



City of Victoria

2024 AGM & Convention

April 12 - 14

WELCOME FROM AVICC PRESIDENT PENNY COTE



This year the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities is excited to be back in Victoria, BC to celebrate 75 years at our 2024 AGM & Convention. AVICC is excited to be guests in the territories of the [Songhees](#) and [Esquimalt First Nations](#) for this year’s conference. The City of Victoria are our hosts, and the City of Langford and the Districts of Saanich and Highlands have contributed as co-hosts for the event. As President of AVICC, I would like to thank these organizations for all their support in welcoming our members to their community.

The Convention’s business and social sessions will be held at the Victoria Conference Centre (VCC) in downtown Victoria. The VCC is a spacious and comfortable facility that suits our convention well. We appreciate the support of our host community in making the conference centre available to us, as well as their involvement in setting the program for our delegates.

The AVICC Executive is excited about the range of sessions available at this 75th year’s Convention. I am very happy to announce our keynote speaker, Diane Kalen-Sukra. Some background on Diane is included below, and we look forward to having her share her fascinating message with us at the Convention opening.

Details on the pre-Convention Friday tours and sessions are also included in this brochure, as are highlights of the business sessions that will be offered during the regular Convention. We’ll be sending out more information on the Convention sessions in the coming weeks, and updates to the program will be posted on the website at www.avicc.ca.

Registration is now open online at <https://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/event/2024/AVICC>

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DIANE KALEN-SUKRA



Diane is an acclaimed author, speaker, and culture transformation expert, sharing insights from over two decades of senior leadership, including national CBC television producer, public sector executive and her award-winning tenure as city manager. Diane’s published works include *Save Your City and Civic Resilience*, as well as regular columns in *Municipal World* and *Public Sector Digest*. Her most popular book, *Save Your City: How Toxic Culture Kills Community and What to Do About It* calls for a revival of civic values and civic education as key to fostering the type of culture that can sustain us, our democracy and our planet.

She is the founder of Kalen Academy, which offers online training for civic leaders. Her newsletter **Civic Wisdom**, shares timeless principles and modern insights for current and aspiring leaders (SaveYourCity.ca/newsletter). Diane is an educator and certified culture transformation consultant, certified Emotional Intelligence EQ-i 2.0 practitioner and certified compassionate integrity facilitator. She has municipal law and administration training from the University of Victoria and is a Certified Municipal Clerk with the International Association of Municipal Clerks. Diane is a political science graduate of University of Toronto’s Trinity College and earned a master’s degree in political science from York University.

Diane was born with the gift of encouragement and desire for everyone to thrive and meet their potential. Her core belief is that as social beings, we flourish in healthy sustainable communities where good governance, servant leadership and compassionate culture support the well-being of all.

PROGRAM IN BRIEF

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024

- 8:30 am** Tours – Metchosin Farm-to-Table Tour
- 8:30 am** Tours - Saanich Forestry Centre Tour
- 9:00 am** Workshop: housing, Housing, HOUSING!
- 11:30 am** Chiefs, Mayors, and Chairs Forum and Lunch
- 11:30 am** Electoral Area Directors Forum and Lunch
- 2:00 pm** Official Opening
Keynote Address: Diane Kalen-Sukra
- 4:00 pm** Provincial Address
- 4:30 pm** Plenary Session:
Advancing the TRC Calls to Action
- 5:30 pm** Welcome Reception

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

- 7:30 am** Working Breakfast: Inclusive Governance
- 8:30 am** AGM & Resolutions
UBCM President’s Address
- Noon** Delegates Lunch
- 1:30 pm** 1st Concurrent Workshop Sessions
- 3:00 pm** 2nd Concurrent Workshop Sessions
- 6:30 pm** Pre-Banquet Reception
- 7:30 pm** Dinner & Band: the Timebenders

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024

- 7:30 am** Networking Breakfast
- 8:30 am** Address by Provincial Representatives
- 9:00 am** Plenary Session:
Striking the Balance: Engagement and Respect
- 10:30 am** Resolutions & Late Resolutions
Installation of New Executive
Grand Prize Award
- Noon** Adjourn



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FRIDAY PRE-CONVENTION PROGRAM

Study Tour: 'Saanich Forestry Centre Tour'

8:30-11:30, Friday, April 12, 2024

Cost: \$45

Healthy forests start with healthy seeds and that's been a big part of our business for more than half a century.



Today the Saanich Forestry Centre (SFC), owned and operated by Western Forest Products, is a centre of excellence for the research, breeding and growing of high-quality coastal tree seeds and seedlings. The four million trees our 27 greenhouses produce each year are planted across the coast of British Columbia supporting biodiversity, tackling climate change and creating long-term community benefits.



Join us for this tour of the Centre's seed orchard, research station and greenhouses to see how today's seeds are tomorrow's climate champions.

Study Tour: 'Metchosin Farm-to-Table Tour'

8:30-12:30, Friday, April 12, 2024

Cost: \$70

Join us for a unique farm-to-table experience in beautiful Metchosin! See first-hand how food production is sustainable in our own communities.



We will start our adventure at [Stillmeadow Farm](#), A family operation for 70 years, Stillmeadow Farm raises lamb and pork, and produces hay and grain, and their own feed. Our customers include butchers and restaurants in Victoria and the Mainland. Animal welfare, environmental protection, and continuation of genetics for rare and endangered breeds are priorities for the farm. We will then enjoy a leisurely walk next door to [Sea Bluff Farm](#) – a 10-acre piece of land with a unique micro-climate that grows especially delicious fruits and vegetables, and features a farmstand and intimate event space.



After the tour, delegates will be treated to a delicious lunch made from ingredients produced at these farms. Lunch will be served in an outdoor event space, beautifully constructed of wood, and nestled in a Garry Oak Grove overlooking the farm. They will enjoy networking time with their colleagues before being returning by bus to the Convention Centre.

THANK YOU

to the **City of Victoria**

The The host community for the 2024 AGM & Convention is the City of Victoria, with contributions made by the City of Langford and the Districts of Saanich and Highlands. Mayor Marianne Alto and Council, and the contributing communities from the Greater Victoria area are thanked for their generous hospitality.

City of Victoria staff have been involved in the planning of the Convention. Special thanks to them for their enthusiasm and assistance.

All local contributors are thanked for their support in making the 2024 AGM & Convention a terrific experience for all.





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FRIDAY PRE-CONVENTION PROGRAM

housing, Housing, HOUSING!

9:00-11:30, Friday, April 12, 2024

Cost: \$30

The housing crisis in BC is urgent and demands substantive actions. Local governments across the Province are taking concrete steps to address the crisis and are collaborating for meaningful, focused partnerships with other levels of government, and public and private sector organizations to increase the housing supply in BC. This session, moderated by City of Duncan Mayor Michelle Staples and City of Courtenay Mayor Bob Wells, will cover a variety of housing related topics, highlighting the challenges and successes when addressing this crisis for all BC residents. The conversation will include insights for all local governments, from small, remote, rural and recreational communities to large urban centres, and everything in between.

The Ministry of Housing will provide an overview of the objectives and execution of the [Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act](#), with a particular focus on key considerations and implications for local governments. The legislation aims to give local governments stronger tools to enforce short-term rental regulations, return short-term rental units to the long-term rental market, and establish a new provincial role in the regulation of short-term rentals.

We will hear from Strathcona Regional District Director, Mark Vonesh, representing Area B – Cortes Island, who this year is to be the first community in BC to use the MRDT tax entirely for housing ([see article](#)). The Strathcona Regional District are in the midst of forming their own Housing Service so that they can play a bigger role in housing development in the region ([see article](#)).

Casey Edge has been the Executive Director of the [Victoria Residential Builders Association](#) for 22 years and does research and housing policy ranging from the National/ BC Building Codes, to taxation and rezonings. He will present the perspective of a panel of builders who will discuss the challenges and solutions for building new housing including the “missing middle” (townhomes, and small multi-family.) From permit processes to building codes, the panel will cover real world challenges and solutions.

Mayors Staples and Wells will highlight successes to our housing and homelessness challenges as a result of deep levels of collaboration. This panel will discuss what worked, what didn’t, and will emphasize the benefits of the outcomes, cost savings, on multiple levels and the positive impacts to economic and social health, well-being and safety and also speak to the challenges faced when working together, including changes to people around the table over time.

Join us for a solutions-based and multi-perspective discussion on how all local governments can take collaborative action to improve the housing supply in our region to the benefit of all BC residents!





FRIDAY PRE-CONVENTION PROGRAM CONT'D

Chiefs, Mayors & Chairs Forum and Lunch

Cost \$55
Time 11:30 pm to 1:30 pm

Modern community safety and well-being needs a collective approach to complex issues, such as declining civility and social cohesion, increasing social disorder, inadequate housing supply and homelessness, poverty, inequality, addictions, mental and physical health challenges, criminal activity, and other factors. This session, led by Mayor Alto, will bring local government leaders together over lunch to discuss, examine, and share tactics and approaches focusing on an intentional, balanced, practical re-imagining of safety and wellbeing in our communities. This forum is open to Mayors, Regional District Chairs and First Nations leaders. Lunch will be provided from 11:30am.

Electoral Area Forum and Lunch

Cost \$55
Time 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

This forum is designed for EA Directors and RD staff. Lunch will be provided from 11:30 am.

The EA Forum became a regular session at the AVICC Convention in 2016. The Forum provides an excellent opportunity to discuss issues that are common to many electoral areas. As an EA Director we may often feel that we are unique in the challenges we might have in our area, but by attending the Forum soon realize that there are many shared issues. What is most important from the Forum is that we can identify paths to advocate to senior governments to effect change and turn our collaboration into action. A louder voice is better heard.





CONVENTION PROGRAM

The Program Format

The 2024 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.

Invitations have been extended to BC Premier, David Eby; Leader of the Official Opposition, Kevin Falcon; Leader of the BC Green Party, Sonia Furstenuau; Minister of Municipal Affairs, Anne Kang; and UBCM President, Trish Mandewo.

A draft of the detailed program is expected to be available by early-March on the AVICC website. 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:

- Advancing the TRC Calls to Action
- Striking the Balance: Engagement and Respect
- First Nations Property Taxation
- Community Preparedness & Resiliency to Wildfire – Tools and Resources
- Inclusive Governance
- Open & Closed Meetings: Why Should You Care?
- Cleaner Energy Future
- Vancouver Island Circular Economy Accelerator Project
- Oceans, Oceans, Oceans!

There are some other sessions under development that will be detailed when the program is announced



RESOLUTIONS PROCESS

UBCM urges members to submit resolutions first to Area Associations for consideration. Resolutions received prior to the **February 7, 2024** deadline will be processed and included in the Annual Report and Resolutions book that will be emailed to members in late-March.

Late Resolutions:

Resolutions received after the deadline are considered “late” but will be accepted by the Secretary-Treasurer up until noon, **Wednesday, April 10, 2024**.

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 7th 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.

Members can also propose a resolution from the floor of the Convention on Sunday, April 14th, and members will vote on whether to admit the resolution for debate. See the convention rules around resolutions in the Annual Report and Resolutions Book that has guidelines for distributing printed materials to delegates for off the floor resolutions.

Reminder

Late Resolutions Deadline
April 10, 2024
Noon

See www.avicc.ca for details



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NETWORKING & SOCIAL EVENTS

A key objective of the AVICC Convention is providing delegates with the opportunity to connect with colleagues and develop new relationships. Members can share experiences and learnings to take back to their communities. There will be several opportunities to break bread with each other at the breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday morning, the morning and afternoon refreshment breaks, Saturday’s Delegates Lunch, the Friday evening receptions and the Saturday evening Annual Banquet.

2024 Welcome Reception

The Welcome Reception will be held from 5:30-7:30 pm Friday evening in the Victoria Conference Centre just outside the main ballroom. The Trade Show will be open for delegates to peruse while enjoying refreshments. Admission for delegates is already included in the delegate registration fee. Additional tickets may be purchased for guests through the on-line registration form on CivicInfo.



Annual Banquet

The Banquet will be held in the Crystal Ballroom at the Fairmont Empress Hotel. There will be entertainment from “the Timebenders” that will get us up and dancing after the 3-course meal.

Back by popular demand, the Timebenders Experience is a musical romp through the ages featuring the best dance music and outrageous impersonations of the greatest stars over the last 60 years. A very fast-paced and high-energy presentation with amazing costume changes and up-beat choreography. We look forward to seeing our delegates’ best dance moves!

Island Good

The Vancouver Island Economic Alliance (VIEA) is a collaborative partnership spearheading regional economic development for the Vancouver Island region. VIEA has established the **Island Good** brand with its range of products sourced from local suppliers that is increasing sales and market share for Vancouver Island and Gulf Island products.

Created by VIEA in 2018, Island Good achieved an astounding 16.4% sales lift over 6 months in 45 grocery stores. In 2018, VIEA established that henceforth, all food and beverage served at its annual **Economic Summit** would be Island Good. AVICC is following this lead at our AGM and Convention by requesting Island Good products whenever possible.

Trade Show

As in past years, AVICC will host a Trade Show adjacent to the main meeting room. Many of our sponsors will be staffing information booths – please thank them for supporting our Convention and allowing us to keep our fees the lowest of all the area associations in BC.

The Trade Show will be open Friday afternoon and during the Welcome Reception, and then from breakfast on Saturday through to a 3:00 pm close after the Saturday afternoon networking break.

ELECTIONS PROCESS

AVICC members elect 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

The deadline for nominations to be included in the *Report on Nominations* was February 7th. However, nominations are still accepted at Convention from the floor.

Elections for the 2024/25 AVICC Executive Committee will be open to all members, not just those in attendance at the in-person convention.

For further information on the elections process, please email info@avicc.ca or visit www.avicc.ca.





REGISTRATION

Online registration is available through CivicInfo at:

<https://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/event/2024/AVICC>

Fees

Register early to take advantage of the early bird discounted rates. Please note the cancellation deadline of March 31st.

	Early Bird by Mar 22 nd	Late after Mar 22 nd
Member	\$ 400	\$ 460
Non-Member	\$ 480	\$ 555
Welcome Reception	\$ 45	\$ 55
Annual Banquet	\$ 125	\$ 140

The Welcome Reception is included with delegate registration. Tickets are available for guests and must be purchased ahead of time to ensure availability.

Cancellation Policy

Full Refund: cancellations by March 29th at 4:30 pm
No Refunds: cancellations after March 29th at 4:30 pm
Cancellations must be emailed to info@avicc.ca.

Delegates who need to cancel due to illness (including experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID) immediately prior to the Convention (April 10th and April 11th) will receive a refund for registration fees less a \$75 administration fee to help defray costs to AVICC.



LOGISTICS

Convention Venue

All business sessions will be held at the Victoria Conference Centre located at 720 Douglas St in Victoria, BC

Parking

Parking is available for a fee at the Victoria Conference Centre.

Internet

The Victoria Conference Centre has complimentary WiFi for delegates.

Accommodations

Several hotels have been identified as accommodation providers for Convention delegates. Visit the AVICC website for [hotel booking information](#).

TOURISM

Destination Greater Victoria will have a booth on-site right next to the registration booth. The Tourism booth will be staffed by locals who can make recommendations on places to visit, shop and eat in the region.

There is also a great deal of information on their website at [Tourism Victoria](#) if you'd like to do some planning before you arrive. Take a look and you may decide to extend your visit to Nanaimo to see all that the region has to offer.

MORE INFORMATION

The most current information will be posted on the [AVICC website](#). Please check back regularly for updates.

For specific questions, please contact:

Theresa Dennison, AVICC Secretary-Treasurer
email: info@avicc.ca
Telephone: 236-237-1202



CODE OF CONDUCT

In keeping with practice at the UBCM Convention, AVICC will again have a Code of Conduct for this year’s AVICC Convention. The online registration form is linked to a form outlining the Code. By registering, delegates are acknowledging that they are aware that they are expected to adhere to the 2024 Code of Conduct.

ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES CONVENTION CODE OF CONDUCT

2024 Convention

The AVICC Executive has implemented a code of conduct for convention participants based on the following principles.

1. The primary purpose of the annual AVICC Convention is to provide the membership with an opportunity to set the Association’s policy direction for the year ahead.
2. The Convention also provides delegates with an opportunity to learn, share and meet with other local, provincial and federal government officials in addition to other associations that are interested in engaging with local governments.
3. All delegates and convention participants have the right to a safe, fun and enjoyable experience. AVICC will not tolerate any communication or behaviour that demeans, threatens, or harasses anyone at its events.
4. All participants at the Convention, regardless of their employer, their position, their perspectives or priorities will treat others, and be treated, in a respectful, understanding and cooperative manner and behave in a manner that is respectful to other participants and their guests, and will not do anything that threatens the health, safety, security, or dignity of other participants or their guests.
5. Only local elected officials who are AVICC members are entitled to speak and vote on matters put forward to the membership. However, the annual Convention is open to the public, and anyone may attend the Convention so long as they register.
6. All AVICC members are viewed as equal regardless of their population, location, or their ability to attend the annual convention.
7. Participants are expected to adhere to this Code of Conduct at AVICC and other non-AVICC organized events associated with the Convention; and will be required to sign a confirmation that they have read, understood, and agree to this Code of Conduct at time of registration.
8. Breaches of the code of conduct will be addressed by the AVICC Executive, who may follow the Complaint & Enforcement Process, and Remedies as outlined in the [UBCM Convention Code of Conduct](#).