

Mayor Peter Jones,
District of North Saanich,
Date: April 14, 2026

Dear PIBC,

You are invited to participate in a two-day policy and planning conference, “**Living Systems – Beyond Growth: Building Future-Forward KPIs through Municipal Performance Measurement.**” May 20-22, 2026, held in North Saanich. This conference is intended for **planners, government policy staff, academics, and applied practitioners** involved in community planning, service delivery, and performance measurement.

The emphasis is on strengthening municipal capacity to translate OCPs objectives into **clear, measurable, and cost-aware Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), data catalogues, and monitoring approaches** that fit within current governance, reporting, and budgetary cycles. The District of North Saanich Official Community Plan was adopted including its focus on integrated social, economic, and environmental outcomes, this conference is designed to share our unique experience, and support the **practical implementation of existing policy commitments.**

The program is structured as a **working conference**, combining concise briefings from Canadian and international practitioners with facilitated, hands-on sessions. Morning sessions provide context on established planning and measurement practices currently being used by municipalities. Afternoon workshops focus on locally relevant priorities—including **food system resilience, age-friendly wellbeing, and efficient resource use**—and are designed to produce usable outputs rather than conceptual proposals.

Participants will leave with:

- Draft KPI frameworks aligned with OCP goals and existing municipal responsibilities
- A prioritized data catalogue focused on feasible, decision-relevant indicators
- Practical monitoring and reporting concepts that support transparency and accountability
- A pilot implementation outlines suitable for staff and council consideration

This conference is not an advocacy forum. It is a **technical, implementation-focused exercise** intended to improve clarity, consistency, and efficiency in municipal planning and reporting. It will be of particular value to professionals seeking practical tools, shared measurement approaches, and peer exchange grounded in real-world policy and operational constraints.

We invite you to contribute your expertise and participate in a collaborative process focused on delivering **clear metrics, evidence-based decisions, and responsible long-term planning**.

As space is limited, please RSVP with the information below to Felice Mazzoni or Councillor Sanjiv Shrivastava via conference email: LivingSystem2026@protonmail.com to receive a registration link, before **May 8, 2026**. For registration link to quality for the workshop please include.

1. Full Name
2. Email Address
3. Organization / Affiliation
4. Title / Role
6. Expression of interest (one paragraph)

Sincerely,



Mayor Peter Jones, Chair

&

Felice Mazzoni, MCIP, RPP

“Living Systems – Beyond Growth” Conference 2026, District of North Saanich. Email: LivingSystem2026@protonmail.com

Conference Organizing Team:

Chair: Mayor Peter Jones,
Co-Chair: Cllr. Irene McConkey &
CAO. Stephanie Munro

Program coordinator:

Felice Mazzoni, MCIP, RPP
& Cllr. Sanjiv Shrivastava, PhD

Living Systems - Beyond Growth

North Saanich, 20-22 May 2026

Conference Preamble

In an era defined by rapid ecological shifts and evolving social needs, the traditional metrics of policy success must innovate. This two-day policy and planning conference brings together a multi-disciplinary cohort of municipal and regional planners, government officials, public health professionals, and academics to bridge the gap between visionary theory and institutional practices. Attendees will share their experiences of implementing the Doughnut Economics framework to policymaking and discuss the development of implementation-ready tools for local government policy.

Emphasizing applied learning over advocacy, the program pairs international and Canadian practice-based expertise with locally rooted panels. Participants will explore how to convert high-level policy objectives into measurable Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), data catalogues, and policy workflows. These tools are designed to be embedded in Official Community Plans (OCPs) and municipal reporting while simultaneously building community trust.

The conference aims to accelerate cross-regional and cross-sector collaboration to build regenerative, inclusive, and future-ready communities through the development of tools, metrics, and partnerships embedded within planning implementation processes.

Executive Summary

Living Systems Beyond Growth aims to build local government capacity to design and implement practical and innovative tools of community planning using the Doughnut Economics framework. The combination of panels and workshops will bring together practitioners and academics to share and develop their expertise in designing Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), data catalogues, and monitoring approaches aligned with Official Community Plans.

Drawing on applied expertise from the Doughnut Economics Action Lab and several municipalities, the conference emphasizes hands-on learning focused on three themes:

- i. **Sustainable Food Systems**
- ii. **Age-Friendly Wellbeing, and**
- iii. **Circular Economy practices.**

This conference directly supports the District of North Saanich's Official Community Plan (OCP), which embeds Doughnut Economics at its core, and the implementation plans that align with the OCP objectives. By translating policy into actionable and measurable tools, the conference aims to promote evidence-based decision-making, strengthen municipal reporting, and accelerate cross-sector collaboration within the framework of existing council-adopted policy.

Intended impact:

- Equip planners and decision-makers with concrete measurement tools of policy governance to reduce ambiguity and support transparent evidence-based decisions.
- Build cross-sectoral capacity and networks across BC (and Vancouver Island communities) to accelerate scalable pilots and shared measurement approaches.
- Ensure municipal planning advances in resilience, social wellbeing, and long-term ecological stewardship in ways that are actionable within existing policy cycles.

Target Audience

- Municipal and regional planners PIBC members
- Local government policy staff members
- Public health professionals and staff
- Academics, practitioners, experts, and graduate students.

Workshop/Conference Programme

May 20th, 2026 Wednesday Afternoon

Meet and Greet – *bring along your story of inspiration and your go-to-recipe*

May 21, 2026 Thursday

Concept to Implementation

Session 1 (7:45 - 8:00)

Welcome & OCP Context

Session 2 (8:00 - 10:30)

*Doughnut Economic Action Lab
- Leadership Panel –
Kate Raworth & Lenora Grcheva
& Ilektra Kouloumpi*

Break (10:30 - 11:00)

Session 3 (11:00 - 13:00):

Systems Thinking & Capacity Building

Lunch (13:00 - 14:00)

Session 4 (14:00 - 16:30):

Food Systems within the Doughnut

Break (16:30 - 16:45)

Session 5 (16:45 – 17:45):

*Rebuilding Community Trust -
In Conversation with Felice Mazzoni*

Dinner (18:05 - 20:30)

May 22, 2026, Friday:

Practice to Innovation

Session 6 (8:00 - 10:00)

*Global & Local Perspectives on the
Implementation of the Doughnut Economics*

Break (10:00 – 10:30)

Session 7 (10:30-12:30):

*Circular Economy Systems as Engines of
Economic Growth (SIPP)*

Lunch (12:30-1:30)

Session 8 (1:30-3:00):

Age-Friendly Communities & Quality of Life

Break (3:00-3:15)

Closing Session (3:15:4:00)

Summary

Next Steps

Vote of Thanks

Conference Committees

Conference Chair: Mayor Peter Jones

Co-Chairs: Cllr. Irene McConkey and Stephanie Munro

Programming and Organizing Committee: Felice Mazzoni & Cllr. Sanjiv Shrivastava

Academic experts and advisors:

Accommodation: It is recommended that attendees book their own accommodation. The town of Sidney has four hotels.

Registration Fees: Nil

Contact email: LivingSystem2026@protonmail.com