

## PIBC Announces Winners of 2025 Awards for Excellence in Planning



**June 13, 2025 (Vancouver, BC)** – The Planning Institute of British Columbia (PIBC) is excited to announce the winners of this year's PIBC Awards for Excellence in Planning.

The Institute annually recognizes the professional work and individual accomplishments of members across British Columbia and the Yukon through its awards and recognition program. The **Awards for Excellence in Planning** honour the best in professional planning work undertaken by members.

The 2025 PIBC Awards winners were announced and recognized on Thursday, June 12, 2025, during the Gala dinner at the PIBC 2025 Annual Conference at the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre in Vancouver, BC.

"The annual PIBC Awards process is an important opportunity to recognize exceptional professional achievements of planners and their teams throughout BC and the Yukon. It is such a privilege for our Awards committee to be able to review the fascinating spectrum of impressive new planning projects concluded each year. Winners this year have again distinguished themselves with outstanding planning work," said Lisa Colby, Chair of PIBC's Awards & Recognition Committee. "We congratulate the winners and humbly thank all competition entrants for taking the time to share their inspirational work."

PIBC also celebrated the recipients of this year's Annual Student Fellowship Award which provides funding to support selected university planning student members so that they may present their academic work or research to professional colleagues at PIBC's annual conferences.

**It is with great pleasure that PIBC announced the following 2025 Awards winners:**

### **Awards for Excellence in Planning Practice: Cities & Urban Areas**

**Gold:** Aboriginal Housing Society of PG, M'akola Development Services, DYS Architecture, and IDL Projects – *Urban Indigenous Community*

**Silver:** The District of Saanich – *Strategic Support for Non-Market Housing in Saanich*

**Honourable Mention:** The City of New Westminster – *The Crises Response Pilot Project: Transforming Planning Practice in Addressing the Three Crises of Homelessness, Mental Health and Substance Use*

### **Awards for Excellence in Planning Practice: Small Town & Rural Areas**

**Gold:** Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, WSP Canada Ltd., and Cycle 16 Trail Society – *Cycle 16 Trail Project*

**Silver:** City of Courtenay – *From Policy to Practice: Visualizing R-SSMUH's Integration into Our City*

## Award for Excellence in Policy Planning: Cities & Urban Areas

**Gold:** District of Saanich and Diamond Head Consulting Ltd. – *District of Saanich Biodiversity Conservation Strategy & Urban Forest Strategy*

## Awards for Excellence in Policy Planning: Small Town & Rural Areas

**Gold:** Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation), EcoPlan International, and Regenerative Design – *Úxwumixw 2050: Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Generational Plan*

**Silver:** District of Tofino – *Limits to Growth Policy*

## Award for Research & New Directions

**Gold:** Metro Vancouver – *Metro Vancouver Tree Guide*

## Annual Student Fellowship Awards

**Amanda Van Hulsen – Vancouver Island University, Master of Community Planning**

*Shifting Away from a Resource-based Economy: Tourism Development and Housing Affordability in Revelstoke, British Columbia*

**Achilles Sophia Madhi Gnanaprakasam – Vancouver Island University, Master of Community Planning**

*Retail Activation: Turning Shopping Fronts into Experiences*

**Congratulations to this year's PIBC award winners! For more information, please visit:**

- PIBC Awards at <http://www.pibc.bc.ca/pibc-awards>

- PIBC Annual Student Fellowship Award at <https://www.pibc.bc.ca/pibc-annual-student-fellowship-award>

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## About the Planning Institute of British Columbia (PIBC):

***“Forward Thinking, Shaping Communities”***

The Planning Institute of British Columbia (PIBC) is the professional association of planners in British Columbia and the Yukon and is affiliated with the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) – the national association.

A non-profit professional organization incorporated in 1958 under the *Societies Act*, the Institute's current membership includes over 1,500 professional planners that work in both the public and private sectors in many different fields of planning including land-use and development, municipal and regional planning, policy and law, heritage conservation, transportation, environmental sustainability, social planning, First Nations community planning, and more.

Our forwarding thinking mission is to be a thriving organization that supports professional planners to manage change in support of resilient, connected, inclusive and vibrant communities. Our Certified Members have the **exclusive right and privilege to utilize the professional title 'Registered Professional Planner' and the designation 'RPP' in British Columbia and the Yukon**. They also may use the designation 'MCIP' to indicate their professional status nationally as a Member with the Canadian Institute of Planners.

**For more information about PIBC, visit [www.pibc.bc.ca](http://www.pibc.bc.ca) or follow us on [LinkedIn](#).**

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