AIBC 100 YEARS REGULATING ARCHITECTURE
ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Media Release
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AIBC Architectural Walking Tours are Back Featuring New "After Hours" Addition

Architectural Walking Tours begin July 4 and run until the Labour Day weekend, with additional evening tours offered for those who want to explore Vancouver's unique architecture after work hours

Did you know that the dome roof of the Sun Tower in Vancouver was painted mint green to mimic the look of oxidized copper? Or, that the Victory Square Cenotaph was constructed with 3-sides to match the triangular shape of the park in which it resides?

The Architectural Institute of British Columbia's (AIBC) Architectural Walking Tours offer an opportunity to learn about Vancouver's built environment and how architects shaped the city. Participants explore six neighbourhoods with experienced AIBC guides throughout July and August, beginning July 4. New this year, the AIBC is offering "After Hours" tours, which will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. every second Thursday.



Photo Credit: Anthony Maw/Wikimedia

"With the addition of the evening walking tours, we hope people will experience the built environment in a way they never have before," says Mark Vernon, CEO, Architectural Institute of British Columbia. "The tours are an engaging and social way for the public to learn about the architectural history of Vancouver and Victoria. As the provincial regulator of the profession, this is an excellent opportunity to share the role regulated architects play in influencing the cities where we work, play, live, or visit," says Vernon.

Vancouver tours include Gastown, Chinatown, Downtown, Yaletown, the West End and Strathcona. Architectural Walking tour participants will experience:

1. **Gastown:** Explore how building scale and street layout offer clues to the expansion and relocation of the downtown centre from Gastown to its current location. See how heritage restoration and preservation guidelines and initiatives set up in the 1970s have transformed and renewed this historical part of Vancouver.

2. **Chinatown:** Stroll market streets, taking in retail, commercial and residential structures built by some of the founding merchants of this historic district.
3. **Downtown:** Discover modern and contemporary architecture while travelling through Vancouver's business district, home to British Columbia's tallest buildings.
4. **Yaletown:** Learn about how the City of Vancouver transformed this industrial area into one of the trendiest and most vibrant neighbourhoods in Canada.
5. **The West End:** Walk through a mix of historic buildings and explore architectural influences that have shaped this area over the decades. From Queen Anne style homes to 70s style postmodern residential high rises, this tour has it all.
6. **Strathcona:** Experience Vancouver's oldest and most diverse residential area. Strathcona has remained the city's "hidden gem" for years. Learn how this community has survived and flourished over the years.

Architectural Walking Tours are $10 per person and run throughout July and August. Tours are available Thursday through Monday at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. in Vancouver, with After Hours tours taking place every second Thursday from 5:30–7:30 p.m. Space is limited, so the public is invited to visit aibc.ca/tours/vancouver to book a tour today!

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Photos, Interviews, Media Passes and Backgrounder Available

- For a complimentary media tour, contact Elizabeth Woff, AIBC Communications Specialist
- High-resolution photos
- Vancouver Architectural Walking Tour Backgrounder

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About the AIBC

The Architectural Institute of British Columbia (AIBC) is an independent body with the mandate to regulate the profession of architecture in the interest of the public through a responsive framework. Established in 1920 by provincial statute through the *Architects Act*, the Institute establishes standards for entry into the profession of architecture, ensures compliance and provides services to support registrants in maintaining credentials and overall professionalism. For more information about the AIBC, please visit aibc.ca.