

SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS



PATTI BACCHUS was elected to the Vancouver School Board as Board Chair and part of the Vision Vancouver slate in 2008, 2011 and 2014, topping the polls each time. As Chair she and the Vision-led board secured hundreds of millions of dollars in provincial capital funding for new and seismically upgraded schools. She is especially proud of the VSB's leadership in developing groundbreaking policy to support transgendered students and to create the first student trustee position in BC. Patti is also a Director on the Board of the Broadbent Institute and, more recently, has joined the *Vancouver Observer* as a contributing education editor.



TED CLUGSTON was born and raised in Medicine Hat and graduated from the University of Calgary. He served two terms as an Alderman before being elected Mayor in October 2013. While leading the municipality and its multi-million dollar energy division, his priorities include: tourism, economic development and growth, continued diversification of the energy portfolio, industrial expansion, flood mitigation, recreation and entertainment.



JONATHAN COTE was first elected in 2005, serving three terms on the New Westminster City Council before being elected Mayor in 2014. He has earned a reputation as a strong leader around issues such as transportation, our local economy, and parks and recreation facilities. Jonathan is appointed to several Metro Vancouver Committees including the Housing Committee, Regional Planning Committee (Vice Chair), Mayors' Committee, Performance and Procurement Committee and Zero Waste Committee. He is also a member of the TransLink Mayors' Council. Jonathan holds a Master's in Urban Studies from SFU.



YURIKO COWPER-SMITH is a third-year PhD candidate in Political Science at the University of Guelph. She is also a Project Manager at the Research Shop, a part of the Community Engaged Scholarship Institute at the University of Guelph. She received her Master of Public and International Affairs from Glendon College, York University, and her Honours Bachelor of Social Sciences from the University of Ottawa. Her research interests include gender, migration, and public policy development. She is particularly interested in learning how diversity within migrant groups is related to their civic and political engagement.



SHANNON DAUB has trained and coached dozens of researchers and community leaders on public speaking and media interviews. She has taught in the School of Communication and Culture at Royal Roads University. Shannon is Associate Director of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives' BC Office. Over the last 20 years, she poured her passion for social justice into the CCPA-BC's strategic communication and public engagement work. Shannon has been active in civic governance as a board member with the Vancouver Public Library and the BC Library Trustees' Association. She currently chairs the Wilderness Committee's board of directors.



LIBBY DAVIES was a member of parliament for 18 years and was awarded the Order of Canada in 2016. She has been a social activist for 40 plus years and began as a community organizer in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Libby was elected to Vancouver City Council for five consecutive terms, 1982-1993. She was the Member of Parliament for Vancouver East for six consecutive terms, 1997-2015. From 2003-2011 she was the NDP House Leader and Deputy Leader (2007-2015). Libby has been an outspoken advocate for human rights, housing, peace, and social justice throughout her political life. She is currently writing about political activism and transformative change.



ANDREW GAGE is a lawyer with West Coast Environmental Law and lead on the Climate Law in our Hands initiative. Climate Law in our Hands empowers communities to evaluate their local climate impacts and then hold fossil fuel companies globally accountable. By challenging the right of fossil fuel companies to profit from the destruction of our communities, Climate Law in our Hands forces a conversation that the fossil fuel industry has managed to avoid so far, going to the core of the climate crisis.



DOUG HILLIAN is a three time municipal councillor serving the City of Courtenay since 2009. A community volunteer and activist throughout his adult life, he works in human services management after a long career on the front lines of social work and the justice system. Doug's presentation is an account of the Comox Valley's Critical Incident Response Protocol against racism, hate crime and homophobia, and how a racist incident and Courtenay's initial refusal to sign the protocol became an international story.



SETH KLEIN is the BC Director of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, a public policy research institute committed to social and economic justice. Seth holds a BA in international relations, a B.Ed from the University of Toronto, and an MA in political science from Simon Fraser University. He has been a social activist for over twenty-five years. A former teacher, Seth is co-chair of the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition, a board member of the Canada Without Poverty Advocacy Network, and an advisor and instructor for Next Up, a leadership program for young people committed to social and environmental justice.



ANNA KOPEC is currently completing her Master's Degree in Political Science and International Development at the University of Guelph. Anna's research interests include public policy, marginalized populations and political participation. Her thesis research examines the barriers that the homeless in Canada face to voting. Anna is also an Intern at the Research Shop, where she is currently working on a project for the Canadian Federation of University of Women. This project aims to identify the specific barriers women in Guelph face when entering political and public leadership positions.



DALE LITTLEJOHN is the Executive Director of the Community Energy Association. CEA is an enterprising non-profit research and consulting organization for local governments on climate action. Prior to joining CEA in 2006, Dale was a global corporate strategy and technology strategy consultant at Deloitte. Dale also has a small coaching practice to help conscious business leaders.



JOSHA MACNAB works on policy solutions at the local and provincial level and strives to encourage a pace and scale of action that is commensurate with the climate challenge we face. Her work supports the transition to a clean energy economy by exploring solutions that can help BC remain an economically-competitive climate leader. Through cross-sectoral consultation and engagement, her work finds ways to reduce the impact of fossil fuels and increase energy efficiency while encouraging robust development of clean energy. Josha directs the Pembina Institute's work in BC and holds a Master's of Resource and Environmental Management degree from SFU.



SUE MAXWELL is a councillor in Whistler and an environmental consultant. She holds Master's degree in Environment & Management and is passionate about zero waste and sustainability. Sue has worked and volunteered in BC on matters related to waste reduction and elimination. Some of these projects include developing the zero waste hierarchy, several extended producer responsibility programs, and zero waste plans for regional districts, municipalities and other organizations. Having local governments understand and use their potential to effect change towards zero waste is one of her goals.



GEOFF MEGGS is currently serving on Vancouver's City Council. Geoff focuses on transit, affordable housing and the Viaducts replacement project. He was first elected in 2008 and re-elected in 2011 and 2014. Geoff is a member of the Metro Vancouver Board and the Metro Vancouver Housing Committee. He was recently appointed the City of Vancouver's Deputy Mayor for 2017.



DON MITCHELL tries to follow the motto "think globally, act locally." He has served thirteen years on the Moose Jaw city council, three of those as mayor. The issues he focuses on in council and advisory committees include municipal support for waste reduction, alternative energy production and reduction of carbon emissions. He is also a supporter of fair and equitable taxation, social housing, promotion of local food production, and cultural diversity and inclusion. Don is a council representative on six advisory committees and/or third party boards.



DARRELL MUSSATTO's priority issues are sustainability, affordability and homelessness. Darrell is now serving his fourth term as Mayor of North Vancouver, previously he served four terms as Councillor. He is committed to lowering the City's carbon footprint by making the City more bike-friendly, reducing energy use, managing our liquid and solid waste in a more environmentally friendly way, supporting urban gardening and expanding the award winning Lonsdale Energy Corporation. Darrel is also a Director of Metro Vancouver, serving as Chair of the Utilities Committee.



DEANNA OGLE has been the organizer for the Living Wage for Families Campaign since October 2015. Since then, the number of local governments with living wage policies has grown from one to seven, and the number of Living Wage Employers across BC has more than doubled. BC is a hot bed of living wage activity. Deanna brings to Living Wage her experience working with West Coast Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF), Oxfam Canada and many direct service organizations ranging from health clinics to drop-in centers.



GARY PENWAY is the Director of the Community Development Department with the City of North Vancouver. Gary has over 30 years of experience with North Vancouver. This includes previously serving as the City Planner, Waterfront Project Manager and Development Planner. He has a degree in Urban & Regional Planning and is a member of the Canadian Institute of Planners. In 2000, Gary led the effort to rewrite the City's Official Community Plan to focus on sustainability principles. He prepared the City's Waterfront Vision and has been the City's lead for the Pier waterfront development since 1995.
