



ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

# AIBC Volunteer Opportunities | Internship in Architecture Program

Investing in the future of the Profession

*The volunteer participation of members in support of the Internship in Architecture Program plays a vital role in enhancing the AIBC's ability to fulfill its mandate by ensuring high competency standards are met by all applicants.*

Progression through the various milestones of the pathway to registration for Intern Architects depends on the contribution of expertise, supervision and mentorship by Registered Architects AIBC through Experience Reviews, Mentorship, and Oral Reviews. This document provides a summary of the ways volunteers can become involved in these capacities.

These volunteer opportunities vary in timing and frequency. For meetings and review evenings held at the AIBC, volunteers are provided with complimentary catering and parking, and volunteer participation is eligible for non-core Learning Units (LUs). Due to the unique requirements of these programs, remote attendance is unfortunately not available for out-of-town members.

**Note:** Members outside the lower mainland can serve remotely in other capacities. Please refer to the accompanying document, *AIBC Volunteer Opportunities | Operational Boards, Committees, Panels and Task Forces*.

Interested volunteers are encouraged to contact the Human Resources Specialist at [volunteers@aibc.ca](mailto:volunteers@aibc.ca).

## Registration and Licensing

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### Experience Review Committee

This committee's primary function is to support the Intern Architect Program by reviewing and evaluating non-standard work experience, including interviews with Intern Architects as necessary. The committee further supports the Registration and Licensing department by developing clear, fair and consistent guidelines for AIBC staff to review standard work experience. The committee also provides recommendations to the Registration Board regarding policies and procedures governing the administration of Intern Architect work experience requirements and evaluation.

\*This committee typically meets once per month over the lunch period of a specified weekday.

### Mentorship Volunteers

This is an opportunity for Architects AIBC and Retired Architects AIBC to serve as a professional mentor for an Intern Architect AIBC. Mentorship is an invaluable service to young professionals at the start of their career, and fulfills an important requirement of the Intern Architect Program. By advising, guiding and encouraging their mentee, mentors can help shape the future of the profession and participate in a relationship with long-lasting mutual benefits.

The mentor acts as an independent and objective guide, advisor, and advocate for the intern. Mentorship meetings include a review of experience progress, consideration of career objectives, and discussion of broader issues related to the profession. To ensure objectivity and a diversity of practice exposure for the Intern, mentors may not be from the same place of employment as the Intern Architect.

\* Meetings occur remotely or in person, and typically occur twice per year in conjunction with the intern's logbook submissions to the institute. The mentoring relationship is maintained throughout the duration of the mentee's participation in the Intern Architect Program (two to three years).

### **Oral Review Panelists**

The Oral Review is an important step in a candidate's progress towards registration as an Architect AIBC. It provides Intern Architects and Broadly Experienced Applicants with the opportunity to synthesize their knowledge and experience into competent professional practice in British Columbia.

Oral review panels consist of three AIBC registrants who represent a variety of backgrounds, specialties, and perspectives. Their role is to participate actively and impartially in the oral review sessions, to objectively evaluate candidate knowledge, and to provide fair and constructive feedback following each oral review.

The Oral Review program represents an ideal opportunity to stay current on emerging issues, to give back to the architectural community, and to assist prospective architects on their path towards licensure. Volunteer participation in this program ensures the profession continues to grow in knowledge and skills in the province.

\* Oral review sessions are held in February, June and October of each year. Each session occurs over three evenings mid-month, typically between the hours of 5:00pm and 9pm. More information about the oral review process can be found in [AIBC Bulletin 15: The Oral Review](#).