



# GFOABC

2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
**JUNE 14-16 • VICTORIA**

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*Better Together*



# SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

### 7:30 REGISTRATION / BREAKFAST

#### 8:30 WELCOME

LISA HELPS, MAYOR, CITY OF VICTORIA

#### 8:45 OPENING REMARKS

TANYA GAROST, GFOABC PRESIDENT

#### 9:00 OPENING KEYNOTE

RICHARD DURRANS, PH&N  
— MACROECONOMIC OUTLOOK

### 9:45 NETWORKING BREAK

### 10:15 BUILDING A BETTER BUDGET

### 11:30 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### 12:00 LUNCH

### 13:00 GFOABC PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTION

### 13:15 PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING BOARD (PSAB) UPDATE

#### 14:00 COMMUNICATING FINANCIAL INFORMATION

DASHBOARDS, INFOGRAPHICS, EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES

#### 14:00 PSAB ROUNDTABLE

#### 14:00 ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ASSESSMENT APPEALS

### 15:00 NETWORKING BREAK

### 15:30 INNOVATORS' CORNER

DOG LICENSE APP, PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING TOOL

### 15:30 WINNING THE WAR FOR TALENT

### 15:30 WHY WE SHOULD BE ACCOUNTING FOR NATURAL RESOURCES

### NETWORKING EVENTS

## THURSDAY, JUNE 15

### 7:30 BREAKFAST

### 8:30 MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY, SPORT AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

#### 8:45 KEYNOTE

JULIE KOTHILOW, KPMG — SKILLS GAP

### 9:45 NETWORKING BREAK

### 10:15 AUDITOR GENERAL FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT UPDATE MANAGING THE INHERENT RISKS OF LIMITED HUMAN RESOURCES WITHIN SMALL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

#### 11:15 ASSET MANAGEMENT ASSESSING YOUR ASSETS

#### 11:15 IMPROVING EFFICIENCY, EFFECTIVENESS AND SUSTAINABILITY

#### 11:15 GO DIRECTLY TO JAIL. DO NOT PASS GO.

### 12:00 LUNCH

#### 13:00 BUDGET OFFICERS' FORUM

#### 13:00 COLLECTORS' FORUM

#### 13:00 INVESTMENT FORUM

### 15:00 NETWORKING BREAK

#### 15:30 CYBER AND NETWORK LIABILITY

#### 15:30 ASSESSMENT LINKBC

#### 15:30 DIGITAL CITIZEN CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE, SHARED SERVICES, DIGITAL ROI

### GALA DINNER

## FRIDAY, JUNE 16

### 7:30 BREAKFAST

### 8:30 SPEED UPDATES

### 10:00 NETWORKING BREAK

### 10:30 CLOSING KEYNOTE

PAUL HUSCHILT — EXPECT ANYTHING EVERYTHING

### 12:00 CLOSING COMMENTS

### 12:15 CONFERENCE ENDS



# GFOABC

## 2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Fairmont Empress & Victoria Conference Centre

June 14–16, 2017

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# THANK YOU SPONSORS



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# MESSAGE FROM THE GFOABC PRESIDENT

## Welcome everyone!

On behalf of the Government Finance Officers Association of BC Board of Directors, I am very pleased to welcome our members, honoured guests, sponsors, exhibitors and presenters to our Annual Conference at the Fairmont Empress from June 14th to June 16th, 2017.

We look forward to another successful conference in 2017. With your feedback and some great ideas from the staff at GFOABC, we have changed some features in our conference. We have implemented a Regional District day, as a pre-conference session, to ensure the needs of the Regional Districts can be met without compromising their ability to attend other sessions at the conference. We have engaging speakers and sessions that touch on many topics important to finance professionals in BC. There is also a closing session that is not to be missed with Paul Huschilt who will take us through a comedic recap of the whole conference.

It takes a tremendous amount of effort to put together a successful conference. Many thanks goes out to the local volunteers and the sub-conference committee which was put together from the Board. They have assisted the GFOABC staff in putting together the entire program and the quality of the conference wouldn't have been possible without them.

The strength of respected associations such as the GFOABC depends on the participation of our members. I encourage you to continue building your knowledge and expertise at events such as these. Please take the time to introduce yourself to new colleagues at the conference. The relationships developed through these networking opportunities will provide needed support as we work through these challenging times and establish the next generation of government finance officers.

We are excited about this year's conference and extend our thanks to you for taking the time to attend. We look forward to seeing you in Victoria!

*Tanya Garost, President*  
Government Finance Officers Association of BC



# GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

**REGISTRATION** will be located on the second floor of the Victoria Conference Centre in the foyer outside of Carson Hall.

## Hours of operation

- ▶ *Tuesday, June 13* 3:00pm–5:30pm  
6:00pm–9:00pm (will reopen at Bartholomew's Pub during the welcome reception)
- ▶ *Wednesday, June 14* 7:30am–3:30pm
- ▶ *Thursday, June 15* 7:30am–3:30pm
- ▶ *Friday, June 16* 7:30am–10:30am

**NAME TAGS** are available at the registration desk and must be worn at all times to gain admission to sessions and meal breaks. The name tags provided this year are bio-degradable, however we request they be returned at the end of the conference as they will be reused for future events.

GFOABC is thrilled to have purchased our **DELEGATE BAGS** from Common Thread for the second year in a row. Common Thread is a social enterprise that sources street banners and other fabric to convert into colourful and durable products. Common Thread's main social purpose is creating employment. They provide sewing training and production coaching for newcomers to Canada, people living with mental illness and others who have employment barriers and thrive in a flexible work environment. The secondary purpose is environmental, they reclaim street banner material that would otherwise go to the landfill.

**ALL CONFERENCE SESSIONS** will be held on the second floor of the Victoria Conference Centre with plenary sessions being held in Carson Hall Salon C. There is a floor plan of the venue on page 28 of this guide.

The **TRADE SHOW** is in Carson Hall Salon A/B, right next door to our plenary sessions. A list of the exhibitors can be found on page 8.

## Trade Show Hours of Operation

- ▶ *Wednesday, June 14th* 10:00am–4:30pm
- ▶ *Thursday, June 15th* 8:30am–3:30pm

**BREAKFAST** will be served in the Palm Court and Crystal Ballroom from 7:30am–8:30am each day.

## NUTRITIONAL BREAKS

Coffee/tea and refreshments will be served in the Trade Show area in Carson Hall Salon A/B.

**LUNCH** will be served buffet style outside the Trade Show from 12:00pm–1:00pm. Seating is available inside the Trade Show in Carson Hall Salon A/B.

## Delegates with Dietary Restrictions

If you have identified yourself as having a specific dietary requirement, it is your responsibility to identify yourself to the serving staff at the beginning of each meal. Depending on your specific requirements, an alternative meal may be arranged for you.

## Partners Meal Program

Tickets are available for purchase at the registration desk. Cheque or Credit Card will be accepted.

- ▶ *Includes Welcome Reception, Breakfasts, and Lunches: \$150 + GST*
- ▶ *Extra Gala Tickets: \$100 + GST*

Lots of **GREAT PRIZES** this year to be awarded on Thursday evening at the Gala.

### **Passport Draw**

Each year we have a passport for use in the Trade Show. Each exhibitor booth will mark your passport when you stop to view their display. When you collect 20 stamps on your passport, you may enter to win great prizes. A minimum \$5.00 donation goes to the Boot Camp travel scholarship fund, and there is no maximum number of passports per person.

### **Door Prizes**

Our conference sponsors and exhibitors have generously provided wonderful door prizes to be awarded at Thursday Night's Gala!!

### **Social Media Contest**

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook. Share or like a photo/video for a chance to win great prizes.

# SOCIAL EVENTS

## **JUNE 13, WELCOME RECEPTION**

GFOABC welcomes all guests to kick-off the 2017 Annual Conference at Bartholomew's Pub for a night of networking with friends old and new. Enjoy pub food and drink—English style!

- ▶ *Tuesday, June 13th 6:00pm–9:00pm*  
Bartholomew's Pub, 777 Douglas St, Victoria, BC  
*Less than a 5 minute walk from the Fairmont Empress.*

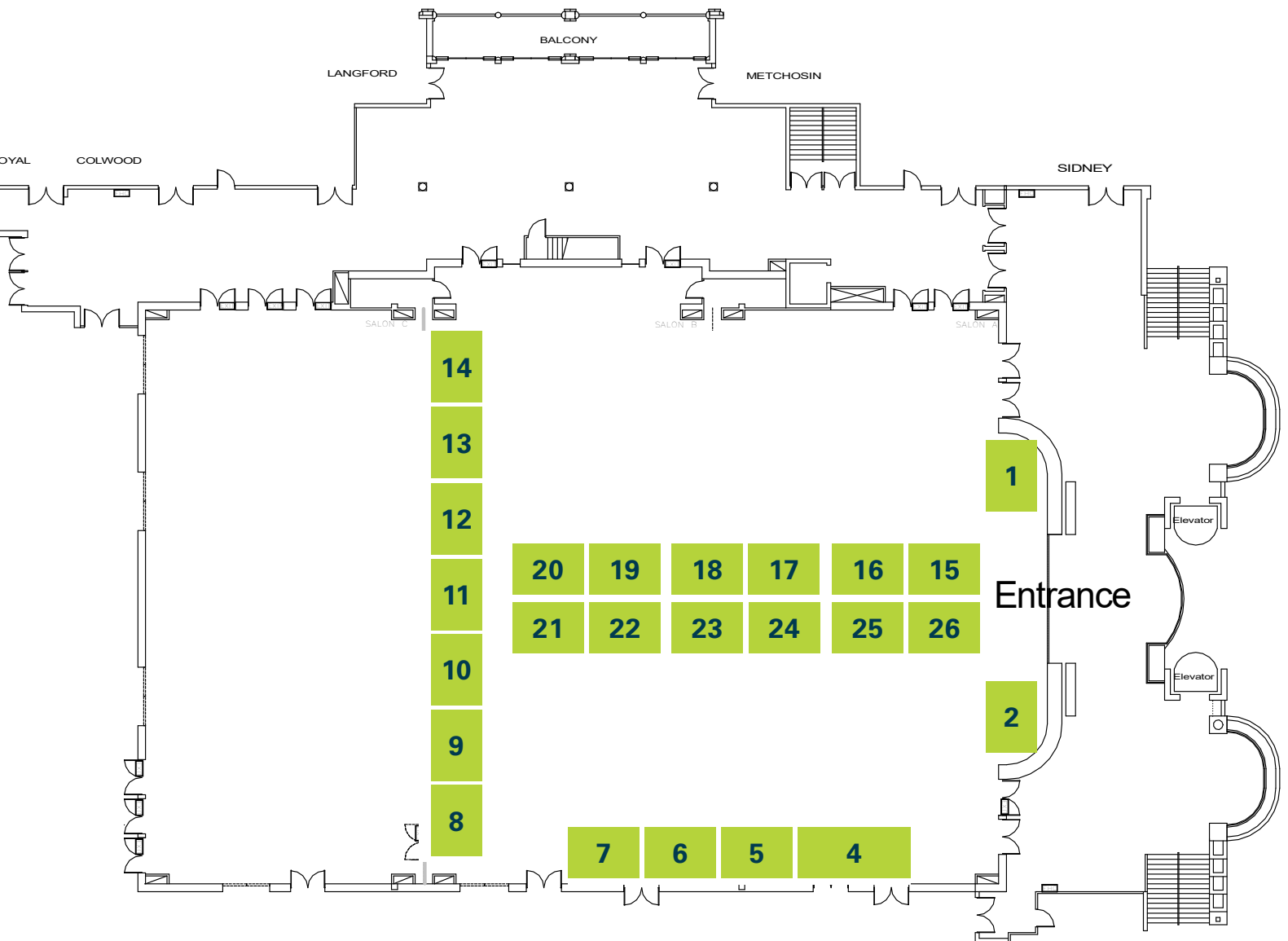
## **JUNE 15, GALA DINNER**

GFOABC delegates are invited to the Thursday night Gala Dinner held in the beautiful Crystal Ball Room at the elegant Fairmont Empress Hotel June 15th. Dinner and wine are provided and a cash bar will be available.

- ▶ Cocktails at 6:00pm in the Palm Court
- ▶ Dinner will be served at 7:00pm in the Crystal Ballroom
- ▶ Live musical performance by SuperSauce.  
*Get ready to rock with songs from the 80's to the present*

*Additional Gala Dinner tickets are available for sale for \$100+gst at the registration desk during the conference.*

# EXHIBITORS



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Municipal Insurance Association of BC      | 15. Unit4 Business Software                |
| 2. Canadian Western Bank                      | 16. Coast Capital Savings                  |
| 4. AssetFinda Systems                         | 17. ENCOMPASS Benefits & HR Solutions Inc. |
| 5. Jardine LloydThompson Canada Inc           | 18. Temple Consulting Group Ltd.           |
| 6. Cash Management Group   Raymond James Ltd. | 19. sociologica technology                 |
| 7. TownSuite Municipal Software               | 20. Capri Insurance                        |
| 8. Caseware                                   | 21. Sea to Sky Network Solutions           |
| 9. Scotiabank                                 | 22. Econics                                |
| 10. BC Assessment                             | 23. MuniWare                               |
| 11. CPABC                                     | 24. CivicInfo                              |
| 12. Municipal Finance Authority of BC         | 25. PSD                                    |
| 13. Freundlich Consulting                     | 26. Aptean, Inc.                           |
| 14. Union of BC Municipalities                |  |

# SPONSORS

## PLATINUM

- ▶ Municipal Finance Authority of BC

## GOLD

- ▶ Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development
- ▶ BDO
- ▶ BC Assessment Authority
- ▶ KPMG
- ▶ PWC
- ▶ Caseware

## SILVER

- ▶ Lidstone & Company
- ▶ Municipal Insurance Association of BC
- ▶ Capri Insurance Services
- ▶ AON Risk Solutions
- ▶ CPABC
- ▶ Urban Systems
- ▶ Valkyrie Law Group
- ▶ Young Anderson

## BRONZE

- ▶ MNP LLP
- ▶ Mercer (Canada) Ltd
- ▶ Corvée Consulting
- ▶ Hemson Consulting Ltd
- ▶ National Bank Financial
- ▶ Temple Consulting
- ▶ RBC Bank
- ▶ George & Bell Consulting
- ▶ CIBC Wood Gundy—Kits Investment
- ▶ Philips, Hager & North



# CONFERENCE SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

**7:30 Registration** *Carson Hall Foyer*

**7:30 Breakfast** *Palm Court & Crystal Ballroom*

**8:30 Welcome: Mayor Lisa Helps, City of Victoria** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

**8:45 Opening Remarks: Tanya Garost, GFOABC President** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

**9:00 Opening Keynote: Macroeconomic Outlook** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

In this opening keynote, **Richard Durrans** (Phillips, Hager & North Investment Management, RBC Global Asset Management Inc.) will speak to macroeconomic uncertainty, touching on such Trump-related topics as populism, fiscal stimulus and the risks of rising inflation, and what this means for BC, Canada and the global economies.

**9:45 Networking Break** *Carson Hall, Salon A/B*

**10:15 Building a Better Budget** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

In this session, presenter **John Fishbein** of the GFOA will provide an overview of the Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program (Budget Awards Program). Established in 1984 to encourage and assist state and local governments in preparing budget documents of the very highest quality reflecting guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOA's best practices on budgeting, the Budget Awards Program seeks to then recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal. Presenter **Myriah Foort** from the City of Campbell River will share the City's journey to receiving a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for their 2016-2025 Financial Plan.

**11:30 Annual General Meeting** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

**12:00 Lunch** *Carson Hall, Salon A/B*

**13:00 GFOABC 2017–2018 President's Introduction** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

**13:15 PSAB Update** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

Presenter **Umar Saeed** will provide an update on the key initiatives of the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB). This session will cover accounting standards soon to be required and new projects that will affect local governments such as the Pensions project, Asset Retirement Obligations and Public Private Partnerships.

**14:00 PSAB Roundtable Discussion** *Sidney*

PSAB staff, led by presenter **Umar Saeed**, are conducting a round table discussion to solicit the views of local governments in British Columbia. In particular, PSAB would like to hear your perspectives on: financial reporting issues and concerns affecting your organizations; considerations for how best to include local governments view in the standards development process; how financial statements are currently being used and how to improve their usefulness in the future.

#### **14:00 The Role of Local Governments in the Assessment Appeals Process** *Colwood*

Traditionally, local governments have taken a hands-off approach to assessment appeals brought by property owners, leaving it the BC Assessment Authority to represent local government interests. In a number of recent assessment appeals, the interests of local governments have been significantly impacted, both in respect of the ultimate decision in the specific appeal and in respect of assessment principles that will apply to assessment appeals into the future. Given the potential impact of assessment appeals on local governments, local governments must consider whether they will involve themselves in assessment appeals that affect them.

Presenters: **Sukhbir Manhas** (Young Anderson), and **Reece Harding** (Young Anderson).

#### **14:00 Communicating Financial Information: Dashboards, Infographics & Executive Summaries,** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

Supplying your council with a well-designed graphical communication will enable rapid analysis and decision making. Providing a weak, ill-conceived solution can be much worse than not providing one at all however. Building on last year's presentation, Best Practices for Communicating Financial Information, this session will outline what makes for a good dashboard, infographic, executive summary, and what can go wrong when data isn't communicated well. Presenter **Jamie Black** (F.H. Black and Company) will review the best practices and show how they are essential to avoiding damaging miscommunication and the resultant poor decisions.

#### **15:00 Networking Break** *Carson Hall, Salon A/B*

#### **15:30 Innovators' Corner** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

**My Dog Matters Rewards and Licensing Solution** My Dog Matters Rewards and Licensing App is a solution co-created between the Regional District of Central Okanagan and socilogica that combines technology and marketing. Created to make it easy and convenient for people to renew their dog licenses from a web browser or mobile phone, the app provides a positive communication channel to dog owners, rewards citizens and businesses participating in the dog licensing program and enables residents and tourists to easily find dog friendly facilities. The app has dramatically decreased operating costs, and with increased revenues that means a decrease in taxation. Presenters: **Deneen McArthur** (Regional District of the Central Okanagan), **Hod Pharis** (Socilogica), and **Brodie Desimone** (socilogica).

**Putting the Public in Public Budgeting** The annual budget process is one of the more critical deliberations that municipalities undergo, yet is largely devoid of meaningful public participation. Many struggle to find more effective ways to engage residents on spending decisions since public meetings are often poorly attended and residents are unaware of programs and service costs. Could budgeting be made into a more accessible, insightful and fun process for your residents? Learn about the use of online simulation for your regular budget and participatory budgeting consultations and hear how the City of Victoria is making use of the latest in budget engagement software. Presenters: **Joel Ornoy** (Open North) and **Jo-Ann O'Connor** (City of Victoria).

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

### 15:30 **Winning the War for Talent** *Sidney*

This session will provide some valuable insight into the current employment market and why organizations may struggle to fill key vacancies. It will highlight some easy to implement tips and tricks that can be used by any organization to enhance its employer brand, develop internal hiring capacity, and select the best candidate for vacancies. Presenter **Greg Longster** (Davies Park) will provide an overview of the best practices used by all of the leading executive search firms related to candidate screening, interviewing, assessment, and reference checking. By the end of this session, your organization will be better equipped to win the war for talent in a competitive employment market.

### 15:30 **Why We Should Be Accounting for Natural Resources** *Colwood*

The world continues to diminish its resources yet in government accounting we currently ignore natural assets completely. This needs to change. This session will explain why this is important and how accounting for these assets could be implemented on a practical basis. Presenters: **Bill Cox** (BDO) and **Emanuel Machado** (Town of Gibsons).

## THURSDAY, JUNE 15

### 7:30 **Breakfast** *Palm Court & Crystal Ballroom*

### 8:30 **Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development Update** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

### 8:45 **Opening Keynote: Skills Gap** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

It comes as no surprise that organizations are seeing many changes in the workforce. The retirement of older employees, the changing needs of the workforce, having to look into other markets/countries for critical skills and the impact technology is having to name a few. This is presenting a complex challenge and one many organizations are still grappling with in determining the real impact, the priority and how best to address. This presentation will consider what is happening in the market and within organizations to address these issues. We will look at the role higher education has to play in helping bridge the skills gap and what you can do as part of your workforce planning. Presenter: **Julie Kothlow** (KPMG).

### 9:45 **Networking Break** *Carson Hall, Salon A/B*

### 10:15 **Managing the Inherent Risks of Limited Human Resources within Small Local Governments** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

This interactive session will include a brief overview of the mandate and work completed to date by the office of the Auditor General for Local Government followed by a presentation on a summary of the findings from the recently completed audits on the topic; 'Managing the Inherent Risks of Limited Human Resources within Small Local Governments'. Presenters: **Gordon Ruth** (Auditor General for Local Government) and **Marian Chen** (Auditor General for Local Government).

The District of Tofino was selected by the AGLG office for a performance audit in 'Managing the Inherent Risks of Limited Human Resources within Small Local Governments'. Presenter **Nyla Attiana** (District of Tofino) will provide an overview of the District of Tofino's audit experience. She will highlight the opportunities and challenges of undergoing a performance audit, and more specifically, the impact of being audited in the area of human resources as a small municipality.

**11:15 Go Directly to Jail. Do Not Pass Go** *Colwood*

Personal liabilities for finance officers, CAOs and elected officials from the use of public funds. This session will highlight legislative requirements, risks, and protections. Increase awareness of personal liabilities in managing funds, the scope and limitations of indemnities and insurance, and consequences. Presenters: **Sandra Carter** (Valkyrie Law) and **Adrienne Atherton** (Valkyrie Law).

**11:15 Asset Management: Assessing your Assets** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

Presenter **Isabel Gordon**, Director of Financial Services, West Vancouver, will discuss the District's development and documentation of its first-ever twenty-year plan of capital expenditures ('capex'). Hear from the project team (including **Matthew Hartney** the project lead at Corvée, on how the improved General Fund asset data assisted in the creation of an asset levy and how this project is an important step in creating a meaningful long-term financial plan for asset management. You will come away with a new understanding of how assessing and documenting tangible capital asset data supports long-term asset management, which is a key requirement of fiscal sustainability. You will have a current BC local government example to reference. You will understand how improved capital asset and infrastructure data is now being used to inform and support discussion with Council and the public as part of ongoing financial and asset management.

**11:15 Improving Effectiveness, Efficiency and Sustainability** *Sidney*

This session will be a case study of the operational and service review undertaken by District of Tumbler Ridge to identify strategic and operational short term and long term opportunities to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the District. The session will highlight the Finance function's responsibilities in undertaking a service review, key themes that can emerge related to operations, financial performance and sustainability, and potential courses of action. Key outcomes of this session will include understanding how small to medium sized local governments can improve effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of local governments by identifying funding gaps; cost reductions; new non-taxation revenue sources; and enhancements to your local government's long-term financial sustainability. Presenters: **Oscar Poloni** (KPMG), **Chris Calder** (KPMG), and **Laura Sanders** (City of Tumbler Ridge).

**12:00 Lunch** *Carson Hall, Salon A/B*

**13:00 Budget Officers' Forum** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

The Budget Officers' Forum will serve as a follow-on from the Day 1 session, **Building a Better Budget**. Three municipalities share their GFOA US & Canada Distinguished Budget Presentation Award experience from how it fundamentally changed their budgeting approach and philosophy to how it is being leveraged to ensure meaningful and effective citizen engagement. Presenters: **Myriah Foort** (City of Campbell River), **George King** (City of Kelowna), and **Jo-Ann O'Connor** (City of Victoria).

**An update from the RCMP budget staff on their current budget highlights.** Presenters: **Autumn Longley** (RCMP) and **Max Xiao** (RCMP).

**13:00 Collectors' Forum** *Sidney*

**What are the steps in BC's property assessment appeal system?** What are the rights and options for taxing jurisdictions to participate in appeals? Are there alternatives to participating and what is BC Assessment's role in appeals? Presenters: **Lyle Dunn** (BC Assessment, Assessment Appeals), **Simmi Sandhu** (Property Assessment Appeal Board), and **Brian Currie** (Property Assessment Services, Ministry of Community Sport and Cultural Development).

Ministry of Finance, Property Taxation Branch, Property Tax Deferment & Home Owner Grant staff members **Kally Khaira**, **Steve Harrison**, and **Samantha Taylor** will present on **current year changes to the Home Owner Grant and Property Tax Deferment process**.

Ministry of Finance, Property Taxation Branch, Real Property Taxation staff members **Ed Sykora** and **Bill Schley** will present a **Municipal School and Police Tax update and filing monthly returns through eTaxBC**. Co-Facilitators: **Garry Jackson** (City of Coquitlam (Retired)) and **Anne Tetley** (District of Saanich).

**13:00 Investment Forum Q&A** *Colwood*

**Peter Urbanc** (Municipal Finance Authority of BC) will discuss Socially Responsible Investing and what the MFA is looking into regarding a possible new investment fund, pros and cons, etc. He will also talk about MFA's potential High Interest Savings Account offering. **Bob Thompson** (Raymond James), will discuss municipal investment policies. **Karen Kerr** (Phillips, Hager & North Investment Management, RBC Global Asset Management Inc.) will talk about municipal investment options. Co-Facilitators: **Trevor Thompson** (City of Maple Ridge) and **Shelley Hahn** (Municipal Finance Authority of BC).

**15:00 Networking Break** *Carson Hall, Salon A/B***15:30 Digital Citizen: Customer experience, Shared Services, and Digital ROI** *Colwood*

**Laurie Desautels** (PwC) presents a discussion on customer experience, shared services, and digital ROI in government. Customer-centricity in the public sector is challenged by numerous factors, not the least being a funding model that doesn't enable the design of a cohesive customer experience and an operating model that encourages silos versus functional process execution. We will spend 60 minutes talking about what customer experience is, how it can be applied in the public sector and how the ROI story might be told.

**15:30 Assessment LinkBC** *Sidney*

Assessment LinkBC, BC Assessment's web-based application, provides Local Governments with 24/7/365 access to data from 2005 and onwards for the assessment roll, residential inventory, non-market change, and a variety of roll comparison reports. The application is meant to assist Local Governments with financial planning and property tax rate setting. Whether you are a new Assessment LinkBC user, or an experienced user looking for some tips and tricks to help get the most out of your Assessment LinkBC experience, this session will have something for all. Presenters **Michael Spatharakis** (BC Assessment) and **Peter Sandhu** (BC Assessment) will provide participants with an overview of the application, including the available resource materials, and a demonstration on how to run some of the most utilized and helpful reports.

**15:30 Cyber and Network Liability** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

Municipalities and Regional Districts collect a tremendous amount of employee and constituent personal identifiable information, hold confidential and sensitive intellectual property of their business partners, conduct commerce online and are generally responsible for ensuring that buildings and individuals within their constituency are not subject to hacking and/or extortion incidents that can cause damage and personal injury. Join presenter **Brian Rosenbaum** (Aon) for a comprehensive look at the cyber exposures local governments face and the insurance solutions available for them to transfer those risks.

////////// **Gala Dinner** *Palm Court & Crystal Ballroom* //////////

**7:30 Breakfast** *Carson Hall, Salon A***8:30 Speed Updates** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

Presenters: **Alan Thomas** (BC Transit), **Peter Urbanc** (Municipal Finance Authority of BC), **Michael Spatharakis** (BC Assessment), **Glen Brown** (Union of BC Municipalities), **Diana Lokken** (Municipal Pension Plan), **Todd Pugh** (CivicInfo), **Brittany Johnson** (Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development).

**10:00 Networking Break** *Carson Hall Foyer***10:30 Closing Keynote: Paul Huschilt** *Carson Hall, Salon C*

Don't leave yet! Paul believes strongly that laughter helps people remember. His mission is to send you home thinking about everything that happened at the conference, and laughing. A lot.

**12:00 Closing Remarks** *Carson Hall, Salon C***12:15 Conference Ends**

# SPEAKER BIOS

**ADRIENNE ATHERTON** of Valkyrie Law Group is a seasoned municipal litigator with over 22 years of experience, and has represented local governments in litigation involving many areas, including insurance, indemnities, liabilities, procurement, and contract disputes.

**NYLA ATTIANA** has been the Director of Financial Services for the District of Tofino since 2010. She moved to Tofino, BC in 2007 to work as the Financial Controller for Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation. Working for her own community has been extremely rewarding for Nyla as she is passionate about, and is committed to finding innovative ways to encourage her community to get involved. In 2015, Nyla worked with SPARC BC to set up a process for participatory budgeting and due to the success of the process, the District received a UBCM Community Excellence Award for Best Practices. Nyla is a member of the External Relations Committee for the GFOA of BC.

**JAMIE BLACK** is a Partner & Director of IT Services for F.H. Black & Company. He provides consulting and training services to municipal governments and government business enterprises throughout Canada and the U.S. With more than 15 years experience implementing CaseWare, Jamie has encountered nearly every scenario possible. From implementing working papers to automating quarterly procurement reports to automating annual financial statements for territorial to county level governments, he is certain to have encountered concerns similar to yours.

**GLEN BROWN** is the General Manager, Victoria Operations, for the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM). His responsibilities include overseeing the development and administration of the Gas Tax Fund, as well as several other funding programs delivered by UBCM. Prior to working with UBCM, Glen worked for the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, focused on local government infrastructure and finance. Glen has been involved with the development of both financial and infrastructure best practices for local government, including the creation of Asset Management BC and the development

of the publication 'Asset Management for Sustainable Service Delivery: A BC Framework'.

A Senior Manager in the Audit practice of KPMG in Prince George, **CHRIS CALDER** has been assisting local government and public sector clients for more than 8 years to fulfill their accounting and reporting requirements. He is actively involved in the Prince George community serving as a board member for the Rotary Club of Prince George and is a coach for the UNBC JDC West Tax Team.

**SANDRA CARTER** of Valkyrie Law Group has spent 23 years practicing exclusively in municipal law. While all aspects of the law are interesting, she particularly enjoys the tough questions. Sandra has advised many local governments on liability exposure, mitigation, forward planning to reduce risk, and preparedness for the unforeseen.

**MARINA CHEN** started her audit profession in 2008, as a business advisor at the Internal Audit & Advisory Services office for the Provincial Government of B.C. In 2013, she joined the newly established AGLG team as a senior auditor. Marina holds a Bachelor of Commerce and a Master of Business Administration.

**BILL COX** has over 30 years of experience in serving public sector and not-for-profit clients of all sizes. His clients include local governments, First Nations, crown corporations and agencies, universities, community colleges, registered charities, professional associations, service and social organizations and schools. He is BDO's Western Canada lead for public sector service and Chair of the BDO Public Sector/Not-for-Profit group. Since 2014, he has also been a member of the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada. His specialties include auditing and assurance, internal control review and consulting services, and private-public partnership consulting.

For over a dozen years, **EMANUEL MACHADO** has worked with communities throughout Canada,

promoting a greater use of renewable energy, net-zero buildings, water strategies, social plans and sustainability frameworks, all with a focus on people. Emanuel has been developing a program for his employer the Town of Gibsons, called Eco-Assets, which recognizes the role of nature as a fundamental component of the municipal infrastructure system, leading to a greater understanding of the value of ecosystems services and improved financial and operational management plans of the community's natural assets.

**LAURIE DESAUTELS**, PMP, is Senior Director Digital at Strategy & (part of the PwC network). She advises clients across Canada in the use of emerging technologies and how to become a digital business. Three words to describe Laurie? Early adopter. Paperless.

**BRODIE DESIMONE** of sociologica technologies brings 25 years in the technology space and recently spent the last 13 years at Microsoft as the Chief Technology Strategist leading the largest corporate accounts in the USA and Canada. His past experience ranges in industries from Retail, Mining, Forestry, Telecommunications and Healthcare. Brodie's focus is on global enterprise accounts, strategy, execution and building a high-performing sales teams driving revenue growth.

**LYLE DUNN** joined BC Assessment in 1998 and has since held a variety of appraisal, supervisory and management positions with the organization. He has extensive valuation experience covering a wide range of property types from single family residences to large office complexes. In addition to his valuation experience, he has a significant background with assessment appeals at both the Property Assessment Review Panel and the Property Assessment Appeal Board, acting as an expert witness, case manager and advocate. Lyle is an Accredited Appraiser with the Appraisal Institute of Canada (AACI) and worked as a fee appraiser prior to joining BC Assessment.

**RICHARD DURRANS** is a senior fixed income portfolio manager with Phillips, Hager & North Investment Management (PH&N). He has expertise in managing

a range of portfolio structures including universe and long bond portfolios, and portfolios for insurance accounts. His clients include pension plans, foundations, insurance companies and corporate accounts. Richard has written research reports about various fixed income themes and is a member of PH&N's Canadian Institutional Management Committee (CIMC). Before joining PH&N in 1990, he worked for six years as an economist, in international finance and in fixed income portfolio management in London, England. Richard holds an MA in Economics from Simon Fraser University and a BA from Oxford University. He became a CFA charterholder in 1994.

**JOHN FISHBEIN** is a senior program manager in the Technical Services Center of the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Fishbein came to GFOA in 2002. He is responsible for the day-to-day operation of GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program and is the author of GFOA's recent publication 'Building a Better Budget Document'. He previously authored 'Preparing High Quality Budget Documents for School Districts' and 'Preparing High Quality Budget Documents'. John serves as staff liaison to GFOA's standing Committee on Governmental Budgeting and Fiscal Policy. He has spoken at many national and internet training seminars and conferences on budgeting.

**MYRIAH FOORT** is the Finance Manager for the City of Campbell River. In 2016, Myriah and her team received the Distinguished Budget Award from the GFOA of the United States and Canada for the financial plan built on the City's Financial Stability & Resiliency Program. Myriah received the Future 15 award from the local Chamber of Commerce in 2016 among a group of accomplished young professionals, and is a finalist in the Top 20 Under 40 Business and Community Achievement Awards for Vancouver Island in 2017. She strives to achieve best practice principles and to develop depth and strength in her team. Myriah believes in a positive future for her community and was the founding president of the Young Professionals of Campbell River (YPCR).

## SPEAKER BIOS (continued)

**SHELLEY HAHN** is the Director of Business Services for the Municipal Finance Authority of BC (MFA) and has been with the MFA since 1997. She currently manages the MFA's Commercial Paper Program issuing over \$5 billion annually and manages the Authority's short term investment portfolio. Shelley is a member of the MFA's Credit Rating and Investor Relations committees. She oversees all requests and approvals for financing and works closely with the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development on bylaw, borrowing and legislative issues. Shelley is a Director on the Board of the Government Finance Officers Association of British Columbia is a member of the Education Committee and in 2008 was the recipient of the GFOA Innovation Award for her work in developing the GFOABC's Finance Officers Development Program.

**REECE HARDING**, a partner in Young Anderson, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Simon Fraser University and graduated from the UBC Faculty of Law in 1992. He articulated with the Attorney-General of British Columbia. His practice is primarily focused on local government law litigation, but includes significant components of aboriginal law, assessment and taxation law, natural hazard risk avoidance, mediation and police law. Reece is a member of the Municipal Law subsection of the BC Branch of the Canadian Bar Association and instructs, as a guest lecturer, at the Municipal Administration Training Institute. In the past he has served on the Ministry of Environment ad hoc committee on local government liability issues arising from the contaminated sites legislation and on the advisory committee to the Attorney General providing guidance on amendments to the British Columbia Limitation Act.

**STEVE HARRISON**, Supervisor of Home Owner Grant Administration with the Ministry of Finance; was previously with Asset Compliance (boats & aircrafts), and prior to that was an investigator with the Public Guardian & Trustee. Excited to be the team lead with HOGA and looking forward to working with BC municipalities. Steve has a number of years of experience with Gentax and is working with his team through the transition and is quickly getting up to speed on

the business and operations side. Steve supervises a team of eight auditors and an operations analyst.

**MATTHEW V. HARTNEY** is a CPA, CMA and holds a Masters in Business Administration. As the Director of Advisory services with Corvée Professional Accounting Corp., Matthew serves his clients to help them improve their financial management and operations. An expert in corporate finance and accounting, he began focusing on Government and Public Sector at Ernst & Young in Ottawa, under the tutelage of the former Comptroller General of Canada, Mr. Charles-Antoine St-Jean. Matthew has served various public sector clients across Canada as an external advisor and has also worked in municipalities as a Director. He is adept at explaining financial analysis and areas for improvement in a way that is easy to understand and implement, and is dedicated to bettering Canadian communities through helping his clients succeed.

**GARRY JACKSON** has recently become a Municipal Finance and Taxation consultant after retiring from 30 year career in municipal finance with the City of Coquitlam. He is a CPA, a founding member of GFOABC and former chairperson of the Lower Mainland Collector's Forum. Garry believes municipal finance must be approached with determination, passion, flexibility and a sense of humor.

**BRITTANY JOHNSON** is a Financial Analyst in the Local Government Finance Unit, and has been with the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development for 10 years. She manages the Ministry's Local Government statistical section, including all local government financial reporting, making her an expert on reporting requirements and property taxation.

**KAREN KERR** is a Vice President and Institutional Portfolio Manager at Phillips, Hager, and North Investment Management, responsible for fixed income specialty portfolios including universe, long bond, corporate credit and liability-driven investment mandates. She joined PH&N IM in 2005 as an associate analyst in Canadian equities. Previously, Karen had been a research

analyst of Canadian, U.S. and international equities at a top performing asset management firm based in eastern Canada. Karen became a CFA charterholder in 2002. Karen Kerr's credentials include: CFA (2002); BComm (Hons) (1999), BA (Hons) (1999), Saint Mary's University.

**KALLY KHAIRA**, Manager Home Owner Grant Administration and Property Tax Deferment; joined the Ministry of Finance, Property Taxation Branch in October 2016. Prior to Finance, Kally was with the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations as the Manager of Training, Staff Development and Finance for seven years.

**GEORGE KING** has over 11 year's experience in local government working for the City of Kelowna. For the first 7 years, his main focus as the Revenue Manager was property tax, utility billing, and collections. In his most recent position as the Financial Planning Manager, George is responsible for utility rate modeling, budgeting, financial planning, investment portfolio management, reserve & debt management, and tangible capital asset accounting.

**JULIE KOTHLOW** is a Director in the Vancouver office KPMG in the Strategy & Operations practice with a focus on People and Change. With over 20 years' experience working in industry, through independent consulting and working with the big 4 firms, Julie has developed a deep understanding of business and how to bring the best thinking, methods and tools to affect positive change. Julie's career started out in the technology industry where quick thinking and agility are key. Julie has worked in both public and private sector in a wide variety of industries including technology, real estate development, tourism & resort management, higher education, finance, utilities and health industries. She has strong capabilities in strategic planning, business transformation, change management, customer relationship management and business process improvement. She has a track record of helping businesses achieve tangible business results and has worked with UBC, PHSA, Alberta Health Services, BC Hydro, Intrawest, Vancity and the City

of Vancouver to name a few. She is a certified change management professional and a certified trainer for Influencer and Crucial Conversations and serves on several non-profit Boards.

**DIANA LOKKEN** is currently leading special projects for the Capital Regional District. Her past areas of responsibility have included: chief financial officer, risk management, climate action, information technology, real estate & facilities, and arts development. A Professional Accountant, Diana has an associate of arts diploma in business administration and a senior certificate in municipal administration. She is a Trustee on the BC Municipal Pension Plan, has been the president of GFOA of BC and Western Canada GFOA, and served on numerous other boards and associations including: CMA BC board and the GFOA Committee on Canadian Issues. Diana has completed the advanced trustee management standards program (International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans).

**AUTUMN LONGLEY** is the Senior Financial Manager, Contract Policing for RCMP E Division. Autumn has been with the federal government for almost 12 years and worked at the Department of Finance in Ottawa before joining the RCMP in 2014.

**GREG LONGSTER**, Partner in the Davies Park Vancouver office, holds an MBA from Royal Roads University and a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Saskatchewan. In 2007, Greg opened the Vancouver office and began managing the BC operations for Davies Park Executive Search. With over 18 years of experience in senior and executive management positions, Greg leads many of the major searches in the Province and works with several of BC's top employers. Greg is on the Board of the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association, is a member of CPHR BC and an active member of Entrepreneurs Organization—Vancouver Chapter.

**SUKHBIR MANHAS**'s law practice at the firm involves advising the firm's clients on general local government law issues as well as representing them in

## SPEAKER BIOS (continued)

civil and quasi-criminal proceedings before arbitrators, administrative tribunals, and the courts of this province and the nation. Sukhbir is currently a member of the Municipal Law and Civil Litigation subsections of the BC Branch of the Canadian Bar Association and frequently speaks, as a guest lecturer, at seminars and courses on local government law and civil litigation issues put on by the Continuing Legal Education Society, the Local Government Management Association, and the Justice Institute of British Columbia. Sukhbir is an Adjunct Professor at the UBC Faculty of Law, teaching municipal law.

**DENEEN MCARTHUR** is the Corporate Services and Legislative Assistant for the Regional District of Central Okanagan. She has a working background in civil litigation and human resources and continues to advocate for adults with developmental disabilities. As part of her responsibilities in Corporate Services, she is tasked with marketing the benefits of dog licensing and minimizing the barriers to licensing dogs within the boundaries of the Central Okanagan. She has recently graduated with a Certificate in Local Government Administration.

**COREY NAPHTALI** leads the Audit practice in the Prince George office of KPMG. He has 13 years of auditing and accounting experience serving local governments, not-for-profit organizations and other public sector organizations, as well as owner-managed companies. Corey is actively involved in the Prince George community serving as President of the Prince George Chamber of Commerce and a Past President of the Kiwanis Club of Prince George. He is also involved at a provincial level as a Director and Chair of the Audit Committee with the British Columbia Automobile Association.

**JO-ANN O'CONNOR** is the Manager of Financial Planning at the City of Victoria and has been a key player in revamping Victoria's budget process to provide more meaningful information to the community. Jo-Ann has over 15 years of diverse local government experience including managing accounting and revenue departments. Jo-Ann is excited to

share her knowledge and experiences of continually improving the financial planning process at the City of Victoria. Jo-Ann currently sits on the GFOABC Education Committee and is one of several instructors of GFOABC's Finance Officer Development Program, Boot Camp: Basic Training.

**JOEL ORNOY** is the Business Manager for Open North—a Canadian non-profit that specializes in transparency, open government and civic engagement, working with over 75 Canadian municipalities. Joel has extensive experience working with Canadian municipalities to improve their budget consultation using the latest in digital technologies. He has previously worked on many innovative outreach, capacity building and advocacy programs for non-profit organizations in Canada, Latin America and Asia.

**HOD PHARIS** founded socilogica technology after 24 years of creating innovative products and services for Retailers in North America. Previously, Hod co-founded three technology companies; DealerVu, Yummy Interactive and Cybernet Technologies which focused on pioneering solutions for thin client computing, on demand software distribution and retail management industries. This experience includes working closely with retailers, overseeing and managing system integrations, creating channels for streaming software and built retail POS / supply chain systems.

**TODD PUGH** began his local government career in 1994, as a professional weed-whacker with the Regional District of Fraser-Cheam's Parks Department. While few jobs are as exciting weed-whacking, Todd has moved on to other pursuits. Since 2001, he has been the Executive Director of CivicInfo BC, a not-for-profit local government information service based in Victoria. While at CivicInfo BC, Todd has played a key role in developing a number of innovative and heavily used services, including the country's largest local government job board, a province-wide municipal election results reporting system (the first in Canada), and a local government survey service that's growing and evolving into an inter-municipal data resource.

Since 2007, Todd has also been an instructor with Capilano University, teaching in the Local Government Administration program.

**BRIAN ROSENBAUM** joined Aon Reed Stenhouse in November 2006, and is a Senior Vice President and the National Director of Aon's unique Legal and Research Practice (LARP) that works in conjunction with the Financial Services Group. His department provides risk transfer counsel and solutions to many of Canada's most prominent corporate executives and boards. Currently considered an authority on insurance matters dealing with management liability, Brian contributes regularly to prominent industry publications and is a much sought after speaker on these issues. Brian is also Aon Canada's National Cyber and Privacy Practice Leader and in that capacity he was the impetus behind the creation of the first "made in Canada" stand alone Privacy Liability Insurance policy and was regularly consulted during the creation process. Brian has been at the forefront of the privacy breach exposure issue within the Canadian insurance industry and continues to lecture and publish on this important topic.

**GORDON RUTH**, FCPA, FCGA was previously the Executive Vice President of Certification and Operations for the Chartered Professional Accountants of BC. Mr. Ruth was also the Chief Executive Officer for the Certified General Accountants of BC for almost five years. He has held several positions in the public sector, ranging from the federal government to BC Hydro. He spent 15 years with the Greater Vancouver Regional District (now Metro Vancouver) where he became the Chief Financial Officer and helped steward the financial affairs of this regional federation of municipalities.

**UMAR SAEED** is a principal for the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) at Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada). He holds his master's degree in financial accounting, articulated with Ernst & Young in Toronto and Bermuda, and spent most of his career in the private sector as an accountant for complex hedge funds. Umar left his role on the senior

management team of Citco Group, the world's largest hedge fund administrator, to jump into the public sector in 2011. Before joining CPA Canada in 2015, Umar worked as a senior advisor for the provincial government of Ontario. Umar is a published author. His works have appeared in the Financial Post and CPA Magazine, as well as literary magazines across Canada.

**LAURA SANDERS** started working in Local Government 30 years ago. During that time she served as Treasurer in Fraser Lake, Deputy Treasurer in Merritt, and CFO in Fort St. John until she retired in 2012. Laura came out of retirement and is now the CFO in Tumbler Ridge.

**PETER SANDHU** is a Product Analyst on the Property Information Team that is responsible for ensuring BC Assessment products and services meet the needs of their customers. The Property Information Team is also focused on the delivery of all assessment roll-related products and Data Advice. Peter's work also includes analyzing and compiling customer reporting requirements and developing property information products and services in support of educational institutions. Peter joined BC Assessment in 2015, shortly after completing his Bachelor's degree in Economics at the University of Victoria. He is currently completing his Advanced Certification in Business Analysis.

**SIMMI SANDHU** is trained as a lawyer, and was called to the BC Bar in 1990. Her areas of practice included administrative law, civil litigation, corporate/commercial law and real estate transactions. In addition, she has extensive experience in quasi-judicial proceedings, having acted as a chair of the Board of Referees for over six years. She was appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Property Assessment Appeal Board in 2001 and is now Chair and CEO of the Board.

**MICHAEL SPARTHARAKIS** is one of the two Managers in the Local Government and First Nations Customer department, who provide a dedicated voice with clear accountability to Local Government and First Nations customers. The department is also focused

## SPEAKER BIOS (continued)

on continually improving BC Assessment's products and services, communications and collaboration with Local Governments and First Nations. Michael has been employed in Real Property Appraisal and Assessment for over 12 years. He joined BC Assessment in 2009, and has held a number of positions throughout the province. Michael graduated from Vancouver Island University, completed a Post Graduate Certificate in Real Property Valuation from UBC's Sauder School of Business, and is a member of the Appraisal Institute of Canada, carrying an AACI, P. App. designation.

**ED SYKORA** is a CPA, CMA and a past president of GFOABC. He also served on the GFOA Western Canada Board and on the GFOA of the US and Canada Committee on Canadian Issues. He has over 20 years local government financial management experience in several municipalities including 14 as Director of Finance. Ed has also held senior financial management positions for the Saanich School District and the Royal BC Museum, in addition to consulting for various clients including municipalities and a golf resort. The province is the largest property tax collector in BC and as Director, Real Property Taxation, Ed leads the administration, audit and financing of 1,700 separate rural property taxation levies for \$856 million on behalf of more than 150 tax authorities in the rural areas of BC as well as oversight of \$2.4 billion school and police property taxation levies administered by 162 municipalities.

**SAMANTHA TAYLOR** is Supervisor of Property Tax Deferment and has been in the Property Taxation Branch for 20 years where she has held various roles. Sam has worked in the refunds, levy and rural property tax section. The last 10 years she has been in tax deferment and the last six of those as the team lead for property tax deferment and loves her job and the work. She has a team of five analyst and an operations analyst that process new applications as well as renewals.

**ANNE TETLEY** is a CPA-CGA and has worked in local government since 2008. She started with the Town of Sidney as their Senior Accountant after working in public practice for five years. Since 2011 Anne has been Manager of Revenue Services for the District of Saanich, where she is responsible for property tax, utility billing, business and dog licenses.

As Vice President, Finance and CFO at BC Transit, **ALAN THOMAS** is responsible for all financial management functions and oversight within the company including accounting, financial planning, financial operations and treasury, as well as enterprise-wide strategic planning. Prior to joining BC Transit in August 2015, Alan worked in both the private and public sectors including BC Emergency Health Services and Aspreva Pharmaceuticals in both Victoria and Zurich, Switzerland. He is a Certified Management Accountant, with a MBA from the University of Victoria and a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Western Ontario.

**BOB THOMPSON** leads Thompson Investment Partners of Raymond James Ltd. With over 20 years of experience, Bob advises clients on a broad range of financial and retirement planning strategies. As a Vice President and Portfolio Manager, Private Client Group, for Raymond James, located in Vancouver, he works with a select group of clients to whom he believes he can provide maximum benefit.

**TREVOR THOMPSON** is the Manager of Financial Planning for the City of Maple Ridge. Trevor joined the City of Maple Ridge in 1999 and has served the citizens of Maple Ridge in different capacities for the last 18 years. As Manager of Financial Planning he helps administer a budget of about \$150M/year, prepares bylaws: 5 year financial plan, property tax rates, loan authorizations, and the DCC Rates. Trevor also Chairs the Capital Planning Committee, and is on the Business Planning Committee, IT Steering Committee and the Asset Management Committee. Over the last few years he has spent an increasing amount of time assisting other City departments with initiatives or projects. And, likely similar to many who are responsible for investments, somehow has time left at the end of the day to manage Maple Ridge's investment portfolio with holdings averaging \$160 million. Trevor has been on the GFOABC Board for two years now.

**PETER URBANC** has almost 25 years of experience in global banking and the public sector having worked as a capital markets banker, treasurer and executive officer. From 1990 to 2009, as an investment banker with Merrill Lynch, Lehman Brothers and Barclays Capital in Canada, New York and London, Mr. Urbanc developed a specialty in serving and advising Financial Institutions as well as Sovereign, Supranational and Agency clients. In 2009, Peter joined the Province of Nova Scotia's Department of Finance and Treasury Board in Halifax as Executive Director and Treasurer. In addition to his duties as Executive Director, Mr. Urbanc served as a Director of the Nova Scotia Pension Services Corporation and Trustee of both the Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Plan and the Nova Scotia Public Service Long Term Disability Plan Trust. In January 2016, Mr. Urbanc took on the role of Chief Administrative Officer at the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia in Victoria, BC. Mr. Urbanc holds a Bachelor of Commerce Magna Cum Laude from McGill University and an MBA with Distinction from the J.L. Kellogg School of Management.

**MAX XIAO** is the Director of Finance for the RCMP in the Pacific Region (BC and Yukon). He joined the RCMP in 2001 and previously worked in Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Max graduated from Simon Fraser University in 1997 with an MBA and he obtained his Certified Management Accountant designation in 2003.

# DELEGATE LIST

**Debra Andrew** Town of Comox, GFOABC Member

**Paul Arslan** District of Saanich, GFOABC Member

**Jane Ashton** Aptean, Inc., Exhibitor

**Nyla Attiana** District of Tofino, GFOABC Member

**Jagdish Badhan** City of Quesnel, GFOABC Member

**Jerrick Barosso** CPABC, Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Anna Barron** Coast Capital Savings, Exhibitor

**Tammy Barry** Northern Rockies Regional Municipality,  
GFOABC Member

**Liette Bates-Eamer** KPMG, Sponsor

**Jeannie Beauchamp** District of Lantzville,  
GFOABC Member

**Greg Beaumont** Unit4 Business Software, Exhibitor

**Kelly Bennett** District of Sicamous, GFOABC Member

**Annie Berard** City of Courtenay, GFOABC Member

**Kathy Berg** Canadian Western Bank, Exhibitor

**Yoginder Bhalla** Village of Ashcroft, GFOABC Member

**Carolyn Bidwell** District of Ucluelet, GFOABC Member

**Craig Binning** Hemson Consulting, Sponsor

**Jamie Black** Caseware, Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Kris Boland** District of Mission, GFOABC Member

**Corinne Bomben** City of Prince Rupert, GFOABC Member

**Tracy Bowen** Cowichan Valley Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Nicky Braithwaite** Sun Peaks Mountain Resort  
Municipality, GFOABC Member

**Jason Bristow** Sea to Sky Network Solutions, Exhibitor

**Rosemary Bronswyk** Kassa North Okanagan Regional  
District, GFOABC Member

**Gerhard Brosch** BC Assessment, Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Darrin Bull** Mercer (Canada) Limited, Sponsor

**Beth Burget** Kootenay Boundary Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Lucky Butterworth** City of Parksville, GFOABC Member

**Chris Calder** KPMG, Sponsor

**Meghan Callaghan** Jardine Lloyd Thompson Canada Inc,  
Exhibitor

**Debbie Carter** District of Oak Bay, GFOABC Member

**Natasha Chen** BC Assessment, Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Kathy Chen** Town of Sidney, GFOABC Member

**Marina Chen** Auditor General for Local Government,  
Non Member

**Joanne Chow** District of Delta, GFOABC Member

**Dawn Christenson** Strathcona Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Kelly Clark** Strathcona Regional District, GFOABC Member

**Linda Clay** Mercer (Canada) Limited, Sponsor

**Karen Coates** District of Saanich, GFOABC Member

**Donna Coe** Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural  
Development, Sponsor

**Michael Cohen** Hamlet of Arviat, Non Member

**Jeff Coleman** Frank Cowan Company Limited, Non Member

**Donna Costin** District of Oak Bay, GFOABC Member

**Shannon Cottrell** Municipal Finance Authority of BC,  
Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Lorraine Coughlin** Town of Gibsons,  
GFOABC Board Member

**Dale Courtice** District of Hope, GFOABC Member

**Bill Cox** BDO Life Member / Sponsor

**Anthony Craig** Scotiabank, Exhibitor

**Joshua Craig** Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural  
Development, Sponsor

**Jim Csek** Rutland Waterworks District, Non Member

**Nicole Cutler** District of Tofino, GFOABC Member

**Bonnie Danyk** Village of Port Alice, GFOABC Member

**Rick Danyluk** District of North Vancouver,  
GFOABC Board Member

**Genelle Davidson** City of Kelowna, GFOABC Board Member

**Mahshid Dawson** City of Vancouver, GFOABC Member

**Kathleen Day** City of Powell River, GFOABC Member

**Margaret Dayton** Capital Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Andrea deBucy** City of Colwood, GFOABC Member

**Brodie Desimone** sociologica technology, Exhibitor

**William Dorr** Raymond James Ltd., Exhibitor

**Beth Dunlop** Comox Valley Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Chad Edwards** Jardine Lloyd Thompson Canada Inc,  
Exhibitor

**Steven Emery** Ministry of Finance Non Member

**Kevin Erickson** Cariboo Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Terri Eriksen** ENCOMPASS Benefits & HR Solutions Inc.,  
Exhibitor

**Vinicio Esquivel** Temple Consulting Group Ltd.,  
Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Janice Field** Frank Cowan Company Limited, Non Member

**Garry Filafilo** City of Kelowna, GFOABC Member

**Teri Fong** Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Myriah Foort** City of Campbell River, GFOABC Member

**Leslie Ford** Town of Smithers, GFOABC Member

**Colin Forsyth** District of Logan Lake, GFOABC Member

**Carla Fox** City of Fernie, GFOABC Member

**Deborah Francis** BC Assessment, Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Kevin Franson** District of Chetwynd, GFOABC Member

**Kim Frech** Peace River Regional District, GFOABC Member

**Clive Freundlich** Freundlich Consulting, Exhibitor

**Paul Fripp** BDO, Sponsor

**Leslie Garber** City of North Vancouver, GFOABC Member

**Tanya Garost** District of Lake Country, GFOABC President

**Paula Garrecht** Capri Insurance, Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Nikola Gasic** Municipal Finance Authority of BC,  
Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Nicole Gervais** Coast Capital Savings, Exhibitor

**Linda Goglin** District of Hope, GFOABC Member

**Neil Goodwin** AON, Sponsor

**Sean Grant** Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural  
Development, Sponsor

**Clarence Gray** Unit4 Business Software, Exhibitor

**Linda Greenan** Powell River Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Mike Greschner** George & Bell Consulting, Sponsor

**Mike Gustavson** Sea to Sky Network Solutions, Exhibitor

**Shelley Hahn** Municipal Finance Authority of BC, Sponsor,  
GFOABC Board Member

**Renata Hale** Municipal Finance Authority of BC,  
Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Bruce Hampson** Freundlich Consulting, Exhibitor

**Cheryl Harding** City of Pitt Meadows, GFOABC Member

**Matthew Hartney** Corvée Consulting, Sponsor

**Barbara Hawes** District of Saanich, GFOABC Member

**Raj Hayre** District of West Vancouver, GFOABC Member

**Maureen Hayter** Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Daniel Healey** KPMG, Sponsor

**Justin Heitrich** AssetFinda Systems, Exhibitor

**Denise Henderson** Capri Insurance, Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Jim Hendricks** City of Kimberley, GFOABC Member

**Jennifer Hepting** City of Colwood, GFOABC Member

**Andrew Hicik** Town of Sidney, GFOABC Member

**Patricia Higgins** District of Coldstream, GFOABC Member

**Asifa Hirji** KPMG, Sponsor

**Diane Hiscock** City of Nanaimo, GFOABC Member

**Sarah Hobbs** TownSuite Municipal Software, Exhibitor

**Andrew Hoge** Municipal Finance Authority of BC,  
Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Dan Huang** Urban Systems, Sponsor

**Steve Hurcombe** Victoria Police Department,  
GFOABC Member

**Wendy Idema** Nanaimo Regional District, GFOABC Member

**Brigitte Ilk** CPABC, Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Elio Iorio** District of North Vancouver, GFOABC Member

**Ian Irvine** Township of Esquimalt, GFOABC Member

**Lynn James** City of New Westminster, GFOABC Member

**C.J. James** KPMG, Sponsor

**Renee Johansson** CivicInfo, Exhibitor

**Brittany Johnson** Ministry of Community, Sport and  
Cultural Development, Sponsor

**Shannon Johnston** City of White Rock, GFOABC Member

**Archie Johnston** KPMG, Life Member / Sponsor

**Jean-Pierre Joly** Econics, Exhibitor

**Tracey Jones** Village of Harrison Hot Springs,  
GFOABC Member

**Eva Juca** City of Burnaby, GFOABC Member

**Chris Jury** City of Nelson, GFOABC Member

**Sharleen Karamanian** City of Port Coquitlam,  
GFOABC Member

**Nicolette Keith** Village of Keremeos, GFOABC Member

**Genevieve Kelln** Capri Insurance, Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Lauren Kerr** Municipal Finance Authority of BC,  
Exhibitor / Sponsor

**Kally Khaira** Ministry of Finance, Non Member

**George King** City of Kelowna, GFOABC Member

**Lynn King** District of Delta, GFOABC Member

**Gary Kits** CIBC Wood Gundy-Kits Investment Group,  
Sponsor

**Linda Klassen** District of Squamish, GFOABC Member

## DELEGATE LIST (continued)

**Steffan Klassen** Town of Creston, GFOABC Member

**Tony Klopp** Fairtax, Non Member

**Yvonne Koerner** Kitimat-Stikine Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Vivien Koo** District of Delta, GFOABC Member

**Chelsea Kraft** Columbia Shuswap Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Audrey Kryklywyj-Shortreid** City of Langford,  
GFOABC Member

**Sandra Kurylo** City of White Rock, GFOABC Member

**Rianna Lachance** Capital Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Suzanne LaFrance** Squamish-Lillooet Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Lisa Landry** Lisa Landry, Non Member

**Debra Law** City of Vernon, GFOABC Member

**Pat Lee** Capital Regional District, GFOABC Member

**Anna Lee** District of West Vancouver, GFOABC Member

**Sarah Lee** Metro Vancouver Regional District,  
GFOABC Member

**Lenora Lee** KPMG, Sponsor / GFOABC Board Member

**Joni L'Heureux** District of Lillooet, GFOABC Member

**Don Lidstone** Lidstone & Company, Sponsor

**Maggie Lo** Raymond James Ltd., Exhibitor

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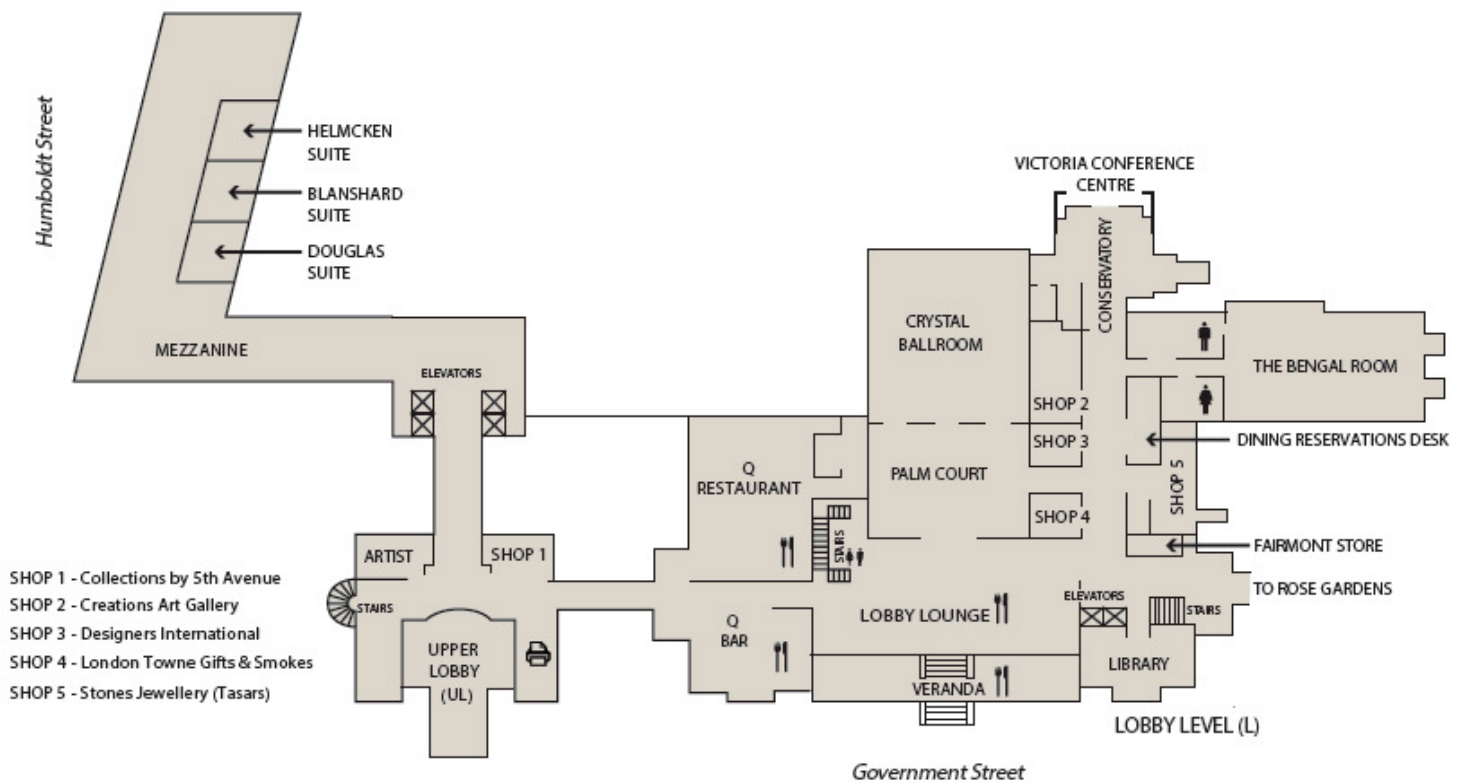
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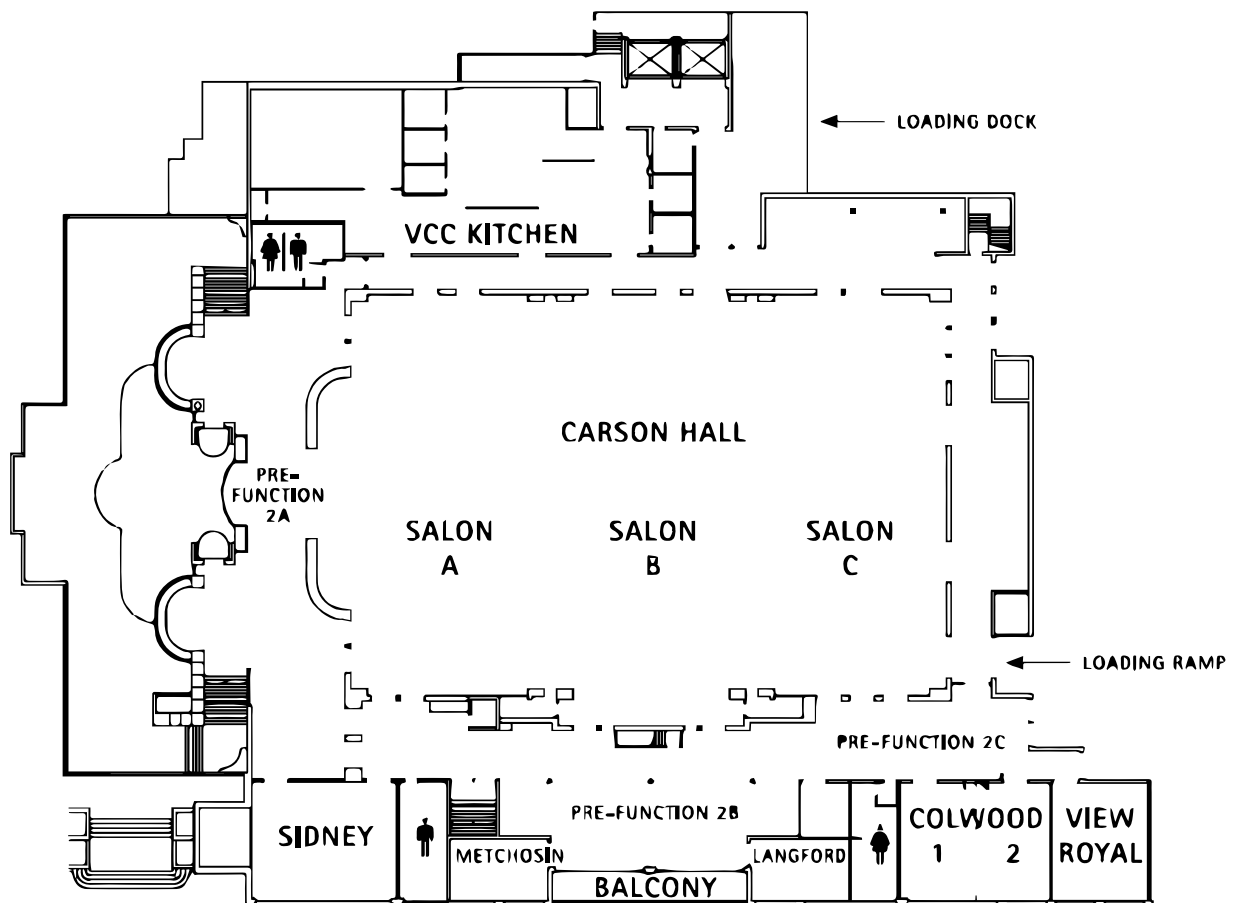


**Fairmont Hotel Lobby Level**



VICTORIA  
CONFERENCE  
CENTRE

*Fairmont*  
EMPRESS



**Victoria Conference Centre 2nd Level**

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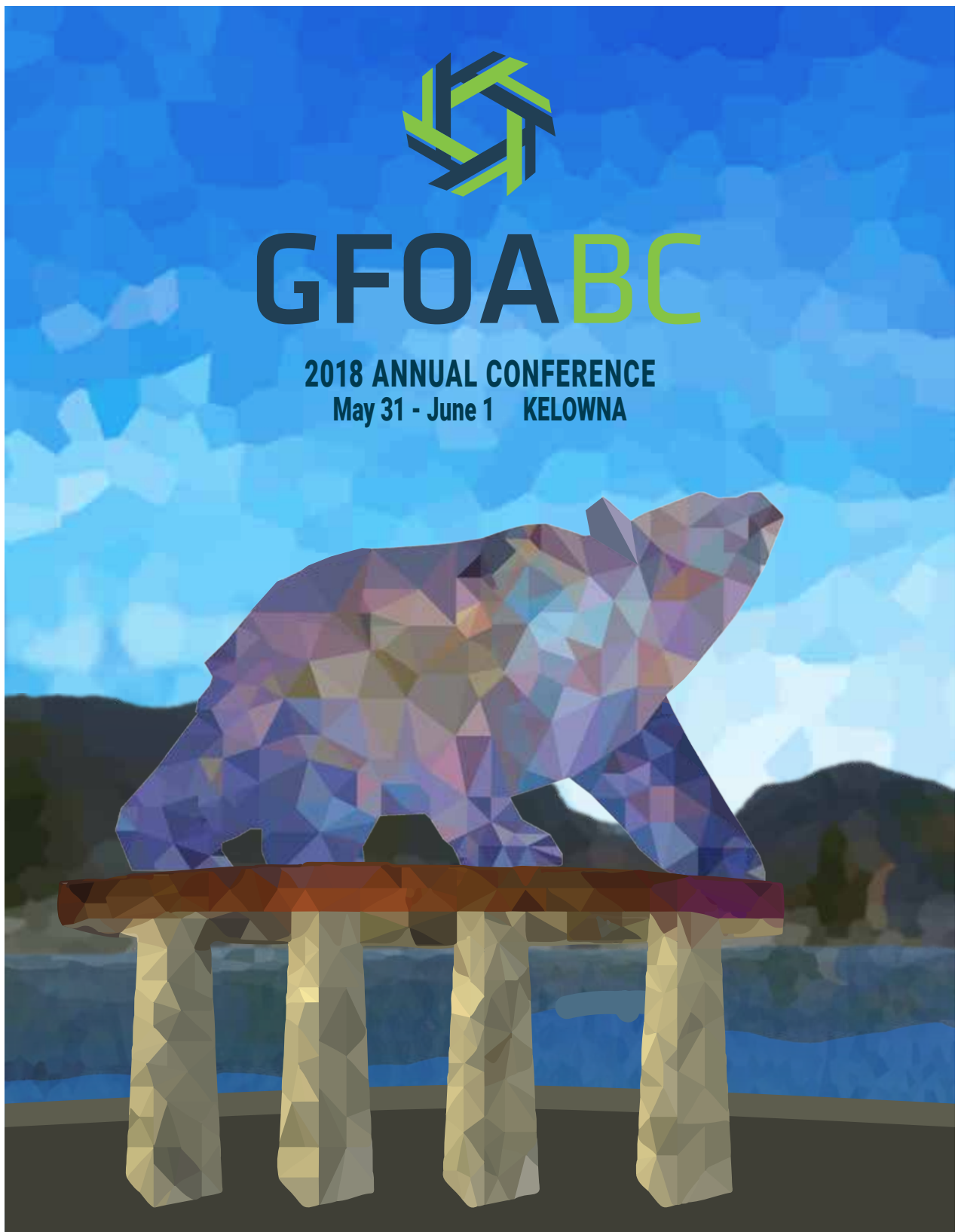
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SAVE THE DATE  
**KELOWNA 2018**





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