

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS



Media Intensive – Join media guru Shannon Daub, Associate Director of Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, for a half-day media intensive that will help you focus on key media skills like how to get your message across (without sounding like a robot!). A necessary political skill for all locally-elected leaders. (Pre-Conference Session, Friday from 9am to noon)



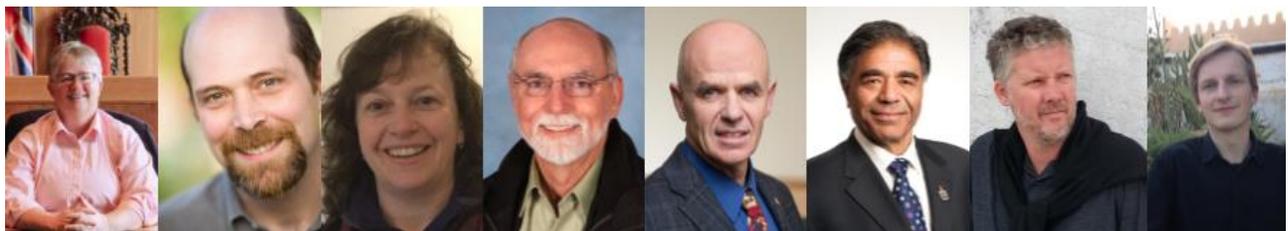
North Vancouver Sustainability Tour – North Vancouver's corporate emissions dropped 19% from 2007 to 2015 thanks to an aggressive sustainability campaign carried out by the city. Learn about the strategic planning involved in lowering GHG emissions and the work the city is doing to create and maintain publicly-owned space. We'll spend the morning touring North Vancouver's low carbon innovations. (Pre-Conference Session, Friday from 8am to noon)

PLENARIES

Pecha Kucha

Friday, March 31, 5:00 to 6:00 pm

Fast-paced presentations from civic-minded movers and shakers - Pecha Kucha-style, that means 20 slides, 20 seconds. A dynamic, innovative line-up!



The women's march on Washington

Pay up Chevron

Zero waste: What it is and how to push for it

Combatting hate: One community's journey

How Quesnel got its doctors back

Top asks for Climate Action

The future is here

Are we screwed? Millennial insight

SESSION SPOTLIGHT



Housing Action – Homelessness and the lack of affordable housing are issues that continue to challenge our local leaders. “The mayor who ended homelessness” will tell the story of Medicine Hat's success in housing people first. What factors helped Medicine Hat pull this off? What are the outcomes? Beyond advocacy and the clear need for federal and provincial governments to step up, what tools are available to local leaders on housing? The Mayor of New Westminster -- city planner by training -- will share tools and best practices to add to your municipal toolkits.



Lessons from the Cauldron – It's not always easy being an elected leader. Sometimes decisions are contentious. How do you know you are on the right track? In this workshop you'll hear case studies in leadership from elected leaders who've governed through challenging times. They'll share their stories and provide their observations about good leadership practices. Be prepared to join the conversation, and tell your own tales from the cauldron.



Public Communication for Women – We all know women's voices are underrepresented in public policy debates, in mainstream media, and at elected tables. Women candidates are in the minority. A significant factor is that gendered ways of communicating shape how people hear what we have to say. Women often struggle with self-confidence or shy away from being public experts or leaders. Intersecting oppressions based on race, culture, sexuality, gender identity, body and ability heighten these challenges. When we are advocating for progressive social change, it gets that much harder. This is a space for sharing experiences and to help one another to be more confident, visible and effective public communicators.



Schools and Intergenerational Dialogue – Everyone misses out when there isn't lively intergenerational dialogue. Seniors are healthier when they are connected to their communities, and healthy communities engage all their citizens -- that's harder when community design encourages driving over walking and fewer community events accommodate all residents. With a growing aging population, the issue of senior isolation and corresponding health implications is something that needs to be addressed. Schools can play an important role in this vital connection. This workshop will explore case studies between schools and seniors.



Living Wage Gains Ground – Living Wage is a global movement born as an antidote to low wage poverty. A living wage allows for a family to participate in the socio-economic and cultural life of a community. In Canada, BC municipalities are a hot bed of activity. New Westminster was first; in 2015, the Huu-ay-aht First Nation became the first First Nations government to develop a living wage policy; and then last year, Quesnel made history as the second municipality to certify. Why did these local governments decide to introduce a living wage policy and how did they make it happen? What barriers and solutions have they uncovered in the process?
