



The BCSLA is honoured to gather this year on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam Nation, who are the host nation for our conference.

Welcoming Musqueam as active participants in this event is an important expression of our profession's commitment to advancing Truth and Reconciliation. Their leadership, knowledge, and perspectives enrich our collective dialogue on landscape, planning, and design, while also reminding us of our responsibility to respect Indigenous rights, histories, and ways of knowing. By centering Musqueam voices in this conference, we strengthen our path toward more equitable and resilient practices that honour the lands and communities we serve.

For complete registration details visit:

**[bcsla.org](https://bcsla.org)**

DRAFT



British Columbia Society of  
**LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS**

## BREAKING NEW GROUND

2025 BCSLA CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW • VANCOUVER, BC

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY TO SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 18 AND 19

**UBC ROBERT H. LEE ALUMNI CENTRE**

6163 University Blvd, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1



**DAY 1**

**OCT. 17**

**DAY 2**

**OCT. 18**

**DAY 3**

**OCT. 19**

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### DAY 1 — FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

DAY 1  
OCT. 17

DAY 2  
OCT. 18

DAY 3  
OCT. 19

#### JACK POOLE HALL

4:00 - 6:00 pm

REGISTRATION

DRAFT

4:00 - 5:00pm

**Lelem Walking Tour (PWL/Musqueam Corp.)**  
— PWL co-led by Musqueam Capital Corp.



6:00-9:00pm

**WELCOME RECEPTION** with UBC Student Work Display  
— Sponsored by Maglin Site Furniture

**Keynote Speaker:**

Future Past: Metro Vancouver as a Region of Optimism  
Panel by **Andy Yan**

[MORE INFO](#)



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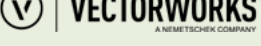





CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

DAY 2 — SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

DAY 1  
OCT. 17

DAY 2  
OCT. 18

DAY 3  
OCT. 19

2	JACK POOLE HALL	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	VENDOR BOOTHS
8:00-9:00am	<div>BREAKFAST</div> <div>Sponsored by</div> <div></div>			
8:00am-5:00pm	REGISTRATION AND TRADESHOW			
9:00-9:30am	<div></div> <div>WELCOME CEREMONY</div> <div>Land Acknowledgement &amp; Opening Remarks by</div> <div>Derek Lee — BCSLA President</div>			
9:30-10:30am	<div></div> <div>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</div> <div>Troy Abromaitis</div> <div>Musquem Capital Corp.</div> <div>MORE INFO</div> <div>CANAAN</div> <div>site furnishings</div>			
10:30-11:00am	<div>COFFEE BREAK</div> <div>Sponsored by</div> <div>Axis Insurance:</div> <div></div>			<div>Vectorworks Demo — Sponsored Student Tickets</div> <div></div>
2	JACK POOLE HALL	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	VENDOR BOOTHS
11:00:45am	<div>Breaking the Silence on Archaeology — Rethinking Professional Responsibility for future in the Shadow of the Past</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	<div>The St. George Rainway: Blue-Green Systems for Climate Adaptation and Livability</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	<div>Explorations with an 'Intentional Planting Plan' Approach for Urban Plant Health</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	
11:45am-12:30pm	<div></div> <div>Truth and Reconciliation Panel — Troy Abromaitis and Rena Soutar</div>	<div>Decoding Park Vibrancy: From Global Meta-Analysis to Local Sentiment Mapping in Vancouver</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	<div>Restoration-Based Practices for Multi-Species Complexity in Landscape Architecture</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	
12:30-1:30pm	<div>AWARDS LUNCHEON</div> <div>Clive Justice Book Awards for Newly Licensed Landscape Architects</div> <div>Sponsored by</div> <div></div>			
2	JACK POOLE HALL	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	VENDOR BOOTHS
1:30-2:15pm	<div>PANEL DISCUSSION — AI — Jeff Cutler, Xun Liu, &amp; Phillipe Pasquier (Moderator: Daniel Roehr)</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	<div>Inclusive Play in Action: Insights from Unwin Community Park, Surrey</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	<div>Understanding Human-Nature Interaction through AI and Crowdsourced Imagery: A Case Study of Vancouver</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	
2:15-3:00pm	<div>Designing the Park Planning Process, Not Just the Park</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	<div>AEDLA In Practice – Teena Aujla, Rosanna Ho, Jeryn Mackey</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	<div>AI Mapping Vancouver's Roofs and Green Spaces for a Climate-Resilient Future</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	
3:00-3:30pm	<div>COFFEE BREAK</div> <div>Sponsored-by Newstone Group</div> <div></div>			<div>Product Demo by Maglin Site Furniture</div> <div></div>
2	JACK POOLE HALL	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	VENDOR BOOTHS
3:30-4:15pm	<div>Green Infrastructure in the Heart of the City: Constructing Rainwater Management at Bute-Robson Plaza</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	<div>The Role of Darts Hill Park and The Glades Garden Park in Our Changing Environments</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>		
4:15-5:00pm	<div>Grounding Ambition: Designing DeHart Community Park Toward Carbon Neutrality</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	<div>PANEL DISCUSSION: Rethinking our Approach to Inclusive Play</div> <div>Su Baker, Teri Cantin and Meliss Grassmick</div>	<div>Maximizing Year-Round Enjoyment with the Louvered Roof Pergola</div> <div>MORE INFO</div> <div>landscapeforms</div>	
5:00-7:00pm	<div>FREE TIME IN UBC: Explore at your own pace or sit back and relax.</div> <div>Take this opportunity to enjoy the UBC Campus your way. Whether you choose to relax, dine, or explore, there's no shortage of options.</div>			
Register Here »				





CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

DAY 3 — SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

DAY 1  
OCT. 17

DAY 2  
OCT. 18

DAY 3  
OCT. 19

3	JACK POOLE HALL	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	VENDOR BOOTHS
8:00-9:00am	BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION			
8:00am-2:00pm	TRADESHOW			
9:00-9:05am	<div></div> <div>Welcome, Land Acknowledgement &amp; Opening Remarks (Dave Hutch — BCSLA President-Elect)</div>			
9:05-10:00am	BCSLA — PGA Update /CE Reporting Training/New Website Announcement			
10:00-10:45am	<div>Imagine West End Waterfront Vision Plan</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	<div>Education for the Evolving Practitioner</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>		
10:45-11:15am	COFFEE BREAK			<div>Product Demo by Habitat</div> <div></div>
3	JACK POOLE HALL	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	VENDOR BOOTHS
11:15am-12pm	<div>Integrated Project Delivery Parkinson Recreation Centre, City of Kelowna</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>	<div>The Landscape-Driven Tech</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>		
12pm-12:45pm	<div>Generative AI Beyond Visual: Customization, Context, and Creative Workflows in Landscape Architecture</div> <div>MORE INFO</div>			
12:45-1pm	CLOSING REMARKS — (Dave Hutch — BCSLA President-Elect)			
Register Here »				



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

PANELISTS

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DAY 1

Panel Discussion: Future Past, Metro Vancouver as a Region of Optimism

**Keynote Speaker: Andy Yan** and invited speakers - TBD

This panel explores successes and challenges in Metro Vancouver’s design, planning, and development amid demographic change, Indigenous reconciliation, and climate action. Featuring established and emerging voices, it’s a conversation—not a lecture—on the trends, disruptors, and opportunities shaping a region of optimism.

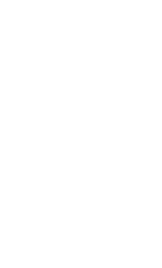


DAY 2

Reconciliation

**Keynote Speaker: Troy Abromaitis** and invited speakers - TBD

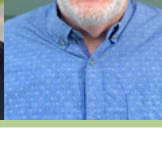
Troy MacBeth Abromaitis, a proud member of Lytton First Nation and survivor of the Sixties Scoop, has spent over 35 years reconnecting with his family roots, reclaiming cultural heritage, and advocating for Indigenous rights. Honoured with the name Lexʷem’ken for his leadership in rebuilding Lytton after the devastating wildfires, Troy combines deep cultural commitment with professional expertise in real estate development. Holding credentials from BCIT, UBC, and MIT, he serves as Senior Development Manager with Musqueam Capital Corporation, guiding projects that honour Musqueam values and generate lasting community benefits. His contributions have earned him national and provincial recognition, including the BC Medal of Good Citizenship, the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal, and the King Charles III Coronation Medal, as well as Top 40 Under 40 and Community Leader of the Year honours. Outside his work, Troy enjoys nature, time with loved ones, and creative pursuits that celebrate his heritage.



Breaking the Silence on Archaeology — Rethinking Professional Responsibility for future in the Shadow of the Past

**Leila Todd, Geordie Howe**

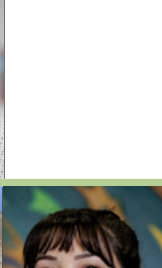
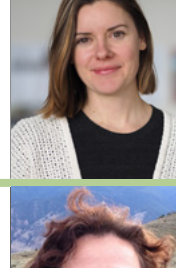
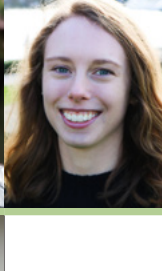
Vancouver Park Board Archeologist Geordie Howe and Coquitlam Senior Project Manager Leila Todd explore hesitations around archaeology at the local level, discuss examples of pushback, and ways to approach Reconciliation respectfully.



The St. George Rainway: Blue-Green Systems for Climate Adaptation and Livability

**Cherie Xiao, Alex Scott, Sheri DeBoer, Reece Rehm**

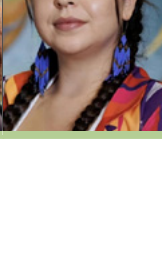
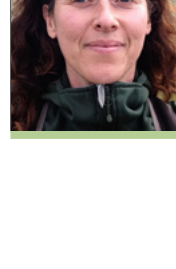
Hear directly from the project team on the design, planting, and construction of the St. George Rainway. A site tour may be offered if feasible.



Explorations with an ‘Intentional Planting Plan’ Approach for Urban Plant Health

**Kristina Zalite, Shayla Chalifoux**

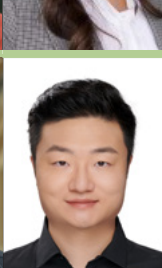
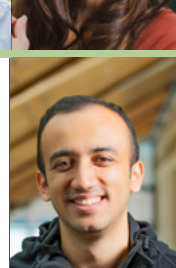
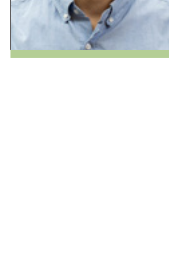
A two-year design-based study explores decolonizing settler design and applying ecological restoration to support long-term health, informing experimental ‘Intentional Planting Plan principles’.



Decoding Park Vibrancy: From Global Meta-Analysis to Local Sentiment Mapping in Vancouver

**Keunhyun Park, Tahia Devisscher, Daniella Zhang, Asim Khanal, Mingze Chen**

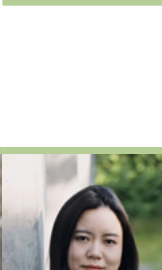
A meta-analysis and a Vancouver-specific review of social interaction offer broad principles and local strategies for designing vibrant urban parks. Digital tools and user generated data support evidence-based approaches to transforming underused spaces into inclusive social hubs.



Restoration-Based Practices for Multi-Species Complexity in Landscape Architecture

**Alia Johnson**

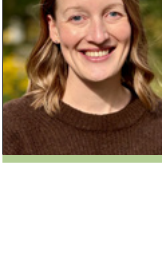
Learn about emerging insights from restoration science and ongoing research at UVIC’s Visualization Lab, aimed at developing accessible regenerative design models for practitioners.



AI Panel Discussion

**Jeff Cutler, Xun Liu, Phillipe Pasquier and moderated by Daniel Roehr**

Explore the successes and challenges of design and development in Metro Vancouver amid demographic shifts, Indigenous reconciliation, and climate action. What new and ongoing forces are shaping the region? Join a conversation with leading and emerging voices on building a region of optimism.



Inclusive Play in Action: Insights from Unwin Community Park, Surrey

**Melody Smale**

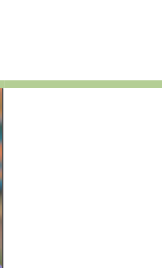
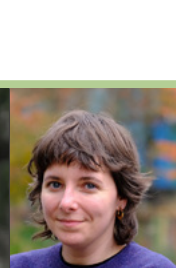
Centering joy and lived experience, this session explores how inclusive play spaces like Unwin Community Park build equity, connection, and dignity in public life—beyond just physical accessibility.



Understanding Human-Nature Interaction through AI and Crowdsourced Imagery: A Case Study of Vancouver

**Mingze Chen, Keunhyun Park**

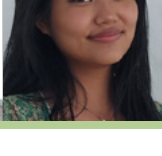
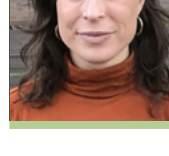
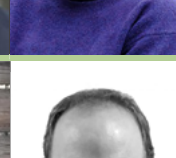
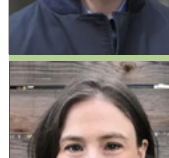
Using geotagged Flickr photos, a deep learning model analyzed human-nature interactions in Vancouver, revealing shifts in recreations behavior and how different landscapes shape engagement. This AI-driven approach offers landscape architects a scalable, evidence-based framework for planning.



Designing the Park Planning Process, Not Just the Park

**Fionn Byrne, Michelle Gagnon-Creeley, Sarah Jacobs, Kees Lokman, Cynthia San**

This group presentation—featuring UBC Sala faculty, MARCLA students and an urban planner—explores the Right to Land Initiative, a project reimagining park planning as a value-driven, equitable and adaptive design process.



Advanced Equity and Diversity in Landscape Architecture (AEDLA) in Practice

**Teena Aujla, Rossana Ho, Jeryn Mackey**

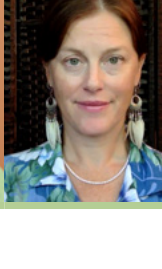
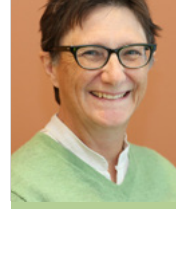
Come to understand more about how an intersectional approach to landscape design can create inclusive and welcoming spaces. This session shares real-world case studies as examples of how to implement various facets of intersectional design into practice. Learn practical strategies for the implementation of gender-sensitive and intersectional design principles, gain insights from cross-disciplinary collaborations and existing education and capacity-building models, and participate in a discussion to share resources, new ideas, and future frameworks.



AI Mapping Vancouver’s Roofs and Green Spaces for a Climate-Resilient Future

**Kathy Dunster, Christine Thuring**

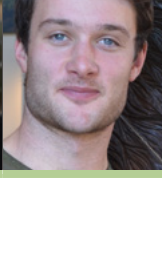
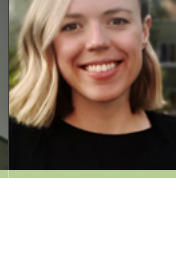
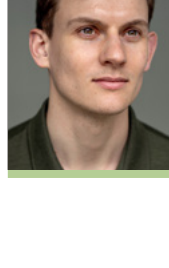
Uncover early insights from a landmark project mapping climate action through green infrastructure. See how AI can help communities build resilience to heat, floods, and drought—while supporting biodiversity.



Green Infrastructure in the Heart of the City: Constructing Rainwater Management at Bute-Robson Plaza

**James Gray, Alicia Kingdon, Ben Watson**

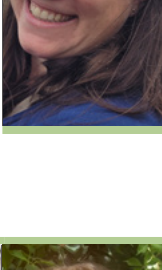
Examine the challenges of implementing green infrastructure in urban centers, showcasing innovative solutions that enhance tree canopy, active transportation, and the public realm.



The Role of Darts Hill Park and The Glades Garden Park in Our Changing Environments

**Maria Fish**

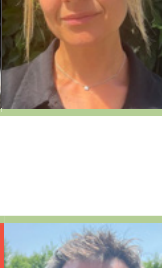
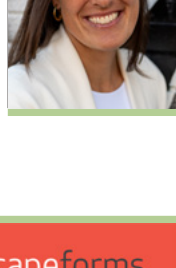
Explore how these two iconic garden parks model ecological care and community innovation, helping to build sustainable, climate-resilient futures.



Grounding Ambition: Designing DeHart Community Park Toward Carbon Neutrality

**Xenia Semeniuk, Cadre Simpson**

Learn from Kelowna’s first carbon-focused project. This session explores how ambitious sustainability goals become tangible interventions—plus lessons and challenges from the journey.

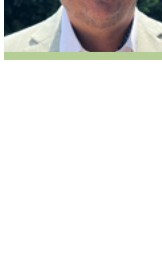


Maximizing Year-Round Enjoyment with the Louvered Roof Pergola

**Robb Smalldon**

This course focuses on transforming outdoor spaces using louvered roof pergolas and a curated selection of add-ons and accessories. Learn to choose enhancements that enrich aesthetics and boost year-round functionality. With vivid visuals and practical examples, gain the skills to design adaptable, stylish outdoor environments. Create spaces that blend beauty, innovation, and everyday comfort.

landscapeforms



DAY 3

Imagine West End Waterfront Vision Plan

**Doug Shearer, Kelty McKinnon, Jordan McAuley**

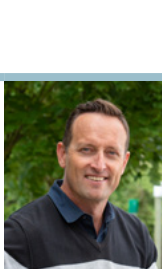
Discover Vancouver’s 30-year plan to transform its waterfront. Rooted in Coast Salish values and nature-based solutions, this vision reimagines the shoreline to adapt to sea-level rise, climate, and urban growth.



Education for the Evolving Practitioner

**Duncan Chambers**

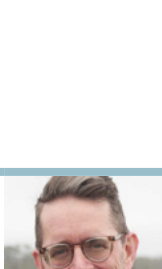
Reflect on how landscape architecture education is evolving at UBC. What does the profession need from its future practitioners—and how can academia stay ahead?



Integrated Project Delivery — Parkinson Recreation Centre, City of Kelowna

**Mark van der Zalm**

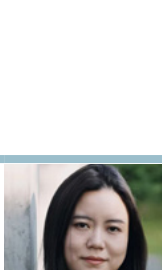
Mark van der Zalm Principal Vdz+A will present Integrated project delivery methodology as a collaborative model used to administer the strategic planning, design, and construction of complex projects. Learn how the IPD process works to create a team culture that has authentic connection and purpose including the shared risk/reward in delivering the project on time and on budget.



The Landscape-Driven Tech

**Chris Landau**

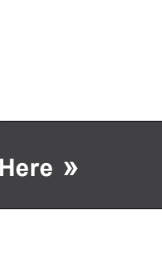
Explore the gap between computational potential and practical use in landscape architecture. Highlights how digital tools can reshape practice and foster complex, resilient environments through case studies and theoretical work.



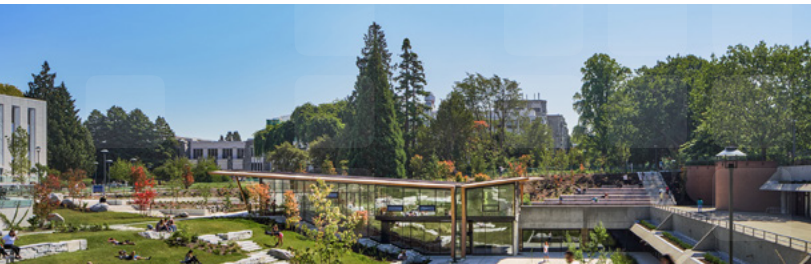
Generative AI Beyond Visual: Customization, Context, and Creative Workflows in Landscape Architecture

**Xun Liu**

Three strategies to engage AI with contextual data and workflows, positioning AI as a creative design partner. Includes student-led examples and invites reflection on evolving professional roles.





















BREAKING NEW GROUND

2025 BCSLA CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW • VANCOUVER, BC

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

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