

# HIGH GROUND

## LEADERSHIP IN TRANSITIONING TIMES



## Agenda



### FRIDAY, MARCH 31

**PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS:** North Vancouver Sustainability Tour (8 am to noon) and Media Intensive (9 am to noon, Barclay Room)

1 pm	<b>WELCOME</b> (Nelson/Denman Room)			
1:30 – 2:45	Comox Room	Barclay Room	Gilford Room	
	Reconciliation in Action	Economy in Transition	Lessons from the Cauldron	
2:45 – 3:15	WELLNESS BREAK			
3:15 – 4:30	Comox Room	Barclay Room	Gilford Room	Beach Room
	Public Communications For Women	Schools and Inter-generational Dialogue	Supporting Refugees	Top Asks for Climate Action
5 pm	<b>PECHA KUCHA STYLE!</b> (Nelson/Denman)			
6 pm	<b>RECEPTION</b> Sponsors: UFCW 1518 and United Way			
7 pm	<b>DINNER &amp; KEYNOTE</b> with Charlie Demers (Nelson/Denman) Sponsor: Vancity			

### SATURDAY, APRIL 1

from 7:30 am	<b>BREAKFAST</b> (Nelson/Denman)			
8 am	<b>BREAKFAST KEYNOTE:</b> <i>Leadership in Transitioning Times</i> (Nelson/Denman)			
9:30 – 10:45	Comox Room	Barclay Room	Gilford Room	Beach Room
	Living Wage Grains Ground	Public Responsibility, Public Control	Engaging Citizens in Budget Decisions	Sanctuary Schools
10:45 – 11:15	WELLNESS BREAK			
11:15 – 12:15	<b>EMERGING ISSUES</b> (Nelson/Denman)			
12:15 – 1:15	<b>LUNCH</b> (Nelson/Denman) Sponsor: BCGEU			
1:15 – 2:30	Comox Room	Barclay Room	Gilford Room	Beach Room
	Housing Leadership	Ramping Up Low Carbon Communities	Creating Social Impact	What's Up? Educational Roundtable
2:30 – 3:30	<b>CLOSING PLENARY</b> (Nelson/Denman)			

## PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

### NORTH VANCOUVER SUSTAINABILITY TOUR *Friday 8 am – noon*

North Vancouver's corporate emissions dropped 19% from 2007 to 2015, thanks to an aggressive sustainability campaign carried out by the city. Learn about the strategic planning involved in lowering GHG emissions and the work the city is doing to create and maintain publicly-owned space. We'll spend the morning touring North Vancouver's low carbon innovations. [DARRELL MUSSATTO](#), [GARY PENWAY](#)

### MEDIA INTENSIVE *Friday 9 am – noon*

Join media guru Shannon Daub, Associate Director of Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA), for a half-day media intensive workshop that will help you focus on the development of key media skills, like how to get your message across (without sounding like a robot!). A necessary political skill for all locally-elected leaders. [SHANNON DAUB](#) / Barclay Room

## FRIDAY WORKSHOPS

### FRIDAY EARLY AFTERNOON 1:30 – 2:45 pm

*Participants choose one workshop*

#### RECONCILIATION IN ACTION

Reconciliation is a big word. The Elders remind us that it is a process, a journey without one single road or a final destination. It is not always easy or comfortable and it sometimes can be confusing and frustrating, yet worth every step. After working with over 5000 people in the Cowichan Valley, deepening our relationships with our country's history and the impacts its legacies have brought to us, Cultural Connections has a story to share about reconciliation, its highs and lows, the emotions it stirs up, and the unimaginable gifts it yields. The team will take you through the journey of Canada's relationships with First Nations and into the era of reconciliation. Participants will laugh, reconsider, reflect, and deepen their understanding. [CULTURAL CONNECTIONS REPRESENTATIVES](#) / Comox Room

#### ECONOMY IN TRANSITION

A low carbon economy will mean building out green infrastructure and investing in public services. This session features practical ideas for building out a robust provincial jobs plan that respects our natural environment and generates good jobs, as well as a transitioning economy case study from New Westminster. New Westminster was hit economically with mill closures that followed a significant provincial policy change. Now New West is among the top twenty "wired" cities in the world, and is building up its art credentials with the first digital art gallery in North America. [SETH KLEIN](#), [BILL HARPER](#), [CHUCK PUCHMAYR](#) / Barclay Room

#### LESSONS FROM THE CAULDRON

It's not always easy being an elected leader. Sometimes decisions are contentious. How do you know you are on the right track? In this workshop you'll hear case studies in leadership from elected leaders who've governed through challenging times. They'll share their stories and provide their observations about good leadership practices. Be prepared to join the conversation, and tell your own tales from the cauldron. [PATTI BACCHUS](#), [TAYLOR BACHRACH](#), [DON MITCHELL](#), [NICOLE READ](#) / Gilford Room

### FRIDAY LATE AFTERNOON 3:15 – 4:30 pm

*Participants choose one workshop*

#### PUBLIC COMMUNICATION FOR WOMEN

Women's voices remain underrepresented in public policy debates, in mainstream media, and at elected tables. Women candidates are still in the minority. Gendered ways of communicating can shape how people hear what women have to say. Women often struggle with self-confidence or shy away from being public experts or leaders. Intersecting oppressions based on race, culture, sexuality, gender identity, body and ability heighten these challenges. When it is about advocating for progressive social change, it gets just that much harder. This is a space for sharing experiences and to help one another to be more confident, visible and effective public communicators. [SHANNON DAUB](#) / Comox Room

#### SCHOOLS AND INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE

Schools can play an important role in creating a lively intergenerational dialogue. Seniors are healthier when they are connected to their communities, and healthy communities engage all their citizens — that's harder when community design encourages driving over walking and fewer community events accommodate all residents. The issue of senior isolation and corresponding health implications is in sharper focus as our senior population increases. This session features case studies of intergenerational dialogue between schools and seniors and discussion. [RANDY CAIRNS](#), [BRENT CARBERY](#), [VICTORIA MARTIN](#), [DIANA MUNTIGL](#), [MICHAEL PHILLIPS](#), [KEVIN WATRIN](#) / Barclay Room

#### SUPPORTING REFUGEES

For the last ten years, Surrey has become the destination for the majority of BC's new immigrants and refugees. The city has been working hard to step up support, working collaboratively with community groups to build an inclusive, welcoming community. You'll hear what's been achieved, what is in the pipeline, and gain some new ideas to take home to

your community. You'll also hear about the Sanctuary Cities movement, which is about supporting immigrants with precarious or no immigration status. Vancouver, Toronto, Hamilton, and Montreal have declared themselves Sanctuary Cities, and others are examining the possibility. **JUDY VILLINEUVE, VERA LEFRANC, BYRON CRUZ, CATHERINE EVANS** / Gilford Room

**TOP ASKS FOR CLIMATE ACTION**

Our 2016 report "Top Asks for Climate Action: Ramping Up Low Carbon Communities" lays out the federal and provincial policy asks for local governments to maximize action on the 60% of GHG emissions they influence. Local governments are showing both determination and success in addressing the issues emerging from our warming planet, and could do much more with a little help from their [much larger] friends. This session provides an overview of public policy asks, offers an update from the Green Municipal Fund case study, and introduces the new provincial 'Step Code.' **KAREN FARBRIDGE, ANDREA REIMER, DAVID FRISCH, ROBYN WARK** / Beach Room

# PECHA KUCHA!

Friday 5 to 6 pm

Innovative leadership showcased in fast-paced Pecha Kucha style presentations.



Women's March:  
**MARIANNE ALTO**



Pay Up Chevron:  
**ANDREW GAGE**



Zero Waste:  
**SUE MAXWELL**



The Future is Here:  
**DALE LITTLEJOHN**



Combating Hate: One  
Community's Journey:  
**DOUG HILLIAN**



How Quesnel got  
its Doctors Back:  
**BOB SIMPSON**



Top Asks for  
Climate Action:  
**SAV DHALIWAL**



Millennial and  
Political Change:  
**GEOFF DEMBICKI**

## FRIDAY DINNER + KEYNOTE

Friday 7 pm

# Charlie Demers

These are definitely 'transitioning times.' Fake news, millennial expectations, low carbon transition, climate change, and righting inequality, and electoral upsets... just to name a few. Vancouver's own Charlie Demers will make you laugh with witty and insightful commentary while touching on these topics. Charlie is an author, stand-up comedian and a lecturer of Creative Writing at UBC. He has performed for national television and radio audiences, and at the Just for Laughs Festival. Charlie is also one of the most frequently returning stars of CBC Radio One's The Debaters. Nelson/Denman Room / **SPONSORED BY VANCITY**



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# HIGH GROUND: LEADERSHIP IN TRANSITIONING TIMES

## SATURDAY BREAKFAST AND KEYNOTE breakfast from 7:30 am, keynote panel at 8 am with Libby Davies, Josha MacNab, Craig Suavé, and Stephanie Smith

**LEADERSHIP IN TRANSITIONING TIMES:** Environmental and social upheaval, shifting values and economies – amplified by new media and impacted by shrinking mainstream media resources – are changing the leadership landscape. In this Saturday morning plenary, our keynote speakers reflect on our transitioning times and share the opportunities and challenges they see for those who lead.  
Nelson/Denman Room



**LIBBY DAVIES**  
Social activist, former MP  
and Deputy Leader of the NDP



**JOSHA MACNAB**  
Director, Pembina Institute BC



**CRAIG SUAVÉ**  
City Councillor of Montreal



**STEPHANIE SMITH**  
President, BCGEU

## SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

### SATURDAY MORNING 9:30 – 10:45 am

*Participants choose one workshop*

#### LIVING WAGE GAINS GROUND

Living Wage is an international movement countering low wage poverty. A living wage allows for a family to participate in the economic, cultural, and social life of a community. BC municipalities are a hot bed of activity. New Westminster was the first in Canada in 2011, followed by the Huu-ay-aht First Nation in 2015; and Quesnel made history as the second BC municipality to certify last year. Four other municipalities, including Vancouver, have living wage policies and are working on certification. How did these local governments make it happen? What barriers and solutions have they uncovered in the process? **BOB SIMPSON, GEOFF MEGGS, KATHY WADDELL** / Comox Room

#### PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY, PUBLIC CONTROL

With a huge infrastructure deficit in communities across Canada and the advent of new federal funding, the question emerges: How do communities keep public control of their public infrastructure and services? Our expert panel will take you through an analysis of federal funding, the central role of transparency in building public infrastructure, key questions to ask in the process, and the global trend toward bringing services back in house (including a review of our Back in House report). **ROB DUFFY, KEITH REYNOLDS, GAETAN ROYER** / Barclay Room

#### ENGAGING CITIZENS IN BUDGET DECISIONS

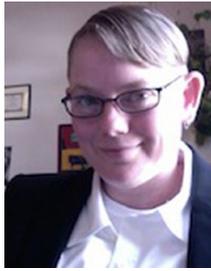
Participatory budgeting is an innovative tool for engaging community members, deepening community understanding of budgetary trade-offs and clarifying community priorities. With roots in Porto Alegre, Brazil, participatory budgeting is an exercise that builds community participation and strengthens accountability by allotting a portion of the decision making budget to community members. This session explores participatory budgeting principles and shares how it works in Tofino, BC. You'll also get an update on how the process has evolved in Guelph, ON since 1999. Could this be a tool for your community? **JANETTE LOVEYS, JOSIE OSBORNE, LEANNE PIPER** / Gilford Room

#### SANCTUARY SCHOOLS

The Sanctuary Schools movement works to ensure that children and families who are residents in a community, but have precarious or no immigration status, can access public education in our schools without fear. These values stand in stark contrast to a rise in exclusionary, racist and xenophobic incidents, rhetoric and policy in the USA and Canada. The right to participate in public education exists on paper in the BC School Act, but is not always demonstrated in practice. In this session, you'll hear perspectives from trustees and community partners on building district and public will for embedding Sanctuary principles in policy and procedures. In a climate of heightened refugee need, locally-elected school boards can make a difference. **MARK GIFFORD, MAYA RUSSELL, BALJINDER NARANG, ALEJANDRA LÓPEZ BRAVO** / Beach Room

## EMERGING ISSUES 11:15 am to 12:15 pm

A fast-paced plenary that spotlights the latest trends and issues in our communities through punchy presentations.  
Nelson/Denman Room



Fentanyl Sentencing:  
**ADRIENNE SMITH**



Poverty Reduction Plan:  
**ADRIENNE MONTANI**



Kinder Morgan:  
**DEREK CORRIGAN**



Trade Agreements:  
**BLAIR REDLIN**



Forestry Policy:  
**SHIRLEY ACKLAND**

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS 1:15 – 2:30

Participants choose one workshop

### HOUSING LEADERSHIP

The issues of homelessness and affordable housing have local leaders on the front lines. “The mayor who ended homelessness” will tell the story of Medicine Hat’s success in housing people first. What factors helped Medicine Hat pull this off? What have been the outcomes? Beyond advocacy and the clear need for Federal and Provincial governments to step up, what tools are available to local leaders on housing? The Mayor of New Westminster, a city planner by training, will share tools and best practices for your local government toolkits.  
**TED CLUGSTON, JONATHAN COTE** / Comox Room

### RAMPING UP LOW CARBON COMMUNITIES

Taking action on buildings is the fastest way to ramp up low carbon communities. Four new pathways light the way. In Saanich, a brand new pilot financing program aims to enhance the District’s home energy retrofit strategy. The pilot will use ‘Local Improvement Charges’ to support homeowners with the upfront costs of energy efficiency upgrades through a low interest municipal loan tied to the property. Hear why Nelson’s home retrofit program is a model for Canada and what makes it work, along with an update on the city’s newest clean energy initiative: a Community Solar Garden. Pembina Institute shares how to ramp up low carbon communities with benchmarking and the Province’s new ‘Step Code.’ Insulators Local 118 shares new research on the surprisingly large energy savings achievable in commercial buildings through strategic investment in insulation. **JUDY BROWNOFF, LEE LOFTUS, CARMEN PROCTOR, KAREN WONG TAM** / Barclay Room

### CREATING SOCIAL IMPACT

Municipalities exist to provide services and support their communities. The concept of corporate social purpose takes this deeply into operations, from social procurement to community benefit agreements, and more. You’ll hear from three leaders in the field, who will shed light on the concept and share case studies from the trenches about how a range of actors (municipalities, businesses, not-for-profits, co-operatives and First Nation community-owned businesses, along with mission-based for profits) can draw inspiration from this model for social impact. **MARY ELLEN SCHAAFSMA, CHEEYING HO, IRENE GANNITSOS** / Gilford Room

### WHAT’S UP? EDUCATION ROUND TABLE

Join your fellow trustees in exploring the current state of public education in BC. Are open catchment area boundaries having an unintended effect? What implementation questions are there with restoration of class size and composition collective bargaining language? How are things going on the ground with reconciliation? Are four year terms working out? What can trustees do to engage their public and make the case for public education? / Beach Room

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## Presenters



**SHIRLEY ACKLAND** is Mayor of Port McNeill, a small forest industry based community on Northern Vancouver Island. She has been a faculty member at North Island College for 29 years and a union activist all of her adult life. In her role in municipal government she has worked to create a community forest in the North Island, participated in the creation of a

protocol agreement with 11 First Nations in our region, and chaired the health committee on addiction recovery services for the North Island. Shirley is currently a member of a subcommittee to learn and create community procurement processes for Vancouver Island municipalities. [EMERGING ISSUES](#)



**MARIANNE ALTO** is a facilitator by trade, active in her community for 25+ years. With university degrees in law and science, she was the coordinator of Victoria's only women's centre, a senior analyst in the BC Premier's office, and remains principal in Azimuth Research and Consulting, a firm specializing in organizational change, strategic planning and project management. An activist legislator first elected to Victoria City Council in 2010, and the Capital Regional District in 2011, she currently facilitates local government portfolios in First Nations reconciliation and shared governance, harm reduction, social enterprise, transit, active transportation, social enterprise, alternative and affordable housing, and poverty reduction.

[@MarianneAlto](#) PECHA KUCHA STYLE!



**PATTI BACCHUS** was elected to the Vancouver School Board as Board Chair and part of the Vision Vancouver slate in 2008, 2011 and 2014, topping the polls each time. As Chair she and the Vision-led board secured hundreds of millions of dollars in provincial capital funding for new and seismically upgraded schools. She is especially proud of the VSB's leadership is developing

ground-breaking policy to support transgendered students and to create the first student trustee position in BC. Patti is also a Director on the Board of the Broadbent Institute and, more recently, has joined the *Vancouver Observer* as a contributing education editor. [@pattibacchus](#) [LESSONS FROM THE CAULDRON](#)



**TAYLOR BACHRACH** was elected Mayor of Smithers in November 2011. Prior to that, he served as a Councillor in the Village of Telkwa. In addition to his local government role, Taylor owns and runs a small graphic design and web development company called Bachrach Communications.

[@taylorbachrach](#) [LESSONS FROM THE CAULDRON](#)



**JUDY BROWNOFF** continues to move Saanich forward on many sustainability issues, active transportation, "age friendly" Saanich, and affordability. She has served the Saanich community since 1993. When Judy was first elected she brought a motion to Saanich Council to join FCM's 20% Club, now the Partners in Climate Protection program. She was instrumental in working with the CAO to develop the Climate Action

Plan and Climate Adaptation/Mitigation Plan. She is the Chair of Saanich's Planning, Transportation and Economic Development Committee, a Director at the Capital Regional District, as well as President and Chair of the BC Healthy Communities Board of Directors. [RAMPING UP LOW CARBON COMMUNITIES](#)



**RANDY CAIRNS** has been a Trustee at Mission Public Schools for more than eleven years. He is currently serving his fourth term. Randy was a liaison to Fraserview Learning Centre, and continues to support the student-centred facility. He recognizes the importance and value of intergenerational initiatives. [SCHOOLS AND INTER-GENERATIONAL DIALOGUE](#)



**BRENT CARBERY** was a teacher and administrator in the Saanich School District for 34 years prior to retiring in 2012. His last assignment was as principal at Cordova Bay Elementary School (2004-2012). Before he moved to Cordova Bay, the community went through a lengthy process initiated by Cordova Bay 55 Plus and Saanich Municipality to approve 55 Plus moving into the school facility in 2004. Brent was responsible

for working with all of the partner groups to make sure that the move was successful and that Cordova Bay 55 Plus became welcome members of the school community. [SCHOOLS AND INTER-GENERATIONAL DIALOGUE](#)



**TED CLUGSTON** was born and raised in Medicine Hat and graduated from the University of Calgary. He served two terms as an Alderman before being elected Mayor in October 2013. While leading the municipality and its multi-million dollar energy division, his priorities include: tourism, economic development and growth, continued diversification of the energy portfolio, industrial expansion, flood mitigation, recreation

and entertainment. [@tedclugston](#) [HOUSING LEADERSHIP](#)



**DEREK CORRIGAN** has served the citizens of Burnaby since he was first elected to Council as a Councillor in 1987. He was elected Mayor in 2002, then re-elected in 2005, 2008, 2011 and 2014. He strives to bring the history and heritage of his three decades of public service to every important decision. Derek was born in Vancouver. After winning a scholarship to UBC, he was granted early admission to law school and was called

to the B.C. Bar in 1978. He has served on many local, regional and national committees; as chair of B.C. Transit from 1994-97; and four years as an elected director of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. [EMERGING ISSUES](#)



**JONATHAN COTE** was first elected in 2005, serving three terms on the New Westminster City Council before being elected Mayor in 2014. He has earned a reputation as a strong leader around issues such as transportation, our local economy, and parks and recreation facilities. Jonathan is appointed to several Metro Vancouver Committees including the Housing Committee, Regional Planning Committee (Vice Chair), Mayors' Committee, Performance and Procurement Committee and Zero Waste Committee. He is also a member of the TransLink Mayors' Council. Jonathan holds a Master's in Urban Studies from SFU. [@jonathanxcote](#) HOUSING LEADERSHIP



**BYRON CRUZ** is a refugee from Guatemala, who now works with the Street Nurse Program and is a member of the Sanctuary Health Collective. Byron is also a member of the Guatemalan Student Union and participated in the formation of the BC Multicultural Health Services Society and Bridge Health Clinic. He represents Sanctuary Health in the Mayor's Working Group on Immigration Issues. He is passionate about working with agricultural migrant workers, refugees and migrants with precarious immigration status or no status to bring about social change. SUPPORTING REFUGEES



**CULTURAL CONNECTIONS** is a team of people from both worlds – cultural elders who are residential school survivors, intergenerational survivors, and people with mixed and European heritage. The group includes Tousilum Ron George, Robert George, Lucy Thomas, Dorothy Jack, Linda Modeste, Raymond Charlie, and Michelle Staples. RECONCILIATION IN ACTION



**SHANNON DAUB** has trained and coached dozens of researchers and community leaders on public speaking and media interviews. She has taught in the School of Communication and Culture at Royal Roads University. Shannon is Associate Director of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives' BC Office. Over the last 20 years, she poured her passion for social justice into the CCPA-BC's strategic communication and public engagement work. Shannon has been active in civic governance as a board member with the Vancouver Public Library and the BC Library Trustees' Association. She currently chairs the Wilderness Committee's board of directors. [@shannondaub](#) MEDIA INTENSIVE, PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND WOMEN



**LIBBY DAVIES** was a member of parliament for 18 years and was awarded the Order of Canada in 2016. She has been a social activist for 40 plus years and began as a community organizer in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Libby was elected to Vancouver City Council for five consecutive terms, 1982-1993. She was the Member of Parliament for

Vancouver East for six consecutive terms, 1997–2015. From 2003–2011 she was the NDP House Leader and Deputy Leader (2007–2015). Libby has been an outspoken advocate for human rights, housing, peace, and social justice throughout her political life. She is currently writing about political activism and transformative change. [@LibbyDavies](#) LEADERSHIP IN TRANSITIONING TIMES



**GEOFF DEMBICKI** reports for *The Tyee*. His work has appeared in outlets like the *New York Times*, the *Atlantic* and *Foreign Policy*. Geoff's first book, *Are We Screwed? How a New Generation is Fighting to Survive Climate Change*, will be published by Bloomsbury this August. [@GeoffDembicki](#) PECHA KUCHA STYLE!



**SAV DHAILWAL** is proud to be serving his fifth consecutive term as a Burnaby City Councillor. Prior to becoming a Councillor, Sav was president of the Burnaby Minor Hockey Association, served on the Burnaby Parks and Recreation Commission, and was founding chair of the Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame Committee where he worked closely with the City in designing the Bill Copeland Sports Centre. Sav has welcomed the opportunity to represent Burnaby at the provincial level as the president of the Lower Mainland Local Government Association, at UBCM and FCM. [@BurnabySav](#) PECHA KUCHA STYLE!



**ROBERT DUFFY** is the coordinator for the Sustainable Communities Initiative. From 2009 to 2014, he was research analyst with Columbia Institute and the Centre for Civic Governance. Prior to that, he held research and policy positions in the Canadian parliament and the BC legislature. [@robduffySCI](#) PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY, PUBLIC CONTROL



**CATHERINE EVANS** is a first-term Park Board commissioner in Vancouver. She also sits on a variety of City of Vancouver committees, including the Women's Advisory Committee, and the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee. Before her election, she worked in the fields of law, policy, and communications in both government and the private sector. The issues she has championed in her work and as a volunteer include pay equity, employment equity, human rights, adult guardianship, public education, housing and homelessness, and women's rights. [@catherineevans](#) SUPPORTING REFUGEES



**KAREN FARBRIDGE** has over 25 years of experience connecting people and ideas to build more sustainable and resilient communities. She spent 17 years in municipal politics, 11 of them as the mayor of Guelph. Karen successfully championed the integration of sustainability principles and citizen engagement into the city's approach to city planning and development. Her integrated approach to

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sustainability embraces four pillars: economic opportunity and prosperity, social justice and well-being, environmental stewardship, and culture. She is currently President of Karen Farbridge & Associates Ltd. She recently co-authored "Top Asks for Climate Action: Ramping Up Low Carbon Communities." [@karenfarbridge](#)  
TOP ASKS FOR CLIMATE ACTION



**DAVID FRISCH** was elected as a City of Courtenay Councillor in November 2014. His vision for the future is to continue building the coolest city on Vancouver Island. David learned his love of the outdoors growing up in North Bay, Ontario, and his distaste for urban sprawl in Southern, Ontario. He strives to live his message by limiting the use of his private automobiles and supporting his local economy. [@frischdavid1](#) TOP ASKS FOR CLIMATE ACTION



**ANDREW GAGE** is a lawyer with West Coast Environmental Law and lead on the Climate Law in our Hands initiative. Climate Law in our Hands empowers communities to evaluate their local climate impacts and then hold fossil fuel companies globally accountable. By challenging the right of fossil fuel companies to profit from the destruction of our communities, Climate Law in our Hands forces a conversation that the fossil fuel industry has managed to avoid so far, going to the core of the climate crisis. [@WCELaw](#) PECHA KUCHA STYLE!



**IRENE GANNITSOS** is the Manager of Strategic Foundations at the Vancity Community Foundation. She re-joined the VCF Team in 2015, having previously worked with the foundation from 2000 to 2012 in a variety of roles, including leading much of the early social enterprise work. During her hiatus from VCF, Irene led the Community Investment division at Affinity Credit Union, an important sister organization to Vancity with a similarly long track record supporting innovative community development and also a fellow member of the Global Alliance for Banking on Values. CREATING SOCIAL IMPACT



**MARK GIFFORD** is Executive Director at Kiwassa Neighbourhood House, where he works with an amazing group of staff and volunteers to provide a wide range of inclusive community development services in East Vancouver. Previously, Mark was Director of Grants & Community Initiatives at the Vancouver Foundation, providing staff leadership on design and facilitation of granting, research, community engagement and advocacy strategies. He serves as Vice Chair of the New Westminster Board of Education, to which he was elected as a Trustee in 2014. [@contactgifford](#) SANCTUARY SCHOOLS



**BILL HARPER** has served as a Councillor with the City of New Westminster since 2005. Bill worked as the National Staff Representative for CUPE for 14 years, and was a member of the provincial government's Education Advisory Council, as a representative for CUPE, for nine years. He was also a member of the Ministry of Children and Families' Protocol Committee which developed protocol for children with special needs and those in residential care facilities. Bill currently chairs the Chair of the Intelligent City Advisory Committee. ECONOMY IN TRANSITION



**DOUG HILLIAN** is a three time municipal Councillor serving the City of Courtenay since 2009. A community volunteer and activist, he works in human services management after a long career on the front lines of social work and the justice system. Doug's presentation is an account of the Comox Valley's Critical Incident Response Protocol against racism, hate crime and homophobia, and how a racist incident and Courtenay's initial refusal to sign the protocol became an international story. PECHA KUCHA STYLE!



**CHEEYING HO** is executive director of the Whistler Centre for Sustainability, and has over 20 years of experience in community planning, engagement and sustainability. She provides strategy, creative process design, facilitation and engagement for local governments, private sector clients, and non-profits. She created and launched the Social Venture Challenge program, designed to inspire and support entrepreneurs with the development of new social enterprises. Prior to her role at the Centre, she was Executive Director of Smart Growth BC, the leading province-wide NGO advancing sustainable land use and development. [@cheeying](#) CREATING SOCIAL IMPACT



**SETH KLEIN** is the BC Director of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. Seth holds a BA in international relations, a B.Ed from the University of Toronto, and an MA in political science from Simon Fraser University. He has been a social activist for over 25 years. A former teacher, Seth is co-chair of the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition, a board member of the Canada Without Poverty Advocacy Network, and an advisor and instructor for Next Up, a leadership program for young people committed to social and environmental justice. [@SethDKlein](#) ECONOMY IN TRANSITION



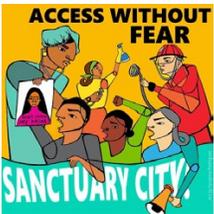
**VERA LEFRANC** is a Surrey City Councillor and member of the non-partisan Surrey First team. She has spent decades working in the non-profit sector focusing on anti-violence, employment, poverty reduction, crime prevention, housing and homelessness, and community economic development – all of which are issues facing Surrey today. Vera worked with the Poverty Reduction Coalition to develop the Surrey Poverty Reduction Plan, including THIS (Transportation, Housing, Income and Support) is How we End Poverty in Surrey – a framework for making a difference for all low-income individuals. [@VeraLeFranc](#) SUPPORTING REFUGEES



**DALE LITTLEJOHN** is Executive Director of the Community Energy Association. CEA is an enterprising non-profit research and consulting organization for local governments on climate action. Prior to joining CEA in 2006, Dale was a global corporate strategy and technology strategy consultant at Deloitte. Dale also has a small coaching practice to help conscious business leaders. **PECHA KUCHA STYLE!**



**LEE LOFTUS** is Business Manager of the BC Insulators, and President of the BC Building Trade Unions. He has spent considerable time in the construction sector and is a leader in the labour movement. Lee provides real-time advice on energy saving matters, particularly for building construction and retrofits. **RAMPING UP LOW CARBON ECONOMIES**



**ALEJANDRA LÓPEZ BRAVO** was born and raised in Mexico City, but Vancouver has been her home since 2006. As a member of Sanctuary Health, she advocates for access to services without fear of deportation, and gives direct support to those with precarious or no immigration status. Alejandra recently collaborated with the New

Westminster Board of Education to help develop their Sanctuary Schools policy. She is also manager of the Fresh Voices Initiative, a program that works with immigrant and refugee youth to understand and develop recommendations for policy in BC. Her involvement with immigrant, refugee women, and youth is connected to her personal journey of redefining identity and belonging, and her commitment to addressing sexism, racism and poverty. **SANCTUARY SCHOOLS**



**JANETTE LOVEYS** is Chief Administrative Officer for the Sunshine Coast Regional District. Prior to SCRD, Janette took on a lead role in the public participation program for the largest Capital Regional District project – a provincially mandated wastewater treatment system across multiple municipalities. Janette is also an accomplished civil servant. In 2003 she played a significant role in initiating and

leading the first Canadian municipal participatory budgeting experience and has since presented at numerous international conferences. Janette is from southern Ontario, where she gained over 15 years of experience working in municipal and provincial government. **ENGAGING CITIZENS IN BUDGET DECISIONS**



**JOSHA MACNAB** works on policy solutions at the local and provincial level and strives to encourage a pace and scale of action that is commensurate with the climate challenge we face. Her work supports the transition to a clean energy economy by exploring solutions that can help BC remain an economically-competitive climate leader. Through cross-sectoral consultation and engagement, her

work finds ways to reduce the impact of fossil fuels and increase energy

efficiency while encouraging robust development of clean energy. Joshua directs the Pembina Institute's work in BC and holds a Master's of Resource and Environmental Management degree from SFU. **@JMacNab LEADERSHIP IN TRANSITIONING TIMES**



**VICTORIA MARTIN** is a social worker who has worked with marginalized youth in Canada and the UK. For the past 19 years she has been involved with the public school system, in Saanich School District 63, as a PAC executive member and co-President of the District Parent Advisory. For the past two years she has been Chair of the Saanich Board of

Education. Central to Victoria's involvement is a belief that strong communities are inclusive communities. Victoria was involved in the negotiation and implementation of the Cordova Bay 55 Plus organization to the mutual benefit of everyone involved, from the youngest student to the oldest 55 plus member. **SCHOOLS AND INTER-GENERATIONAL DIALOGUE**



**SUE MAXWELL** is a Councillor in Whistler and an environmental consultant. She holds Master's in Environment and Management and is passionate about zero waste and sustainability. Sue has worked and volunteered in BC on matters related to waste reduction and elimination. Some of these projects include developing the zero waste hierarchy, several

extended producer responsibility programs, and zero waste plans for regional districts, municipalities and other organizations. Having local governments understand and use their potential to effect change towards zero waste is one of her goals. **PECHA KUCHA STYLE!**



**GEOFF MEGGS** is currently serving on Vancouver's City Council. Geoff focuses on transit, affordable housing and the Viaducts replacement project. He was first elected in 2008 and re-elected in 2011 and 2014. Geoff is a member of the Metro Vancouver Board and the Metro Vancouver Housing Committee. He was recently appointed the City of Vancouver's Deputy Mayor for 2017. **@geoffmeggs LIVING WAGE GAINS GROUND**



**DON MITCHELL** tries to follow the motto "think globally, act locally." He has served thirteen years on the Moose Jaw city council, three of those as mayor. The issues he focuses on in council and advisory committees include municipal support for waste reduction, alternative energy production and reduction of carbon emissions. He is also a supporter of

fair and equitable taxation, social housing, promotion of local food production, and cultural diversity and inclusion. Don is a council representative on six advisory committees and/or third party boards. **LESSONS FROM THE CAULDRON**

# HIGH GROUND: LEADERSHIP IN TRANSITIONING TIMES



**ADRIENNE MONTANI** is the Provincial Coordinator for First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition. She has served as the Child and Youth Advocate for the City of Vancouver and as a Trustee and Chairperson of the Vancouver School Board. Her work over 35 years, mostly in the non-profit sector, has focused on women's and children's rights, cross-cultural awareness and racism, and

the impacts of poverty and inequality on child and youth health and well-being. [EMERGING ISSUES](#)



**DIANA MUNTIGL** has over thirty years of experience as a historical and artistic amateur, and adult educator. Working in art galleries, museums, and elder colleges, it has been her career goal to create experiences that enrich and engage people in Canada's art, historic, and cultural traditions. Currently, as Executive Director for Lifetime Learning, Diana believes this intergenerational project is a

meaningful and effective way for generations to share their traditions, cultures, experiences, and skills, to create lasting intergenerational understanding. [SCHOOLS AND INTER-GENERATIONAL DIALOGUE](#)



**DARRELL MUSSATTO's** priority issues are sustainability, affordability and homelessness. Darrell is now serving his fourth term as Mayor of North Vancouver, previously he served four terms as Councillor. He is committed to lowering the City's carbon footprint by making the City more bike-friendly, reducing energy use, managing our liquid and solid waste in a more environmentally

friendly way, supporting urban gardening and expanding the award winning Lonsdale Energy Corporation. Darrel is also a Director of Metro Vancouver, serving as Chair of the Utilities Committee. [@DarrellMussatto](#)  
[NORTH VANCOUVER SUSTAINABILITY TOUR](#)



**BALJINDER NARANG** holds a Master's degree in Health Education from Dalhousie University, and has since worked as an occupational therapist specializing in community rehabilitation and drug & alcohol counselling. She currently serves on the New Vista Society Trustee Board, the Panjab Digital Library of Canada, and is President for the Sikh Research Institute Canada. She was elected

as School Trustee in 2008 and serves as Vice Chair of the Burnaby Board of Education. [SCHOOLS AND INTER-GENERATIONAL DIALOGUE](#)



**JOSIE OSBORNE** is serving her second term as Mayor of Tofino. A self-described community builder, she grew up on Vancouver Island and was strongly mentored in community service. After leaving university, moving to Tofino, and pursuing a 15 year career in marine biology and environmental education, she turned to operating small businesses and volunteering on the boards of several tourism and

festival non-profit organizations. As mayor, she is a strong advocate for local government communication and public engagement, and proudly led the development of participatory budgeting in Tofino – after first learning about it through the Centre for Civic Governance.

[@JosieOsborne](#) [ENGAGING CITIZENS IN BUDGET DECISIONS](#)



**GARY PENWAY** is the Director of the Community Development Department with the City of North Vancouver. Gary has over thirty years of experience with North Vancouver, including serving as the City Planner, Waterfront Project Manager and Development Planner. He has a degree in Urban & Regional Planning and is a member of the Canadian Institute of Planners. In 2000,

Gary led the effort to rewrite the City's Official Community Plan to focus on sustainability principles. He prepared the City's Waterfront Vision and has been the City's lead for the Pier waterfront development since 1995. [NORTH VANCOUVER SUSTAINABILITY TOUR](#)



**LEANNE PIPER** is a three-term City Councillor in Guelph, Ontario, and served as a school board Trustee prior to election to council. She has a long history of activism on a wide range of issues, including environmental protection, social justice, neighbourhood and city planning, urban forestry, heritage conservation, and public education. Leanne has an Honours

BA in History & English from McMaster University and an MA in Leadership from the College of Business and Economics at the University of Guelph, where she works full-time. Leanne feels strongly that direct citizen participation is essential to municipal budgeting.

[@ward5guelph](#) [ENGAGING CITIZENS IN BUDGET DECISIONS](#)



**CARMEN PROCTOR** was contracted in 2011 to develop and implement an Energy Retrofit Program with on-bill financing for the City of Nelson. This program is still a success in the community and has now expanded to offer solar energy. She continues to manage EcoSave and is the lead on the Nelson Community Solar Garden project. Carmen started the Nelson

Green Home and Energy Show, now in its 5th year, which showcases greener options for building, retrofitting and features electric vehicles.

[RAMPING UP LOW CARBON COMMUNITIES](#)



**CHUCK PUCHMAYR** is a current member of New Westminster city council, first elected in 1996. He is a past member of the BC Legislature 2005-2009, and a current executive member of the Lower Mainland Local Government Association. Chuck is an active volunteer and sits as a director on numerous non-profit boards. He is a recipient of the Queen's Diamond

Jubilee, Citizen of the year and the United Way Labour appreciation awards. [@ChuckPuchmayr](#) [ECONOMY IN TRANSITION](#)



**NICOLE READ** is the Mayor of Maple Ridge. From 2000-2003, she worked as a historical research consultant for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. Prior to this, Nicole founded her company *THG* (The History Group Inc.), which has grown to be a leading provider of project management and historical consulting services in Canada. Nicole served one year on the Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission and has volunteered with Carnegie Centre and the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre in Vancouver. **LESSONS FROM THE CAULDRON**



**BLAIR REDLIN** is a public policy researcher based in Vancouver. He currently serves as Co-chair of the national Trade Justice Network which brings together Canadian civil society organizations concerned about international trade deals. Blair was formerly a researcher with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE). During the 1990s, he served as a Deputy Minister in the B.C. public service, heading up economic development and transportation agencies. In 2014 Blair co-authored a report on ferry construction for the Centre for Civic Governance, "Made-in-B.C. Ferries", and another in 2015 for Green Jobs BC, on green jobs from transit investment "Good Jobs, Clean Skies." **EMERGING ISSUES**



**ANDREA REIMER** has led the City of Vancouver's award-winning efforts to be the Greenest City in the world by 2020. First elected to Council in 2008, Ms. Reimer previously was elected to the Vancouver School Board under the Green Party banner, a first in Canada. She was Vancouver's first permanent Deputy Mayor, chairs the City's Policy and Strategic Priorities Committee and is Vice Chair of the Climate Action Committee. Nationally, she sits on the Green Municipal Fund Council which awards federal dollars for green infrastructure. Prior to being elected, Ms. Reimer ran the largest membership-based environment group in Canada. **@andreareimer TOP ASKS FOR CLIMATE ACTION**



**KEITH REYNOLDS** is a policy analyst who has worked at all three levels of government, for two public sector unions and as a private consultant. His work has been deeply focused on municipal services and finance, on broader issues related to privatization and on government transparency. He has served on the board of the CCPA, and the BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association. Keith has authored presentations for a wide range of organizations, including fact-finding missions for the United Nations Economic Commission. Most recently, Keith was the lead author on Columbia Institute's report "Back In House: Why Local Governments Are Bringing Services Home." **@kreynolds118 PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY, PUBLIC CONTROL**



**GAËTAN ROYER's** love of everything urban brought him to hundreds of cities in 30 countries. An architect and urban planner originally from Québec City, he received the Governor General's Meritorious Service Medal for his humanitarian work in Sarajevo. During his time as City Manager in Port Moody, the city received numerous awards including the International Livable Communities Award. Gaëtan was also Chief Planner for Metro Vancouver. As author of "Time for Cities," he advocates for a better deal for cities. He is co-author of Columbia Institute's "Who's Picking Up the Tab? Federal and Provincial Downloading Onto Local Governments" and "Back In House: Why Local Governments Are Bringing Services Home." He is currently CEO of CityState.ca. **@PortMoodyGaetan PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY, PUBLIC CONTROL**



**MAYA RUSSELL** is a New Westminster parent, community activist, communications consultant and trainer. She is a founding member of New Westminster Parents for Public Education and former Vice-Chair of SD40's District Parent Advisory Council. Maya and her family hosted a refugee family in their home last year, and continue to learn from and advocate alongside refugee families. She served as a parent rep on SD40's Sanctuary Schools Task Force. **@MayaSRussell SANCTUARY SCHOOLS**



**CRAIG SAUVÉ** is a Montreal politician who serves as the City Councillor for the district of Saint-Henri–Petite-Bourgogne–Pointe-Saint-Charles–Griffintown, representing the progressive Projet Montréal party. Craig studied at Concordia University's Liberal Arts College. During that time, he was president of his department's student association. Craig has worked on numerous political and electoral campaigns, and was a regional campaign director in Quebec for the 2011 federal election. He currently sits on the Transportation and Public Works Committee at Montreal City Hall. He is also Projet Montreal's transport and Labour Relations Spokesperson. Craig is a founding member of one of Québec's leading anti-corruption groups, la Ligue d'action civique. **@CraigSauve LEADERSHIP IN TRANSITIONING TIMES**



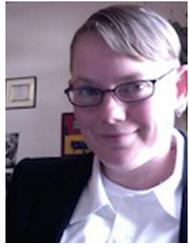
**MARY ELLEN SCHAAFSMA**, Director of Social Innovation and Research, joined the United Way of the Lower Mainland (UWLM) in September 2014. She sets the research agenda for the UWLM; digging into local social issues to guide investment decisions, improve evaluation of UWLM investments to tell compelling stories of impact, and inspire our donors and stakeholders. In addition to overseeing the UWLM's research, a big part of her Social Innovation focus is around fostering 'Social Purpose' in businesses in the Lower Mainland. Before coming to the United Way, Mary Ellen was the Executive Director of Cochrane Canada, a health care research and knowledge transfer Centre. **CREATING SOCIAL IMPACT**



**BOB SIMPSON** is half way through his first term as Mayor of Quesnel, a city that is in the midst of a significant transition due to the economic and ecological impacts of the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic. He served as the region's MLA for two terms, first as a member of the NDP Opposition, then as an Independent MLA for his final two years in office. Prior to becoming an elected leader,

# HIGH GROUND LEADERSHIP IN TRANSITIONING TIMES

Bob was an organizational effectiveness and leadership manager for a major forest products company, an independent consultant, and an entrepreneur. @Bob\_Simpson PECHA KUCHA STYLE!, LIVING WAGE GAINS GROUND



**ADRIENNE SMITH** is a human rights activist and drug policy lawyer. They graduated from UBC law school and were called to the bar in British Columbia in 2014. Adrienne Smith lives and works in the Downtown Eastside where they are working to reduce the harm which law causes on marginalized communities. Their recent work involves litigation and advocacy on behalf of drug users, prisoners

in provincial correctional facilities, and transgender people. They made arguments about the deleterious effects of mandatory minimum sentences on women, aboriginal offenders and drug users at the Supreme Court of Canada and the BC Court of Appeal, in their first two years of call. They recently settled a BC Supreme Court case which changed provincial prison policy and secured access to opiate replacement therapy for prisoners in BC jails. They spoke at the Vancouver School Board and Park Board meetings in support of trans inclusion policies. As part of a group of activists they worked to introduce trans inclusion policies in their political party at the provincial and federal levels. They presented at last year's Canadian Professional Association for Transgender Health conference on legal issues faced by transgender people in the Downtown Eastside. They volunteer in a summary legal advice clinic as part of the Catherine White Holman Wellness Centre, a community health and wellness program organized by and for transgender people. At the centre, they give free human rights, criminal, family, and employment law advice, and notarize name change forms. They also participated in producing the [transrightsbc.ca](http://transrightsbc.ca) know-your-rights web tool, and they run workshops on this and on other legal issues for service providers and members of their community. They make frequent public appearances in person and in the media, where they are an inspiration to others by being an out transgender lawyer. EMERGING ISSUES



**STEPHANIE SMITH** is the first woman elected president of the B.C. Government and Service Employees' Union (BCGEU), representing 67,000 members at 550 different employers and B.C. government ministries. Stephanie was elected at the union's convention in May 2014. An early childhood educator by training, Stephanie began her involvement with the labour movement in 1981 – first in New Zealand, and then in B.C. with the Children's Services Employees' Union, which merged with BCGEU in 1995/96. A tireless advocate for worker rights, young workers, and equity groups, Stephanie has spoken at provincial, national and international conferences on behalf of BCGEU members. @steph\_smith303 LEADERSHIP IN TRANSITIONING TIMES



**KAREN TAM WU** is the BC Associate Director and Director of the Buildings and Urban Solutions Program at the Pembina Institute, a non-profit think-tank that advocates for strong, effective policies to support Canada's clean energy transition. @karentamwoohoo RAMPING UP LOW CARBON COMMUNITIES



**JUDY VILLENEUVE** has been on the Surrey City Council for 27 years, and has witnessed the city embrace change and welcome new residents. She helped develop the Social Plan for well-being, the Poverty Reduction Plan, Surrey's Homelessness and Housing Society and Foundation, and Co-Chairs the Local Immigrant Partnership. A Metro Vancouver

Board Director, Judy is appointed to the Housing Committee, Climate Action Committee, MFA, and the Regional Cultural Committee. Councillor Villeneuve spearheaded Surrey's Cultural Plan and Public Arts Policy fostering new cultural grants, facilities, and installation of 60 world class public arts works. @JudyVilleneuve SUPPORTING REFUGEES



**KATHY WADDELL** has a diploma in Early Childhood Education, a certificate in Aboriginal Health and Community Administration, and is working on a degree in Governance and Public Administration. Kathy is a strong advocate for vulnerable and marginalized people. She has a passion for children and families and believes that our society would be stronger

if we could holistically support families. Kathy is a Metis woman and has been working with the Huu-ay-aht First Nations for 10 years. She led the Huu-ay-aht Government initiative to calculate and implement their Living Wage Policy. LIVING WAGE GAINS GROUND



**ROBYN WARK** is Team Lead of BC Hydro's Sustainable Community program. She sits on the BC Step Code Advisory Committee, Community Energy Association Board, and is the Vice-Chair of QUEST BC. Having worked as a consultant, local government planner, and educator, Robyn has a deep understanding of sustainability program design, energy

efficiency market trends, and policy and incentive opportunities. Her work has won awards from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Canadian Institute of Planners, and the Planning Institute of BC. In 2013 she was awarded the PIBC Individual Award for Leadership in Advocacy & Innovation. TOP ASKS FOR CLIMATE ACTION



**KEVIN WATRIN** has been an educator for twenty-one years and the principal of the Fraserview Learning Centre since its inception in September 2013. SCHOOLS AND INTER-GENERATIONAL DIALOGUE

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