a large impact on non-metropolitan housing markets, the question is, are non-metropolitan communities prepared?



1 Split level home
2 4-level split home
3,4 Pre-1950s home

Housing in Non-Metropolitan B.C.

Visiting non-metropolitan communities, potential migrants would find that much of the housing and many neighbourhoods date back to the 1950s and 1960s. These were built for baby boom families during the post-World War II resource-rich era in B.C., a time of rapid growth and economic optimism.

The authors of this article recently released a report entitled, *Building Foundations for the Future: Housing, Community Development, and Economic Opportunity in Non-Metropolitan Canada*.² Our research is based on a sample of 14 non-metropolitan communities selected from across B.C. The communities:

- range in size from 1,980 (100 Mile House) to 33,761 (Penticton)
- are located in all regions of the province

- include a diverse range of primary economic activity (agriculture, forestry, mining, oil and gas, manufacturing, retirement living, tourism, and government services)
- have unique histories and pathways of development.

In our sample, over 50% of the housing stock was built before 1981. Homes built in this era were generally designed with multiple levels and stairs between functional areas such as the kitchen, living room, bathroom, and bedrooms. There are also often stairs at the entrance ways.

These homes are large – more than one-quarter of the homes in our sample communities contain four or more bedrooms. Despite the large size, many have only 1 – 1½ bathrooms. Kitchens in these homes feature space for an electric range, fridge, and dishwasher. Microwave shelves, five to six burner gas cooktops, side-by-side

fridges with ice and cold water dispensers, wine fridges, and breakfast bars had not been envisioned when these houses were built. Very often, the laundry is in an unfinished basement. Electrical and wiring standards can also be an issue in these homes.

The housing stock in non-metropolitan B.C. is also dominated by single detached dwellings. In our 14 communities, the prevalence of single detached homes ranges from 43% to 72% of the total housing stock. These large homes generally sit on large lots that require a great deal of ongoing maintenance. Furthermore, given their age, these homes are not energy efficient and are more likely to be in need of major repair, which makes them expensive to maintain.

Attracting Potential Metropolitan Migrants

For non-metropolitan B.C., there may be an opportunity to attract people looking to leave larger centres in search of more space and less density. This presents local

and regional planners with the challenge of developing policy and program options that will create the housing, neighborhoods, and communities that will attract urban migrants who can 'live locally and work globally.'

Housing

Non-metropolitan communities may need to bring their housing stock into the 21st century to meet the expectations of metropolitan migrants. Design considerations should include enough space to work and study from home, flex spaces, and attractive options for smaller households.

Renewing the existing housing stock will be important, especially since much of the housing is in need of repair. Providing incentives for renovations, with a focus on energy efficiency and adaptability for aging in place, will enhance long-term affordability. Encouraging creative approaches, such as redesigning or subdividing large single detached homes into two or more units, could give new life to old neighbourhoods and address the need for diverse housing options.

Encouraging new housing will also be critical, and an important way to increase the mix of housing choices. Incentivizing new development within a community's existing infrastructure envelope will help reduce development costs. This could include infill housing in existing neighbourhoods, developing vacant lots, mixed use developments, redevelopment of brown-field sites, and taking advantage of locational synergies such as housing in the downtown core.

Neighbourhoods

Non-metropolitan communities will also want to pay close attention to neighbourhood design and access to amenities. Neighbourhood planning may also need to consider that people will want to be able to be outside all year round, even during public health emergencies.

New considerations include having green space and pathways that allow for physical distancing. Interestingly, many of the post-war housing landscapes found in non-metropolitan B.C. have ample pathways,

connective walks, greenspaces, and areas for households to be outdoors in all seasons.

Infrastructure

For metropolitan migrants, a move out of the urban area is only possible if they can live locally and work globally. Non-metropolitan communities will need to provide the infrastructure to stay connected through technology. High speed fibre optic networks will be required to support both working and schooling from home.

If some of BC's urban residents start moving to lower density non-metropolitan communities, they will find a housing stock that is in need of attention and investment. Planners may want to review the policies, bylaws, and programs that can support reinvestment in the existing housing stock and community amenities. If non-metropolitan communities are prepared for the possibility of metropolitan migration, they

can realize the benefits of new residents, improved housing stock, and the potential for economic growth. ■

Marleen Morris is the Co-Director of the Community Development Institute and Adjunct Professor of Geography at the University of Northern British Columbia.

Julia Good is a Research Associate at the Community Development Institute at the University of Northern British Columbia.

Greg Halseth is a professor at the Geography Program, University of Northern British Columbia.

¹<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/interior-bc-outdoors-moving-1.5674388>

²<https://www.unbc.ca/community-development-institute/news/building-foundations-future-housing-community-development-and-economic-opportunity-non-metropolitan-canada>

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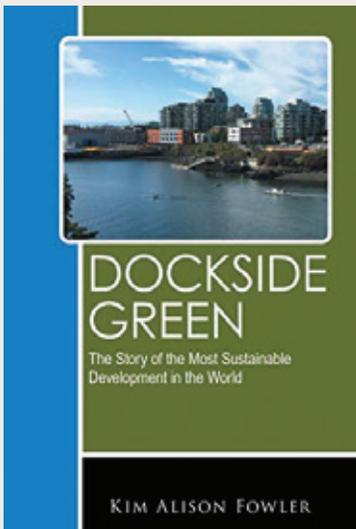
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DOCKSIDE GREEN: THE STORY OF THE MOST SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORLD

by Kim Alison Fowler RPP, MCIP
(Tellwell Talent, 2019)

Review by Don Alexander RPP, MCIP



The story of Docksider Green is an extraordinary tale of innovation, collaboration, and commitment, from its acquisition for a dollar by the City of Victoria from the Province in 1989, until the publication of this book thirty years later. The City and developer came together to create an alternative to what the author acidly calls “the conventional crap.”

And while it has experienced some twists and turns, Docksider Green has overall succeeded on a scale of green development. The first and second phases of the project, built before the 2008 recession, achieved LEED-Platinum, receiving the highest number of LEED points ever for both individual complexes and for the then-new designation of LEED-Neighbourhood.

Docksider Green author Kim Fowler is perhaps the best person to tell the story. When the City set about redeveloping the site in 2001, she was appointed Project Manager and leader of an inter-departmental team. She had the necessary expertise in sustainability planning and a commitment to raising the bar on innovation.

While Fowler is self-evidently proud of what was accomplished, she does not shy away from revealing failures in the process, and shares the lessons of what worked and what didn't. In addition to her narrative, the book includes tables and maps, and many handsome colour photos of the development.

The neighbourhood, which is still undergoing build out owing to the 2008 recession, has had an unusual process. The initial developer, Windmill West (and its financier, VanCity Credit Union) were strongly committed to sustainability, rare amongst developers. The City was also committed to involving the citizens of the adjacent neighbourhood of Victoria West. For a variety of reasons that Fowler discusses, it has been a collaboration which has been hard to replicate.

The original site was 15 acres of heavily contaminated former industrial land. Twelve acres of this was owned by the City, and three acres were privately-owned land in the centre. Between the site and the water sit the famous and well-used Galloping Goose Trail and the still-functioning Point Hope Shipyard. Seen initially as a planning nightmare, the site was referred to as “Darkside” by many at the City.

Guiding planning principles were established early on for this project, and included taking a new urbanist approach, having a strong development concept, ensuring minimum break-even for the City, adopting a triple-bottom line framework, and having a long-term commitment to sustainability.

The process that enabled a brownfield to be transformed into a leading-edge sustainable mixed-use new urbanist project had a number of key elements. As Fowler describes, “it used a business case, a project charter, pro formas, a benefit/cost analysis, regular reporting, and independent audits” (151). Together these ensured ecological, social, and economic accountability.

Once the basic concept was established, the City issued a Request for Proposals. In typical zoning, a project is regulated down to the details of side lot setbacks and building heights. For anything innovative to come out of such a prescriptive approach is difficult. Fowler states that the RFP was unlike a typical pre-zoning in that it created a “sandbox” instead of a “straitjacket;” it

allowed the developer room to maneuver to meet the site guidelines.

The resulting response produced a couple of contenders. A public meeting was held to solicit the views of citizens as to what they felt would be most appropriate. This input was taken seriously. The successful proponent Windmill then began to refine its proposal; representatives from Victoria West Community Association were invited to the review committee meetings; and the author met with residents on a regular basis to make sure they were on-side as the development proceeded.

The most essential planning tool was the Master Development Agreement (MDA) which committed the developers to very high and quite specific standards of building and infrastructure. As it turned out, these were needed. The recession of '08-09 caused the partnership between Windmill West and VanCity to dissolve, leaving VanCity to soldier on. The remaining unbuilt development site has been assigned to Bosa Development, which has since undertaken to complete the build-out process. To reflect the changed economic conditions, the MDA was modified to enhance the financial feasibility of future development without sacrificing the essentials.

Fowler is passionate about the need to transcend the typical model of “suburban monoculture,” which she sees as damaging the land and leaving behind an environment of “toxic boxes.” Docksider Green is a decisive break from this ‘business as usual,’ and has created an environment that emphasizes *connections* between nature and people – through a continuous waterway, green walls, green roofs and local commercial/residential.

The one major failure of the development is that the poor design of the district heat and hot water systems led to a reliance on natural gas instead of wood waste, as was intended. The irrigation system also proved flawed. Both these issues are discussed in greater depth in the book. For an overall success story, this book is well worth reading. ■

Don Alexander RPP, MCIP, is a professor in the Master of Community Planning program and Geography Departments at Vancouver Island University.



And, as *Child in the City* demonstrates, the plans we make with children in mind are plans that result in better cities for everyone.

CHILD IN THE CITY: PLANNING COMMUNITIES FOR CHILDREN & THEIR FAMILIES

by Kristin Agnello RPP, MCIP
(Victoria: Plassurban, 2020).

Review by Chelsey Andrews,
PIBC Candidate Member

The future – with all of its challenges and opportunities – belongs to our youth. Let us help them thrive!

As the world becomes more urbanized, more children than ever are growing up in cities. As planners, we are mindful that the work we do will impact future generations. Can we be assured that we are setting a city-stage that allows children to shine? How do we know we are doing all the right things, and how can we be sure we are helping children and youth to flourish in their communities?

Kristin Agnello's new book, *Child in the City*, reminds us that children are complex people and their needs and preferences are not the same as those of adults. Children in cities must navigate a world that is almost entirely meant for adults: they inherit spaces and places created with little regard for their smaller bodies, bigger imaginations, and their increased capacity for adventure, creativity, and curiosity.

Rarely does anyone ask children what they want or need from their community, and even more rare is a plan that reflects the answers they may give. This book helps to flip that around. *Child in the City* gives planners and non-planners alike a platform to ensure child-friendly planning and policies can take center stage.

Child in the City reminds us that we have a full cache of tools to use when planning for children. In her book Agnello provides clear and abundant examples that describe advantages and challenges related to policy measures, regulatory measures, financial measures, and partnerships that can be useful when planning for children.

Agnello offers a list of ten basic needs for children, which include:

- Children need stable, appropriate, and affordable housing that provides them with private space to rest, study, and play.
- Children need environments that are safe from traffic, pollution, and undue physical or social hazards, including safe routes to and from school and local playgrounds, allowing them to travel throughout their neighbourhoods safely in order to develop confidence, resilience, and independence.
- Children benefit from diverse, multi-generational communities, where they can interact with – and learn from – children, adults, and seniors of all races, religions, cultures, and incomes.

She also presents examples of OCP policy and zoning bylaws that can support children in cities, and approaches to housing development that provide benefits for children, their families and their communities.

Design guidelines are included for the many facets of planning that touch the lives of children in their homes, neighbourhoods, and broader communities. The book is practical, with a lot of effort going in to making the research applicable to local practice.

Planning for children is a unique situation: within a short period of time the population can change dramatically. Children at different stages need different supports and considerations, and each generation will eventually outgrow any accommodations we might have made for them. But this does not negate the efforts of planning for children because, always, another cohort of young people takes their place. And, as *Child in the City* demonstrates, the plans we make with children in mind are plans that result in better cities for everyone. ■

Chelsey Andrews, MCIP, works in Long Range Planning and Sustainability for the City of Campbell River.

PIBC BOARD NOTES

On **May 15th, 2020** the PIBC Board of Directors met by telephone teleconference.

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.

PRESIDENT

Lesley Cabott RPP, MCIP provided an update on various activities, including ongoing work by the Executive and office in response to the ongoing COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, follow up contact with local chapters in light of current circumstances, and looking ahead on key items and potential impacts, including this year's recognition of PIBC award winners.

BOARD & GOVERNANCE

The Board reviewed and discussed progress on various goals and tasks from the 2019-2021 Strategic Plan. To provide additional support for students and support the work of the Institute, the Board approved funding and direction to move ahead with a one-time student internship opportunity to support the Institute's indigenous planning strategic objectives.

Various committee chairs and liaisons also provided brief updates on the work of their respective committees, including from the Member Engagement Committee, the Policy & Public Affairs Committee (including the RPP regulation Sub-Committee and Climate Action Sub-Committee), the Professional Conduct Review Committee, the Professional Standards & Certification Committee, the Governance & Nominating Committee and the Continuous Professional Learning Committee.

The Board approved postponing the 2020 Annual General Meeting in light of the ongoing COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic and the related cancelation of the planned annual conference in July. It was agreed that the AGM would be held either in person or online in the fall of 2020. The Board also approved rescheduling the planned July 2020 Board meeting accordingly.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Executive Director, Dave Crossley, reported on ongoing and key projects, initiatives and the activities at the PIBC office.

The Institute's internal, unaudited 2020 year-to-date financial statements (to Mar. 31st 2020) were reviewed for information.

Executive Director, Dave Crossley, provided a revised update on operational changes, responses and emerging issues related to the ongoing COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. It was noted that most of the Institute's operations were now being undertaken remotely, that special updates were being provided to members, and that in person events and meetings were no longer being held. Aside from in-person events most services and activities were proceeding largely as normal. The Executive Director and Executive Committee will continue to coordinate the Institute's ongoing monitoring of, and operational response to the pandemic.

MEMBER PROGRAMS & SERVICES

The Board reviewed and discussed alternative options for recognizing and celebrating the 2020 winners of the Institute's Awards for Excellence in Planning and for Individual achievement in light of the cancelation of the annual conference. Ideas such as remote or video presentations were discussed, and will be forwarded to the Awards & Recognition Committee for further consideration and implementation.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS:

The Board received, reviewed, and endorsed proposed revisions to the 2020 budget and workplan for the national Professional Standards Committee (PSC) to support additional work on an in-depth examination of and development of revisions to the core competencies within the shared national standards for member certification and university program accreditation of the profession.

The Board also received and reviewed an update from the national Professional Standards Board (PSB) related to its ongoing operations and activities administering the shared national certification processes for members and accreditation programs for university planning programs in Canada.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & BUSINESS

Professional Standards & Certification: The Board approved the admission of a number of new members, and a number of membership transfers and other membership changes.

INSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS & BUSINESS

The Student member representatives from the accredited university planning programs at SFU, and VIU provided brief updates regarding activities at their respective schools and programs.

OTHER BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board received copies of the following correspondence, for information: correspondence from PIBC to the national PSC providing feedback on the proposed draft 2021 workplan and budget for the PSC; correspondence from PIBC to the BC Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing regarding input on the provincial responses to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic related to municipal planning processes; and a copy of the most recent newsletter from Asset Management BC (AMBC).

NEXT MEETING(S)

It was noted that the next regular Board meeting would be held on Friday, July 10th, 2020 by online videoconference.

On **July 10th, 2020** 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.

PRESIDENT

Lesley Cabott RPP, MCIP provided an update on various activities, including reporting on a number of recent national meetings held virtually – a meeting of the Planning Alliance Forum, the AGM of the national Professional Standards Board (PSB), and the annual meeting of the signatory parties to the national Professional Standards Committee (PSC). Items discussed

included future support for and governance of the PSC. It was also reported that work was underway to recruit new members to the Institute's Governance & Nominating Committee.

BOARD & GOVERNANCE

The Board reviewed and discussed progress on various goals and tasks from the 2019-2021 Strategic Plan. A number of ongoing initiatives and tasks were reviewed and discussed.

Various committee chairs and liaisons also provided brief updates on the work of their respective committees, including from the Professional Standards & Certification Committee, the Policy & Public Affairs Committee (including the Climate Action Sub-Committee), the Governance & Nominating Committee, the national Professional Standards Committee, and the Professional Conduct Review Committee.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Executive Director, Dave Crossley, reported on ongoing and key projects, initiatives and the activities at the PIBC office. This included further updates on operational changes, responses and emerging issues related to the ongoing COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.

The Institute's internal, unaudited 2020 year-to-date financial statements (to May 31st 2020) were reviewed for information. Some impacts on revenues and expenses resulting from the ongoing COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic were noted.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS:

The Board ratified and confirmed the accreditation of the Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning program at the University of Alberta; the re-accreditation of the Master of City Planning program at the University of Manitoba; and the re-accreditation of the Bachelor of Environmental Studies Honours Co-Op (Planning), Master of Arts (Planning), and Master of Environmental Studies (Planning) programs at the University of Waterloo; all as approved and recommended by the national Professional Standards Board (PSB).

COMMITTEE REPORTS & BUSINESS

Professional Standards & Certification: The Board approved the admission of a number of new members, and a number of membership transfers and other membership changes.

The Board also approved the removal of several members due to non-payment of membership fees and/or for non-compliance with continuous professional learning reporting requirements, as stipulated by the Institute's bylaws.

Member Engagement: Kenna Jonkman RPP, MCIP provided an update on the work of the Member Engagement Committee, including reviewing proposed revisions to the Committee's structure. The Board approved the consolidation of the previous Academic Liaison Sub-Committee and Student-Liaison Sub-Committee into a new Planning School Liaison Sub-Committee, to coordinate with student members and academic planning programs.

Policy & Public Affairs (Climate Action Sub-Committee): Patricia Dehnel RPP, MCIP provided an update on the work of the Climate Action Sub-Committee, including reviewing proposed revisions to the Sub-Committee's structure and terms of reference. The Board approved revisions to the Sub-Committee's terms of reference, and further approved the appointment of a number of members to the Sub-Committee.

LOCAL CHAPTERS

Central North: The Chapter's annual report was received and reviewed. The Board approved receipt of the report and the release of the Chapter's 2020 annual seed funding.

INSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS & BUSINESS

The Student member representatives from the accredited university planning programs at SFU, and VIU provided brief updates regarding activities at their respective schools and programs.

OTHER BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board held a roundtable discussion on issues surrounding indigenous reconciliation and the planning profession, including opportunities to move forward with actions to support the principles of truth and reconciliation, and related work on current strategic tasks. The Board agreed to continue dialogue and work in this area.

NEXT MEETING(S)

It was noted that the next regular Board meeting would be held, in conjunction with at 2021 budget planning workshop, on Friday, September 25th, 2020 in Vancouver.

UPCOMING WEBINARS

SAVE THE DATES !

Revisiting Affordable Housing Planning & Policies **November 25th**

This webinar will examine the planning policies and the government programs available to communities in order to achieve appropriate and timely affordable housing.

Free Webinar **Pecha Kucha PIBC Style** **December 9th**

Join us for this free entertaining and light-hearted webinar filled with laughs, prizes and holiday cheer!

PIBC 2021 Planning Outlook: Strategic Statistics to Get the Job Done! **January 27th**

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 2021 and beyond.

The Impact of COVID-19 on Planning **February 24th**

COVID-19 has changed the way we do things and planning is no exception. This webinar explores the issues, challenges and new reality of the planning profession.

For current webinar information, registration, and the latest details on other CPL webinar offerings, please visit www.pibc.bc.ca/pibc-webinars.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS

May 15, 2020

New Members

Congratulations and welcome to all the new PIBC Members!

At its meeting of May 15, 2020, 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:

Rebecca Augustyn
Stephen Collyer
Cassandra Cummings
Britney Dack
Adam Humphrey

Benjamin Johnson
Samira Khayambashi
Kailey Laidlaw
Kimberly Lemmon
(Transfer from APPI)
William Mackay
Victor Ngo
Erin Rennie
Cameron Salisbury
(Transfer from APPI)
Tammara Soma
Mark Tanner
Dejan Teodorovic
Janet Zazubek

CANDIDATE:

Sherry Adjenim-Boateng
Stefan Cermak
Caleb Horn
Brendan Hurley

Sara Jellicoe
Christopher Kuno
Anton Metalnikov
Anthony Price
Demian Rueter
Blair Underhill
(Transfer from OPPI)

PRE-CANDIDATE:

Owen Bloor
Conor Britton
Jason Issler
Jiaxi Xie

STUDENT:

Philip Climie *(UBC)*
Ashley Evanoff *(UNBC)*
Adriana Valentina Farias
(UBC)

Member Changes

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

FROM CERTIFIED TO MEMBER ON LEAVE:

Ann MacDonald
Danica Rice
Nicole (Lil) Ronalds

FROM CANDIDATE TO MEMBER ON LEAVE:

Catherine (Kasia) Biegun

FROM MEMBER ON LEAVE TO CERTIFIED:

Keltie Craig
Taryn Hayes

RESIGNED:

Spencer Lindsay
Levi Megenbir
David Smith
Bitva Vorell

July 10, 2020

New Members

Congratulations and welcome to all the new PIBC Members!

At its meeting of July 10, 2020, 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:

Joan Chess-Woollacott
(Reinstate)
Julia Dykstra
Jessica Hallenbeck
Kelly Learned
Ruibin Li
(Transfer from APPI)
Alison McDonald
Claire McQuarrie-Jones
Heather Meier
Gareth Mogg
(Transfer from OPPI)
Jonathan Schmidt
(Joint with APPI)
Jasmine Tranter
(Transfer from OPPI)
Fay Keng Wong

CANDIDATE:

Cameron Bourne
Richard Buchan
Tyler Erickson
Layne French
Philip Gibbins
Lee Yin Kan
Ashley Kwan
Chang Liu
Vincent Louie
Mitchell Mills
Cedar Morton
Marjan Navab-Tehrani
Matthew Notley
Hayden O'Connor
Kai Okazaki
Abdulrahman Refaei
Kyle Wardstrom

PRE-CANDIDATE:

Julie Clark
Tabitha Donkers
Laura Walker

STUDENT:

Erin de Sousa *(UBC)*
Kristina Hannis *(UBC)*
Linden Maultsair-Blair
(Dalhousie – Transfer from API)

Member Changes

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

FROM CERTIFIED TO MEMBER ON LEAVE:

Jane Koh
Winnie Yip

FROM MEMBER ON LEAVE TO CERTIFIED:

Jeremy Finkleman
Kaitlin Kazmierowski
Andrew Seidel
Reginald Whiten

FROM MEMBER ON LEAVE TO CANDIDATE:

Natalie Andrijancic
Deepa Chandran
Jessica Jingsi

DECEASED:

Beverly Grieve

Membership Renewals & Removals

At the PIBC Board meeting of July 10, 2020, it was also reported and confirmed that the following individuals had not renewed their membership in the Institute for the current year (2020) and in accordance with the Institute's bylaws ceased to be members effective as of July 10, 2020:

CERTIFIED:

Tami Gill
Raymond Kan
Thomas Stubbs
Jessie Wang

CANDIDATE:

Kimberley Hodgson
Dominic Santomauro
Ian Wells

RETIRED:

Ian Cooper

PRE-CANDIDATE:

Ali Arzouni
Kelsey Chandler
Tuan Hoang
Xiong Jia
Dan Passmore

At the PIBC Board meeting of July 10, 2020, it was further reported and confirmed that, in accordance with the Institute's bylaws, the following individuals had ceased to be members of the Institute effective as of July 10, 2020 due to non-compliance with continuous professional learning reporting requirements for the most recently completed (2019) reporting year:

CERTIFIED:

Andrew McCurran
Elizabeth Starr
Jessie Wang

WORLDVIEW



The Forest Tower Copenhagen, Denmark

The Forest Tower is a 45 meter high view tower located in the forests of Gissfeldt Kloster, part of Camp Adventure, an ecologically conscious park that covers 18.5 acres near Copenhagen, Denmark.

Designed by EFFEKT Architects and named one of *Time* magazine's 2019 "World's 100 Greatest Places," the Tower was built with minimal environmental impact, and made from corten steel (its reddish-brown color similar to the natural forest) and boards from local South Zealand oak trees.

Pre-pandemic, visitors flocked to the Tower when it opened in late March 2019 to experience the unique 360° view of the forest landscape at the very top of its hyperboloid "hourglass" structural. While climbing up its spiralling walkway, visitors can touch the trees and take in incredible breath-taking views. At the very top, 140 meters above sea level at the highest accessible point, visitors can see as far as Copenhagen and Malmo. Currently, visitors can book ahead and abide by COVID-19 safety protocols to still visit and experience the Forest Tower.

A documentary will be released about the making of the Forest Tower:
<https://vimeo.com/421294639>

Take a short tour of the Forest Tower on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/frb9FLxrA4E>



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