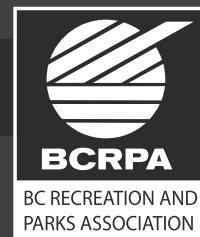


BCRPA 2019 SYMPOSIUM • WHISTLER • MAY 1-3



MAKING IT MATTER

WWW.BCRPA.BC.CA



INVITATION FROM THE PRESIDENT

We are thrilled to host this year's Symposium in the beautiful mountain location of Whistler. In this breathtaking setting you will enjoy world-class recreation opportunities while networking with your peers, making new connections, and learning from others, as well as delving into cutting-edge issues.

The theme, Making it Matter, reflects the global and local imperative – to enhance the meaningful work we do each day and maximize our impact in communities. This theme, chosen by your colleagues, is also reflected through our awards – a true highlight that inspires.

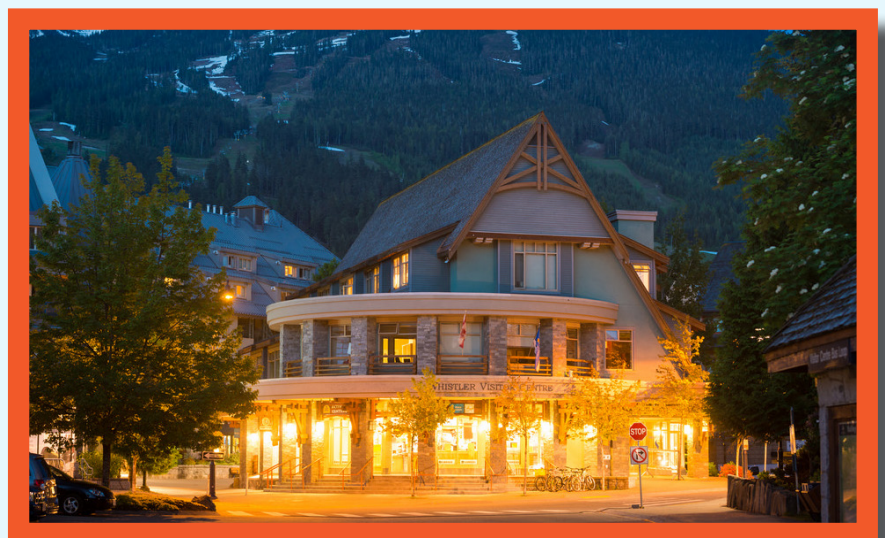
Symposium will kick off with Gil Penalosa, founder and chair of the internationally recognized non-profit 8-80 Cities, sharing his insight into Creating Vibrant & Healthy Communities for All. From there, participate in 30 different topics under the 5 "Framework for Recreation in Canada" goals.

New this year are informal networking spaces to connect and chat with others. In between, have a "Lost Lunch" at the Lost Lake Passive House, the first of its kind in Canada. And, come dressed for Thursday night's retro après ski banquet party, then laugh 'n learn how to seek work/life balance with our celebrity humorist and lecturer Linda Edgecombe.

I'm excited to see you there,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Wilson".

Jennifer Wilson, President



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

PLATINUM SPONSOR AND GRADUATING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP SPONSOR:



GOLD SPONSOR (OF FIVE YEARS!):



Perfect**Mind**

BRONZE SPONSORS:



BREAK SPONSOR:



TOUR DE BCRPA SPONSOR:



Carscadden

WATER BOTTLE SPONSOR:



SPECIAL THANKS

SYMPOSIUM 2019 PROGRAM AND EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Melanie Alsdorf, Capital Regional District

Lori Bowie, City of Port Coquitlam

Susan Bullock, Comox Valley, Regional District

Yue-Ching Cheng, Langara College / University

Daniel Cindric, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

Christine Creer, District of Squamish

Cindy Eward, City of Richmond

Renee Hurford, District of Squamish

Nicole Kittmer, Regional District of Central
Okanagan

Reagan Lovig, Sunshine Coast Regional District

Stephanie Nicoll-Russell, Resort Municipality of
Whistler

Dan Ovington, Capital Regional District

Darren Peterson, City of Vancouver

Tara Roberts, City of Surrey

Roger Weetman, Resort Municipality of Whistler

SYMPOSIUM AT-A-GLANCE

	TIME	ACTIVITY
TUESDAY, APRIL 30	6-9pm	Welcome Reception, SPONSORED BY HDR
WEDNESDAY, MAY 1	7:30am-3:30pm	Registration — <i>Frontenac Foyer</i>
	8-9am	Beverages (coffee, tea, smoothies)
	9-10:30am	Opening and Keynote
	10:30-10:45am	Transition Break and Refreshments
	10:45am-12pm	Dialogues
	12-1:30pm	Lunch on the Go and Lost Lake Activities
	1:30-2:30pm	A Sessions
	2:30-3pm	Tradeshow and Refreshments — <i>MacDonald Ballroom</i>
	3-4pm	B Sessions
	4-6:30pm	Tradeshow Party and Refreshments — <i>MacDonald Ballroom</i>
THURSDAY, MAY 2	7:30am-3:30pm	Registration — <i>Frontenac Foyer</i>
	8-9am	Breakfast
	9-10am	Snapshots
	10-10:15am	Transition Break and Refreshments
	10:15-11:15am	C Sessions
	11:15-11:30am	Transition Break
	11:30am-12:30pm	D Sessions
	12:35-2pm	Awards and AGM Luncheon
	2-2:15pm	Transition Break
	2:15-3:15pm	E Sessions
	3:15-4:45pm	Recreation and Parks Active Sessions: TheatreSports, Culture Tour or Bike Tour
	4:45-6:30pm	FREE TIME
	6:30pm-Midnight	Banquet & Dance, Retro Après Ski theme
FRIDAY, MAY 3	7:30-11am	Registration — <i>Frontenac Foyer</i>
	7:30-8:30am	Breakfast
	8:30-10am	Discussion Panels
	10-10:15am	Transition Break and Refreshments
	10:15-11:15am	F Sessions
	11:15-11:30am	Transition Break
	11:30-12:30pm	Closing Keynote
	12:30 pm	Closing Comments & Prizes

EARLY BIRD RATES

First Early Bird
deadline ▼

March 7, 2019

Second Early Bird
deadline ▼

April 5, 2019

SYMPOSIUM AT-A-GLANCE

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATIONS

It pays to register early! Once again we are offering two early bird opportunities to help you save \$\$\$\$.

March 7, 2019 is the first deadline for Early Bird rates and

April 5, 2019 is the second Early Bird deadline.

Don't delay, register today!

Register on-line today at www.bcrpa.bc.ca/conferences/symposium

Registration check-in at The Fairmont Château Whistler starts at 7:30 am on Wednesday, May 1, 2019.

Full Symposium registration includes two breakfasts, two lunches, eight refreshment breaks, Tuesday evening Welcome Reception, Wednesday evening Tradeshow Party, Thursday evening Banquet & Dance, and recreational activities.

One-day registrations includes breakfast, lunch and refreshment breaks (exceptions: Wed morning will only have beverages, and lunch is not provided on Friday); guest tickets for all other meals and evening activities must be purchased separately.

CATEGORY	DATES	RATE
1st Early Member	EARLY BIRD 1 by Thursday, March 7, 2019	\$507
1st Early Non-member		\$653
1st Early Daily Member		\$305
1st Early Daily Non-Member		\$389
2nd Early Member	EARLY BIRD 2 by Friday, April 5, 2019	\$607
2nd Early Non-member		\$753
2nd Early Daily Member		\$340
2nd Early Daily Non-member		\$435
Regular Member	REGULAR RATES starting Saturday, April 6, 2019	\$707
Regular Non-member		\$853
Regular Daily Member		\$375
Regular Daily Non-member		\$485
Student Member Full Registration	STUDENT RATES	\$290
Student Member Daily		\$178

GUEST MEAL TICKETS

Wednesday Lunch	\$35
Thursday Breakfast	\$30
Thursday Lunch (AGM and Awards)	\$50
Thursday evening Banquet & Dance	\$85
Friday Breakfast	\$30

BIOGRAPHIES

GIL PENALOSA is passionate about creating cities for all people; vibrant cities and healthy communities for everyone regardless of age and social, economic, or ethnic background. Gil is the founder and chair of the internationally recognized Canadian non-profit organization 8 80 Cities. Before immigrating to Canada, Gil was Commissioner in Bogota. He holds an MBA from UCLA's Anderson School of Management, where he recently was selected as one of the "100 Most Inspirational Alumni" in the school's history. In 2015 Gil received a Doctorate Honoris Causa from the Faculty of Urban Planning at the prominent Swedish university, SLU. Last year Gil was listed in Planetizen's Top 100 Most Influential Urbanists.

LINDA EDGECOMBE makes a simple promise: to deliver programs that create powerful shifts, and inspires, and energizes professionals who show up every day ready to "set the world on fire". She believes laughter has the power to change the way people feel, think and take action! "A Day without laughing is a day wasted!" Her non-BS approach is refreshing, engaging and relevant. Linda's latest book and Ted Talk. "Breaking Busy – Finding Peace in the Chaos" is a game changer for those who want to step off the treadmill. Change has never been this painless! Her messages are as welcome as a deep belly laugh and as profound as an honest look in the mirror.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

OPENING KEYNOTE

GIL PENALOSA ► Wed, May 1 | 9:30 – 10:30 am

Parks and Other Public Spaces: Creating Vibrant & Healthy Communities for All

Communities around the world are facing challenges including economic uncertainty, pressure around population growth, the effects of climate change, and public health crises. Parks can help to address all of these challenges, while also contributing to local culture and social integration. Using specific examples to focus on the various challenges mentioned above, success stories of parks from around the world and their impacts on local communities will be shared.

An emphasis will also be placed on the importance of community involvement. When evaluating the success of a city, an important measure is looking at how we treat our most vulnerable citizens: the children, older adults and lower income groups. When evaluating a park system, the same tools should be applied. To get an accurate evaluation, we must honestly listen to the community. Citizen engagement is vital throughout the entire process. In order to maximize the benefits that park systems can bring, we must develop broad alliances, with many groups including, elected officials from all levels of government, a multi-departmental public sector staff, universities, civil society, businesses, media, etc. A shared vision and commitment to action are essential to "moving from talking to doing."

CLOSING KEYNOTE

LINDA EDGECOMBE ► FRI, MAY 3 | 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Holy Crap I am Busy! Energy and Engagement in Crazy Times

Looking for an energy boost? You've just found it! Join Linda for a hands-on, highly humorous ride that will re-focus, re-energize and re-invent how you see your life and your work. Linda will reveal the research she has done over the past 5 years on how we have become the most overwhelmed, distracted and basically unhappy generation in over three decades.

Her straight-shooting approach is packed with relevant, easy solutions that will enable you to take back your work day and personal life. This may be the best laugh you will have in a long time.

SPECIAL FEATURES

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

► 6 – 9 PM

WELCOME RECEPTION, SPONSORED BY HDR

Join us at the Welcome Reception for some networking, merriment and light refreshments. Meet up early with friends and colleagues at the Longhorn Saloon & Grill (4280 Mountain Square, Whistler).

MOVEMENT BREAKS, WEDNESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

We're incorporating 5 minute movement breaks wherever we can, so be ready to play when the moment calls for it! Activities will be inclusive of all abilities.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

► 10:45 AM – 12 PM

DIALOGUES

- Staffing Challenges and Successes
- Aging Infrastructure
- Parks and User Groups
- Effectively Working with Board and Elected Officials
- Programming Strategically on a Shoestring

► 12 – 1:30 PM

LUNCH ON THE GO & LOST LAKE ACTIVITIES

Grab your lunch and head out for a walk & talk around the Lost Lake Loop, or head over to the Lost Lake Passive House for discussions on topics that make you feel lost at work.

► 4 – 6:30 PM

TRADESHOW PARTY

Join us at the evening Tradeshow Party. Visit the exhibitors, play games, enjoy some appies and adult beverages and make new connections with delegates, guests and vendors. **All delegates are welcome.**

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

► 6 – 9 PM

Welcome Reception

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

► 10:45 AM – 12 PM

Dialogues

► 12 – 1:30 PM

Lunch on the Go & Lost Lake Activities

► 4:15 – 6:30 PM

Tradeshow Party & Refreshments

THURSDAY, MAY 2

► 9 – 10 AM

Snapshots

► 12:35 – 2 PM

Awards and AGM Luncheon

► 3:15 – 4:45 PM

Recreation and Parks Active Sessions

► 6:30 – MIDNIGHT

Banquet & Dance

FRIDAY, MAY 3

► 8:30 – 10 AM

Discussion Panels

► 12:30 PM

Prizes

SPECIAL FEATURES CONTINUED

THURSDAY, MAY 2

► 9:00 – 10:00 AM

SNAPSHOTS

- **Journey to the Pitch** –
Martin Pardoe, Resort Municipality of Whistler
- **CPRA Green Initiatives** –
Erin Love, Canadian Parks and Recreation Association
- **Whistler Park Food Trucks: From Pilot to Program** –
Lucy Pocock, Resort Municipality of Whistler
- **The Golden Shoe** –
Amanda Morency and Kelly Valade, Regional District of Nanaimo
- **The Weaving Wagon: Weaving Our Way into Parks** –
Rebecca Graham, Weaving Community through Collaborative Art
- **From the Ground Up: Student Trail-Building Project in Black Mountain sntsk'il'ntən Regional Park** –
Isabella Hodson, Regional District of Central Okanagan

► 12:35 – 2 PM

AWARDS AND AGM LUNCHEON

Celebrate the innovative work in the sector and catch up with what's happening around the province.

► 3:15 – 4:45 PM

RECREATION AND PARKS ACTIVE SESSIONS: THEATRESPORTS, CULTURE TOUR OR BIKE TOUR

Active recreation for cycling and a culture tour are being planned. Get energized and inspired by Whistler's outdoors (rain or shine) or join TheatreSports for an indoor session on ways to improvise when events don't go as planned.

► 6:30 PM – MIDNIGHT

BANQUET & DANCE

Have fun playing, eating, drinking, and dancing together with new and old friends. The theme of the evening is Retro Après Ski Party, so put on your cozy sweaters or onesies, and show off your après-ski attire!

SPECIAL FEATURES CONTINUED

FRIDAY, MAY 3

► **8:30 – 10 AM**

DISCUSSION PANELS

The BCRPA is hosting two concurrent panels to further engage delegates on topics that can help build the success of your organization, and the health of your patrons.

Discussion panels include:

- **From Brand Vision to Brand Reality** –
Kelsey Swanson and Michelle Custodio
- **Healthy by Nature** –
Shelley Brown, Katy Rose, Carinna Kenigsberg, and Dr. Ian Pike

► **12:30 PM**

PRIZES

Stay to the end for a chance to win some prizes!

DAILY MATRIX

► TUESDAY APRIL 30

6-9pm	Welcome Reception, SPONSORED BY HDR ► <i>Longhorn Saloon & Grill (4280 Mountain Square, Whistler)</i>
-------	--

► WEDNESDAY MAY 1

7:30-3:30 pm	Registration ► <i>Frontenac Foyer</i>
8 – 9 am	Beverages (coffee, tea, smoothies)
9 – 9:30 am	Welcome and Opening
9:30 – 10:30 am	OPENING KEYNOTE ► Parks and Other Public Spaces: Creating Vibrant & Healthy Communities
10:30 – 10:45 am	Transition Break and Refreshments
10:45 am – 12 pm	DIALOGUES DL1 Staffing Challenges and Successes DL2 Aging Infrastructure DL3 Parks and User Groups DL4 Effectively Working with Board and Elected Officials DL5 Programming Strategically on a Shoestring
12 – 1:30 pm	Lunch on the Go and Lost Lake Activities
1:30 – 2:30 pm	SESSIONS A A1 Love Letters to Trees and Knit Bombed Lobbies A2 Simple Positive Strategies to Support Behaviour A3 Park Management: A Tool for Creating Healthy and Vibrant Communities for All A4 The 'Boomer' + Recreation Revolution A5 Taking A Global View to Wellness at a Community Level
2:30 – 3 pm	Tradeshow and Refreshments ► <i>MacDonald Ballroom</i>
3 – 4 pm	SESSIONS B B1 Minoru Seniors Legacy Stories: Looking Back, Looking Forward B2 Decolonizing Vancouver's Parks Board B3 Managing Over Capacity in Whistler's Municipal Parks B4 Benchmarking B5 Positive Youth Engagement
4 – 6:30 pm	Tradeshow Party with appies and adult beverages (all delegates welcome) ► <i>MacDonald Ballroom</i>

DAILY MATRIX CONTINUED

► THURSDAY MAY 2	
7:30-3 pm	Registration ► <i>Frontenac Foyer</i>
8 – 9 am	Breakfast
9 – 10 am	SNAPSHOTS
10 – 10:15 am	Transition Break and Refreshments
10:15 – 11:15 am	SESSIONS C <ul style="list-style-type: none"> C1 Art Truck: The Little Program That Could C2 Moving Accessible Design from Code Compliance to Principled Ethical Design C3 Adventure Playgrounds: Your How-to Guide C4 Recreation: A Career With Purpose C5 Leading with a Coach-Approach: Leading Others to Live Their Best Life at Work and at Play
11:15 – 11:30 am	Transition Break
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	SESSIONS D <ul style="list-style-type: none"> D1 Creating Quality Experiences in Sport and Physical Activity for Newcomers to Canada D2 Energy, Empathy and Diversity: How We All Contribute to an Inclusive Workplace D3 Getting Kids Moving Again: Mobile Games, Connected Playgrounds and Data Connection D4 Higher Purpose: A Competitive Advantage D5 Five Conversations That Matter
12:35 – 2 pm	Awards and AGM Luncheon
2 – 2:15 pm	Transition Break
2:15 – 3:15 pm	SESSIONS E <ul style="list-style-type: none"> E1 Transformative Change E2 Let's Play-Rec Staff Training E3 Parks for All — An Action Plan for Canada's Parks Community E4 Master Planning: Integrating Parks, Recreation, and Culture with City-wide Plans E5 Who You Are Makes a Difference
3:15 – 4:45 pm	Recreation and Parks Active Sessions: Theatresports, Culture Tour or Bike Tour
4:45 – 6:30 pm	FREE TIME
6:30 pm – Midnight	Banquet & Dance, Retro Après Ski theme

DAILY MATRIX CONTINUED

► FRIDAY MAY 3	
7:30-11 am	Registration ► <i>Frontenac Foyer</i>
7:30 – 8:30 am	Breakfast
8:30 – 10 am	DISCUSSION PANELS TP1 From Brand Vision to Brand Reality TP2 Healthy in Nature
10 – 10:15 am	Transition Break and Refreshments
10:15 – 11:15 am	SESSIONS F F1 The Alive Workplace - Putting Life back in Work/Life Balance F2 Whistler Adaptive Sports Program F3 How Does Planning and Design of Communities Influence Our Health? F4 Unleash the Power of Unconventional Thinking to Solve Your Most Complex Workplace Challenges F5 Afterschool For All: Changing Systems for Better Outcomes
11:15 – 11:30 am	Transition Break
11:30 – 12:30 pm	CLOSING KEYNOTE ► Holy Crap I am Busy! Energy and Engagement in Crazy Times
12:30 pm	Closing Comments and Prizes

1:30 - 2:30 PM

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

SESSIONS A ► WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

A1 Love letters to Trees and Knit Bombed Lobbies: Build Creative Community with Artist in Residence Projects – Marie Lopes

Community centres and parks are ideal spaces where artists and community connect, creating meaningful art, demystify artists' work and connect it to everyday life. Together artists and non-artists build skills, health, community and more. Marie Lopes showcases artist-in-residence projects, and opportunities and resources to bring this work to your community.

A2 Simple Positive Strategies to Support Behaviour – Emma Moses

Learn practical positive behaviour support strategies to enhance all children's experience. Learn how to avoid challenging moments with evidence based proactive strategies. These basic techniques will be applicable to all environments and support all children to learn and be happy.

A3 Parks Management: A Tool for Creating Vibrant & Healthy Communities for All – Gil Penalosa

Very often it seems easier to find millions of dollars to build parks than it is to find the thousands that are needed to make them work. Many parks are suffering from deficient management. Most municipalities confuse management with maintenance, when this second is just a small part of the first. Parks obviously require maintenance, but they also require much more. Management should include elements such as frequent community engagement, diverse uses and activities suitable for all ages and levels of ability, equitable access, safety, as well as fit within the specific context of each community. Cities need a great park system, not just one iconic park. This includes small and large parks as they satisfy different needs (passive, active, contemplative). International examples will be shown.

A4 The 'Boomer' + Recreation Revolution: Patrons, Staff and Your Second Career –Jan Durocher

Re-thinking the paradigm of aging in the recreation field; servicing patrons, hiring staff - moving our recreation careers into retirement. An informative, humorous talk; opening minds to new possibilities for us, them, recreation facilities and community. Learn to maneuver in this new realm with tangible information for use in the field.



Active Health


Inclusion
& Access

Connecting
with Nature

Recreation
Capacity

Supportive
Environments

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

SESSIONS A ► WEDNESDAY, MAY 1 CONTINUED

A5 Taking a global view to wellness at a community level



– Elizabeth Ayers and Serena Lusk

The City of Richmond was one of the first communities in BC to develop a Community Wellness Strategy, and has recently updated that strategy in alignment with both the Framework for Recreation in Canada and the Global Active Cities - Active Wellbeing Initiative. The Strategy, developed in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health – Richmond (VCH) and Richmond School District No. 38 (SD38) provides a framework to guide the three partners to work individually and collectively with a range of community partners to improve wellness across the community.

1:30 – 2:30 PM

SESSIONS B ► WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

B1 Minoru Seniors Legacy Stories: Looking Back, Looking Forward



– Sonja Pickering, Kathleen Holmes, Catrina Megumi Longmuir, Elisa Yon

Through digital storytelling, this presentation examines the importance of place and engagement with seniors in community recreation, highlighting the impact and evolution of seniors programming. The film and digital stories are the culmination of a year-long artist-in-residency project, partnering a non-profit, community services, and public art.

3 – 4 PM

B2 Decolonizing Vancouver Parks Board



– Marie Lopes and Rena Soutar

The Vancouver Park Board is committed to decolonizing. Rena Soutar and Marie Lopes underline the importance of simultaneous work in community centres and parks and on mandates, policies and official histories. From high level policy change to Indigenous artists in community, this important work takes on a system-wide culture shift.

B3 Managing Over Capacity in Whistler's Municipal Parks



– Martin Pardoe

Demand for park and recreation space in the Sea to Sky corridor has exploded in the last three years. As a destination resort Whistler has seen its summer tourism number increase sharply, and the day trippers and van lifers are right behind them. An outcome of success is over capacity. Join this discussion to share ideas about managing over capacity in municipal parks.



Active Health



Inclusion & Access



Connecting with Nature



Recreation Capacity



Supportive Environments

MAKING IT MATTER

3 – 4 PM

10:15 – 11:15 AM

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

SESSIONS B ► WEDNESDAY, MAY 1 CONTINUED

B4 Benchmarking



– Michelle Wilcox

Recreation folk know we are the heart of our communities. Unfortunately, that knowledge can be tricky to translate into budget asks. This session provides tools that can be customized to your community's unique needs and will help you define benchmarks that demonstrate the growth within your facility.

B5 Positive Youth Engagement



– Mandy Jones, Mannie Deo and Jessica Danyk

An in-depth case study of how recreation staff in one community successfully works with youth who are facing multiple barriers. A look at how collaboration, partnerships and adaptive leadership contribute to engaged staff and youth.

SESSIONS C ► THURSDAY, MAY 2

C1 Art Truck: The Little Program That Could



– Camyar Chaichan

The Art Truck program began as a standard activity for local events and evolved into a barrier-free education program in arts, physical literacy and healthy eating. What did it take for a dedicated team from the City of Richmond Community Services Division, School District 38 and Vancouver Coastal health to build bridges and provide a holistic education experience?

C2 Moving Accessible Design from Code Compliance to Principled Ethical Design



– Mark Hentze and Mary Chow

Using the principles championed by Global Universal Design Commission, we will explore how concepts of body fit, comfort, awareness, understanding, wellness, social integration, personalization, and appropriateness can help to inform facility design that enhances accessibility and user safety for all, and in doing so can increase customer loyalty.



Active Health



Inclusion & Access



Connecting with Nature



Recreation Capacity



Supportive Environments

10:15 – 11:15 AM

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

SESSIONS C ► THURSDAY, MAY 2 CONTINUED

C3 Adventure Playgrounds: Your How-to Guide

– Tara Berdej



Adventure playgrounds are on the rise. An answer to the over-involvement in how and what children play, adventure playgrounds encourage creativity, risk-taking and confidence with minimal adult guidance. Are you ready to bring yours to life? This practical session offers tips on how to get from idea to action. Join Tara Berdej as she shares stories, insights, successes and lessons from Coquitlam's Adventure Playground pilot.

C4 Recreation: A Career With Purpose

– Joanne Edey-Nicoll



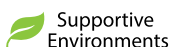
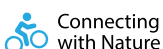
In comparison to more established sectors, Recreation is comparatively a new field of study and career of choice. Recreation as a career is not often considered or understood. Recent research will be presented about why people choose a career in Recreation and what role we all have in influencing future Recreation professionals.

C5 Leading with a Coach-Approach: Leading Others to Live Their Best Life at Work and at Play

– Christine McLeod



Who do you need to be and how do you need to act to be an effective Leader? Friend? Colleague? Manager? Coaching is not counselling or training or performance management. It is about preparing others for moments of greatness ahead and requires some specific skills. Every one of us can be more "coach-like". This session will help you identify the opportunities that present themselves for coaching, as well as how to step into that role with the confidence you can bring out the best in others.



11:30 – 12:30 PM

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

SESSIONS D ► THURSDAY, MAY 2

D1 Creating Quality Experiences in Sport and Physical Activity for Newcomers to Canada



– Andrea Carey

Many newcomer Canadians, including refugees and immigrants, experience unique barriers to accessing quality sport, physical activity and recreation programs, yet these activities can play a vital role in newcomers' sense of belonging. This presentation will share challenges, solutions, opportunities and resources to help create quality sport and recreation for newcomers.

D2 Energy, Empathy and Diversity: How We All Contribute to an Inclusive Workplace



– Marco Pasqua

Diversity and Inclusion in the workplace has been a topic that has gained traction over the past several years, but what does that really mean? Marco will share some of his personal lived experiences as a person with a disability in the workforce and how the smallest of changes to attitude, the physical environment and the way to interact with others will make a lasting impact as we move towards the future of employment in BC.

D3 Getting Kids Moving Again: Mobile Games, Connected Playgrounds and Data Connection



– Matt Toner

How do we encourage physical activity in green spaces while learning more about how families use those same spaces? Learn more about the benefits of connected playgrounds including healthy play opportunities for families and data collection for park operators through mobile games intended for the outdoors.

D4 Higher purpose: A Competitive Advantage



– John Leeburn

Research suggests employees are more productive and engaged when they are pursuing a purpose motive, not a profit motive. What greater purpose than a healthy, active and engaged community? This session reviews the research and shares what some departments have done to enable and harness the power of the intrinsic motivators.

D5 Five Conversations That Matter



– Christine McLeod

Whether thinking about your workplace, life or both- reflect on the five conversations you want to be having to ensure you are making the greatest impact with the work you are doing... and the life you are living. No matter where you are at in your career or phase of life, these powerful conversations are game changers for being the best version of YOU that you can be.



Active Health



Inclusion & Access



Connecting with Nature



Recreation Capacity



Supportive Environments

2:15 – 3:15 PM

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

SESSIONS E ► THURSDAY, MAY 2

E1 Transformative Change



– *Mandi Graham*

Dedicated to advancing sport participation and excellence in the north, Engage Sport North provides high quality sport participation and development services and programming to athletes, coaches, officials and sport leaders. In addition, Engage Sport North offers introduction to sport opportunities and physical literacy skill development to children and adults. Engage Sport North works with people of all ages and abilities from those new to sport to experienced athletes and coaches on a high performance pathway. Through our collaboration and connections Engage Sport North focuses on making transformative change. Can an organization's success be impacted by its ability to drive change through meaningful relationships? How to value team work and partnerships that mutually benefit organizations and populations.

E2 Let's Play — Rec Staff Training



– *Marni Abbott-Peter, Steve Ramsbottom and Megan Williamson*

Overview of the Let's Play program - a unique physical literacy and equipment program for children with physical disabilities as well as a summary of the Inclusive Rec Staff Training Workshop designed by Megan Williamson, Steve Ramsbottom and Marni Abbott-Peter.

E3 Parks for All — An Action Plan for Canada's Parks Community



– *Murray Kopp and CJ Noble*

Parks for All is a pan-Canadian initiative, led by the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) and Canadian Parks Council (CPC), published in 2018, that has helped to support a "new normal" for the parks community in Canada. Grounded in four strategic priorities -- collaborate, connect, conserve and lead -- the action plan identifies specific actions individuals and organizations can undertake to better our collective future where communities thrive without depleting the environment.

E4 Master Planning: Integrating Parks, Recreation, and Culture with City-wide Plans



– *Allyson Friesen*

Think about the feat of completing a Parks, Recreation and Culture (PRC) Master Plan... now think about simultaneously aligning 20 other plans, strategies and Master Plans so that the implementation is integrated conceptually and financially. Discuss the successes and lessons learned from Abbotsford's Plan 200K initiative PRC Master Plan process.



Active Health



Inclusion & Access



Connecting with Nature



Recreation Capacity



Supportive Environments

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

SESSIONS E ► THURSDAY, MAY 2 CONTINUED

E5 Who You Are Makes a Difference

– Tom Watson



Keeping your passion for what you do is hard when you feel unappreciated. Tom's resounding message of encouragement reinforces the value of mentorship and will leave you no longer burnt out, but reignited in knowing the value of what you do.

SESSIONS F ► FRIDAY, MAY 3

F1 The Alive Workplace - Putting Life back in Work/Life Balance

– Linda Edgecombe



Busy - The New Badge of Honor is costing Canadian and US Companies over \$188 Billion per year in stress-related illnesses and accidents. We're all just so "BUSY" these days. "Slammed." "Buried," in fact. Desperately trying to "keep our heads above water." "Up to my ass in alligators." All of these are common responses to "How are you?" Oh, and if you don't want to say any of the above, "fine," is usually the runner-up response. It's a constant exchange, even a one-up attempt of just how much we have on our plates when we communicate to others about our work and home lives. In this workshop you will take an honest look at how ALIVE you are at home and at work. Don't worry Change has never been this Painless.

F2 Whistler Adaptive Sports Program

– Chelsea Walker



Explore how an adaptive local multi-sport organization has evolved to provide a pathway for athletes of all abilities as well as partnered for success to maximize its reach on a small budget.

F3 How Does Planning and Design of Communities Influence Our Health?

– Claire Gram and Charito Gailing



The built environment has direct and indirect impacts on health by influencing options and access to important determinants such as active transportation, recreation and healthy foods. This workshop will review the relationships between the built environment and our physical, social and mental well-being. We will introduce key messages and concepts highlighted in the Healthy Built Environment Linkages Toolkit and offer interactive small group discussions to help participants think through practical ways that they might make use of this resource to support their work.

2:15 – 3:15 PM

10:15 – 11:15 AM



Active Health



Inclusion & Access



Connecting with Nature



Recreation Capacity



Supportive Environments

10:15 – 11:15 AM

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

SESSIONS F ► FRIDAY, MAY 3 CONTINUED

F4 Unleash the Power of Unconventional Thinking to Solve Your Most Complex Workplace Challenges



– Jennifer Folkersen and James Arden

Learn how to leverage the intelligence of your group to solve complex problems through innovative human-centered design. These practical, interactive exercises will unleash creativity, shift challenges into opportunities and will disrupt the norm.

F5 Afterschool For All: Changing Systems for Better Outcomes



– Daljit Gill-Badesha and Rajdeep Kandola

The City of Surrey has prioritized school age children by investing in after-school hours' programs and services and driving collective impact. With our Afterschool for All strategy, we have successfully changed policy, shifted dialogue, re-imagined and forged partnerships across sectors and disciplines to create positive impact, allowing children to thrive.



Active Health



Inclusion & Access



Connecting with Nature



Recreation Capacity



Supportive Environments

10:45 AM – 12 PM

SPECIAL FEATURES

DIALOGUES ► WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

DL1 Staffing challenges and successes

Topics: Staff retention, succession planning, and working with your HR Department.

DL2 Aging Infrastructure

Topics: Best practices for asset management, replacement planning and how it differs from maintenance management.

DL3 Parks and User Groups

Topics: Over-capacity from multiple user groups and homelessness in parks.

DL4 Effectively Working with Board and Elected Officials

Topics: Strategies to effectively work with boards and elected officials.

DL5 Programming Strategically on a Shoestring

Topics: Considerations and strategies to ensure you remain within budget, how to manage one-off grant opportunities, ways to run a program when you have no budget, how to engage partners or seek other funding.

THEMED PANEL PRESENTATIONS ► FRIDAY, MAY 3

TP1 From Brand Vision to Brand Reality

– Kelsey Swanson and Michelle Custodio

More than just a logo...this panel will share the journey the City of Surrey took to create their Recreation Surrey brand. Surrey and Illuminata Marketing will discuss how they worked together to develop a marketing roadmap and strategies to help establish a strong brand. The Recreation Surrey brand can now be seen throughout its people, places and spaces, demonstrating their promise of being “Healthy Communities. Active Together”. Hear about some branding best practices and walk away with inspiration and ideas on how marketing strategy can play a role in your organization.

TP2 Healthy by Nature

– Katy Rose, Carinna Kenigsberg, Shelley Brown and Dr. Ian Pike

There has never been a more important time for programs directed towards youth struggling with mental health challenges, especially anxiety. In this session you'll hear from two organizations that are having great success offering outdoor programs for youth as well as from a physician who specializes in healthy cities and health and nature.

8:30 – 10 AM



Active Health



Inclusion & Access



Connecting with Nature



Recreation Capacity



Supportive Environments

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

MARNI ABBOTT

PETER, Director of the Let's Play program and 4x Paralympic medalist.

Let's Play is an initiative of the BC Wheelchair Basketball Society that helps children with mobility related physical disabilities across British Columbia become physically active early in life and encourages them to stay that way. Let's Play provides an age appropriate size sport wheelchair and resources to develop physical literacy skills so that children with mobility impairments can confidently play and participate in sport, recreation and physical education with their peers.

JAMES ARDEN was the Director, Park Services in the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department in City of Abbotsford. James has 32 years of experience in the municipal setting in Parks and Recreation, starting his career as a concession worker. He has worked with recreation program staff working with everyone from tots, youth, and 55+, facilities maintenance, and has a strong background in facilities and project management. James recently completed his Masters of Arts in Leadership at Royal Roads University and looks forward to continuing to share his learning of leading adults in the field of parks, recreation, and culture services.

ELIZABETH AYERS is passionate about building stronger, healthier and connected individuals and communities. As the Director, Recreation Services for the City of Richmond, Elizabeth provides leadership for recreation and sport services, major facility design and development, strategic business planning and marketing. She is proud to be a member of the BCRPA Board of Directors.

TARA BERDEJ is a recreation coordinator and play advocate with the City of Coquitlam. With experience in aquatics, event management, and in the not-for-profit sector, she recently designed and implemented Coquitlam's successful Adventure Playground pilot.

SHELLEY BROWN, Recreation Programmer with the City of Victoria, is a graduate of the Capilano University Outdoor Recreation Management Diploma program and has been working as an outdoor recreation programmer for over 25 years. She will always choose outdoor activities over indoor activities and recently hiked across England with her husband.

ANDREA CAREY is the Director of Operation and Special Projects with Sport for Life Society. She is an expert on inclusion in sport and physical activity and does work with Indigenous peoples, Newcomers, Women & Girls and Persons with a Disability. She shares her volunteer time as a Director on the Board of the Canadian Paralympic Committee, the Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability and with KidSport Greater Victoria.

CAMYAR CHAICHIAN's unique thirty-year career includes being founder of an acclaimed non-profit, an award winning and published performing arts practitioner, as well as holding leadership positions in youth organizations and municipal arts administration. Currently in his ninth year as part of Richmond's Arts Services team, he relishes initiatives that build bridges and remove barriers. Camyar holds an MFA from UBC and is a 'Non Profit Lifecycle' practitioner.

MARY CHOW is an architect and Associate Vice-President with HDR. She is a LEED Accredited Professional, and has led the design of many award-winning community recreation facilities, including aquatics, ice, fitness and more. Mary has a track record of bringing practical sustainable solutions to all her work, and has traveled internationally to give presentations on various issues related to sports, recreation and community facility design, including how the architectural process can use social media to engage communities.

MICHELLE CUSTODIO is Principal at Illuminata Marketing, a consulting firm with the unique ability to provide marketing insight and strategic direction by shedding light on the meaning behind research, data and information. Specializing in marketing research, strategy development and planning, Michelle has worked with clients in both the private and public sector, including parks and recreation departments throughout the Lower Mainland.

JESSICA DANYK works for the City of Surrey as the youth engagement coordinator and has worked for the City for over 11 years. Since 2010, she has worked at Healthy Communities in youth engagement leading city-wide youth events, programs, councils and partnerships related to youth. Jessica is passionate about providing youth meaningful opportunities for participation and for their voice to be represented in the community.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

MANNIE DEO

works for the City of Surrey as the youth and seniors coordinator at the Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre. Mannie has been with the City for over 10 years and has a passion with working with members of the community in the Whalley Area. He has a background in sociology and is passionate about creating an engaging and inclusive environment for all members of the community.

JAN DUROCHER, raised by a Hollywood mother and recreation pioneer father, is a recreation professional gifted with an air of dramatic presentation. She has 35 years of experience in recreation management, including 11 years as a College Guest Instructor, and 20 years in Emergency Management. She has received commendations from Mayor Phillip Owen, President Republic of Korea and MLA Joan McIntyre.

JOANNE EDEY-NICOLL has a diverse background in all aspects of community recreation and culture, ranging from direct leadership, staff and volunteer supervision, program and facility development, facility management, community engagement and administration. After spending more than 35 years in municipal Recreation, Joanne joined the Recreation Studies Department at Langara College as faculty in 2011.

LINDA EDGEcombe's promise is simple: to deliver programs that Create Powerful Shifts, Inspired, Energized and Accountable Professionals who show up every day, ready to "set the world on fire", and it will be a heck of a good time. Linda believes a laugh is worth more than a thousand words and it has the power to change the way people feel, think and take action! "A Day without laughing is a day wasted!" Her non-BS approach is refreshing, engaging and relevant. Linda's latest book and TED Talk, "Breaking Busy – Finding Peace in the Chaos" is a game changer for those who want to step off the treadmill. Change has never been this painless! Her messages are as welcome as a deep belly laugh and as profound as an honest look in the mirror.

JENNIFER FOLKERSEN is a Recreation Programmer with North Vancouver Recreation and Culture. She has spent nearly 20 years working in Recreation in both the Municipal and Private Sector and has worked as an instructor, youth, sport and fitness programmer,

personal training coordinator and Recreation Facility Clerk Supervisor. Jennifer sits on the Langara Recreation Studies Department Advisory Committee connecting education to recreation and holds a Recreation Leadership Diploma from Langara College and a Masters in Leadership from Royal Roads University. Recent research includes a study in Employee Happiness and Organizational Change. Jennifer seeks to provide opportunities to stimulate innovative thinking practices within the field of recreation.

ALLYSON FRIESEN, Director, Recreation and Culture, City of Abbotsford, is a strategic and master planner in local government. She is one of the few recreation planners in Canada and holds a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certificate. Allyson loves to bring together people from various backgrounds to find innovative ways to approach complex community issues and make a meaningful difference in the lives of the people she serves.

CHARITO GAILLING is a Project Manager with the Population & Public Health team at the BC Centre for Disease Control. She leads efforts to increase awareness of the ways in which our health is influenced by the design of our communities, and works closely with a web of allies such as health authorities, local governments, health researchers and non-profit organizations. A big part of her role is to collect and synthesize health research into user friendly messaging and practice resources such as the HBE Linkages Toolkit.

DALJIT GILL-BADESHA is the Manager of Healthy Communities for the City of Surrey. Managing a range of portfolios, while simultaneously completing a doctorate in Educational Leadership, her passion for community building and systems thinking is fueled by a strong belief in innovation and pollination across sectors and disciplines.

MANDI GRAHAM is Executive Director with Engage Sport North and Business Owner in Northern BC. Educated and experienced in business with a passion for community and people. Raised in Prince George, and a lifelong resident of Northern British Columbia, Mandi works with communities to make transformative change that develops and enhances sport and physical literacy across Northern BC. She has an endless passion for providing equal access to high quality resources to support active lifestyles.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

CLAIRE GRAM is a Population Health Policy and Project Lead at Vancouver Coastal Health.

In addition to her work within the health authority on healthy communities, healthy built environments and food security, she is one of the co-chairs of the BC Healthy Built Environment Alliance.

She completed her MA in planning before finding her way into Public Health.

MARK HENTZE is a Vice President with HDR, and director of their Recreation, Culture and Community sector. He has a broad range of experience leading recreation projects across Canada, including spectator venues, community centres, arenas, aquatics and sports complexes. A former professional hockey player, Mark leads a design team that is passionate about sport and recreation design, and is intimately aware of key issues that face athletes, users and recreational facility operators alike.

ISABELLA HODSON, Supervisor of Community Relations and Visitor Services, Regional District of Central Okanagan, joined RDCO in 2017 after a 9-year career with Alberta Parks. With a past in Canadian Lit and Creative Writing, she left academia for the wild and wonder of park interpretation, and hasn't looked back! She leads a team of incredible park interpreters and environmental educators in beautiful Kelowna.

KATHLEEN HOLMES, President, Minoru Seniors Society, is an avid community volunteer, and advocate for seniors programming in Richmond. She has served as President of the Minoru Seniors Society for the past 5 years and sits on the City of Richmond Seniors Advisory Council. Her extensive career includes 40 years in the financial sector, which prepared her well for working with non-profits.

MANDY JONES works for the City of Surrey as the youth engagement manager and has been with the City for over 10 years. She has a background in Recreation Leadership and Social Service Work and is passionate about working with community to create an inclusive and welcoming environment for all residents.

RAJDEEP KANDOLA, Afterschool Services Coordinator with the City of Surrey, joined Surrey's middle years team in 2012. She currently oversees the MYzone program

and other initiatives relevant to this portfolio including MYgame, JUMPzone, Active PLAYces, Parent Education Nights and supports the implementation of the Afterschool For All Strategy.

CARINNA KENIGSBURG is Manager of Community Partnerships, Power to Be. Combining her love of the wilderness and supporting people living with barriers, Carinna builds resiliency and capacity in our community through collaborations. Carinna has embedded her knowledge and years of experience to create profound connection through nature based opportunities. She bridges the gap for people, families and organizations and stewards the notion that everyone belongs in nature. She holds a BA in Child and Youth Care from the University of Victoria, and at Power To Be works with partners to create a sense of place, belonging and alignment so that in our industry we can further our impact collectively.

MURRAY KOPP is the Director of Parks Services at the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) and volunteers his time in his role as Chair of the Canadian Parks & Recreation Association's (CPRA) Parks Task Group. Murray's recent "corner of the desk" activities have included being co-lead on the "Parks for All" initiative (2015 – 2018) and participating as the local government representative on the National Steering Committee for a Federal, Provincial & Territorial governments led project titled "Pathway to Target 1" (Canada's Commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity - Aichi Biodiversity Targets).

JOHN LEEBURN established his consulting practice after 31 years in local government. He retired as the CAO in Port Coquitlam, having previously worked for Maple Ridge and New Westminster. He is one of very few CAOs whose background is in HR. John has a BCOM from UBC and an MBA from SFU.

MARIE LOPES is the Coordinator of Arts & Culture for the Vancouver Park Board. She is an arts educator and administrator with over 25 years of experience working in art galleries, museums and arts organizations across Canada, creating exhibitions, performances and projects that foster creative engagement and public discourse in the arts.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

ERIN LOVE

is a leading communications and project management consultant with specialization in program development, health research and fundraising. Erin has over a decade of experience in government relations, and is the owner and director of E.V.Love & Co. Inc. She is the National Project Manager for CPRA's Green Jobs Initiative.

SERENA LUSK is the General Manager, Community Services for the City of Richmond. Serena's portfolio includes oversight of Arts, Culture and Heritage Services, Community Social Development, Parks Services and Recreation Services. During her 13+ years with the City, she has lead the development of a number of major strategies including the Community Wellness Strategy and the Major Facilities Implementation Plan and has built strong community relationships. Serena has an MBA from the University of Oregon's Warsaw School of Sports Business. She lives in Richmond with her husband and two active children.

CHRISTINE MCLEOD is a leadership advisor, facilitator and trainer. She works with leaders in organizations of all sizes who want to take their skills to the next level. She has lived in the Sea to Sky corridor for over twenty years and calls Squamish home with her family. Her vision is a world where each of us "every day leaders" makes a contribution to a better workplace, community and world through our actions and personal leadership. You can find her on instagram: @everydayleaders and on her website at everydayleaders.ca

CATRINA MEGUMI LONGMUIR is a documentary producer, artist and arts instructor. Catrina's passion lies in working collaboratively with diverse and multigenerational communities to celebrate collective stories and create meaningful works of art. With a background in fine arts and anthropology, she creates work that is aesthetically intriguing and reflective of each collaboration between the artist and community.

AMANDA MORENCY is an Aquatic Programmer with the Regional District of Nanaimo. She has 20 years of experience in recreation working in both aquatics and land based community recreation including summer camps, leadership development and special events. Amanda has a BA in Political Science and Sociology from the University of Victoria. She is also passionate about outdoor recreation and promoting recreation opportunities within the community.

EMMA MOSES is a Speech Language Pathologist and Behaviour Consultant. She studied in Australia and has worked in Canada for the last 18 years with families with children with exceptionalities. Emma worked for the Provincial Outreach Program for Autism and Related Disorders (POPARD) for 9 years. She currently works for the West Vancouver school district as a Speech Pathologist and works as an Autism Consultant for the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC). Emma also has a small private practice in Squamish where she lives with her husband and three hockey playing sons.

CATHY JO (CJ) NOBLE serves as Executive Director for the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association. She has been instrumental in moving the parks and recreation agenda forward on a national scale through the Framework for Recreation and Parks for All . Prior to CPRA, CJ served as a Vice-President at an international public affairs firm and a political aide on Parliament Hill.

MARTIN PARDOE is a registered member of the British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects (BCSLA), and has worked for the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) since 2001. Since becoming Manager of Resort Parks Planning in 2008, Martin has led the development of Whistler Olympic Plaza, the public library building, and a high level Recreation and Leisure Master Plan.

MARCO PASQUA is an entrepreneur, accessibility consultant and inspirational speaker. Throughout his career, he's worked with the likes of Rick Hansen and municipalities throughout BC to support accessibility & inclusion initiatives. This led him to consulting for the Presidents Group, an advisory committee to the province, of BC business leaders working to create accessible workplaces.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

GIL PENALOSA

is passionate about creating cities for all people; vibrant cities and healthy communities for everyone regardless of age and social, economic, or ethnic background. Gil is the founder and chair of the internationally recognized Canadian non-profit organization 80 Cities. Before immigrating to Canada, Gil was Commissioner in Bogota. He holds an MBA from UCLA's Anderson School of Management, where he recently was selected as one of the "100 Most Inspirational Alumni" in the school's history. In 2015 Gil received a Doctorate Honoris Causa from the Faculty of Urban Planning at the prominent Swedish university, SLU. Last year Gil was listed in Planetizen's Top 100 Most Influential Urbanists.

SONJA PICKERING works for the City of Richmond as Community Facilities Coordinator. With over 12 years' experience working in recreation, and the past eight years with seniors, Sonja has a broad knowledge of the trends and issues within this community. Currently completing a diploma in Therapeutic Recreation, she continues to explore the relationship between seniors' well-being, social isolation and the opportunities community recreation provides to this growing and diverse demographic.

DR. IAN PIKE is a Professor of Pediatrics at UBC; Investigator and Co-Lead of the Evidence to Innovation: Research Theme at the Research Institute at BC Children's Hospital; Director of the BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit, and Co-executive Director, The Community Against Preventable Injuries. Dr. Pike has led national projects to develop and validate injury indicators for Canadian children and youth; injury prevention among Indigenous children and youth; child passenger safety; risky play; and, the efficacy of social marketing to reduce injuries. He has given over 100 invited presentations, including 25 keynote talks, and has over 70 peer-reviewed journal articles.

LUCY POCOCK, Resort Operations, Resort Municipality of Whistler, has a classic Whistler story. She went to Whistler from the UK for a ski season and she's still there 10 years later. Lucy joined the Resort Operations team in 2017 and supports the Landscaping, Facility and Village crews as well as the Parks & Trails department, including the Whistler parks food truck program.

STEVE RAMSBOTTOM is a Kinesiologist, certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist, author of the book "Wheelchair Training" and the owner and founder of the Performance Institute. He has earned the reputation of being an exceptional trainer who safely inspires clients to push themselves to the limits in order to achieve their athletic and aesthetic goals. In addition to sports specific training, Ramsbottom has been a force in Hollywood North training such actors as Hugh Jackman, David Duchovny, Aaron Taylor-Johnson, Zac Efron, Amanda Seyfried and Jessica Alba.

KATY ROSE MA, RCC, is the co-founder of Human Nature Counselling. For over 10 years Katy has been discovering the joys of experiential and nature-based approaches to working with children, youth and families for the promotion of healing and growth. Katy completed a Master's degree in Transpersonal Counselling Psychology, with a specialization in Wilderness Therapy, from Naropa University in Colorado and is a Registered Clinical Counselor with the BC Association of Clinical Counselors.

RENA SOUTAR is of Haida descent and works as Reconciliation Planner for the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation. She is the author of Songhees, a cultural biography of the Songhees Nation in Victoria, BC, and an editorial contributor to "O Siyam: Aboriginal Art Inspired by the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games", a book chronicling the Venues Aboriginal Art Program, which she also coordinated. Her fine arts background in classical music and English literature led her on a journey of personal reconciliation with her cultural identity. Rena makes her home in Greater Vancouver with her husband and five year old daughter.

MAT TONER has built businesses throughout his career, that specialize in the design of groundbreaking video games and new models for player engagement, as well as the production of innovative products ranging from data-driven audience applications to location-based consumer intelligence. As CEO, Matt is responsible for investor relations, business development, strategic partnerships, and product oversight. Matt spends much of his time shuttling between Silicon Valley and the company's production studio in Vancouver.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

KELLY VALADE

is a Recreation Programmer with the Regional District of Nanaimo. She has 20 years of experience in recreation, starting in the late 90s as a summer camp leader. Kelly has a BA and a Bachelor of Education from Vancouver Island University. She is passionate about leadership development and outdoor recreation.

CHELSEY WALKER, Executive Director of the Whistler Adaptive Sports Program, has enjoyed a career in Whistler and BC's sports system, outdoor recreation and heli-skiing industries. Chelsey has worked as a ski guide, coach and instructor in various sport disciplines. She has also been involved at a high level in sport development, community and sport policy, and in administration of these various bodies.

TOM WATSON has a Master of Science in Kinesiology, Sport Management and is an International award winning personality and best selling author of the book "Man Shoes". Tom has crafted a highly successful career in the field of parks, recreation and culture over 30-plus years. The foundation of Tom's success is the fact that Tom is passionate about building deep relationships with staff and community members.

MICHELLE WILCOX is a Recreation Program Specialist in the thriving community of Squamish. For over 30 years, she has worked in a multitude of roles from Junior Lifeguard to Aquatic Manager, for both the public and private sector, in small towns and big city centers throughout BC.

MEGAN WILLIAMSON's interest in human movement began at the age of 14 when as a competitive dancer she began teaching her own dance classes. She pursued a career as a choreographer in dance and completed a Bachelor's Degree at the University of California, Irvine. Following this Megan quickly transitioned into the fitness industry which eventually led to working as a personal trainer in Southern California at Equinox, one of the most prestigious health clubs in the nation. With SCI fitness being her passion, Megan can now be found within the community running adapted boot camps, training night events for Spinal Cord Injury BC, and creating one on one customized programs for those living with spinal cord injuries or MS.

ELISA YON is a Vancouver-based artist and Public Art Programmer who holds a Master of Applied Arts degree and a Bachelor of Architecture degree. As Public Art Program Coordinator at the City of Richmond, her work engaging City staff in Parks and Recreation has led to a number of project-based artist residencies, community-engaged legacy projects and integrated artworks for infrastructure-based projects.

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

THE FAIRMONT CHÂTEAU WHISTLER

We have secured a 35% discount at the Fairmont Château Whistler hotel for Symposium delegates.

Online reservations can be made on the BCRPA Symposium webpage.

OR

Call the In-house Reservations Department at 1-800-606-8244. Callers should identify themselves as being part of the **BC Recreation and Parks Association group**, or group code **0419BCRE_001** in order to receive the group rates.

Special rates are valid until March 30, 2019, subject to availability, and apply to stays between April 27 and May 7, 2019.

REFUNDS AND CANCELLATIONS

A partial refund of 70% of the registration fee will be given for cancellations received by **April 1, 2019**. Cancellations made starting April 2, 2019 are non-refundable. Registrations are transferrable. All requests for cancellations must be submitted in writing to the BCRPA office at registration@bcrpa.bc.ca and received within the allotted cancellation times noted above.

EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY

We will be snapping pictures and recording videos during Symposium, which may include your recognizable image. These recordings will be used by BCRPA to promote its activities and events in print and electronic promotional material, including on the Internet via the BCRPA website or other social media websites. If you have any questions, please contact the BCRPA.

Any other recording of presentations, including audio, photography and videography, must be approved by the Chair of the Symposium Planning Committee or designated BCRPA staff.

View the official [Event Photography and Recording Policy online](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Register now to be a part of BCRPA Symposium 2019
Tel: 604.629.0965

bcrpa@bcrpa.bc.ca

British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association
301– 470 Granville Street Vancouver, BC V6C 1V5

For details, visit the Symposium 2019 web page:
www.bcrpa.bc.ca/conferences/symposium/

