

2022 BCSLA Post-Conference Survey

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

64

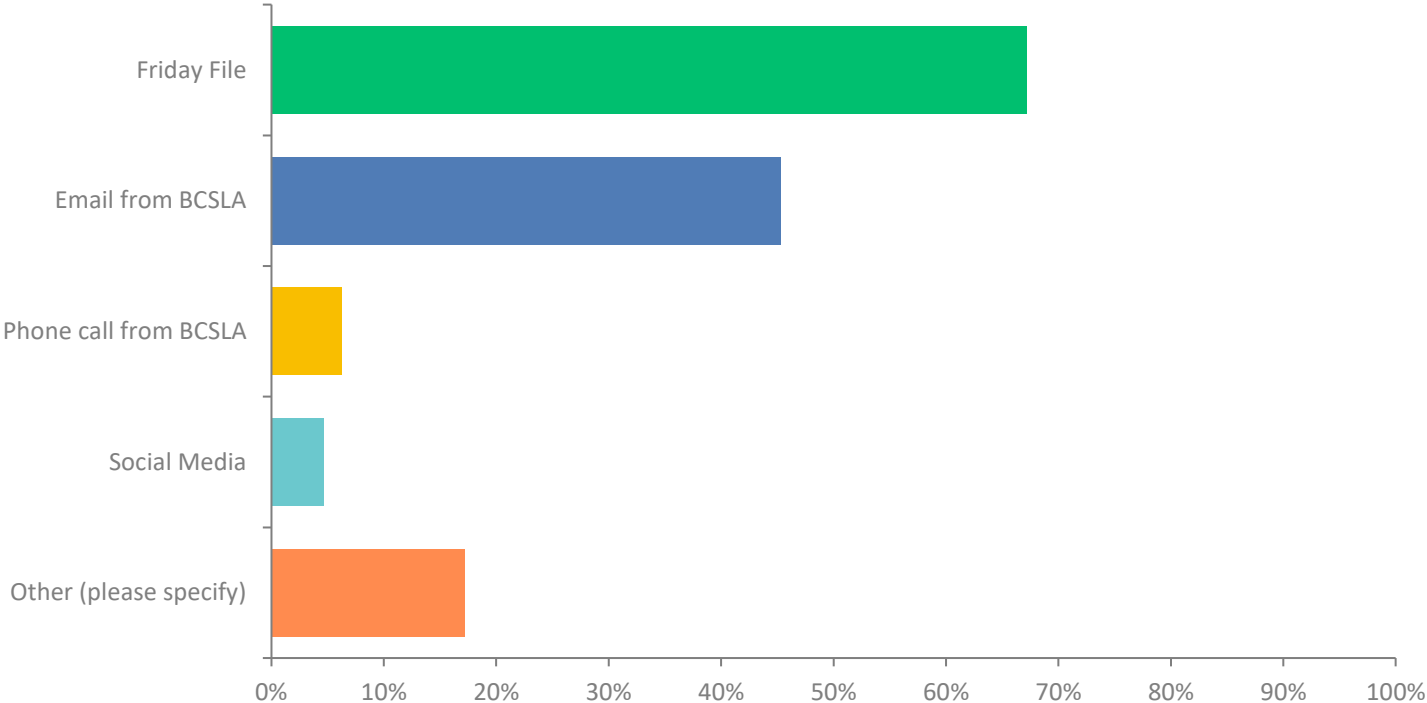
Total Responses

Date Created: Tuesday, November 01, 2022

Complete Responses: 64

Q1: How did you hear about the 2022 Conference? Check any applicable.

Answered: 64 Skipped: 0



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Answered: 64 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Friday File	67.19%	43
Email from BCSLA	45.31%	29
Phone call from BCSLA	6.25%	4
Social Media	4.69%	3
Other (please specify)	17.19%	11
TOTAL		90

Q1: How did you hear about the 2022 Conference? Check any applicable.

Other Responses

- Friend
- Colleague
- Word of Mouth
- At work
- Board participation
- I'm on the CE Committee
- Board meetings
- We are an annual sponsor

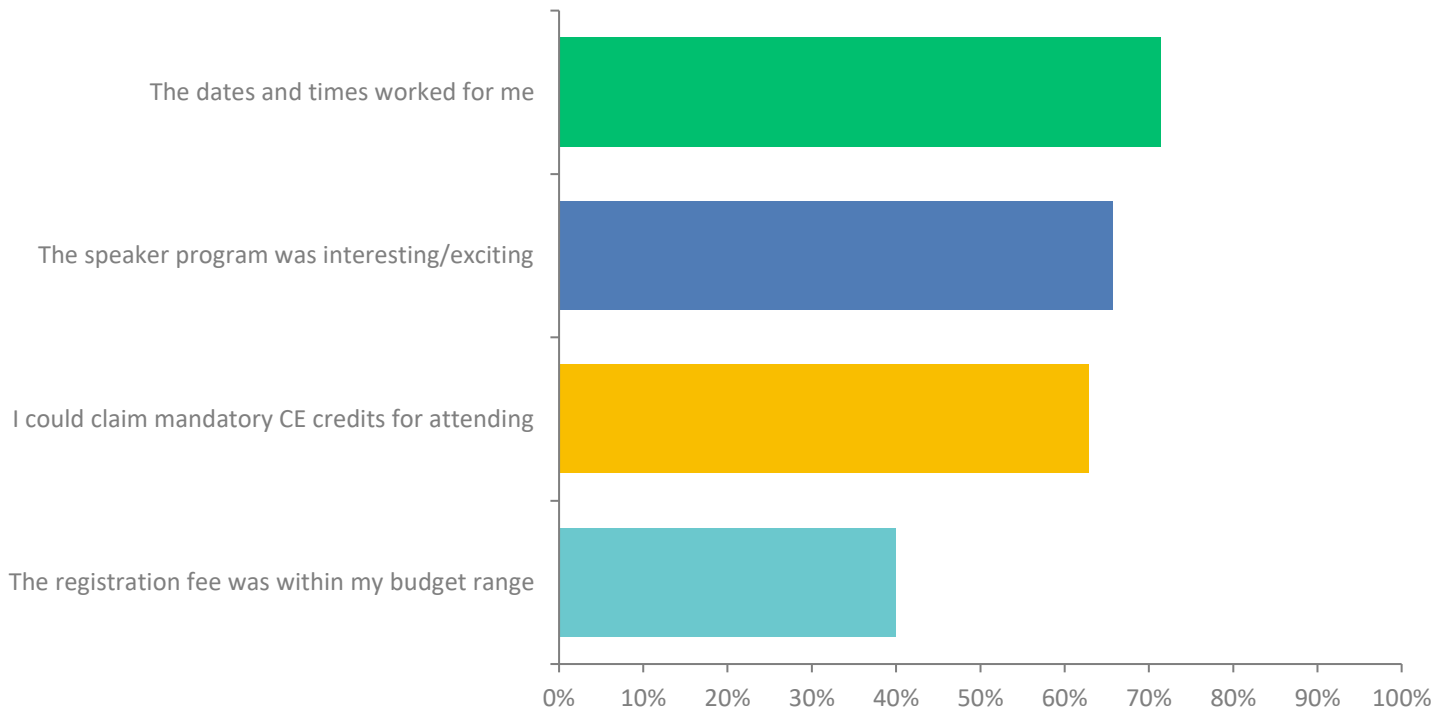
Q2

If you didn't hear about the 2022 conference, how do you usually find out about such events?

- Friday File
- In committee
- Google
- Newsletter and social media ads
- From BCSLA website
- Email BCSLA
- Through colleagues
- Friday File
- I did hear about the event but did not attend. The reason? The program was not clearly laid out until just a week or two beforehand. I think if you expect people to travel from out of the lower mainland you need to be provide details at least a month if not two before the event as it takes considerable effort and expense for people to attend. You need to organize pet/animal care, hotels etc. I need to know in advance if the topics etc. are going to be valuable to me in order to make the decision to attend.
- Contact or emails.
- Email
- Coworkers
- website

Q3: If you attended the 2022 conference, what convinced you to do so? Check any applicable.

Answered: 35 Skipped: 29



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Answered: 35 Skipped: 29

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
The dates and times worked for me	71.43%	25
The speaker program was interesting/exciting	65.71%	23
I could claim mandatory CE credits for attending	62.86%	22
The registration fee was within my budget range	40.0%	14
TOTAL		84

Q4: What did you like most about the conference?

- Diversity of topics and more “younger” presenters.
- the program was very different and very interesting - learned a lot
- speakers and meeting other LA's
- The programming was excellent and it was good to reconnect with other BCSLA members
- Seeing my colleagues for the first time in years. Inspiring presentations.
- The speakers and in particular the newly graduated LAs. The opportunity to connect with other LAs and speak to the Trade Show participants
- The speaker lineup
- Being able to attend for a partial day. Deb from Mithun as the keynote!
- There was a diversity of speakers, including speakers from allied professions such as artists and political commissioners. I like a 50/50 split of topics traditional in landscape architectural realm / other relevant topics that can expand our profession (eg. how to engage the public, reality of projects after it is built)

Q4: What did you like most about the conference? (Continued)

- Diverse topics and speakers, more specifically Kathy Dunster, Carmen Rosen, and Christine Thuring. Opportunities to talk to others in the professions.
- Networking with other landscape Architects as well as vendors.
- Reconnecting with my colleagues, the short, varied presentations and having the industry folks in the same room as us.
- Speaker program and food
- Interaction with other LAs I had not seen in a while.
- Speakers
- Communicate with peers in person.
- Speaker Presentations
- Getting to reconnect with colleagues I hadn't seen in several years.
- The theme of the conference.
- Some of the speakers were interesting and provided valuable insights that could be incorporated into future projects.
- Seeing the people

Q4: What did you like most about the conference? (Continued)

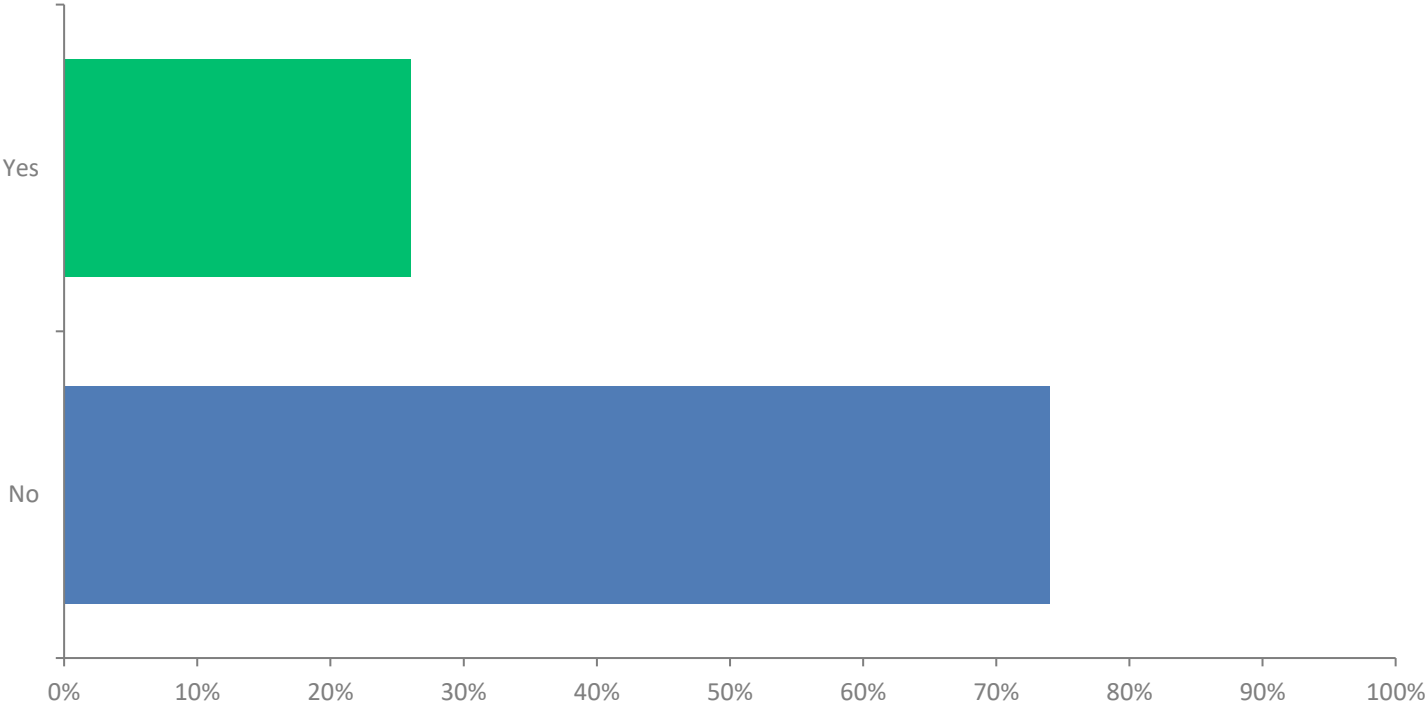
- I liked the presentations that had specific take aways of concrete techniques or learnings I could use in my current landscape architecture practice. I found this more useful than the presentations regarding really big picture ideas and concepts.
- Connecting with old friends
- great speakers
- Key note speaker, ability to sign up for the half day attendance
- It was great to reconnect (in person) with friends and colleagues, learn, and be inspired by some engaging presentations.
- Social interaction opportunities
- quality of speaker

Q4: What did you like most about the conference? (Continued)

- Some very interesting presentations from grad students with graphics way beyond what I had available in my day. Presenting interesting theories which needs discussion on implementation.
- The speakers and the exhibitors.
- I enjoyed meeting up with old colleagues and friends after a long two years of separation. It was nice to socialize. The speakers I enjoyed the most were the early Saturday morning sessions on sea level rise (Kees Lokman and Debra Guenther)
- opportunity to learn and hear about what is happening in the industry.
- networking and seeing other members

Q5: Did you take advantage of the half-day registration?

Answered: 50 Skipped: 14



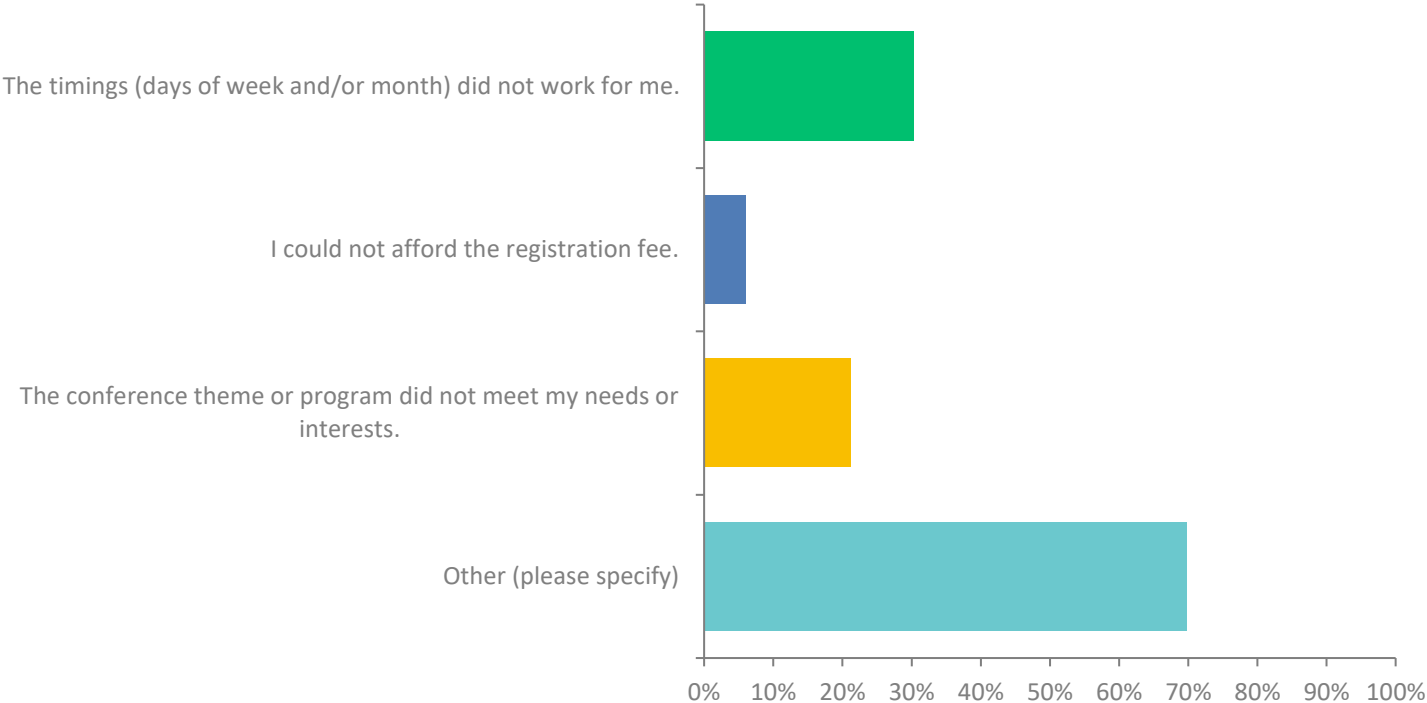
Q5: Did you take advantage of the half-day registration?

Answered: 50 Skipped: 14

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	26.00%	13
No	74.00%	37
TOTAL		50

Q6: If you didn't attend the 2022 conference, was there a specific reason not to? Check any applicable.

Answered: 33 Skipped: 31



Q6: If you didn't attend the 2022 conference, was there a specific reason not to? Check any applicable.

Answered: 33 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
The timings (days of week and/or month) did not work for me.	30.30%	10
I could not afford the registration fee.	6.06%	2
The conference theme or program did not meet my needs or interests.	21.21%	7
Other (please specify)	69.70%	23
TOTAL		42

Q6: If you didn't attend the 2022 conference, was there a specific reason not to? Check any applicable. Other Responses

Answered: 33 Skipped: 31

- the overall theme of Garden interested me, however the titles of the talks were not very garden themed
- We were stuck with a lot of pressing deadlines that we couldn't get ahead of due to Thanksgiving and birthdays
- Unavailable due to travel
- Out of country
- Medical reasons
- October right after a long weekend is hard to afford the time off work.
- During late fall the mountain passes are no fun to drive
- It was on a short week, which was very challenging
- it conflicted with a major family event that had a fixed date and busy-ness in the days leading up to it
- There was not enough information on the program posted in advance. In the end I was not willing to commit the time, effort and expenses to attend and event that I really didn't know enough about in advance. If you live and work next door perhaps this was not a consideration but for people who travel to these events, it makes a real difference. I think we need to get back to offering more in the regions and maybe forego conferences. Make the AGM online so that all can attend.

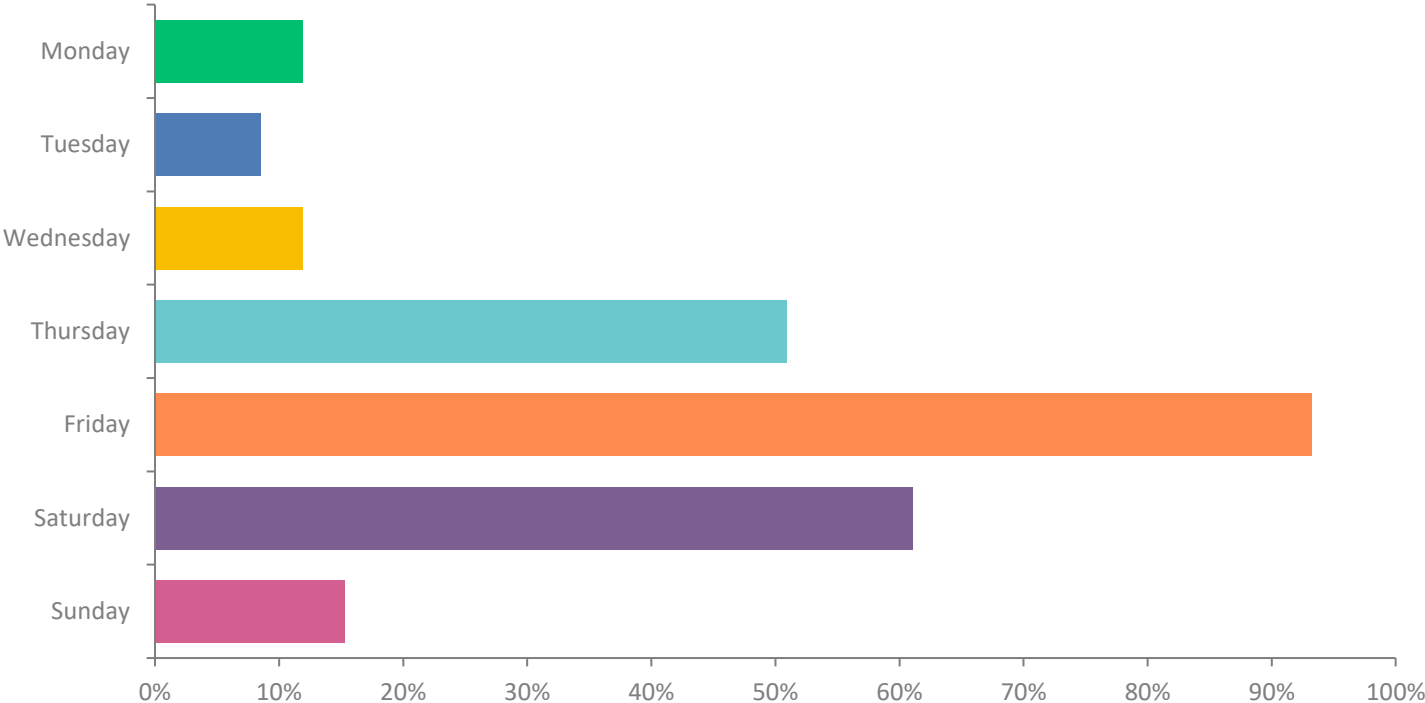
Q6: If you didn't attend the 2022 conference, was there a specific reason not to? Check any applicable. Other Responses (Continued)

Answered: 33 Skipped: 31

- I was out of town.
- Time frames, distance to travel, affordability for accommodation and the fee
- I would prefer the AGM and conference to be combined into a single event with lots (several months) of advance notice to properly plan.
- I didn't carve out the time to go (ask off work, coordinate child care for the weekend)
- had attended other conferences for this year elsewhere
- Illness
- living very far away from the venue so planning was difficult

Q7: What days of the week would you prefer for a conference? Check any applicable.

Answered: 59 Skipped: 5



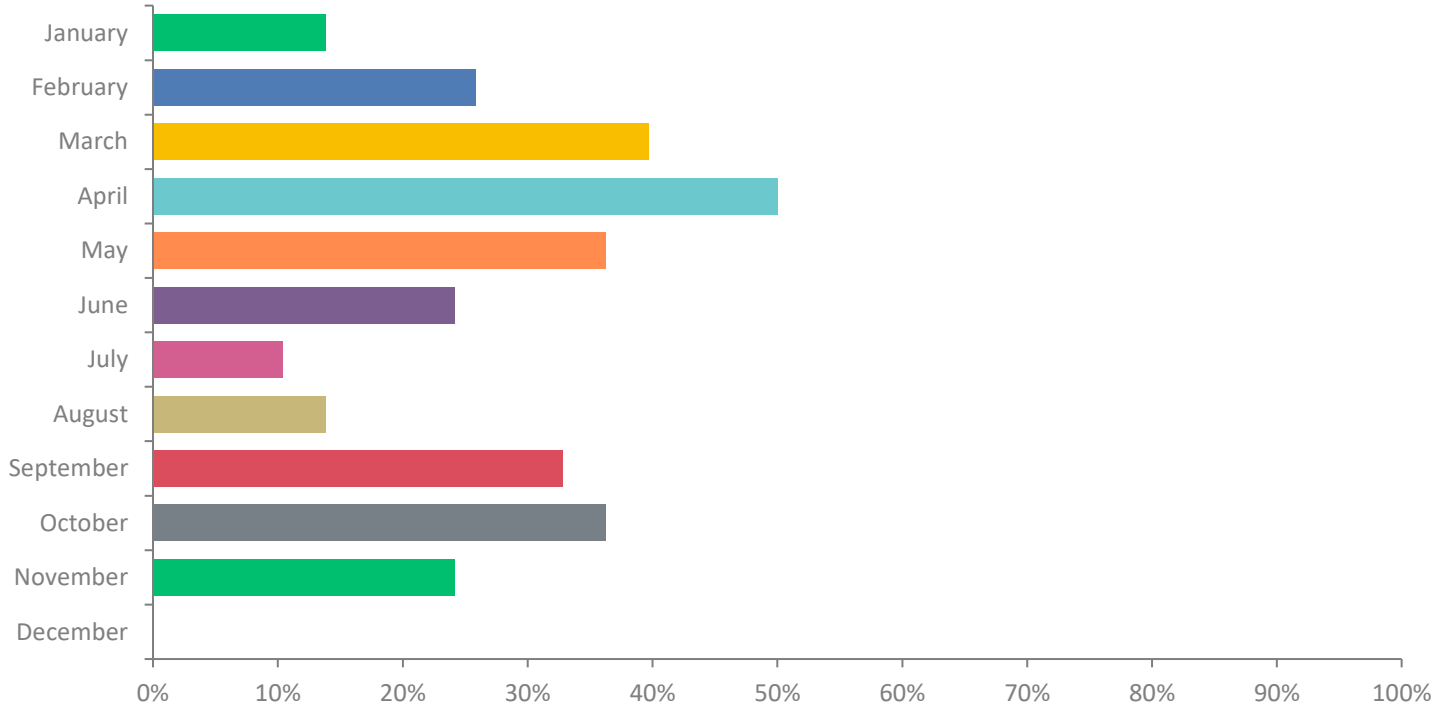
Q7: What days of the week would you prefer for a conference? Check any applicable.

Answered: 59 Skipped: 5

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Monday	11.86%	7
Tuesday	8.47%	5
Wednesday	11.86%	7
Thursday	50.85%	30
Friday	93.22%	55
Saturday	61.02%	36
Sunday	15.25%	9
TOTAL		149

Q8: What months of the year would you prefer a conference? Check any applicable.

Answered: 58 Skipped: 6



Q8: What months of the year would you prefer a conference? Check any applicable.

Answered: 58 Skipped: 6

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
January	13.79%	8
February	25.86%	15
March	39.66%	23
April	50.0%	29
May	36.21%	21
June	24.14%	14
July	10.34%	6
August	13.79%	8
September	32.76%	19
October	36.21%	21
November	24.14%	14
December	0%	0
TOTAL		178

Q9: Do you have a suggestion for the 2023 conference theme?

- I trust the committee will select a good one as they have done so in the past :)
- Health
- Expanding your toolkit - it could have design presentations on some international project, technical talks on materials, methods (new research- quantitative and qualitative), recent developments on processes (new thoughts on engagement/construction/computer software).
- Legacies
- Bringing people together through design
- Climate Change Action Now!
- Landscape Architecture as Activism
- Living Together: Urban Habitat Enhancement
- Antiracism in a racist field
- Stormwater management
- My favorite CLSA/BCSLA theme was on indigeneity and decolonization. I would like to see more on this theme.

Q9: Do you have a suggestion for the 2023 conference theme? (Continued)

- The shift in social behaviours during a pandemic to understand what we can collective achieve for climate change if we all put our minds to it.
- landscape activism, public engagement/ stewardship
- Permaculture, Productive Landscapes, Agriculture Land Use
- Green roof designs-successess and challenges
- Climate change adaptation, art/public art, 'other' landscape interventions such as makers, guerilla gardeners, etc. I also think we might want to talk more about technology in the landscape: apps (iNaturalist, for example), QR codes, geocaching, etc.
- Eco justice / climate awareness in design
- I think a theme is restrictive. Most of this year's presentations were not strongly related to the them. Two topics I would like to see addressed are EDI and multifunctional landscapes
- Green Blue Infrastructure in the city
- Back to the countryside
- Something offering on site tours or learning

Q9: Do you have a suggestion for the 2023 conference theme? (Continued)

- Design for future generations
- Climate
- Landscape Architecture and the Climate Crisis - Adaptation and Mitigation
- How do we make change faster and efficiently in the global climate crisis we are living in?
- Xeriscape, water/drought weather extremes and how to adapt our practice to this reality
- Building Resilient Communities
- Urban design needs related to climate change
- I would like a theme regarding designing for the experiences of all people, especially those often overlooked in design - considering age, culture, neurodivergent, disabilities (beyond just mobility aid friendly). Or design processes for Indigenous reconciliation.
- Climate crisis vis-a-vis urban centres Back to normal? - What has improved what is a disappointment in public realm since early days of the pandemic Meaning of public space in light of needs of vulnerable populations (housing crisis, drug poisonings, weather events) Activism in the profession - role in pushing for change Reconciliation and First Nations engagement - more recent project updates, focus on urban first nations populations, for example

Q9: Do you have a suggestion for the 2023 conference theme? (Continued)

- The De Molfetta Strode garden design lecture was extremely inspiring, the idea of designing gardens that grow to meet changing climates of the future and are planned to evolve with and describe time would be a fantastic theme
- Growth (of our profession, flora and fauna, cities and urbanized spaces) Might be an optimistic theme to balance a potential economic recession.
- Indigenous Knowledge/Reconciliation
- Working together, making connections Climate change, how the profession is changing to address the issues
- Time and change management
- population shift - population density and public open space Diversity, equity, inclusion
- resilient landscapes / rewilding
- public parks
- I'm going to use this opportunity to provide a small critique of the 2022 conference: most of the topics were too Vancouver and coastal-centric. I would appreciate a more holistic look at the Province including some of the climate-change challenges for more vulnerable and less populated communities (wildfires and flooding). The province experienced catastrophic flooding in November 2021 and wildfires in the summer that destroyed the town of Lytton, and these were not addressed. I would appreciate a few topics addressing the climate change events that are happening now, and causing people to lose their homes and livelihoods. Can landscape architects play a larger role in adapting to climate change on a regional scale and addressing the issue that so many of our communities are currently facing?

Q10: Any other feedback, ideas, or suggestions?

- At the award ceremony event (book awards and the other BCSLA awards) and maybe during other events/programs of the conference (but especially so for the awards) we really should have professional photographers, or at least someone experienced with photography and using an actual camera (as opposed to asking a random person sitting in the front row to take photos with their iPhone). Many UBC MLA students (and if not, BCSLA interns) have DSLR cameras and are experienced in photography. I imagine it wouldn't be hard to get someone to volunteer for this, if we give them a free half day registration or lunch at the conference or something. The BCSLA needs to do a better job at promoting/marketing itself. As this is one of the biggest BCSLA events of the year, it's a great opportunity for this along with my next suggestion: many conferences record all presentations so they can be viewed later (online). Multiple people who were only attending 1 day of this latest conference we're asking if presentations would be recorded or not. That's also an opportunity to promote/market ourselves.
- thanks - it was so great to see and hear people and not the virtual reality of zoom. socializing was excellent too. and I enjoyed the make mini workshop - hands on and more socializing in a casual way.
- the conference could bring in engineering and building researchers to bring new knowledge into the industry.

Q10: Any other feedback, ideas, or suggestions? (Continued)

- separate the space between presentations and vendors
- Conference reminder on the splash webpage: this will go a long way for people to know about it.
- Would like to have gone, but just couldn't do it this year. I would have considered attending a keynote or some of the sessions over zoom, if that option was available, even though in-person is much preferred.
- Host it in a more appropriate setting for landscape architects (Vandusen)
- Thank you for organizing a really great conference. I liked the casual attitude of this conference, where the suppliers were (partially) in the same room as the presenters, and we could bring our cup of tea into the main room and sip tea while listening to the awesome speakers. I would have preferred, however, if there were tables that we could sit around because I like to take notes, and put my tea down. I really enjoyed the speakers on the Friday morning. Thank you for bringing them to our attention!

Q10: Any other feedback, ideas, or suggestions? (Continued)

- Please choose a room where the speakers are not back lit. Adding a mini workshop at the middle of the day (over lunch) or the end of each day is interesting.
- Floorplan was a bit too tight Different style of presentations could be considered (panels, workshops, etc.)
- I really liked the speakers and the topics discussed; happy to hear from my fellow LA's but I was also more interested in those operating in the landscape space but not in the profession. THAT SAID, perhaps a little more vetting prior to the presentation might be done. For example, the lady on the bike who was the maker in public parks... very cool and I really wanted to hear more about the what, how and where about her work... but she didn't talk about it all. A lost opportunity unfortunately.
- The food was amazing!

Q10: Any other feedback, ideas, or suggestions? (Continued)

- I was unclear to me how many of the presentations at this years conference could inform practice. I would like that to be a criteria for future presentations except perhaps keynote speakers
- Information for the workshop could be sent out a few months before the actual conference with program booklet attached and options for half day listed. People usually like to know what they are signing up for before they commit. The vendors would be better located outside the main presentation stage giving people opportunities to check out their booth throughout the day.
- When in the land summit coming back? I'd go to it!