

ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

2015 AGM & CONVENTION Courtenay, BC
April 10-12, 2015



The City of Courtenay is this year's host community. Courtenay successfully hosted AVICC Conventions in 1995 and 2005. This year local planners have been working diligently to provide delegates, sponsors and exhibitors with yet another memorable mid-island Convention experience.

In 2015, the City of Courtenay will be celebrating its centennial year with Homecoming Week set for June 26-July 5 and a series of signature events planned throughout the year highlighting the past, celebrating the present and inspiring the community's future with AVICC Life Member Ron Webber chairing the Centennial Celebration Planning Committee.

The AGM & Convention will be held in the Florence Filberg Centre with receptions being held in the historic Native Sons Hall and the Courtney and District Museum & Palaeontology Centre.



Keynote Speaker

Tonia S. Winchester
Deputy Campaign Director
Washington State Initiative 502

Marijuana legalization is an important topic facing Vancouver Island and its surrounding communities. With Washington state just across the border implementing a state-wide recreational marijuana system and the launch of the MMPR, Canada's nationwide medical marijuana mail-to-order program, the issue is even more pressing. What are the challenges of implementing full legalization, and how should communities start addressing the topic? What worked in Washington State, and how does

the current system in Canada actually operate? Tonia will provide an overview of the Washington state campaign, the current MMPR model, and will answer your questions about what your community needs to be thinking about as you approach the Canadian federal elections this year.

Tonia is a former Seattle Prosecutor who worked as Deputy Campaign Director, Washington State Initiative 502 that successfully legalized marijuana in Washington State by a 56-44 margin in November of 2012. Her role included forging alliances and getting endorsements from many groups traditionally seen as hostile to marijuana reform, as well as speaking across the state advocating for a new approach to Washington State's marijuana laws.

Most recently Tonia led the initial operational team that established and managed the Tilray medical marijuana production facility in Nanaimo, British Columbia - one of the largest medical marijuana production facilities in all of Canada. Tonia continues to speak across both the US and Canada advocating for the responsible and regulated legalization of cannabis, as well as working to help ethical and progressive businesses get established within the cannabis industry.

Tonia received her B.A. from the University of Washington and graduated cum laude from Seattle University School of Law.

2015 PROGRAM IN BRIEF

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2015

8:30 am	Pre-Conference Programs
1:45 pm	Official Opening, Keynote Address, Provincial Representative Address, Presentation
5:30 pm	Welcome Reception

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015

7:30 am	Networking or Working Breakfast Presentation
8:00 am	Elections for Table Officers
8:30 am	UBCM President's Address and Resolutions
Noon	Delegates Luncheon
1:30 pm	Concurrent Workshop Sessions
2:30 pm	Elections for Director at Large
6:15 pm	Reception
7:30 pm	Dinner & Entertainment

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2015

7:30 am	Networking Hot Breakfast
8:30 am	Resolutions & Late Resolutions, Elections for EA Representative, Address by the Leader of the Opposition, Closing Session, Installation of New Executive & Grand Prize Award
12 noon	Adjournment

FRIDAY MORNING PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Building Cultural Bridges: Reconciliation in Action

8:30 am – Noon, Friday, April 10, 2015

Cost: \$35



Facilitated by naas?atuk (John Rampanen). John's heritage stems from the Ahousaht First Nation in traditional Nuuchah-nulth territory. Through his collection of historical accounts, language and cultural practices across Vancouver Island he has developed an experiential workshop that provides an in-depth and intrinsic approach that explores the rich and diverse cultures, values and beliefs of the First Peoples of this island.

This is a half-day exploration of the history, current status and opportunities for local First Nations. In addition, this workshop will provide an opportunity for participants to explore, design and initiate meaningful cross-cultural dialogue and identify key common ground issues, opportunities for collaboration and respectful relationship building practices.

This workshop is ideal for delegates whose local governments or organizations are working alongside First Nations and/or are interested in enhancing relations and nurturing opportunities and potential within cross-cultural collaborations and decision-making.

Study Tour of the North Island Hospitals Project and the Vancouver Island Visitor Centre

8:30-11:30 am, Friday, April 10, 2015

Cost: \$15



The \$606.2M **North Island Hospitals Project (NIHP)** is the largest project that Island Health (VIHA) has undertaken to date. This Public-Private Partnership approach will provide new and expanded infrastructure that will ensure enhanced quality and safety, greater efficiency, flexibility, adaptability, and maximum recruitment and retention potential for Island Health. The NIHP Project is responsible for the building of a new \$331.7 million, 153-bed Comox Valley Hospital and a new \$274.5 million, 95-bed Campbell River Hospital, both slated for completion in late 2017.

Along with major innovations in building design and technology, the project is also unique in the efforts placed on community consultation and information sharing through quarterly community information sessions, the formation of a Public-Patient Advisory Committee, an Aboriginal Working Group, and design team consultation with clinical user groups. NIHP has been recognized by the Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships for innovation and excellence in public-private partnerships receiving the Silver Award for Infrastructure Sustainability. Nearly 90% of the total employment on both sites to date is from Vancouver Island.

Chief Project Officer Tom Sparrow will provide delegates with personal insight and lessons learned showcasing some of the unique demands placed on the municipalities and outline the processes to assist municipal leaders and staff with regards to effectively managing those demands when large infrastructure projects of this scope and magnitude are introduced into their communities. The delegates will be able to watch construction taking place at the Comox Valley Hospital site from the safety of their tour bus and see/speak directly with clinical and technical project team representatives about key clinical rooms that are in the final stages of design.

Since opening in 2011, the **Vancouver Island Visitor Centre** in the Comox Valley has been welcoming locals and visitors alike. Delegates will tour the award-winning facility and exhibits.

See www.avicc.ca for an expanded program description.



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CONVENTION PROGRAM

The Program Format

Based on a successful tradition, the 2015 program will integrate the regular business of the annual general meeting, debate on resolutions and holding of elections with a variety of presentations and workshops on topical issues, addresses by key political speakers and opportunities for networking.

A draft of the detailed program is expected to be available by mid-February on AVICC.ca. In order to accommodate emergent issues the program does not become final until just prior to the AGM & Convention.

Some program highlights that have been confirmed include:

Why Municipal Support is Necessary: Building Strong Communities Through Affordable Housing

With greater proportions of our population living in core housing need (221,470 of British Columbia households in Core Housing Need in 2006 and 23% of all British Columbia households are paying more than 50% of their income on rent in 2014), compounded by limited funds and shrinking federal government support for housing, non-profit organizations are experiencing increased pressure to service our vulnerable sector with inadequate support. This session is a push for action by local governments to positively utilize their planning power to advance affordable housing initiatives. This session will provide an overview of why effective collaboration between municipal governments and non-profits is necessary, and will highlight specific ways municipal governments can support non-profits in developing affordable housing.

Presenters: *Kevin Albers, CEO and Kaela Schramm, Director of Projects and Planning, M'akola Development Services*

Wastewater Treatment/Resource Recovery Advances

An advanced wastewater treatment facility, Sechelt's Water Resource Centre (WRC) is designed to process wastewater into dewatered biosolids suitable for composting and high quality effluent water suitable for a wide range of reuses. State of the art technology and innovation in design reduce both pollutant discharge and operating costs. With noise and odour minimization, a compact footprint and appealing design, the WRC is integrated into a park space that complements the adjacent nature reserve and residential community. Removal of hormones and pharmaceuticals from effluent water using biochar made from the biosolids is slated to be tested at the WRC in 2015.

Presenter: *Paul Nash, Project Coordinator, Sechelt Water Resource Centre*

Planning for Island-wide Intermodal Transportation

Whether the focus is rapid transit in Greater Victoria, container shipping in Nanaimo, LNG in Port Alberni, passenger/cargo rail, export capacity, BC Ferry schedules, new road proposals, airport expansions, public transit efficiencies, foot passenger ferries, peak session shipping capacity, or barging solid waste, it is time for a comprehensive intermodal transportation plan to turn what is widely viewed as an 'Island liability' into an economic advantage. Our panel of experts will engage your ideas as we work toward a prioritized plan to improve connectiveness, efficiency and accessibility.

RESOLUTIONS

UBCM urges members to submit resolutions first to Area Associations for consideration. Resolutions received prior to the **February 23, 2015** deadline will be processed and included in the Annual Report and Resolutions book that will be mailed to members in late-March. See www.AVICC.ca for more information.

Late Resolutions:

Resolutions received after the deadline are considered "late" but will be accepted by the Executive Coordinator up until noon, **Wednesday, April 8, 2015**.

Members are reminded that, to be admitted for debate, a late resolution must be deemed to be of an urgent or emergency nature and should address an issue that has arisen after the February 23 deadline date.

The Resolutions Committee will review all late resolutions and prepare a report to the Convention including a recommendation as to whether the resolution meets the criteria and should be admitted for debate.

Reminder

*Resolutions and Nominations
Deadline
February 23, 2015*

See www.AVICC.ca for submission requirements and nomination forms.



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Open Space Workshop

Open Space is an interactive opportunity for conference participants to seize control of the agenda and talk about the topics that matter to you - so come armed with ideas, questions, and an open mind, and follow the law of two feet: If you find yourself in a situation where you are not contributing or learning, move somewhere where you can."

Facilitator: AVICC Director and Port Hardy Councillor Jessie Hemphill

Other sessions under development include:

- Future of Coastal Ferry Services
- Converting Waste to Energy Information Session
- UBCM Resolutions Process

Political Speakers

Invitations have been extended to Premier Christy Clark; Leader of the Official Opposition Mr. John Horgan; Community, Sport and Cultural Development Minister Coralee Oakes and UBCM President, Burnaby Councillor Sav Dhaliwal.

Working Breakfast Session

Regulation of Forest Management Activities on Private Managed Forest Land

The Managed Forest Council will discuss its role as the regulator of forest management practices on private managed forest land. The session will provide delegates with specific knowledge on the Managed Forest Program, its provincial mandate and the effectiveness of its professional reliance model in protecting five key resource areas on private managed forest land. The presentation is designed to answer questions elected officials may have around Council regulatory standards and how an owner's performance around these standards are evaluated through its ongoing inspection and investigation program.

Presenter: Rod Davis, Chair, Managed Forest Council

ELECTIONS

The membership elects directors during the AGM & Convention to ensure the directions set by the general membership are carried forward. The Executive also provides direction to AVICC between Conventions.

The following positions are open for nomination:

- President
- First Vice-President
- Second Vice-President
- Director at Large (3 positions)
- Electoral Area Representative

To be included in *The Report on Nominations*, nominations must be received by February 23, 2015.

For further information on the elections process or to submit a nomination, please contact:

Past President Joe Stanhope
Chair, 2015 Nominating Committee
c/o AVICC, 525 Government Street
Victoria, BC V8V 0A8
Fax: 250-356-5119
EM: iheskethboles@ubcm.ca
or visit our website at www.AVICC.ca



NETWORKING AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

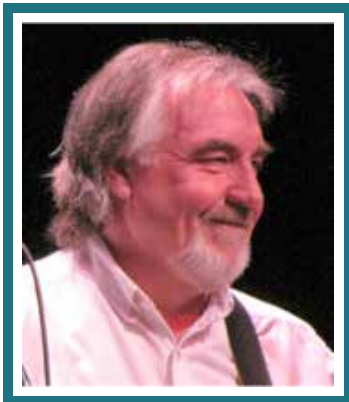
Providing delegates with the opportunity to connect with colleagues and develop new relationships are key program objectives. In addition to breakfasts both Saturday and Sunday morning, morning and afternoon refreshment breaks and Saturday's Delegates Lunch, two networking and social highlights of the 2015 AGM & Convention will be the Friday evening Welcome Reception and the Saturday evening Annual Banquet.

2015 Welcome Reception

The Welcome Reception will be held from 5:30-7:30 pm Friday evening in the historic Native Sons Hall, the largest free span log building in Canada. Built in 1928 as Courtenay's original recreation centre, it was renovated in 2010. The annual Mini Marketplace and Tradeshow will be open for delegates to peruse while enjoying delectable hors d'oeuvres and beverages served by Tria Fine Catering.

Annual Banquet

The pre-banquet reception will be held in the Courtney and District Museum & Palaeontology Centre, a short distance from the Florence Filberg Centre. The banquet itself will be in the main Conference Hall of the Filberg Centre and will feature a thoughtful menu created and prepared by Tria Fine Catering with seasonal ingredients and sourced from local growers and producers.



John Reynolds

Executive is delighted that singer, songwriter and comedian John Reynolds will be singing and storytelling for delegates at the 2015 Convention Annual Banquet. Reynolds was born in Belfast Northern Ireland and worked with the Irish Rovers for over 20 years. He has been nominated for two Canadian Academy of Recording Arts Awards and is a producer and performer of many radio jingles. He has numerous appearances on radio and television including on CTV's The Rita McNeil Show and Madly Off In All Directions, and on two PBS specials.

Also performing is 16 year old Keisja Cox, an accomplished singer/songwriter from the Comox Valley. Keisja is a passionate anti bullying advocate and a thought provoking motivational speaker on youth supporting youth.



Keisja Cox

Mini Marketplace/Tradeshow

As in past years, AVICC will host a small tradeshow. Many of our sponsors will be staffing information booths. The tradeshow will be open during the Friday evening Welcome Reception, the Saturday morning breakfast and in conjunction with the Saturday luncheon dessert and coffee time.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2015 SPONSORS

The AVICC AGM & Convention benefits from the significant contributions of our sponsors – some who have been sponsoring this event for many years.

FortisBC

Delegate Luncheon

BC Hydro

Delegate Gift

BC Lottery Corporation

Annual Banquet Entertainment

Vancouver Island University

Welcome Reception

Municipal Finance Authority

Gold Level General Sponsor

Municipal Insurance Association

Sunday Morning Hot Breakfast

BC Assessment

Silver Level General Sponsor

ICBC

Saturday Morning Breakfast

Island Health

Annual Banquet Reception

Association for Mineral Exploration BC/ Geoscience BC

Annual Banquet Wine Co-Sponsors

Western Forest Products

Bronze General Sponsor

Shaw Communications

Partner Programs

KPMG

Friday Afternoon Refreshment Break

Private Forest Landowners Association

Saturday Morning Refreshment Break

BC Ferries

Grand Prize Award

Lorena P.D. Staples Law Corporation

Parliamentary Services

Sponsors are thanked for their generosity. Delegates will look forward to various opportunities provided by the AGM & Convention to learn about your organization's new programs or services and plans for the future.

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ACTIVITIES FOR PARTNERS

Partners and other guests are encouraged to accompany delegates. In addition to joining delegates for the Friday Welcome Reception and the Saturday Reception and Banquet, the City of Courtenay is offering two special tours for partners.

Historic Walking Tour of Cumberland Village

Friday, April 10 - 2:15 - 4:15 pm

Cost: \$25 per person

Once Canada's smallest and westernmost city, the Village of Cumberland has a rich history as a coal-mining town.

The Village Walking Tour offers a lively and engaging tour filled with facts, rumours, tragedies and tales from Cumberland's colourful history. From the great fires and the great strikes, to lavish garden parties, wartime injustices and small pox isolation houses, the Village Walking Tour gives a lively glimpse into the unique history and folklore of the Village. Ambassador Tours will transport participants from the Florence Filberg Centre to Cumberland, a short 13 minute drive from downtown Courtenay.

Comox Valley Wine Tour and Lunch

Saturday, April 11 - 10:30 am to 4:00 pm

Maximum Participants: 35

Cost: \$50 per person

Sit back, relax and let Ambassador Tours take care of all the details! They will take you on a leisurely visit to four of the Comox Valley's finest wineries in comfort and luxury:

- **Beaufort Winery** - Beaufort wines are carefully handcrafted to produce consistent, high quality, award winning wines from grapes grown on the Beaufort Estate and other BC family-owned vineyards. Participants will enjoy sampling their handcrafted wines while enjoying spectacular views of the Beaufort Mountains.
- **Blue Moon Winery** - Located on a quaint organic blueberry farm, Blue Moon crafts their wine from 100% BC organic fruit, picked at the peak of the harvest.
- **Coastal Black Estate Winery** - The award winning 800 acre estate fruit winery is a family farm, made up of four generations living and working together to produce product of the highest standard, whether it be wine, fresh market fruit, or raw honey.
- **40 Knots Winery** - The name is inspired by the wind and seaside atmosphere, complete with salty air, sea lions, eagles, and playful swallows. The unique windswept environment at 40 Knots results in a drier leaf canopy, which creates an ideal growing environment for vines when combined with plentiful sunshine and warm days.

Delegates must pre-register using the conference registration form. Tours will proceed rain or shine. Please bring an umbrella and raincoat if the weather is inclement.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

The City of Courtenay and neighboring communities offer a host of activities including golfing, hiking, mountain biking, walking tours, fossil-hunting and exploring spectacular gardens.

See <http://www.discovercomoxvalley.com> for information on where to explore, eat, play and special offers. Delegates and their guests may want to consider coming early or staying on after the Convention to take advantage of the varied offerings.



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LOGISTICS

Accommodations

Three hotels have been identified as the main accommodation providers for Convention delegates. Visit www.avicc.ca for rates and booking information.

Conference Venues

Business Sessions: Florence Filberg Centre, 411 Anderton Avenue
 Welcome Reception: Native Sons Hall, 360 Cliff Avenue
 Saturday Annual Banquet Reception: Courtenay Museum, 207 Fourth Street
 Saturday Annual Banquet: Florence Filberg Centre, 411 Anderton Avenue

Travelling to Courtenay

- From Nanaimo – 110 km, 1 hour, 15 minutes driving
- From Victoria – 220 km, 2 hours, 40 minutes driving

<http://www.drivebc.ca>

Parking

Ample parking is available between the Florence Filberg Centre and Native Sons Hall. The two facilities are across from one another. For those that like to walk, the Best Western Westerly Hotel and the Old House Village Hotel are about a 1 km walk following the scenic Courtenay Riverway to the Filberg Centre.

How To Register

Registration forms are available on AVICC.ca or by emailing avicc@ubcm.ca. As in the past, there is an early bird and cancellation deadline of **Friday, March 20, 2015**.

	Early (By March 20)	Late (After March 21)
Delegate Fees	\$150	\$180
Non-Member Delegate Fees	\$180	\$216
Annual Banquet	\$47	\$56
Welcome Reception	\$29	\$35

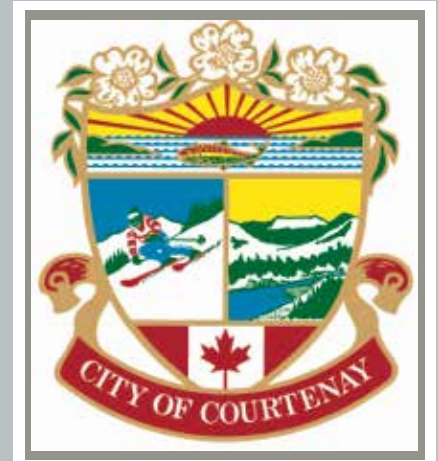
For More Information

The most current information will be posted on the www.AVICC.ca website. Please check back regularly for updates. For specific questions, please contact:

Iris Hesketh-Boles, AVICC Executive Coordinator
 Email: iheskethboles@ubcm.ca
 Telephone: 250-356-5122



HOST COMMUNITY



The host community for the 2015 AGM & Convention is the City of Courtenay. Mayor Larry Jangula and Council are thanked for their generous hospitality.

The local host planning committee includes Susan Karvalics, Legislative Services Executive Assistant; Randy Wiwchar, Director of Community Services; and John Ward, Corporate Administrator.

All local contributors are thanked for their contribution in making the 2015 AGM & Convention a terrific experience for all.



Community photos are courtesy of:
 Boomer Jerritt and Sarah Kerr