



ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ARCHITECTURE CENTRE  
SUITE 100 - 440 CAMBIE STREET  
VANCOUVER BC CANADA  
V6B 2N5

TEL: 604 683 8588 / TOLL FREE IN BC: 1 800 667 0753  
FAX: 604 683 8568 / 1 800 661 2955  
E-MAIL: [AIBC@AIBC.CA](mailto:AIBC@AIBC.CA)  
INTERNET: [WWW.AIBC.CA](http://WWW.AIBC.CA)

## Outstanding lineup of distinguished experts and thought leaders at the 2015 AIBC architectural conference

*Conference highlights include post disaster building assessment, City of Surrey's strategic infrastructure plans and disruptive trends affecting the profession*

**Vancouver, October 21, 2015** – The Architectural Institute of British Columbia (AIBC) will be holding its annual architectural conference October 28 to 30, 2015 at the Vancouver Convention Centre. This annual gathering, the largest of its kind in British Columbia, brings together the AIBC community and prominent speakers from Canada and the U.S. to learn about new industry and professional trends, technological advances and best practices. The conference runs over three days and includes plenary sessions, workshops, panel discussions, an industry exhibitor show as well as the presentation of the 2015 AIBC Architectural Awards honouring architectural excellence.

The 2015 conference theme is *What's Now – Insights and Directions* which focuses on matters related to cutting edge trends and issues in the practice of architecture, including future design directions, innovative technologies, community needs and business practices.

“This year’s conference examines how as architects we are continually re-inventing the way we think, live, work and play,” says AIBC President Darryl Condon Architect AIBC. “We respond to this ever-changing landscape by evolving in many ways – from the way we communicate and conduct business to the way we design and build for the future.”

With these concepts in mind, the AIBC annual conference features a compelling lineup of 37 expert speakers. Conference highlights include:

October 28

- **[Post Disaster SAP Training Workshop](#)** featuring speakers [Michael Lingerfelt](#), [Daniel Stevens](#), [Michael Andrews](#). This workshop, based on California’s Safety Assessment Program (SAP), reviews guidelines and procedures for making post-disaster building evaluations.
- **[Practice Builder Bootcamp](#)** with panelists [James Cheng](#), [Michelle Fenton](#), [Rick Linley](#), [Matthew Woodruff](#), [Clinton Cuddington](#), [Stefan Aepli](#), [Scott Kemp](#). At this workshop, seasoned practitioners share their knowledge and experience on starting their own practice.
- **[2015 AIBC Architectural Awards Presentation](#)** celebrating the best in architecture from the AIBC community.

October 29 plenary sessions

- **[Architecture of Place](#)** featuring panelists [Kelly Edzerza-Bapty](#), [Don Luymes](#), [Otto Condon](#), [Charles Kelley](#), [Kirsten Murray](#). The panel explores four different approaches to the definition of “place” including planning concepts for the city of Surrey, district scale sustainability, global place-making and impact of modern development in Northern communities.

- **[Disruptive Trends](#)** with panelists [Charles Leman](#), [Steven Fleming](#), [Kira Gerwing](#), [Robert Brown](#), [Newsha Ghaeli](#). This plenary panel discusses developments that have gone from an idea to reality in a few years with long-term effects for the profession and practice of architecture.
- **[Designing Practice/Practicing Design](#)** led by speakers [Rick Linley](#), [Angèle Beausoleil](#), [Jason Robbins](#), [Andrew Bay](#). This session explores the business of architecture and the practice of design in constituting the elements of “good architecture”.
- **[Fluidity and Architecture](#)** with [Jean-Pierre Mahé](#), [Lara Kaufman](#), [Nana Last](#), [Josh Zabel](#). This plenary focuses on architectural fluidity as it relates to an evolving 21st century architectural expression utilizing spatial composition, relationship to the landscape, use of new materials and the interaction between people and buildings.

On the last day October 30, the conference offers breakout sessions based on the previous day's plenary themes and led by plenary speakers. These sessions include:

- **[The Social Life of Digital Design](#)** – [Lara Kaufman](#) and [Josh Zabel](#), discuss how design that encourages social engagement and interaction benefits from both the larger scale planning moves as well as the smaller scale details.
- **[Indigenous Space: Architecture. Place. Time.](#)** – [Kelly Edzerza-Bapty](#) examines Indigenous perspectives in re-imagining communities and landscapes.
- **[Three Steps to Strengthen Your Practice](#)** – [Rick Linley](#) discusses helping firms and practitioners focus on designing their practice.
- **[Partnerships for Developing Social Purpose Real Estate](#)** – [Kira Gerwing](#), [Robert Brown](#), [Nic Paolella](#) and Craig Lochead share their real-life examples and outline challenges, opportunities and lessons learned.
- **[Architectural Composites](#)** – [Josh Zabel](#) looks at emerging uses of composite materials in building and construction.
- **[LRT, City Building and Place-making in Surrey](#)** – [Don Buchanan](#), [Don Luymes](#) and [Brian McCarter](#) explore how strategic infrastructure investment can shape the future and create places for people.
- **[Aesthetics of Time](#)** – [Venelin Kokalov](#) discusses how time is key at the beginning of design.
- **[Why a Human-Powered Mega City Could Have the Fastest Commutes](#)** – [Steven Fleming](#) discusses how architects can contribute to urban planning.
- **[District-Scale Sustainability – From Portland to DC and Tokyo](#)** – [Otto Condon](#) and [Charles Kelley](#) review district-scale projects to see how district-scale strategies can lead to more resilient communities.
- **[Communicating the Value of Architecture](#)** – [Jason Robbins](#) looks at the work of Storefront Manitoba, Centre for Architecture Design & Urbanism, a non-profit group working to advance the awareness and appreciation of architecture, design and the built environment.
- **[Sensing and Actuating](#)** – [Newsha Ghaeli](#) presents projects exemplary of how digital technologies are changing our understanding of the urban realm.
- **[What's Old is New: Wood's Re-emergence in Structural and Architectural Design in Commercial Buildings](#)** – [Hugh Cochlin](#), [Tanya Luthi](#), [Sandy Treagus](#) and [Jim Taggart](#) review the recently opened Mountain Equipment Co-op (MEC) Head Office in Vancouver, an example of how heavy timber construction may once again become a cost-effective system of choice for commercial buildings.
- **[NW Traditions, Global Place-making](#)** – [Kirsten Murray](#) discusses the value of global place-making from a regionalist's perspective.
- **[The Affluent Architect](#)** – [Andrew Bay](#) reviews the various decisions faced by an architect in the creation of a business plan from a financial and legal perspective.
- **[The Automatic Building: Design at the Push of a Button](#)** – [Charles Leman](#) contemplates how technology might contribute to paradigm shifts in the building construction industry.

For additional information, visit the [2015 AIBC Annual Conference website](#).

Members of the media are invited to attend the conference, please contact Grace Battiston at [gbattiston@aibc.ca](mailto:gbattiston@aibc.ca) or Tracy Wong at [twong@aibc.ca](mailto:twong@aibc.ca) to obtain a media pass.

#### **About the AIBC**

The Architectural Institute of British Columbia (AIBC) is an independent, professional self-regulatory body established in 1920 by provincial statute (the *Architects Act*) with the mandate to regulate the profession of architecture for B.C.'s public interest. AIBC upholds excellence in the profession by establishing stringent education, experience and examination standards to practice and title in B.C.

– 30 –

#### **For more information contact:**

Grace Battiston  
Director of Communications  
Architectural Institute of British Columbia  
T: 604.683.8588 x308; [gbattiston@aibc.ca](mailto:gbattiston@aibc.ca)  
[www.aibc.ca](http://www.aibc.ca)

Tracy Wong  
Communications Specialist  
Architectural Institute of British Columbia  
T: 604.683.8588 x331; [twong@aibc.ca](mailto:twong@aibc.ca)