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# PLANNING PLANNING Spring 2022

FORWARD THINKING SHAPING COMMUNITIES

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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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**ON THE COVER** One of the outstanding features of Lasipalatsi Square (Helsinki, Finland) are the undulating domes that promote play to visitors of all ages. "*Play is something that everyone has a right to – it is a basic service of urban life.*" – Hanna Harris, the City of Helsinki's Chief Design Officer. Read more in this issue's Worldview (n 30) Worldview (p 30).





pring is now upon us, and it appears we are welcoming it by adjusting to a world with 'managed' Covid and getting back to something that might equate to a new 'normal'. While some uncertainties remain, recent relaxations in public health guidelines open some of the long yearned-for opportunities to once again gather together, to connect, and celebrate as professionals.

The PIBC Board met online in late January of this year. Then again, in mid-March, we were very pleased to be able to travel to Prince George for an in-person meeting. We are also very pleased to be able to connect with UNBC planning students and faculty again with the return of our annual student social event. It was a highlight of our visit and it was somewhat fitting, considering that almost exactly two years earlier, as our world and lives were suddenly changing, our annual UNBC student event was our last before the pandemic fully took hold. We are grateful to be able to be gathering again, and our thanks are extended to the students who organized the event, and to everyone who attended.

We were also very pleased to have the opportunity to connect and meet with UNBC faculty and administration representatives from the recently re-named School of Planning & Sustainability (formerly the School of Environmental Planning) at UNBC. In particular we were able to meet with Dr. Tara-Lynne Clapp RPP, MCIP, Chair and Associate Professor of the School, and the new Dean of the Faculty of Environment, Dr. Peter Reiners, to learn about and discuss developments within the School and at UNBC. These include the addition of new faculty and support, which we believe bodes well for planning education in northern BC.

The Board reviewed the draft revised 2021-2023 Strategic Plan that was developed over two sessions held in late 2021 – a virtual session in late August and a follow-up session in-person and held in conjunction with the Board's November 2021 meeting and the World Town Planning Day gala event. The final version of the revised plan is now being completed. The plan identifies strategic priorities to move the Institute and our profession forward, including continued work on climate action, continued support and services for members, building the profession, engaging fully in Truth & Reconciliation, and working to ensure our profession is more diverse, welcoming, inclusive, and equitable.

PIBC, along with CIP and the other provincial and territorial planning institutes and associations across Canada, remains engaged on various significant national activities within our profession. The national Professional Standards Committee has recently established a Task Force

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

to refine the Professional Planning Competencies Profile, including developing key indicators for the updated competencies. Several of our RPP members are directly engaged in this important work to complete the competency standards sections of our national Membership Standards Policy Manual. Expect to hear more on this and other national level activities in the coming months and at the upcoming national planning conference.

I am really excited and pleased to invite all of you to join us in beautiful Whistler, BC, July 5-8th to attend Elevation 2.0! We at PIBC are pleased to be welcoming and co-hosting, with CIP, this year's national planning conference. Featured keynote speakers include former Commissioner with the New York City Department of Parks, Mitchell Silver FAICP, and our very own Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry. I encourage you to attend and participate either in-person, if you are able, or through the online virtual conference option. It promises to be a great opportunity to learn, connect, network, and laugh with your planning peers, colleagues, and others from across Canada and beyond. Registration is now open and online, with member discounts available as well as early registration savings (until May 1st, 2022). I am very much looking forward to a memorable and successful event. I hope to see you there.

David Block RPP, MCIP



## What's Trending?

by Cindy Cheung PIBC Communications & Marketing Specialist

Through the short snippy lenses of Snapchats and TikToks, it's easy to stay on trend with the latest headline memes. But for those of us wanting to skip the clickbait soundbites, podcasts are a great resource. Podcasts have become the convenient, longer form go-to for interactive and informative catch-ups, perfect for the daily commute or a quiet WFH lunch hour.

Here we share some podcasts covering Indigenous perspectives, local government planning, and Lower Mainland issues.\* Especially during a time when many are shouting, podcasts require the one thing we all may want to do more of – just listen.

\*The podcasts listed are for information and general interest, and not endorsed by PIBC. Opinions and views expressed within the podcasts are solely those of the speakers and podcast producers and are not necessarily those of PIBC.

### **MEDIA INDIGENA**

@mediaINDIGENA

"I'm not supposed to be here." Those were the words that shook & inspired MEDIA INDIGENA's Editor-in-Chief Rick Harp to start an Indigenous-led media company in 2010. Based in Winnipeg, Manitoba, MEDIA INDIGENA launched as an online magazine and now produces regular podcasts that dissect current affairs with Indigenous roundtables, providing the Indigenous perspective missing from mainstream media.

### Stay Updated with PIBC e-News!

Keep up-to-date regularly with current Institute & local planning news, events and job opportunities with PIBC e-News! The Institute's electronic newsletter is emailed to members every other Wednesday. Haven't seen your PIBC e-News? Check your spam/junk email folder and be sure to add enews@pibc.bc.ca to your contacts. MEDIA INDIGENA's mission is to be of service to Indigenous peoples by providing Indigenous-led journalism that creates conversations and connections and critically engages with the status quo. In Harp's own words, because of the mainstream media's bias, "we need to share stories which keep Indigenous peoples alive, in every sense of the term."

Learn more about MEDIA INDIGENA's Roundtables here: https://mediaindigena.com/about

Read Editor-In-Chief Rick Harp's message for listeners: https://mediaindigena.com/what-we-are-about

Find MEDIA INDIGENIA podcasts on RadioPublic (free app) for iPhone and Android or visit: **https://radiopublic.com/media-indigena-indigenous-curren-G7o97a/episodes** 

### **City of Kelowna**

@cityofkelowna www.kelowna.ca

The City of Kelowna is only one of a handful of municipalities across Canada that has taken a step forward in using podcasts to share the City's vision and to engage its residents through audibly sharing its stories. With the launch of the City's official podcast Kelowna Talks, hosted by Bob Evans, Director of Partnerships at the City of Kelowna, community members and City Hall staff are invited to share their thoughts on current topics and projects, from snow removal and why a winter cycling strategy may be worth considering, to planning for vibrant and affordable neighhourhoods as housing demand and prices keep rising.

### Take a listen to a Kelowna Talks episode here: https://www.kelowna.ca/our-community/community-stories/ community-stories

### **Viewpoint Vancouver**

@VWPTvancouver viewpointvancouver.ca

Viewpoint Vancouver originated from the Price Tags blog created in 2003 by PIBC Honourary Member (2009) Gordon Price. Since then, it has evolved into an online forum of articles and its own podcast (Price Talks) focused on calling out and discussing hot and touchy issues in the Vancouver region. In 2021, Price Tags was relaunched as the current Viewpoints Vancouver with the goal of becoming Vancouver's "go-to source for urbanist news and issues."

Along with Sandy James (retired PIBC Member) at the Editor's helm, you'll find candid and to-the-point interviews on "urbanism, insight and evolution" of Vancouver's regional issues.

Listen to the latest Viewpoint Vancouver podcasts here: https://viewpointvancouver.ca/podcast

### **Planning West Call for Submissions**

Summer Issue: Art, Heritage and Culture

Deadline for submissions: June 15, 2022

Fall Issue: 2022 National Planning Conference Whistler, BC Deadline for submissions: Sept 15, 2022

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



### Karen Williams RPP, MCIP

*Senior Researcher,* Research Centre at BC Housing

Building for accessibility is an integral part of healthy and well-connected communities for all. In this issue, we reached out to Karen Williams RPP, MCIP, from BC Housing and our PIBC South Coast Chapter Co-Chair. We talked with her about her longstanding passion for advancing social planning and how, with a simple coat hook, she helps debunk a common myth about accessibility planning.

### Where did you grow up?

I grew up on northern Vancouver Island on the unceded territories of the Kwakwak'awakw peoples. I moved to the south coast to attend University of British Columbia (UBC) for my undergraduate degree and then moved to Ontario to attend planning school at Queen's University. I moved back shortly after graduating from Queen's. Vancouver has a little bit of everything I love - natural beauty, walkable vibrant neighbourhoods, cultural diversity, great food, mild climate, and family. I am grateful to work and play on the unceded territories of the Musqeam, Tseil-waututh, the Squamish First Nations.

### How did you discover planning? Did an event or person lead you into this profession?

I first learned about planning while studying Geography at UBC. In particular, I was drawn to the field of social planning. I have to thank Kari Huhtala (now a retired PIBC member) who gave me a chance to learn more about the profession doing a practicum at the City of Richmond. I was drawn to the dynamic nature of the work, where planners have opportunities to continually learn about new topics in response to evolving community needs. Planning is a good field for anyone who wants to do work that



contributes to the wellbeing of communities and wants interesting and varied work.

### You have extensive experience leading evidence-based social research and working in collaboration with people with disabilities. How did you become specialized in this field?

After planning school, I got my start at the Social Planning and Research Council of BC. There I worked on social planning projects for municipalities, other levels of government, non-profit organizations, and Indigenous communities. This provided me with opportunities to travel across BC and work with many communities to advance their social planning objectives.

While I have worked on a diverse range of social planning topics, one of my areas of focus has always been accessibility planning, and exploring how we can plan communities that are more accessible and inclusive of people with disabilities and older adults. This was also the focus of my Master's final project at planning school.

Through consulting projects, I have had the opportunity to lead the design and implementation of many accessibility planning projects in collaboration with multi-disability and accessibility research teams, and municipal accessibility advisory committees.

In 2019, I joined BC Housing's Research Centre where I continue my work on a broad range of technical and social housing research projects.

### What is a misconception or myth about planning for accessibility? How do you debunk this?

It's hard to narrow it down to just one. One myth is that everything related to improving accessibility is expensive. Often when people think of community accessibility, the first thing that comes to mind is installing an elevator in an aging public facility. Those types of improvements are expensive and need to be prioritized and implemented over time.

Often while you are incorporating larger expenses into your capital improvement plan and applying for grants, there are other lower cost changes that can be introduced right away with minimal impact to operating budgets. Some examples of more affordable fixes include offering staff training on serving people with disabilities, keeping clutter and office furniture outside of the accessible path of travel, adding Braille/raised lettering to signage, or simply adjusting the height of a coat hook. Another way to keep costs lower is to consider accessibility earlier on during the design phase of a new building, park, website, or program.

### Thank you for sharing your time and expertise as volunteer Co-Chair of the South Coast Chapter. What inspires you to continue your Chapter involvement?

One of the most rewarding parts of volunteering with the PIBC South Coast Chapter is getting the opportunity to connect with a fantastic group of planners. I also enjoy planning the Continuous Professional Learning (CPL) and networking events. Over the course of the pandemic, our team had to pivot our approach.

For COVID-19 safety reasons, many of our recent learning and networking events have taken place outside. We have been offering outdoor walking tours, launched the Urban Sketch Club, and our student representatives planned a Shoreline Cleanup. Online trivia nights have also been popular. I encourage anyone who would like to become more involved in the South Coast Chapter to email us at: **southcoast@pibc.bc.ca.** 

### What's a priority for you right now?

Professionally, I'm motivated by opportunities to have a positive impact on the world and opportunities for ongoing learning and growth. On a personal level, I have two very small children, a four-year old and a one-year old. They keep me pretty busy and bring a lot of joy to my life on a day-to-day basis.



# **HOW'S THE WATER?** THOUGHTS ON COLONIALISM, NEO-LIBERALISM AND COMMUNITY PLANNING

/ Maria Stanborough RPP, MCIP

### IN HIS 2005 COMMENCEMENT

**SPEECH "THIS IS WATER,"** David Foster Wallace opens with an image of two young fish swimming. An older fish swims by, nods and says, "Morning boys. How's the water?"

The two young fish swim on for a bit. Then one says to the other, "What the hell is water?"

This image has stayed with me since watching Jessie Hemphill's PIBC 2021 Conference plenary. In her talk, Hemphill invites non-Indigenous planners to examine how we are part of a colonial system, and what we can do to make change. She is, in essence, asking us to examine the water we are swimming in.



from Jessie Hemphill's PIBC 2021 Conference plenary

I am a first or second generation Canadian. That sounds complicated, which it is. My mother was from Holland. My father was born in Canada but emigrated to Venezuela, which is where he met my mother and where I was born. Although my father had given up his Canadian citizenship – my brothers and I were meant to be Venezuelan – we moved to Canada for better health care when my oldest brother got very ill.

My dad was permitted to reclaim his Canadian citizenship and my brother got healthy. I have lived a very privileged life ever since. My childhood home was on the lands of the Aamjiwnaang First Nation (formally known as the Chippewas). We stayed at the Chippewa Motel when we first moved to Sarnia, Ontario, which may be the most perfect analogy for my colonial roots – a motel with a borrowed name on stolen land.

While becoming more aware of my part in colonialism, I further explored the water urban planners are swimming in. It became clear that colonialism is very much connected to capitalism. The famous 'free market' treatise *The Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith was published in 1776, the year of American 'independence.' While Smith writes of 'the invisible hand' of the free market, he fails to speak of the wealth generated by enslaving people and taking land from the original inhabitants.

The free market system was and is free to only a few.

The time of greatest shared prosperity in North America was in the 1970s. Since then, income inequality has grown exponentially. In Canada we have seen a concentration of wealth in the top 20% of earners, and the highest concentration in the top 1%. In comparison, the middle class has been shrinking, with the poor and marginalized hardest hit.

The growing divide between rich and poor echoes the growth of neo-liberal fiscal policy, beginning in Canada with PM Brian Mulroney (1984-93) and fully embraced by PM Stephen Harper (2006-2015). Neo-liberalism, to simplify, seeks to reduce government oversight, undermine the role of unions and local wage earners, and provide the most benefit to those who can maximize their profit in an unfettered, worldwide market. If this is the water we are swimming in, Jesse Hemphill's question still looms – how am I, as an urban planner, part of the problem? In his 2019 book *Bullshit Jobs*, David Graeber identifies a host of professional positions that are designed to maintain income inequality – from corporate tax litigation lawyers to PR researchers. While not identified, some urban planning roles might fit in that category.

Much of the problem of inequality rests at higher levels of government – federal monetary and trade policy, provincial social benefits policy, and taxation at both levels. But there is a trickledown effect. One of the first markers of urban planning's role in a heightened divided system may be the creation and implementation of development cost charges (DCCs) and development cost levies (DCLs – Vancouver specific).

Prior to DCCs/DCLs, the costs of off-site municipal infrastructure required for new developments were typically paid for by the municipality, with no ability for financial compensation from the developer.<sup>1</sup> With the creation of DCC legislation in 1977, municipalities could charge for off-site costs related to water, sewer, drainage, parks, and roads.

With DCCs, the initial infrastructure costs of growth are borne by the developer. To me this is an essential philosophical change. Growth is no longer included within general tax levies, but is an externality which must be paid for by the development itself. These costs are then carried by those who buy into the new development, and not by existing residents. New development is begrudgingly accepted as long as it costs current landowners nothing.

In 1999, the City of Vancouver introduced the (then illegal) Community



Amenity Contribution (CAC) system to pay for other features of a livable community, such as day care, public art, parks and recreation amenities, and affordable housing. The Province has since legitimized the revenue stream, and municipalities across Canada have adopted the process. It is the water we are all swimming in.

One of the few critics of CACs is Mathew Soules in his book *Icebergs, Zombies and the Ultra-Thin.* In his critique of current housing practices, he writes,

The amenities that increase Vancouver's perceived livability (like public art, daycare centres and park space) also increase its ranking on livability indexes, generating the city's prestige as a magnet site for international capital. Somewhat paradoxically, this international capital propels the escalating real estate prices that compromise many people's ability to afford living in the city at all.<sup>2</sup> Given our dependence on systems such as CACs and DCCs – if this is the water we are swimming in – what is the alternative?

Perhaps a starting point for the planning profession is to investigate and understand both our colonial system and our placement in a neo-liberal economy. Then it may be opportune to question accepted practices like CACs and identify other ways to do urban planning. In Denmark, for example, overall taxes are higher but child care, and other essentials for wellbeing are available to all residents for free, not paid for through CACs.

There are other uncomfortable options to consider, such as limiting growth to what is affordable – no more luxury investment properties such as the CAC-rich *Vancouver House*<sup>3</sup>; streamlining to a more transparent process for both developers and residents, and; evaluating the impact of any local government policy on overall equity, with a focus on those most marginalized. Metro Vancouver, among others, has started this work with their social equity and regional growth study.

But more than data is needed. Actions to address inequity are paramount. On the unceded ancestral lands of the Squamish, Musqueam and Tsleil-waututh where I live there is a discrepancy of 30 years life expectancy between residents of the downtown eastside and those of more affluent neighbourhoods.<sup>4</sup>

Income is known to have the most significant impact on health outcomes. To counter this, lower income areas should have better designed communities with amenities close to home – such as greenspace, calm streets, good air quality, and healthy food sources.

In addressing colonialism, urban planners can examine the whole system we are within. From this vantage point, we can better understand how the water we are swimming in can be adapted for positive change.

Maria Stanborough studied at the London School of Economics, has a degree in Planning and Urban Land Economics, and is the Principal Consultant at C+S Planning Group. Maria also serves as Editor of *Planning West* magazine.

<sup>1</sup>https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/ british-columbians-our-governments/localgovernments/finance/dcc\_best\_practice\_ guide\_2005.pdf

<sup>2</sup>Icebergs, Zombies and the Ultra Thin: Architecture and Capitalism in the Twentyfirst Century by Matthew Soules. Princeton Architectural Press, New York, 2021. P 167.

<sup>3</sup>https://westbankcorp.com/body-of-work/ vancouver-house

<sup>4</sup>https://thetyee.ca/News/2022/01/17/Life-Expectancy-Gap-30-Years-Vancouver/

# NEW BC INDIGENOUS HOUSING STRATEGY -THE FIRST IN CANADA

Tired of waiting for a federal strategy, off-reserve Indigenous housing providers in BC create their own.

/ Katie Hyslop

When media and governments discuss inadequate and unsafe Indigenous housing, it is typically about housing in First Nations and Inuit communities. Yet nearly 80 per cent of Indigenous people live outside their home communities. Federal housing efforts that solely focus on housing on reserves and in Inuit communities miss most of the Indigenous population.

An estimated 20 per cent of individuals living outside their home communities are in core housing need, meaning they live in unsuitable, inadequate or unaffordable housing. Overall Indigenous people are eight times as likely<sup>1</sup> to experience homelessness as non-Indigenous people.

Some urban, rural and remote Indigenous people live in housing units operated by Indigenous housing providers which are non-profit organizations that, like housing co-ops, receive government funding to operate. Like some housing





co-ops, many units are old and falling into disrepair due to lack of funding for upkeep. There also aren't enough housing units to meet the demand, with Indigenous populations being some of the fastest growing and youngest in the country.

It's been just over four years since Canada released its National Housing Strategy, which almost totally ignored Indigenous housing providers.

"Many of us have said that there is no national housing strategy, because without inclusion of Indigenous peoples, that is not a national housing strategy," said Margaret Pfoh, CEO of the Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AMHA). British Columbia is home to one-third of the urban, rural and remote Indigenous housing providers in Canada, represented provincially by the AHMA.

For years now the federal government has pledged to create an urban, rural and remote Indigenous housing strategy that is led by and for Indigenous people. Tired of waiting, the Aboriginal Housing Management Association has released its own strategy for Indigenous housing renewal and expansion in BC. In order to provide over 30,000 households with subsidized, new or renovated housing units over the next 10 years, they will need \$7 billion in funding.

The 10-year strategy is a collaboration between the Aboriginal Housing Management Association and Indigenuity Consulting Group Inc. It was based on Statistics Canada data, consultation with 30 member housing providers, 12 Elders and tenants, and the association's advisory council, which includes other non-profit housing and service providers.

The strategy plans on building 5,400 new supportive housing units and 12,850 units of independent subsidized housing. It



would also repair and revitalize 4,400 existing units while maintaining their affordability, provide rental support to 10,350 households, and support 1,400 households towards home ownership.

The estimated resources required over 10 years — calculated before the pandemic and 2021 wildfires and floods impacted the supply chain and material costs — are \$5.2 billion in one-time capital funds and another \$2 billion in operating costs.

"AHMA's provincial housing strategy is a response to the failure of the federal government and the National Housing Strategy to address the housing rights violations experienced by Indigenous peoples residing in urban, rural and northern communities here in British Columbia," Pfoh said during the Zoom launch of the Strategy. "AHMA's strategy represents the possibilities that can only be attained by decolonizing the political traditions of housing in Canada."

Until recently any federal funding for Indigenous housing off-reserve in British Columbia flowed to BC Housing, who would then give it to the AHMA to distribute amongst their members. However, recently AHMA received \$250,000 from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. for the Housing Internship Initiative for First Nations and Inuit Youth, pairing young Indigenous people with housing providers to train for housing industry careers. This was the first time the federal government took a more direct approach.

AHMA estimates for every annual \$1 the federal and BC governments invest in this housing strategy, they will see a \$7.40 return through increased income for the housed, decreased homelessness, increased employment, increased spending in communities, increased property and income taxes, and a decrease in need for government services.

The Strategy plans for culturally safe and relevant housing units with wraparound supports for those who need them and ensuring the success of all Indigenous people whether they're youth, families, seniors, low-income, middle class, queer, trans, straight or cisgender. It also aims to build up Indigenous housing provider knowledge and support them in hiring, training and retaining more Indigenous employees.

### Where will the money come from?

Developing the Strategy is only the first step. In order to implement it, both the federal and provincial governments will need to provide the Aboriginal Housing Management Association with resources.

Because of the wrap-around nature of the supports they want to provide — and the broad section of the Indigenous population they want to serve — they expect further meetings with provincial ministers responsible for seniors, people with disabilities, youth leaving government care, to name a few, will be necessary.

The Province has highlighted that the Building BC: Indigenous Housing Fund will provide \$550 million from 2018 to 2028 to construct and operate 1,750 Indigenous housing units on and off-reserve, including 831 units off-reserve built so far.

The federal government has also put \$2.5 billion into the Rapid Housing Initiative to build 10,254 affordable housing units for vulnerable people, 41 per cent of which are earmarked for Indigenous people. The federal government has also stated "prioritizing" Indigenous people for revitalized and new housing constructed through the \$13.2-billion National Housing Co-Investment Fund.

But the Aboriginal Housing Management Association is concerned the government's approach won't be effective for people living off-reserve, which is why they maintain off-reserve Indigenous housing funds should be sent to them to distribute among their members.

"The federal government can't implement an urban rural, and northern Indigenous housing strategy, because they themselves are not urban, rural and northern Indigenous peoples, and they don't understand the complexities of needs," Pfoh said.

### Reprinted with permission from The Tyee, January 28, 2022

Katie Hyslop is a reporter at The Tyee and writes about education and youth issues. Learn more at thetyee.ca.

<sup>1</sup>https://victoriahomelessness.ca/spotlightsaturday-indigenous-homelessness-incanada/#:~:text=Indigenous%20Peoples%20 makeup%20only%204.3,average%20of%20 0.78%20per%20cent

# **POST-MENTORSHIP:** WHERE ARE THEY NOW AND WHAT NEXT?

/ Emilie K Adin RPP, MCIP

Like many Registered Professional Planners (RPPs), I'm dedicated to giving back to the profession that has given me so much. Since my induction into the Institute, this has included mentoring 'launching' planners. This article focusses on five of the over 20 people I have had the privilege to mentor.



**WINNIE YIP** RPP, MCIP, is an alumna of the SFU Resource and Environmental Management program. I had the pleasure of being her boss in the early 2010s. She reached out to me a few years later when seeking to complete the steps to becoming a full member of the Institute. She crossed that finish line in 2018.

Winnie had childhood dreams of becoming a veterinarian, and later planned a future in environmental economics, hoping to avoid "unpredictable humans". Ironically, she landed in a profession that holds public engagement and interdisciplinary collaboration as central tenets. She is now a senior community planner with the District of North Vancouver.

What has surprised her? A planning career is harder than she thought it would be. "It's so much about the human dynamic" rather than "the technical solution."

What next? Winnie wants to continue to focus on long-range planning and affordable housing, "further honing my skills."



**EMMA FINEBLIT** was a Candidate member of PIBC when I met her at a North Shore planners event. From there, she sought me out to see her through the mentorship process towards becoming an RPP.

Emma grew up expecting to go into politics and wanting to be the Prime Minister of Canada. "I wanted to make the most change possible." Gradually, she came to appreciate privacy and work-life balance. From an interest in inner-city community development she ended up working in her current role as the Executive Director of Wolseley Family Place, a nonprofit family resource centre in Horseshoe Bay. Previously, her social and community planning focus included land use planning work with the Tsleil-Waututh Nation.

What has surprised her? Certainly, it's been the "slow and complicated process of government and governance." Also, "the how you're doing matters more than the what you're doing. It's all about change management, relationships and getting people's buy-in."

**What next?** While she's happy in her job, sometimes Emma finds herself wanting to use her planning degree more as a social, housing, or long-range planner.



**KAI OKAZAKI** is a Candidate member of the PIBC. He was one of several students I was paired with in SCARP's mentorship program in the 2010s. He is working his way to becoming a registered member of the Institute.

Kai wanted to become a park ranger, but came to hear about planning through his passion for sustainability. Like Winnie, his focus had been more technical. However, his question "how do I work with people to ensure natural places are preserved?" led him to be attracted to the collaborative aspect of planning.

More recently he is considering the broader question, "what makes a good community?". He is currently working as a social planner at the City of Burnaby.

What has surprised him? "How much you can learn working under a supervisor who is willing to act as a mentor, and how much you can be empowered by them, and learn to challenge yourself."

What next? Kai would like to continue pushing boundaries on how we practice and collaborate. He is determined to "continue to stretch, always."



**ARTA NAVAB-TEHRANI** (formerly Marjan) is also a Candidate member of the Institute, and the elected candidate member representative on the PIBC Board of Directors. I met Arta at a mentorship mixer event in the late 2010s.

Arta is the third of three interviewees who spoke to me about their background and passion in science. They had a dream of becoming a medical doctor, and to that end focused their post-secondary academic efforts first in biology, and later in environmental studies and anthropology, particularly focused on climate change, resilience, and disaster planning.

Despite multiple planning interests, Arta "stumbled upon" cultural planning, and was "very grateful for that experience." They learned about "the importance of cultural planning to connect us to each other and to place." Arta is currently working as a Policy Analyst at City of Vancouver in Cultural Services.

What has surprised them? "How personal the work can be" and how much of yourself you bring to the workplace.

What next? Arta has many interests, including equity work and systems change, and the potential for a joint planning and anthropology PhD in cultural planning at some point in their future. For now, they're happy focusing on cultural policy development and implementation.



**SHAREEN CHIN** is a recent graduate of the UBC SCARP program. A former student of mine in my role as an adjunct professor at UBC, she asked me to mentor her as part of the RPP requirements. Having recently completed that step, she is now wrapping up her logbook. She hopes to write the final exam in the spring.

Shareen has always been a "people person." Despite coming from a family of entrepreneurs, she always knew she was geared towards the "social and helping side." She is now a senior planner for the Vancouver Coastal Region of First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), currently completing Vancouver Coastal's Regional Health and Wellness Plan 2022-2027.

What has surprised her? The biggest surprise out of planning school was "learning the full scale of what planners can do, influence and shape." The COVID pandemic has become a big focus of her work. "I interviewed for one job and got two."

What next? "I'm really looking forward to how I can continue bringing a planning lens to health authorities to ensure that health and well-being plans have a community-centred approach." Will she ever bring a healthy communities lens to land-use planning? "Hopefully!" **In conclusion**, overarching lessons that I learned through these interviews are:

- It's useful to have professional and community-level experience prior to starting a Master's degree in planning. This experience means students bring some of the real world with them to the ivory tower, rather than landing unprepared in the real world.
- 2) People who had more of a technical planning education often wish they had more 'soft skills' and 'big picture' learning opportunities during their education. People who had more of a 'big picture' and theoretical planning education, on the other hand, often decry a lack of technical training and know-how. The lesson? As one interviewee said, "successful planners are skilled in both."
- 3) You can't always address "all the what-if's" in a planning education or the RPP certification process. The title 'planner' and the pieces of paper (the planning degree and the induction into the Institute) can open doors, but real success comes with experience, mentorship, hard work, and (dare I say it) blind luck.

Here's to all of us, in whatever stage of our careers we find ourselves!

Emilie K Adin is the Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development at the City of New Westminster. She tips her hat to all her own mentors, past and present.



## WHAT'S NEW AT SFU? THE RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING PROGRAM AT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Deanna Cummings, Tira Okamoto, Alexander Hook, Alexis Coutu-Marcotte, and Andréanne Doyon RPP, MCIP

The Resource and Environmental Planning Program (REPP) is situated within the School of Resource and Environmental Management (REM) at Simon Fraser University (SFU). We are the only program in Canada that specializes in interdisciplinary training in policy, natural science, and social science as applied to natural resource and environmental planning. Students learn how to improve the sustainable use of natural capital by

- collecting scientific data
- putting this data in a social context
- making applied decisions
- providing the ecological and social rationale for planning decisions

While REPP is primarily known for its focus on natural resource planning, the program's environmental focus has diversified recently with the addition of new faculty members. Dr. Clifford Atleo specializes in Indigenous governance and self-determination. He is currently working on projects related to cleaner marine transport options for coastal Indigenous communities and Indigenous territorial integrity in the era of COVID-19.

Dr. Tammara Soma is a co-founder of the Food Systems Lab and a Registered Professional Planner (RPP). Soma works on projects related to food systems

1 Gardening workshop with the planning students on SFU Campus. 2 SFU Quad. *Photos: Alexander Hook* 

planning, social impacts of waste, food and agricultural technologies, and the repair economy and infrastructure.

Dr. Andréanne Doyon is a RPP and the Director of REPP. Dr. Doyon works on equity and environmental planning projects, such as resilience planning, just nature-based cities, and equitable implementation and evaluation of urban greening and climate action.

Professor Meg Holden holds a joint appointment in REM and Urban Studies. Holden's work is in pursuit of pragmatic sustainability and quality of life solutions for contemporary cities. She teaches and conducts research in the domains of urban and regional planning, policy, and sustainable development.

### **STUDENT RESEARCH**

To showcase some of the amazing work taking place in REPP, we wanted to share some of our graduate students' research. We present their work within four themes that illustrate the uniqueness of our program: environmentally-focused, hands-on learning, socially engaged, and forward-thinking.

### **ENVIRONMENTALLY-FOCUSED**

Our interdisciplinary program stands out because we employ planning lenses and add invaluable environmental-focused and ecological frames. REPP alumni have gone to work in positions such as Policy Analyst for the B.C. Climate Action Secretariat, Sustainability and Alternative Energy Coordinator for Summerland, BC, and Environmental Assessment Coordinator for the Metlakatla Stewardship Society.

Current environmental planning student projects include:

- Decolonizing planning methods on Xwe'etay/Lasqueti Island – Madeleine MacLean
- Addressing the management of bioplastics through a sustainability lens – Nadia Springle
- Nature-based solutions for Reconciliation-informed climate change adaptation – Anwen Rees
- Indigenous water governance under the Water Sustainability Act – Andrew Palmer



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### **HANDS-ON LEARNING**

Whether travelling up BC's coast to work with Indigenous communities or learning about land use planning in the Fraser Valley, our program allows us to experientially engage and apply what we have learned in our research. In REPP, we are provided with the knowledge and skills needed to identify and understand environmental challenges and contribute to solutions.

Current applied research student projects include:

- Creating a management & implementation tracking tool for cumulative effects upon Metlakatla Nations' housing and livelihoods – Elaine McAloney
- Coal transitions and local government entrepreneurialism in Alberta

   Martin Mateus
- Leveraging the management of natural resources through local government entrepreneurialism in Northern BC

   Alexis Coutu-Marcotte
- App-based agricultural food loss quantification in southwestern B.C – Alexander Hook

### **SOCIALLY ENGAGED**

REPP feels like a big family. We carry very diverse backgrounds, and the experiences of others enrich our learning. We are privileged to study alongside faculty who empower us to understand current topics from interdisciplinary perspectives. Justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion form the foundation of our ethos and our research and practice.

Current socially-engaged student research projects include:

- Addressing Indigenous systemic public health inequities through community-driven solutions – Deanna Cummings
- Decolonizing climate policies for a just transition to a low-carbon future Maya Molander
- Applying a social innovation approach to expanding the farm-to-school program in B.C – Hafsa Salihue

### **FORWARD-THINKING**

REPP students put bold ideas into action. From our coursework to our research projects, we push the envelope. We call on the field of planning to address our world's We call on the field of planning to address our world's wicked problems, such as climate resilience, food justice, and equitable adaptation.



wicked problems, such as climate resilience, food justice, and equitable adaptation. We hold our projects in our hands as the seeds to grow creative solutions.

Current forward-thinking student projects include:

- Centring the right to food in circular food economies in Vancouver – Jamie-Lynne Varney
- Resilience in municipal and regional strategic planning documents in Canada – Laura Beattie
- Evaluating equity and justice within urban climate adaptation planning – Tira Okamoto

### **UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM**

In 2020, REPP launched the Bachelor of Environment, majoring in REM Planning. The undergraduate planning degree was granted preliminary accreditation by the PSB Board of Directors (and will soon be fully accredited). It is the first degree of its kind in the lower mainland and, like our graduate program, it specializes in environmental planning and takes full advantage of REM and the Faculty of Environment. Students graduating with this degree are prepared to work in broadly defined areas of resource management or planning, including fisheries management, food and agriculture, sustainable planning

 Supporting the Squamish Nation's CCP Marine & Land Use planning process in Chekwelp.
 Bivalve Harvesting and research on Kitsilano Beach. *Photos: Deanna Cummings*





and governance, forest management, sustainable energy and transportation, water resource management, environmental planning, ecosystem management, and First Nations resource management.

REPP is going through many exciting changes, from our new undergraduate programming, new faculty members, and a diverse and engaged student body. As current graduate students in REPP, we have highlighted what makes us feel unique as a program and the important contributions to the body of planning research we are making as budding planners.

SFU's REPP is the final program of the four accredited university planning programs to provide its update over the past year. It has been a pleasure to read about what the other schools have been working on and the changes they are going through. We hope through the quarterly updates that collectively we build upon and grow the relationships between the four planning schools and illustrate the web of connections we have together as a larger community.

Deanna Cummings, Tira Okamoto, Alexander Hook, and Alexis Coutu-Marcotte are Master of Resource Management (Planning) students. Dr. Doyon is an Assistant Professor in the School of Resource and Environmental Management and the Director of the Resource and Environmental Planning Program

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# **2021: A YEAR OF CLIMATE ACTION AND RESPONSE**

/ Patricia Dehnel, RPP, MCIP, Robin Hawker RPP, MCIP, Clarissa Huffman RPP, MCIP, Brian Miller RPP, MCIP Climate Action Subcommittee Members

Response is costly and often investment decisions are made according to the number of people affected. How do we prepare our communities for this and allocate funds equitably?

### **PIBC CLIMATE ACTION SUB-COMMITTEE**



1 Helicopter fighting BC forest fires near Port Alice, Vancouver Island, BC 2 Extreme heat Cooling Centre in Vancouver 3 Image of Fraser Valley flood, Global News



### **REMEMBER THE WEATHER STORIES**

**OF THE "OLD DAYS"**? Our grandparents and community elders tell stories of a 100 year flood, an exceptionally cold winter, or that particular scorching summer. These events took place over the course of a lifetime. And then there was 2021. What will we tell our grandchildren about that one year?

In the second half of 2021, BC reported a list of unprecedented weather and climate-related impacts. Although these events are shown as a list, we acknowledge that each event carries extreme emotional toll and sadness. Our sympathy is extended to the families of lost loved ones and to the communities dealing with post-event restoration and healing.

- An extreme heat dome caused over 590 deaths between June 18 and August 12, 2021 in BC.<sup>1</sup> Temperatures reached above 40 degrees Celsius and tragically we learnt how inadequate our housing stock is for keeping seniors and people with disabilities safe in times of high heat. Over 70% of heat victims were over 70 years old.
- A massive wildfire from the extreme temperatures and tinder dry land destroyed the town of Lytton on June 30.<sup>2</sup>
- A summer of relentless poor air quality caused by the smoky skies of wildfires. The dryness of the spring and extreme heat of summer raised the fire danger to extreme levels. A provincial state of emergency was declared on July 21, 2021 and stayed in effect for 56 days until Sept. 14, 2021. There were over 300 active wildfires in BC with 67 Wildfires of Note.<sup>3</sup>
- A tornado, with wind speed up to 110 kilometers per hour, roared through the

University of BC campus on November 6, 2021, leaving a trail of tree and property damage and downed power lines.<sup>4</sup>

- An atmospheric river flowed across the southwest corner of the province during a long weekend in November. In some places, more than 200 mm of rain fell.
   Washouts and landslides closed all highways leading to the Lower Mainland and caused massive flooding and evacuation orders across the Fraser Valley, Hope, Merritt and Princeton. Travellers were stranded and lives were lost.<sup>5</sup>
- An extreme cold snap in December from an arctic airmass with minimum temperature records broken only six months after the maximum temperature records.<sup>6</sup> Community volunteers now worked to keep vulnerable people warm.
- The cold snap was followed by a "snowmaggedon" across the province, with the City of Nelson reporting an unprecedented snowfall in the early hours of January 4, 2022, with snow accumulation between 65 – 80cm overnight.<sup>7</sup>

Planners work for the health and wellbeing of people, regions and communities in an effort to address the public interest. As professional planners, how do we support communities in the present and coming years to prepare for the next storm?

To understand, manage and prepare for the effects of global climate change, the Province of BC has developed a climate risk assessment framework. *Preliminary Strategic Climate Risk Assessment for British Columbia, 2019* identified, analyzed and evaluated fifteen scenarios of climate vulnerability, including flooding, water shortage, heat waves, severe wildfire season and increased incidence of vector-borne disease.

The "extreme precipitation and landslide scenario" was identified as an event in the area of Hope BC.<sup>8</sup> The imaginary scenario was rated as 'unlikely' at present, and 'possible' in the future, with consequence being assessed as 'minor.' In 2021, the scenario analyzed in the Assessment report became reality. Damage to infrastructure and property was severe, and lives were lost. Supply chains were impacted for weeks.

The events of 2021 make it obvious that extreme weather events and climate change are now reality. Planners need to be on guard and take it into account as part of our work. Climate impacts threaten community health and wellbeing, damages local property and infrastructure, causes significant capital costs, negatively affects the natural environment and our local economies and, worst of all, we mourn the loss of fellow citizens.

A Climate Action Policy has recently been endorsed by the PIBC Board of Directors and affirms PIBC believes that addressing climate change is an essential part of planning in the public interest. The Climate Action Policy recommends the following actions to ensure PIBC contributes to the advancement of climate change-informed planning:

### 1. Capacity Building and Education:

Promote climate change planning in PIBC communications, educational standards and development activities. Ensure that all practicing planners have access to the resources, data, training, and other support they need to fully integrate climate change considerations into their work. Regardless of the area of planning speciality, all planners need to be able to see the value of, and consistently make, climate-informed decisions.

- 2. **Partnerships:** Develop and deepen formal partnerships with other professional organizations to support climate mitigation and adaptation planning efforts.
- **3. Engage and Provide Expertise:** Inform the development of future policies and regulations by identifying PIBC representatives to participate in external advisory bodies and committees.
- 4. Advocate: In accordance with PIBC's Advocacy Policy, proactively advocate to the Province of BC, Government of Yukon and Government of Canada for

policies and actions that contribute to more robust climate change planning and plan implementation.

5. Carbon Neutral and Climate Resilient Operations: Strive to achieve carbon neutrality in its corporate operations through a combination of emissions reductions and the purchase of carbon offsets. Encourage low carbon resilience in built spaces and services, such as conference planning and chapter activities.

Within the tragedy and despair of the 2021 weather events, we saw evidence of support and immediate mobilization of resources to respond and quickly recover from some events, especially the atmospheric river that impacted the supply chain for most of the province. But can the same be said for all climate-related disasters? How has the Village of Lytton rebuilt after its fire devastation? Response is costly and often investment decisions are made according to the number of people affected. How do we prepare our communities for this and allocate funds equitably?

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The words of veteran CBC journalist Carol Off in a recent interview rang true for planners:

Not paying attention...is the ultimate act of privilege. If you have the ability to check out, it's because you have nothing at stake. You know you are not running for your life. You are not about to be arrested. You are not in trouble. You are not in the line. You're not about to lose your house. You're not about to lose your job. So, I urge: stay engaged. Not because you need to be there, but other people need you to be.<sup>9</sup>

We encourage all planners to stay engaged and continue to prepare the public for climate uncertainty and ultimately for climate preparedness and adaptation.

PIBC established the Climate Action Subcommittee in 2019. 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. Authors of this article are Subcommittee members.

- 1 https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/britishcolumbia/bc-heat-dome-sudden-deathsrevised-2021-1.6232758
- 2 https://globalnews.ca/news/8270545/lyttonmayor-fire-report-tsb/
- 3 https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/ wildfire-status/about-bcws/wildfire-history/ wildfire-season-summary
- 4 https://www.saanichnews.com/news/ environment-canada-confirms-low-gradetornado-hit-vancouver-over-the-weekend/
- 5 https://theconversation.com/how-anatmospheric-river-drenched-british-columbiaand-led-to-floods-and-mudslides-172021
- 6 https://bc.ctvnews.ca/b-c-town-breaks-105year-old-temperature-record-amid-coldsnap-1.5794327.
- 7 https://www.nelson.ca/CivicAlerts. aspx?AID=640
- 8 Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (2019). Preliminary Strategic Climate Risk Assessment for British Columbia. Report prepared for the Government of British Columbia, Victoria, BC. Accessible at: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/ gov/content/environment/climate-change/ adaptation/risk-assessment
- 9 https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thecurrent/thecurrent-for-feb-18-2022-1.6356555/fridayfebruary-18-2022-full-transcript-1.6357926

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# NEXT LEVEL -

# LARGE FORMAT MULTI-LEVEL INDUSTRIAL



/ Eric Aderneck RPP, MCIP

The recent trend of industrial intensification started in urban locations, on small high value sites, typically in the form of a four story building. These structures contain very light industrial uses on the ground floor, upper floors of commercial/office space, a level or two of underground parking, and some rooftop amenities, connected via a freight elevator.

At the other end of the industrial spectrum are larger suburban sites (10+ acre), with warehouses for logistics operators that need highway accessibility and space for trucks. These too are now experiencing their own form of intensification.

Typical distribution centres are in large, one-storey buildings sized 400,000-600,000 sq ft with ample maneuvering space for tractor trailers, a high ratio of dock doors, column spacing, and 32-40 ft high ceilings for greater cubic volume. There are relatively small mezzanines and office areas.

The next step is literally going to the next level – two or three story buildings, with a truck ramp to the upper levels, providing the functionality of large floorplate industrial.

High prices for land is an impetus for more efficient use. In geographies with limited industrial land and a strong market demand, firms are faced with the dilemma of either building up or moving out to find more suitable accommodations. The benefits to building up for the wider community are more efficient use of land, less pressures on other limited lands such as agricultural, space to accommodate employment and economic growth, and a more efficient transportation system.

### **Challenges Abound**

There are a long list of challenges to creating multi-level industrial buildings including unconventional approvals,

# ... firms are faced with the dilemma of either building up or moving out.

high construction costs, multifaceted designs, and complex structural requirements. These buildings are much heavier which may necessitate foundations with more pre-loading or piling, especially on sites with geo-technical stability and soil condition issues.

Multi-level designs require reinforced columns to support the weight of upper floors, large decks to accommodate truck movements to access loading docks, and code conditions such as fire separation, vertical circulation, and fire truck access need to be satisfied. Building design efficiencies are reduced because of the need for stairs and ramps, tenant operations are impacted by larger columns and smaller grids, and achieving the very high ceilings seen in some modern one-storey buildings may not be possible.

There are also ever increasing sustainability provisions, like insulated walls, LED lighting with motion sensors, storm water treatment, and electric vehicle charging, with some buildings achieving LEED certification.

As for parking, accommodating the needed stalls for workers and fleet vehicles is another challenge. Parking of light vehicles on the roof can be an option, although it requires ramp access and additional structural support. Some developers have explored placing parking in a deck between the upper and lower levels to achieve structural efficiencies. Sites with a slope offer the opportunity to have the building's lower level accessed from one side and the upper level from another side, thereby eliminating the need for ramps.

Construction costs on a building could be 2.5 times higher than traditional development. Longer application processing timelines for complex developments elevate the project risk and financing profile. Furthermore, multi-level buildings cannot be delivered in phases over time to meet market demand, but must be built all at once which can be a challenge to pre-lease.

These large spaces are tenanted by distribution facilities operated by retailer or third-party logistics providers. These businesses typically want to invest their capital into the operations rather than real estate, so lease tenure rather than ownership is more common (with the inverse being the case for smaller units, which may be bought as strata pre-sale investments).

Viability requires the availability of large sites, government agency approvals, efficient designs, manageable construction costs, adequate economies of scale, and high rents.

The Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) has been exploring industrial land use issues for decades. Most recently MVRD completed a Regional Industrial Lands Strategy, undertaking a comprehensive regional industrial land use inventory, studying industrial lands intensification, and updating the regional growth strategy to enhance policies to protect and utilize industrial lands.

A novel Trade-Oriented Lands Overlay, for uses such as terminal facilities, distribution centres, and freight forwarding activities serving a national trade function, protects such lands from stratification tenure and small lot subdivision.

The City of Richmond undertook an Industrial Lands Intensification Initiative to document industrial utilization rates and to advance densification. Richmond has a significant amount of port related and logistics uses, and a protected agricultural base. The City seeks to accommodate more industrial activity on a fixed industrial land stock and amended their industrial zones to remove caps on building densities, adjust permitted uses to remove some non-industrial activities, and add new types of industrial.

In Burnaby, the Riverbend complex by Oxford Properties is one example of large industrial intensification. The two story building on 21-acres has a coverage of 50%, a second floor that is 62% of the first floor. The heated outside ramp has 6.8% grade; there are 739 parking stalls; ceiling height of 32 ft on the ground floor and 28 ft on the second floor. The building is 707,000 sq ft, with a density of 0.8 FAR.

### **Lessons Learned**

To encourage, or simply not inhibit, higher density industrial development, municipalities can consider updating zoning provisions and planning policies to accommodate new built forms. This may mean adjusting density limiters, such as building height and site coverage maximums, and permitting traditional and new industrial uses while prohibiting non-industrial uses.

Policies and practices should be supportive, and possibly even include incentives, such as waiving development charges / fees for industrial floor space on upper levels. Other municipal initiatives could include: bring-to-market strategies, such as help with addressing land assembly, infrastructure servicing, and soil remediation.

On a fixed amount of land, the way to increase industrial capacity is through building up. The industrial sized opportunity to meet the challenge will differ by situation, requiring innovative planning and development solutions.

Eric Aderneck RPP, MCIP, is a Senior Planner with Metro Vancouver, and an industrial lands planning consultant in other jurisdictions. He can be reached at eric@aderneck.ca

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### INSTITUTE NEWS

### by **Dave Crossley** Executive Director

### **PIBC BOARD NOTES**

On **November 6th, 2021**, the PIBC Board of Directors met in Vancouver.

It was acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

### PRESIDENT

David Block RPP, MCIP welcomed members, and provided an update on various activities, including preparations for the return of the Institute's World Town Planning Day gala event, various PIBC committee meetings attended, ongoing work on national projects and initiatives, and participation in the recently held PLACE21 student planning conference, for which PIBC was a sponsor.

### **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**

Executive Director Dave Crossley reported on the ongoing and key projects, initiatives, and activities at the PIBC office, including preparations for upcoming 2022 membership renewals, the next phases of work on revisions to the strategic plan, and ongoing preparations for the joint CIP-PIBC conference in Whistler in July.

The Board reviewed the unaudited financial statements for 2021 (to date). It was noted that the Institute was in a very strong financial position due to strong membership renewals; much better-than-expected job advertising revenues; very strong revenues from the 2021 online annual conference; and expenditure savings due to impacts from the ongoing pandemic.

### NATIONAL AFFAIRS:

The Board received and discussed an update provided by the Board's working group regarding developing feedback for the national Professional Standards Committee (PSC) on proposed changes to Section 3 of the national memberships standards policy manual on ethical standards. A draft of the proposed feedback was reviewed and discussed.

The Board also received, reviewed, and discussed proposed draft revisions to the national professional competency profile and standards for the profession, as developed and circulated by the PSC. It was noted that there would be further work in this area, particularly including work on developing indicators for the proposed revised competency standards.

The Board also confirmed the appointment of Emilie Adin RPP, MCIP as the new PIBC representative to the PSC, replacing David Block RPP, MCIP effective as of January 1, 2022.

The Board received, reviewed, and discussed the report outlining the results of CIP's national survey on equity, diversity, and inclusion. It was noted that the work and outcomes could assist PIBC in its work in these areas. There was also agreement to develop and implement equity, diversity, and inclusion training for the Board.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS & BUSINESS**

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

Planning Practice & Reconciliation: The Board reviewed, discussed, and approved revised terms of reference for the Committee. The Board further requested that the Committee provide feedback on the proposal to include a Board liaison position on the Committee.

### LOCAL CHAPTERS

The Board received the annual report of the Yukon Chapter for information, and approved the release of the Chapter's budgeted annual seed funding.

### INSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS & BUSINESS

The Student member representatives from SFU, and UNBC provided brief updates to the Board on activities at their respective university planning programs.

### **NEXT MEETING(S)**

It was noted that the next Board meeting would be held on Friday, January 28th, 2022, in Victoria (subject to public health guidelines).

It was also noted that the Board was completing a day-long strategic planning workshop session, in conjunction with the November 6th Board meeting and World Town Planning Day gala event, to finalize revisions to the strategic plan. On **January 28th, 2022**, 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

David Block RPP, MCIP welcomed members, and provided an update on various activities, including a recent meeting of the signatory parties of the national Professional Standards Committee (PSC) to review and approve an updated workplan and budget, as well as ongoing efforts to reach out and connect with various PIBC committees.

### **BOARD & GOVERNANCE**

The Board reviewed and discussed the draft revised (2021-2023) strategic plan. The Board approved the plan with some additional revisions, including updating some key language and wording, adjusting the order of the strategic result areas in the plan, and reordering some goals within the plan. It was also agreed that the final plan would be redesigned and laid out in a more visual format for final publication.

### **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**

Executive Director Dave Crossley reported on the ongoing and key projects, initiatives, and activities at the PIBC office, including the progress of membership renewals, preparation for the 2021 fiscal year financial audit, work on the upcoming annual conference in Whistler and the launch of the 2022 awards program.

The Board reviewed the unaudited year-end financial statements for 2021. It was noted that the statements were subject to revision as part of the upcoming financial audit. It was further noted that the Institute ended the year with an anticipated healthy surplus due to strong membership renewal and retention, much higher than expected job advertising revenues, and strong surplus revenues from the successful 2021 online annual conference, as well as internal savings on expenditures realized due to ongoing pandemic impacts.

### NATIONAL AFFAIRS:

The Board received and discussed a further update provided by the Board's working group regarding feedback to the national Professional Standards Committee (PSC) on proposed changes to Section 3 (on ethical standards) of



the national memberships standards policy manual. A final draft of the proposed feedback was discussed, approved, and would be sent to the PSC for their consideration.

The Board also received an update on the PSC's continued work on proposed draft revisions to the national professional competency profile and standards for the profession, including next steps in the process, including the engagement of a consultant to assist on further work on developing indicators for the competencies.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS & BUSINESS**

Professional Standards & Certification: The Board approved the admission of a number of new members, and also approved or acknowledged a number of membership transfers and other membership changes, including a number of membership revocations due to expired membership time limits.

Professional Conduct Review: The Board confirmed the appointment of Alex Taylor RPP, MCIP as chair of the Professional Conduct Review Committee, replacing Lui Carvello RPP, MCIP who had stepped down from the committee.

Policy & Public Affairs – Climate Action Sub-Committee: The Board confirmed the appointment of Robin Hawker RPP, MCIP as a member of the Climate Action Sub-Committee.

### INSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS & BUSINESS

The Student member representatives from UNBC, SFU, and VIU provided brief updates to the Board on activities at their respective university planning programs.

### **NEXT MEETING(S)**

It was noted that the next Board meeting would be held on Friday, March 11th, 2022, in Prince George, BC, in conjunction with a UNBC student event.

### **UPCOMING WEBINARS**



### PIBC CPL Webinar #5 May 25

PIBC is pleased to partner with Urban Development Institute as part of its Under 40 (U40) Series to offer this exciting webinar aimed at students and emerging professionals! Structured to broaden knowledge level and encourage communication, exchange of ideas, and networking with peers in both private and public sectors, this webinar will examine several recent development projects with commentary from both planners and developers on "what worked" and "what needs to be improved" in the development process.

### PIBC CPL Webinar #6 June 7

Join PIBC for this FREE webinar with Esri Canada, a company which provides organizations with geographic information systems (GIS) solutions to make informed and timely decisions by leveraging the power of mapping & spacial analysis.

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

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### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**November 6, 2021** 

### Welcome New Members!

# Congratulations and welcome to all the new PIBC Members!

At its meeting of November 6, 2021, 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:

**Zoe Acton** Linsday Allman **Meredith Baldwin** (Transfer from API) Erik Blair **Chloe Boyle Christa Brown Nicole Capewell** Sarah Cranston Jesse Dill (Reinstate) **Carl Funk** Filippos Gkekas **Brian Gregg Mark Groulx** Lee Yin Kan Chang Liu Anton Metalnikov **Cameron Noonan Tyler Searls** (Transfer from OPPI) **Matthew Steyer Michael Taylor Cyril Tomlinson David Wachsmuth** Amber Walker (Transfer from API) **Alexandrea Wallace Brvan Wong** 

#### CANDIDATE:

Jessica Ball Phil Climie Kevin Criccio Devin Croin Sev Ebadi Kaitlynn Given Abhimanyu Jamwal T'Brenn Kelly-McKinnon Matthew Kuziak Brian McLoughlin Stephani McPhee Shivani Sajwan Mitchell Stykalo Steffi Sunny Kelsey Tyerman William Volpe Chantal Wentland Stella Xiao

PRE-CANDIDATE: Kelsea Fielden

### STUDENT:

Emma Adams (VIU) Eanimi Agube (UBC) Sheryl Vanessa Amorocho (UBC) **Budi Ballard** (UBC) Marie-Gabrielle Bléchard (UBC) Samantha Bowen (UBC) Mikhaila Carr (UNBC) Raj Chaudhary (UBC) Pooja Choudhary (VIU) Ming Wai Chung (UBC) Matthew Chung (UBC) Jack DeSante (VIU) Kathryn Duerksen (VIU) Sydney Edwards (UBC) Hussein Elhagehassan (UBC) **Roraigh Falkner** (UBC) Sarah Kate Fenton (VIU) Alisha Feser (VIU) Andrew Nisha Gnanasingarajan (VIU) Lauren Goodland (VIU) Nathaniel Goodwin Berry (UBC) William Harris (UBC) Samantha Homer (Joint with API – Dalhousie) Zoe Howell (UBC) Kayla Jaffe (UBC) Marlaine Joe (UNBC) Cole Johnson (UNBC) Mikaila Johnson (UBC) Melissa Johnston (UBC) Stephen Jordan (UBC) Maya Korbyn (Joint with API – Dalhousie) Mailyn Lai (VIU) Daniel Lake (UBC) Henry Lau (UBC) Isobel LeBlanc (UNBC) Ji-Woo Lee (UBC) Nathan Leong (UBC) Amy Liebenberg (UBC) Tove Lundsten (VIU) Alicia McLean (VIU) Caelen Middleton (VIU) **Courtenay Miller** (VIU) Scott Monroe (UNBC) Jalissa Moody (VIU) Olivia Moores (VIU) Adam Morton (VIU) Ben Mumford (UBC)

Adrian Myszka (VIU)

Neha Nair (VIU) Ritapa Neogi (UBC) Jacob Newkirk (UNBC) Kyla Pascal (UBC) Maria Paulson (UNBC) Raghava Payment (SFU) Kyla Sauer (UNBC) Trey Schiefelbein (UBC) Erin Scott (SFU) Claire Shepansky (UBC) Grace Sherrell (UBC) Matthew Smith (VIU) Marco Sotres (UBC) Prabhjot Sran (VIU) Derrick Teo (UBC) Shanti Thurber (UBC) Alison White (UBC) Alexandra Wiens (SFU) **Breanna Willms** (UBC) Ruo Qing Rose Wu (UBC) Holly Yee (VIU) Anastasia Zehetmeier (UNBC)

### **Member Changes**

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

#### FROM MEMBER ON LEAVE TO CERTIFIED:

Brianne Labute Katherine Lambert

FROM CANDIDATE TO MEMBER ON LEAVE: Natalie Cho Savannah Zachary

### RESIGNED:

Geoffrey Genge Alex Harte Trista Tetreault Bronwyn Wydeman

### January 28, 2022

### Welcome New Members!

Congratulations and welcome to all the new PIBC Members!

At its meeting of January 28, 2022, 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:

Barbara Everdene (Transfer from CIP Intl.) Chun Nam Law (Transfer from OPPI) Sara McCartney (Transfer from APPI) Tessa Williams

(Transfer from OPPI)

### CANDIDATE:

**Graham Allison** (Transfer from APPI) Robert Catherall (Transfer from OPPI) **Adrienne Comars** Katherine Davis **Celina Fletcher** Kira Gill-Maher Theodora Gunn Jordan Hallam Alexandra Heinen **Meg Holden Henry Kosch Isha Matous-Gibbs Andrew Misiak** Suzanne Nedham-McBriar Mitchell Patterson Kai Peetoom Jonathan Beitsma Luke Reynolds (Transfer from APPI) **Jayden Riley Terry Sidhu David Sutanto** Ashley Thandi Kacia Tolsma Lisa Wambaa

PRE-CANDIDATE: Sharondeep Johal

### **RETIRED:**

Ken Cameron Alison McNeil Janet Omelchuk Jim Rule Gerhard Tonn

### STUDENT:

Laura Beattie (SFU) Monica Beaulieu (UNBC) Elina Blomley (SFU) Natalie Cappe (UBC) Heather Chambers (SFU) Alexis Coutu-Marcotte (SFU) Anastasia Crowther (UBC) Karina De Sa Bastos E Silva (SFU) Jackson Fitzgerald (SFU) Katarina Heim (SFU) Matthew Henderson (UNBC) Marcus R. Jackson (UBC) Mary Kelly (SFU) Will Lugsdin (Ryerson) Kevin Maars (SFU) Chelsea Mathieson (SFU) Sean McBean (SFU) Anneliese Neweduk (SFU) Tira Okamoto (SFU) Andrew Palmer (SFU) Anwen Rees (SFU) Dina Sadeghi (SFU) Nuzreth Hafsa Salihue (SFU) Margaret Spence (UBC) Makenzie Thorpe (UNBC)

### **Member Changes**

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

### FROM CERTIFIED TO MEMBER ON LEAVE:

**Candice Benner** Sawngjai (Dear) Bhokanandh **Diana Collicutt** Maira de Avila Wilton Julia Dykstra **Margaret Eberle** Lynda Fyfe **Marcel Gelein** Lea Hastie **Karen Kreis Jeffrey Long** Nicole Miller **Cian O'Neill-Kizoff Leonard Rodrigues** Mary Wong **Brian Zurek** 

FROM CANDIDATE TO MEMBER ON LEAVE: Charndeep Gill Suzanna Kaptur Emily Macdonald

#### FROM MEMBER ON LEAVE TO CERTIFIED:

Lynda Fyfe Deborah Herbert Karen Kreis Janette Leung Catherina Lisiak Janet Omelchuk Catherine Simpson Mary Storzer Andrea Wen Winnie Yip FROM MEMBER

FROM MEMBER ON LEAVE TO CANDIDATE: Allison Pickrell **RESIGNED: Felicity Adams** Stephen Blore **Tracy Corbett** John Forsdick Mark Hornell **Robert Knall** Thomas Knight **Charling Li** Lukas Ma Terry MacDougall **Dianne McLauchlan** Judy McLeod Andrea Oakunsheyld **Paul Penner Gillian Shadlock Travis Shaw Raymond Spaxman** Alena Straka **Alexander Taciuk** Alex Thumm Anne Topp Leni Vespaziani Yamashita Tosh

### **Membership Time Limits**

It has been reported and confirmed by the PIBC Board of Directors on January 28, 2022, that the following individuals had reached or exceeded the prescribed time limits to remain a Candidate member and, in accordance with the Institute's bylaws, ceased to be Candidate members of the Institute effective as of December 31, 2021:

Babak Behnia Daniel Martin Havan Surat

Additionally, 43 Student members reached or exceeded the prescribed time limits to remain a Student member and, in accordance with the Institute's bylaws, ceased to be Student members of the Institute effective as of December 31, 2021.



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LASIPALATSI SQUARE, HELSINKI, FINLAND

The Lasipalatsi Square in Helsinki is an urban space originally built to serve visitors to the Olympic Games. As the Square lost its lustre over the years, renovations and bold ideas returned it to a welcoming place where all can enjoy, stay and play.

The final touch to reinvigorating the space came in the form of a new museum built underneath the Square itself. The Amos Rex Art Museum (named after Amos Anderson, a patron of the arts and once the owner of Finland's largest Swedish-language newspaper) opened in 2018 and became a successful showcase of how it is possible to build on already existing spaces and use non-traditional ideas to elevate surrounding areas.

Among the most outstanding features are the art museum's undulating domes that form the play space above where visitors of all ages can play. Hanna Harris, the City of Helsinki's Chief Design Officer, explained that the Finnish attitude to play is "something that everyone has a right to – it is a basic service of urban life."

The hill-like shapes of the museum domes allow people to walk around, and as serve as stages or platforms. Surrounded by restaurant terraces and plenty of flat surfaces, the open areas are also used for setting up structures for temporary events. The renewed Square is now, once again, a functional and unique place for meeting, spending leisure time, and for urban events.

### Sources:

https://www.scandinaviastandard.com/new-architecture-in-helsinki-amosrex-museum-opens-in-lasipalatsi-square/

https://amosrex.fi/en/about-us/architecture/

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