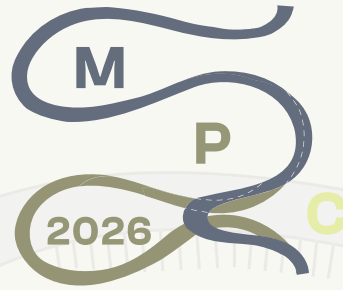


2026
Manitoba
Planning
Conference
Program





Momentum in Muddy Waters: Planning through Turbulent Times

This year's theme reflects the importance of maintaining Momentum in planning through times of uncertainty and disruption. Momentum pushes us forward by leveraging our past efforts and adapting to present challenges. Our Momentum depends on shared vision, collective action, and partnerships across governments, communities, and stakeholders.

By focusing on people, places, and prosperity, we emphasize the core purposes of planning: supporting healthy and inclusive communities; designing resilient and sustainable environments; and preserving social and economic well-being. By recognizing that we operate in turbulent times, we can situate this work of planners within the context of our current realities: climate change, a national housing crisis, reconciliation, demographic shifts, and global instability. In this context, Momentum is not only about advancing plans and policies, but also about finding the strength to foster resilience, adaptability, and hope for our shared future in muddy waters

Message From The Minister

As the Minister responsible for community and land use planning in Manitoba, I am pleased to extend greetings and a warm welcome to all participants attending the 2026 Manitoba Planning Conference. The Manitoba Government is a proud sponsor of this event and wishes you a successful few days of learning, dialogue, and connection with colleagues and peers from across the province and beyond.

The annual conference continues to be an important forum for those involved in shaping our communities. Each year, municipal leaders and officials, provincial staff, planners, development and building professionals, Indigenous Nations, academics, and members of the public come together to exchange ideas, share best practices and explore emerging approaches within the diverse field of planning. The conference also plays a vital role in supporting professional development and strengthening the networks that reinforce effective planning practice in Manitoba.

The 2026 conference theme “Momentum in Muddy Waters: Planning through Turbulent Times” is particularly timely and compelling. Manitoba’s planning authorities continue to effectively navigate significant challenges, and sustaining momentum in planning requires resilience, adaptability, and collaboration. The theme emphasizes the importance of strong partnerships and continued investment, attention, and coordinated effort to support inclusive, sustainable, and prosperous communities across Manitoba.

On behalf of the Government of Manitoba, I wish you a productive and rewarding conference.



Honourable Glen Simard
Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations

Message from the Mayor of Winnipeg

On behalf of the City of Winnipeg, it is my pleasure to extend greetings to everyone attending the 2026 Manitoba Planning Conference.

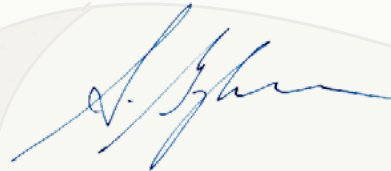
This important annual gathering brings together professionals and leaders who play an important role in shaping the communities we live in today — and the ones we are building for tomorrow. Your work in land use planning, economic development, and environmental stewardship is essential to creating strong and sustainable communities across Manitoba.

This year's theme, "Momentum in Muddy Waters: Planning Through Turbulent Times," speaks to the challenges and opportunities facing communities today. Whether planning for people, places, or prosperity, your leadership and expertise help guide thoughtful growth and ensure we are building communities for the future.

Here in Winnipeg, we see firsthand how good planning supports vibrant neighbourhoods, drives investment, and enhances quality of life. I want to thank you for the work you do every day to strengthen our province and our city.

Best wishes for a productive and inspiring conference, and for continued success in the important work ahead.

Sincerely,



Scott Gillingham
Mayor
City of Winnipeg

A Message From The Manitoba Planning Conference Co-Chairs

Welcome to the 2026 Manitoba Planning Conference!

We are delighted to bring this year's conference, whose theme is ***Momentum in Muddy Waters: Planning through Turbulent Times.***

This year's theme reflects the importance of maintaining momentum in planning through times of uncertainty and disruption. Our momentum depends on shared vision, collective action, and partnerships across governments, communities, and stakeholders. Momentum is not only about advancing plans and policies, but also about finding the strength to foster resilience, adaptability, and hope for our shared future in muddy waters.

We have an excellent line-up of keynote speakers as well as workshop presenters that will keep you engaged right through to Friday afternoon. We would also like to thank our conference sponsors. Their financial support helps make the Manitoba Planning Conference a success.

We know that municipal councils, planning districts, land use planners, developers, and all parties involved in land use and development are committed to building vibrant and sustainable communities. We hope you will find the conference informative and that it provides helpful takeaways on how best to plan and manage change through turbulent times.

Enjoy the conference!



Jeff Pratte

President
Manitoba Professional
Planners Institute



Dr. David Neufeld

Assistant Deputy Minister, Community
Planning and Development
Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

Keynote Speakers



Michael Redhead Champagne

Michael Redhead Champagne is an Ininew speaker, host, author, on-screen personality and advocate for children, youth and families and is committed to systems change through love, equity and justice. Originally from Shamattawa First Nation, Michael has spent most of his life in the North End of Winnipeg and now travels to different territories sharing stories, community organizing models and published works including his first children's book "We Need Everyone", a graphic novel/creation story about him, "Little By Little: You Can Change The World", both with HighWater Press. A sought-after public speaker, event host, published author, critical thinker, systems challenger and community organizer, he has also appeared on various political panels, podcasts and television shows including APTN's First Contact & Michif Country. Michael is knowledgeable in various subject areas including youth engagement, health, child welfare, education and creating action plans. He is an avid volunteer, co-founder of Zoongizi Ode Inc, community curator for North End History, organizes the Ininimotan Language Table & hosts the annual North End Graduation Walk. Michael applies strength-based perspectives and humour to solve complicated challenges and believes that Indigenous knowledge will save the world.



Dr. Brent Roussin, MD, JD, MPH, FRCPC

Brent Roussin is Manitoba's Chief Provincial Public Health Officer and an assistant professor at the University of Manitoba. A specialist in Public Health and Preventive Medicine with formal legal training, his work focuses on population health, health equity, Indigenous health, and the application of legal and ethical frameworks to public health practice. He led Manitoba's COVID-19 response and continues to advance evidence-informed public policy across complex health systems.



Dr. Mark Seasons, Ph.D., M.Env. Des., B.A.(Hons)

Mark Seasons is a Professor and Director with the School of Planning at the University of Waterloo, which he joined in 1998. His education includes a BA (Honours-Geography) (Queen's); MEnvDes (Planning) (Calgary); and PhD (Regional Planning) (Waterloo). Mark has worked as a planner with the City of Calgary, the New Zealand federal government, the Province of Ontario, and the National Capital Commission (Ottawa-Gatineau). His research interests include plan evaluation, planning for climate change, and planning for slow-growth or declining cities. He is a Fellow, Canadian Institute of Planners, and a Registered Professional Planner (Ontario).



Dr. Enid Slack, University of Toronto

Dr. Enid Slack is the Director of the Institute on Municipal Finance and Governance (IMFG) at the School of Cities at the University of Toronto. She has written extensively on the fiscal health of cities, metropolitan governance, property taxation, intergovernmental transfers, and infrastructure finance. Enid consults with governments and international agencies such as the Inter-American Development Bank, World Bank, UN Habitat, the Forum of Federations, and the International Growth Centre. She chairs the Advisory Board of Local Public Sector Alliance (LPSA), is a member of the Advisory Board of the International Property Tax Institute (IPTI), and is an Associate of the Local Government Revenue Initiative (LoGRI). In 2012, Enid was awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for her work on cities.

Session Speakers



Evan Allan, RPP, MCIP, MCP

Evan Allan is a Senior Planner with the City of Winnipeg focusing on long range planning initiatives. Evan has been practicing in the planning profession for over 10 years with experience in both the private and public sectors. Evan holds a Master of City Planning and a Bachelor of Environmental Studies (Major) from the University of Manitoba.



Dr. Kibreab Assefa

Dr. Assefa is a Senior Water Control Systems Planning Engineer with over 20 years of integrated research and industry experience. Currently serving as the Manitoba Flood Mapping Program and Flood Mitigation Studies Lead and Project Manager for the Hydrologic Forecasting and Water Management branch, he oversees provincial water infrastructure and risk assessments.

His extensive background includes technical roles at WSP-Golder, Stantec, and Metaferia Consulting Engineers, where he undertook environmental compliance for Alberta oil sands and flood protection modeling for the Springbank Off-Stream Reservoir. Dr. Assefa holds a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Manitoba, an M.Sc. in Hydroinformatics from IHE Delft, and a B.Sc. in Engineering from Arba Minch University. His specialized research focuses on climate change impacts, river hydraulics, and the anticipatory management of hydrological risks



Paul Bell, RPP, MCIP

As the Places & Community Lead at Narratives Inc., Paul guides a team that works alongside communities to honour the deep connections between people, culture, and the land. His early work as a planner explored the connections between creativity and place, which sparked a career-long focus on how a place's unique story can serve as the blueprint for its future. Paul's work seeks to go beyond the facts and figures, connecting the stories and lived experiences of people in a place to drive community planning.

Paul brings over eight years of planning experience in both the public and private sectors, ranging from municipal planning reviews to Indigenous territorial planning. He has served on the Manitoba Professional Planners Institute Board, and has spent the past three years as a member on the Canadian Institute of Planners Board of Directors.

At the heart of Paul's work is the notion that through dialogue and collaboration, people can better connect with the places they call home, which in turn leads to a better planning process. By sharing our stories of place, people become more connected to each other, to their community, and provides everyone the agency to compose a future that is not only practical but also more hopeful and connected.



Andrew Condon



Susanne Dewey Povoledo

Susanne is the Senior Sustainability Planner in the Office of Sustainability at the City of Winnipeg. She has over 25 years of planning and policy experience with the City of Winnipeg, spanning areas of long-range and strategic planning, integrated land use and transportation planning, sustainable development and universal design. Over this time, Susanne's work has benefited from various collaborations with the WRHA, including current efforts related to climate risk and resilience planning. She holds an undergraduate degree in Environmental Studies and a Master of City Planning, both from the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Manitoba.



Denae Dorge

Denae Dorge is a road safety professional specializing in public engagement, education, and outreach. Denae works at the City of Winnipeg as the Road Safety Outreach Coordinator. Throughout her career, Denae has applied community development approaches to a range of projects to enhance access and equity within transportation systems. Her goal is to help build a city where people of all ages, genders and abilities can get where they want to go, and do it safely.

Allison Driedger, Bluestem Developments.

Allison Driedger is a Manitoba-based planner and community builder with over 20 years of experience in land use planning across both urban and rural settings. Through her work with Bluestem Development, she has supported local governments, developers, and community organizations with thoughtful, community-driven planning solutions.

Deeply committed to strengthening communities, Allison is actively involved in initiatives such as refugee sponsorship, supporting local food banks, equine therapy programs, and recreational sports. She is also a member of LAHRK Consulting a worker co-operative focused on facilitation, planning, and community-based research.

Allison secured funding from the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy on behalf of the RM of Piney to lead the development of a scenario planning process for natural disaster preparedness in the RM of Piney. In addition to her consulting work, she assists the RM of Piney with Land Use issues, where she continues to advance sustainable and resilient community development.



Christine Edward, MArch, FNHP

Christine Edward joined CMHC in 2022 as a Client Solutions Specialist with the Manitoba team in Indigenous and Northern Housing Solutions. She moved to the Municipal Relations team in the fall of 2025 to support the divisions work with municipalities on Housing Acceleration Fund program files. Christine has over 15 years in local government experience, in land use and transportation planning fields in the Metro Vancouver region, before joining CMHC. Christine co-facilitated the CMHC session on the Housing Accelerator Fund at the 2025 conference. She had recently completed certification as a First Nations Housing Professional.



Ellen Enns

Ellen Enns is currently the Regional Manager for the Steinbach office of the Community Planning Services Branch within the Department of Municipal and Northern Relations (Province of Manitoba). She assumed the permanent position in Steinbach in 2025 while previously servicing as the Regional Manager of the Beausejour Office since 2023. Ellen's prior experience includes six years at the Rural Municipality of Tache, where she held the roles of Manager of Planning and Development and Development Officer. She holds a Master's degree in City Planning (2018) and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Design (2015), both from the University of Manitoba. Ellen has been a Registered Professional Planner with the Canadian Institute of Planners since 2022.



Michelle Erb

For the past 17 years, Michelle has worked for Manitoba Agriculture as an Ag Planning Specialist, where she has reviewed hundreds of municipal development plans, zoning by-laws and amendments with the goal of ensuring that Manitoba's land use policies for agriculture are upheld locally. Prior to her current role, Michelle spent time as a Soil Survey Specialist with the province conducting detailed soil survey in the RM of Elton and as a Land Resource Officer with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada where she maintained and managed provincial soil databases. Michelle is a Professional Agrologist that holds a B.Sc. in Agroecology and an M.Sc in Soil Science both from the University of Manitoba.



Emma Fineblit, MCP

Emma is a Winnipegger with settler roots who is passionate about building inclusive communities that are responsive to the needs of their residents. Emma works as Housing and Neighbourhood Revitalization Coordinator at the City of Winnipeg. Along with colleague Mike Lennon and a fantastic team of City employees and external advisors and experts, she led the 2025 update of the City of Winnipeg's Housing Needs Assessment.



Elise Finnigan, RPP, MCIP HAF

Elise Finnigan is an urban planner with the City of Winnipeg where she has been working for the past 12 years primarily in the role of District Planner. In May 2024, she joined the Housing Accelerator Fund Team as the Affordable Housing Concierge. Prior to returning to Winnipeg and working for the City, Elise lived in Dublin, Ireland where she worked on one of Europe's largest urban regeneration projects in Ballymun, a neighbourhood originally developed as a high-rise public housing estate in the 1960s.

One of Elise's proudest achievements was helping to found Art City, a nationally recognized, non-profit community art centre in Winnipeg's West Broadway neighbourhood. Elise holds a Master's of Planning degree from the University of British Columbia. She is a Registered Professional Planner (RPP) and a citizen of the Red River Métis.



Trevor Grafton, MALA, CSLA

Described by his wife as “playing real-life Sims for a living,” Trevor Grafton is a Registered Landscape Architect and passionate Urban Designer with Qualico Communities. Since 2013, Trevor has been an integral part of the Qualico Communities development team, where he began his journey by crafting the architectural guidelines for the second phase of Sage Creek’s development. His role has evolved significantly, now encompassing the master planning of neighborhoods and overseeing the strategic product development and density mix within each phase of development. His work extends to the design and development of park and wetland spaces, as well as urban plazas and the pedestrian realm.

Trevor advocates for developing diverse product types that blend straightforward architectural designs of individual buildings into a varied and eclectic streetscapes, to assist in setting the foundation for a charming neighborhood character from the outset. Trevor’s expertise and passion for urban design and creating sustainable, welcoming environments make him an asset to the Qualico team and the communities they build

Trevor holds a master’s degree in landscape architecture from the University of Manitoba and is currently pursuing a Diploma in Urban Land Economics through the University of British Columbia. Join us for an insightful tour of Sage Creek in showcasing the innovative design elements and community spirit that make this neighborhood a standout example of thoughtful urban planning.



Evan Graham

Evan Graham has spent the past decade with Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure, helping communities understand their flood risk and advocating for stronger flood protection in planning processes. He now leads the Funding Programs section at Manitoba’s Emergency Management Organization, overseeing the Disaster Financial Assistance program. When Manitoba is not experiencing a natural disaster, you can find Evan out in nature chasing after his toddler.



Tina Harms

Tina Harms is a Land Use Specialist with Manitoba Agriculture. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Agroecology from the University of Manitoba and a Master’s Degree in Soil Science from the University of Alberta. Before joining Manitoba Agriculture in 2022, Tina has worked in both a regulatory role and a field role restoring farmland and forested land impacted by disturbance.



Danny Haywood

Born and raised in Thompson, Danny developed a strong passion for carpentry and building construction early in life. After graduating high school with a major in carpentry, he entered the construction industry as a labourer, advancing into skilled labour positions and eventually becoming an apprentice before achieving full red seal certification. Danny has worked across the industrial, commercial, institutional, and residential sectors as a carpenter, gaining a wide range of experience that served as a strong foundation when he transitioned into his current career as a Building Inspector. He is certified as a Building Official for Residential Part 9 Housing & Small Buildings as well as Commercial Part 3 Buildings, and he maintains his CBCO certification through the Manitoba Building Officials Association. Proud to call Thompson home, Danny values the community both as someone who grew up there and as someone raising a family in the North. His family enjoys summers at the lake and winters filled with activities, including participating in and volunteering for local dance and hockey programs.



Angela Howells

Angela Howells holds a Master of Science in Environment and Geography from the University of Manitoba, where her graduate research focused on quantifying flood damages in the Lower Red River region. A lifelong Manitoban, she brings both academic insight and lived experience to her work, having witnessed—and contributed to—flood response efforts, including volunteering during the historic 1997 flood.

Angela began her career with Manitoba Parks and has since spent five years with Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure. In her current role, she applies expertise in environmental analysis, flood risk assessment, and geographic information systems to support evidence-based land use and infrastructure planning. Her work emphasizes the translation of flood data and mapping into practical tools that support resilient, informed decision-making.

Angela's professional perspective is grounded in a deep understanding of Manitoba's flood history, landscapes, and planning challenges. She is committed to advancing the use of high-quality flood risk information to support sustainable development, risk-aware planning, and long-term public resilience.



Dan Iskierski, RPP, MCIP

Dan Iskierski is a District Planner with the City of Winnipeg's Downtown and Neighbourhood Main Streets Branch, and has been at the City of Winnipeg for five years. His time at the City has included experience in development applications, policy analysis and review, research, and plan implementation. Currently, Dan assists proponents of downtown development navigate the development process as well as evaluates development applications. He also works towards the implementation of CentrePlan 2050, a secondary plan to guide municipal investment and development in Downtown Winnipeg. This includes working on the Graham Avenue redevelopment project, which turned a bus corridor into a pedestrian street in the summer of 2025.



Justin Johnson

Chef de la direction de l'Association des municipalités bilingues du Manitoba (AMBM) depuis 2018, M. Justin Johnson se distingue par un leadership stratégique axé sur la gouvernance, l'innovation et le développement durable des collectivités bilingues et francophones. À l'échelle nationale, il a été élu vice-président de la Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada (FCFA) pour un mandat de deux ans. Dans l'exercice de ces fonctions, il a contribué activement aux travaux liés à la modernisation de la Loi sur les langues officielles, participant ainsi au renforcement du cadre législatif et institutionnel soutenant les communautés de langue officielle en situation minoritaire. Au sein de l'AMBM, M. Johnson a piloté d'importantes initiatives structurantes, dont la mise en place et le déploiement du cadre réglementaire du Modèle de maturité municipale (3M). Ce modèle constitue un levier stratégique visant à soutenir les municipalités membres dans l'amélioration continue de leurs capacités organisationnelles, de leurs services bilingues et de leur gouvernance. Sous sa direction, l'AMBM a également consolidé ses relations intergouvernementales, notamment par un renforcement de la collaboration avec le gouvernement fédéral et le gouvernement du Manitoba, favorisant une meilleure concertation, un accès accru aux programmes et un alignement stratégique des priorités. Son engagement soutenu et son influence dans le développement des collectivités francophones et bilingues du Manitoba ont été reconnus par l'attribution du prix Riel de la Société de la francophonie manitobaine (SFM), dans la catégorie Politique.



Ryan Jones

Ryan Jones works from Ottawa, Ontario as the Operations Manager for the Professional Standards Board for the Planning Profession in Canada. He assists with delivering PSB's core services in university program accreditation and candidate RPP certification for Provincial and Territorial Institutes and Associations across Canada



Rachelle Kirouac, (CSLA, MALA)

Rachelle Kirouac (CSLA, MALA), is a Landscape Architect and IAP2-trained public engagement specialist with Urban Systems Ltd. in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Her work focuses on the intersection of community planning, land-use policy, and public-realm design, supporting municipalities and First Nations communities across Canada, with a strong emphasis on northern and remote contexts in Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario. Rachelle also contributes to the University of Manitoba-led SSHRC Quality in Canada's Built Environment research partnership, supporting national research on community-led, affordable, and attainable housing in Northern and Indigenous communities. Her practice is grounded in nature-based solutions, place-responsive design, lived experience, and meaningful engagement, and is shaped through close collaboration with developers, land economists, planners, engineers, and environmental specialists to deliver practical, implementation-ready solutions. Her work in Northern Manitoba—including Churchill—spans strategic land-use planning, rapid housing and subdivision design, urban and public-realm design, community master planning (including campgrounds, parks, waterfronts, and sports fields), trails and active transportation networks, and wayfinding strategy and design. Rachelle is a strong advocate for collaborative project delivery, championing interdisciplinary, curiosity-driven teams that prioritize knowledge sharing, mutual capacity building, and resilient solutions tailored to the unique individuality of people and place.



Karin Kliewer, RPP, MCIP

Karin has been a regular presenter at the Manitoba Planning Conference for the past few years, and co-presented a conference session at the Royal Architecture Institute of Canada Conference in 2025. She continues to make planning-related presentations in public meetings, university classrooms, and to community groups and workshops for CentrePlan 2050 and other City initiatives. She is an experienced small group facilitator, and has designed and facilitated multi-sector consultations and workshops on community engagement and neighbourhood planning.



Tyler Kroeker

Tyler Kroeker is a Senior Economist within the City of Winnipeg's Economic Development and Policy Office, specializing in applied economic and financial analysis. In his current role, Tyler develops population projections, conducts socio-economic benefit-cost analyses, and evaluates the fiscal impacts of future land development across the city. His work supports evidence-based municipal planning by providing both near and long-term insight and guidance. Tyler's work integrates diverse data sources and methodological techniques, including demographic modelling, causal inference, financial projections, and spatial analysis. Tyler holds a master's degree in Economic Policy from McMaster University and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Manitoba.



Roger Lam, MCIP, MCP (RPP)

Roger Lam, Senior Manager, Municipal Relations team at CMHC, leads the delivery of the Housing Accelerator Fund to municipalities across Canada. In previous roles at CMHC he has delivered housing programs, negotiated bilateral agreements with Provinces and Territories, supported innovation and partnerships, and delivered the city stream of the Rapid Housing Initiative. He has worked for the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia in various roles including housing, planning, building codes, and mental health and addictions. He is Registered Professional Planner who has worked in small rural communities in Manitoba and BC. Roger graduated from the University of Manitoba's City Planning program and in volunteers on MPPI's Complaints Committee as secretary to Taekwondo Manitoba, and acts as Vice-Chair to the Inland Port Special Planning Area. In his spare time, he enjoys reading, watching his kids' sports, and is fond of walking his dog Bonsai.



Mike Lennon

Mike Lennon is a Program Support Specialist with the Housing Accelerator Fund program at the City of Winnipeg, where he provides research, analysis, and supports the delivery of affordable and supportive housing solutions. As a Winnipegger with settler roots, Mike is driven by the belief that all Winnipeggers should have access to a safe and affordable home. Mike worked with Emma Fineblit and other contributors on the 2025 update to the City of Winnipeg's Housing Needs Assessment.



Sara Manteuffel

Sara Manteuffel is a Community Planner based in Winnipeg with nearly 5 years in consulting and over 15 years of accessibility advocacy experience and is an experienced leader and practitioner on planning and inclusion projects. Sara is a person with a disability and is a passionate advocate for universal accessibility in her academic, personal, and work life. She brings a wealth of experience in planning, engagement, accessibility, policy, and design, and specializes in interdisciplinary thinking and collaboration.

Anna McKinnon

Anna McKinnon is a planner working in the Long Range Planning Branch of the Urban Planning and Design Division at the City of Winnipeg. She graduated from the University of Manitoba's City Planning program in 2023.



Meaghan Morrish, MA

Meaghan Morrish is the Dialogue & Transformation Lead with Narratives Inc., where she supports communities, organizations, and governments to navigate complex and often high-stakes conversations. Her work focuses on conflict analysis, facilitation, and building conflict readiness, with a particular emphasis on making conflict systems and engagement processes more accessible through storytelling and storywork.

At Narratives Meaghan works across impact assessment, community engagement, and strategic planning processes, supporting teams to move through tension in ways that strengthen relationships rather than erode them. She brings a systems lens to conflict, helping clients understand how dynamics such as misinformation, values-based differences, and structural pressures shape engagement environments. Meaghan holds a Master's in Conflict Analysis and Management and is a certified workplace mediator. She is particularly interested in how conflict, when engaged constructively, can support more resilient communities, more durable decisions, and more sustainable planning outcomes.



Jeff Palmer

For over 20 years, Jeff has practiced community planning throughout Manitoba and northwestern Ontario with a specialization in downtown and neighbourhood revitalization, housing strategies, community economic development, strategic planning, and public engagement. Jeff has provided development and master planning services within a number of public organizations including the Forks Renewal Corporation, CentreVenture Development Corporation, and the University of Winnipeg Community Renewal Corporation. Jeff graduated with planning degrees from both the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design and the University of Manitoba, and is currently co-teaching the Urban Development course in the Master of City Planning program. Jeff is a member of both the Manitoba and Ontario Professional Planners Institutes and a past Director of the Canadian Institute of Planners.



Amanda Pushka, M.Sc., P.Eng., RSP2 Road Safety Engineer, City of Winnipeg

Amanda Pushka is Road Safety Engineer and certified Road Safety Professional with nine years of experience in transportation engineering. She brings international expertise in conducting road safety audits and developing active transportation designs, applying a Safe System approach to assess road user risk and recommend targeted safety countermeasures. At the City of Winnipeg, Amanda leads the implementation of the city's Road Safety Strategic Action Plan.



Michael Pyl

Michael Pyl is a Registered Professional Planner with over 15 years of experience at the City of Winnipeg. Working in the Long Range Planning Branch, he specializes in growth management. More specifically, he spends much of his time thinking about how the City is currently growing, how it is likely to grow in the future, and the infrastructure needed to accommodate it. In doing so, he is driven to better integrate City asset management, engineering, and municipal finance considerations into its long-range land use planning. Michael holds a Masters of Science in Planning from the University of Toronto and a Bachelor of Arts (Politics) from the University of Winnipeg.



Lissie Rappaport

Lissie Rappaport is a Registered Professional Planner (RPP) and is the Manager of the Housing Accelerator Fund at the City of Winnipeg. She joined the City in 2022 after over a decade working in non-profit organizations and community development. She is honoured and humbled to be leading a collaborative team in the Housing Accelerator Fund Office at the City, implementing both structural change and accelerating affordable housing construction. Lissie holds a Master of City Planning from the University of Manitoba. Lissie is a strategic thinker, applies a flair of creativity to her work, and is excited about addressing solutions to complex problems.



Dr. Lisa Richards, MD MNRM MSc FRCPC

Dr. Lisa Richards, MD MNRM MSc FRCPC is a public health specialist working as a Medical Officer of Health with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) and the Province of Manitoba with a focus on environmental health and health promotion, including climate change. She has worked at the WRHA since 2010, and previously was a Medical Officer of Health in northern Manitoba. She is also the Program Director for the Public Health and Preventive Medicine residency program and an Assistant Professor with the College of Community and Global Health, University of Manitoba, contributing both in teaching and administration roles. She is a current member of the City of Winnipeg Climate Action and Resilience Committee.



Lyle Safronetz

Born and raised in Thompson, Manitoba, Lyle Safronetz serves as the City of Thompson's Director of Development and Technical Services. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Land Use and Environmental Studies from the University of Saskatchewan. Prior to joining the City of Thompson, Lyle spent 22 years in the mining sector working in Thompson and Toronto ON.

Lyle brings a practical understanding of the economic and social forces that shape northern communities. His municipal work focuses on sustainable land use, infrastructure planning, and supporting community resilience.

Throughout his career, Lyle has contributed to numerous national and international conferences, most recently representing the City of Thompson in 2025 on a CIM conference panel focused on the socioeconomic impacts of mine closures on communities.

Outside of his professional role, Lyle enjoys spending time with his wife and two sons at their cabin in northern Manitoba.



Ryan Segal

Ryan is a creative consultant and professional planner who recently founded Assembly Studio after over a decade of private practice experience as a planner, facilitator and strategic advisor across western Canada. He works with communities and organizations on strategy, governance, urban planning, engagement, and all the weird spaces in between to help find clarity in the complexity and a little fun in the messiness.



Pamela Simmons, APR, CFRE

Pamela has over 35 years of experience as a senior fund development professional, working with more than 50 organizations in Winnipeg, across Canada, and in the Middle East. She is a senior consultant with Global Philanthropic Canada. Her background spans sectors including healthcare, community services, recreation, education, and Indigenous organizations, as well as arts, culture, and environmental initiatives. She brings deep expertise in capital campaign management, including feasibility studies, campaign planning and design, case development, prospect identification and screening, proposal writing, stewardship planning, and staff and volunteer training for donor visits and solicitations, with key roles in campaigns for The Winnipeg Art Gallery – Qaumajuq, Alpha House, Agape Table Inc., University of Manitoba Rady Centre, Ka Ni Kanichihk, Siloam Mission, Kidthink, and Ronald McDonald House.

A strategic and collaborative leader, Pamela is known for her commitment to accountability, evidence-informed decision-making, and alignment with organizational values and workplace culture. She is skilled at facilitating collaboration among boards, senior leaders, staff, volunteers, and community partners to keep complex campaigns on track and focused on clear outcomes. In addition to campaign leadership, she has developed strategic and fund development plans for a wide range of organizations and shares her practical insights through a weekly fundraising blog.

Pamela is a graduate of the University of Winnipeg, a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE), a Master Trainer certified by the Association of Fundraising Professionals, an Accredited Public Relations professional (APR), and a Barrett Value Centre Cultural Transformation Consultant.



Michael Spence

The Honourable Mayor Michael Spence was born and raised in Churchill, Manitoba. After graduating, he was employed with Federal Public Works Department and Churchill pre-fab housing plan. From 1976 to present Mayor Spence has developed three successful ongoing businesses, including ownership of a very successful local full service hotel. Among Mayor Spence's businesses achievements is Wat'chee Expeditions, a specialized eco-tourism company that provides guided activities into Wapusk National Park from his lodge in the Churchill Wildlife Management Area. Of particular interests to visitors are the denning polar bears that can be observed during the operating season, which extends from mid-February through March.

Mayor Spence was elected as Councillor in 1989 and served on Churchill Economic Advisory Committee and also served as the chairman of the Churchill Regional Health Centre Board. In 1992, Mayor Spence was re-elected and installed as Deputy Mayor. Mr. Spence was elected Mayor in 1995 and has served consecutively in that capacity since. Mayor Spence is very active in the promotion of Churchill, tourism, and preservation of Northern Culture and Heritage, and sits as chairperson on the Arctic Gateway Group Board of Directors.



Sonikile Tembo, RPP

As Principal Planner of the City of Brandon, Sonikile oversees the planning section and collaborates with several departments and community groups on initiatives that implement the Brandon City Plan. She enjoys the variety of responsibilities in her job and is excited about Brandon's current spirit of collaboration and creative problem solving.



Martin Van Osch, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Rural Municipality of Piney

Martin Van Osch serves as the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the Rural Municipality of Piney, located in southeastern Manitoba. With a deep commitment to community development and sustainability, Martin plays a pivotal role in overseeing municipal operations, strategic planning, and fostering partnerships that benefit the region. Under his leadership, the RM of Piney has undertaken several innovative initiatives, including the Southeast Regional Transportation Initiative, which aims to provide sustainable and cost-effective transportation options for residents. Martin has also been instrumental in launching programs like the Buffalo Point, Piney (BPP) Rent and Ride program, which enhances accessibility for seniors, youth, and community groups.

Martin's dedication to environmental stewardship is evident through his work on the municipality's Climate Risk Assessment and Action Plan. By addressing challenges such as droughts, wildfires, and flooding, he ensures the RM of Piney is well-prepared for the impacts of climate change. His efforts to incorporate green initiatives, such as electric vehicle charging stations and energy-efficient practices, reflect his forward-thinking approach to municipal governance. Beyond his administrative duties, Martin is known for his collaborative spirit, engaging with residents and stakeholders to create a vibrant and resilient community. His vision and leadership continue to shape the RM of Piney as a model for sustainable rural development.



Bryan Ward

Bryan Ward joined Qualico Communities in Winnipeg as Senior Manager of Planning in December, 2017. He was named General Manager of Qualico Communities (Winnipeg Ltd.) in January of 2019, and subsequently named Vice President, Community Development Winnipeg, in January, 2020 – his current position.

Prior to joining Qualico, Bryan gained over 12 years of experience working as a professional planner in Manitoba for the Provincial Government, the City of Winnipeg and with WSP Canada on a wide variety of land use and development projects.

Bryan offers tremendous value stemming from his experience working on the planning, regulatory and approval side of the business. He is responsible for coordinating the visioning, planning, public engagement and approvals for land development projects while maintaining positive working relationships with internal and external parties. His wide range of planning and development experience working for both approval authorities and in the land development industry make Bryan a great fit and asset as Leader of the Communities Team.



Patty Wiens

Patty Wiens is Winnipeg's First Bicycle Mayor, and a board director and newsletter editor for Bike Winnipeg. Patty is a passionate advocate for safe streets and she spends much of her time promoting year-round cycling on her YouTube channel, Instagram, and her website pattybikes.com. She has been featured on YouTube channels and podcasts including The War on Cars, Active Towns, Radio-Free Urbanism, and Tom Babin's Shifter. She was also named one of Ace Burpee's Top 100 Most Fascinating Manitobans of 2024.

She's the host of That's Her Problem!, a podcast exploring women's relationships with their communities, Ballot Babes, a local politics podcast aiming to educate the public on the upcoming October's civic election in Winnipeg, and her book, That'll Never Work Here: Challenging the myths around biking in a winter city, is now available.

2026 MANITOBA PLANNING CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Delta Winnipeg | May 6 – 8, 2026

This year’s theme reflects the importance of maintaining Momentum in planning through times of uncertainty and disruption. Momentum pushes us forward by leveraging our past efforts while adapting to present challenges. Momentum through uncertainty depends on shared vision, collective action and partnerships across governments, communities, and stakeholders. By recognizing that we operate in turbulent times, we can situate the work of planners within the context of our current realities: climate change, a national housing crisis, reconciliation, demographic shifts, and global instability. In this context, Momentum is not only about advancing plans and policies, but also about finding the strength to foster resilience, adaptability, and hope, for our shared future in muddy waters.

TIME	DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026
4:00 – 7:00PM	Conference Registration
5:00 – 6:00PM	Manitoba Professional Planners Institute (MPPI) Annual General Meeting (MPPI members only) 1.0 CPL*
6:30 – 8:00PM	Opening Reception (hors d’oeuvres, cash bar) Included with full conference registration. The Event Space at The Forks: 2nd floor, The Forks Market, 1 Forks Market Road, Winnipeg

TIME	DAY 2 – THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026
7:30 – 4:00PM	Registration
7:30 – 8:50AM	<p>7:50 – 8:00 Conference Opening, Welcome & Land acknowledgement from: David Neufeld & Jeff Pratte, MB Planning Conference Steering Committee Co-chairs</p> <p>8:00 – 8:50 Keynote Address (K-1): Dr. Mark Seasons, Ph.D., M.Env. Des., B.A.(Hons.), Director, School of Planning, University of Waterloo</p> <p>Planning for and managing “wicked problems” Change, uncertainty, and turbulence are constants in our professional work. Many communities struggle to understand, plan for, and manage the impacts caused by climate change, economic restructuring, and political instability, among other “wicked problems.” Building community capacity and resilience is essential. This presentation explores how planners can help do that.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">0.75 CPL*</p>

TIME	DAY2–THURSDAY, MAY7, 2026			
Session 1 9:10 – 10:10AM	Planning for People	Planning for Places	Planning for Prosperity	Mobile Tour (M)
	<p>(IB-1) – Charleswood B</p> <p>Dear Young Planner: Urban Planning doesn't need more geniuses, it needs fewer cowards</p> <p>Using ten insights shared by Cities Forum and ten Brandon planning experiences, we will reflect together on how planners can better position ourselves to stay the course, keep the momentum, and make it through turbulent times. Join me in a reflection on the beast that is Urban Planning.</p> <p>Sonikile Tembo, RPP Principal Planner, City of Brandon</p>	<p>(SB-1) – Delta B&C</p> <p>Planning for Change: Local Impacts of the Housing Accelerator Fund Initiatives and Launch of the Housing Design Catalogue Resources</p> <p>This session, presented by the Municipal Relations team, will build upon the key insights presented at last year's conference with outcomes of Housing Accelerator Fund initiatives implemented nationally and success stories shared by local governments. New housing solutions, such as the Housing Design Catalogue and Local Partners, will be explored.</p> <p>Christine Edward, MArch Senior Specialist, Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation Roger Lam, MCIP, MCP (RPP) Senior Manager, Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation</p>	<p>(PB-1) – Delta A</p> <p>The Long Road to Compliance: A Municipal Case Study on Derelict Buildings</p> <p>For more than three years, the City of Thompson has worked to bring a neglected property into compliance under its Vacant and Derelict Building By-Law. This presentation shares the administrative and legal steps taken, along with practical lessons that can guide other municipalities facing similar challenges.</p> <p>Danny Haywood Chief Building Inspector, City of Thompson Lyle Safronetz Director, City of Thompson</p>	<p>(MT-1)</p> <p>Walk on – Downtown Momentum Mobile Tour <u>Fee:</u> \$25/pp <u>Depart:</u> 9:30AM – meet in hotel lobby <u>Return:</u> 12:30PM</p> <p>We know Winnipeg's downtown faces significant challenges, but momentum is building towards positive change. Join the City of Winnipeg Downtown Planning Team and UWCRC 2.0 for a walking tour of some new and refurbished public spaces and developments. Participants will also get an inside look at two innovative projects led by a social purpose developer that has developed 902 units in Winnipeg since 2016, 544 of which are affordable. Come for the info, stay for the views!</p> <p>UWCRC 2.0 staff team and City of Winnipeg Downtown Planning team</p>
10:10 – 10:40AM	Networking Break and Exhibitor Showcase			

1.0 CPL*

1.0 CPL*

1.0 CPL*

3.0 CPL*

	Planning for People	Planning for Places	Planning for Prosperity
Session 2 10:40 – 11:40am	(IB-2) – Charleswood B Focus Shift: Planning with and for ADHD in Practice, Process, and Community This session will invite planners and leaders to explore the impact of ADHD on how we work, collaborate, make decisions and plan with and for community. Planning work is complex, nonlinear, and often cognitively demanding - conditions that can both hinder and elevate practitioners with ADHD. The session will examine how embracing diverse cognitive styles can strengthen collaboration, spark new ideas, and broaden the profession’s creative capacity. Ryan Segal Alexander, RPP, MCIP, MCP Owner & Consultant, Assembly Studio	(SB-2) – Delta B&C The Power of Exploratory Scenario Planning: Strengthening Piney’s Wildfire Preparedness This session introduces Scenario Planning, a low-cost, high-impact tool used to navigate uncertainty by exploring multiple plausible futures. Drawing on the RM of Piney’s experience with Exploratory Scenario Planning (XSP), attendees will learn how this approach strengthens resilience, supports land-use and policy decision-making, and helps municipalities anticipate risks, opportunities, and future change. Martin Van Osch CAO, RM of Piney Allison Driedger Bluestem Development	(PB-2) – Delta A Removing Barriers to Understanding Accessibility Legislation in Manitoba, and Creating Inclusive Communities for All Accessibility legislation in Manitoba continues to evolve, requiring flexible compliance by municipal governments. This presentation explores how municipalities and planners can learn from legislation and precedent accessibility plans across Canada, with the goal to help ensure Manitoban municipalities create inclusive communities for all that go above and beyond minimum requirements. Sarah Manteuffel, RPP, MCIP Community Planner, Urban Systems
		1.0 CPL*	1.0 CPL*
Lunch 11:50AM – 1:15PM	11:50-11:55 Greetings from Association of Manitoba Municipalities’ Director Louis Fitzpatrick (Northern District Councillor, City of Thompson) 11:55 – 12:30 Break in programming for Lunch 12:30-1:15 Keynote Address (K-2): Michael Redhead Champagne Beyond Land Acknowledgements		

	Planning for People	Planning for Places	Planning for Prosperity	Mobile Tour (M)
Session 3 1:30 – 2:30PM	(IB-3) – Charleswood B The Road to RPP Aspiring and current RPP candidates seeking certification as Registered Professional Planners (RPPs) in Canada, Mentors, and Sponsors are invited to join us on a journey through the certification process. In this presentation, we'll explore the pathways to becoming an RPP. From the requirements for admission through to obtaining your RPP designation to the final exam, we'll demystify the certification process. Ryan Jones Operations Manager, Professional Standards Board	(SB-3) – Delta B&C City of Winnipeg Housing Needs Assessment 2025 The 2025 Housing Needs Assessment gives a snapshot of housing in Winnipeg today. Guided by an advisory committee of subject matter experts, this HNA draws on local data and engagement with groups and individuals with lived experience to analyze trends, current needs, and future expectations related to housing in Winnipeg. Emma Fineblit, MCP Housing & Neighbourhood Revitalization Coordinator, City of Winnipeg Mike Lennon, MCP HAF Program Support Specialist, City of Winnipeg	(PB-3) – Delta A Soils and Agricultural Land Use Planning: Foundations for Sustainable Development Soil survey information provides the baseline inventory of our land resource and insight for informed and comprehensive land management decisions. Explore how soil surveys are used in land use planning including determining development plan designations, assessing subdivisions, and other forms of development under Manitoba's PLUPS (Provincial Land Use Policies). Michelle Erb, M.Sc., P.Ag. Agricultural Planning Specialist, Manitoba Agriculture Tina Harms, M.Sc., P.Ag. Land Use Specialist, Manitoba Agriculture Ellen Enns, RPP, MCIP Regional Manager, Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations	(MT-2) Adapting to the Market, providing housing options and sustainable growth in the suburbs: Sage Creek <u>Fee:</u> \$50/pp <u>Depart:</u> 1:30PM – meet in hotel lobby <u>Return:</u> 4:30PM This mobile tour explores Sage Creek, an 850-acre Qualico community 20 years in the making. Learn about development challenges, market conditions, and adaptations along the way. Sage Creek now features diverse housing, integrated land uses, a central marketplace, new schools, parks, landscapes inspired by the natural environment, and an extensive AT network. Bryan Ward MCIP, RPP Vice-President, Qualico Communities Trevor Grafton MALA, CSLA Urban Designer, Qualico Communities
	1.0 CPL*	1.0 CPL*	1.0 CPL*	3.0 CPL*

	Planning for People	Planning for Places	Planning for Prosperity
Session 4 2:30 – 3:30pm	(IB-3) – Charleswood B That'll Never Work Here - Resisting the Idea Against Active Transportation in a Winter City A Brazilian immigrant, once car-dependent, discovered that winter cycling in Winnipeg is not only possible—it's transformative. I'll dismantle the "That'll never work here" mindset with personal stories, hard data, and lessons from global cities, showing how bicycles can reclaim our streets, health, and community in any season. Patty Wiens Board Director and Newsletter Editor for Bike Winnipeg	(SB-3) – Delta B&C From Muddy Waters to Clear Plans: Practical Resources for Flood Risk Management Gain practical tools to maintain planning momentum through turbulent times. Learn how to assess flood risk and apply geospatial strategies for proactive land-use, infrastructure design, and community resilience. This session transforms uncertainty into opportunity—turning muddy waters into clear, actionable plans for safer, stronger communities. Angela Howells Divisional Analyst, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure Evan Graham Assistant Director, Manitoba Emergency Management Organization Dr. Kibreab Assefa Senior Water Control Systems Planning Engineer, Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure	(PB-3) – Delta A From Plans to Philanthropy: Turning Public Priorities into Donor-Ready Projects See how to turn community plans and public priorities into projects donors are excited to fund. This session will walk through translating planning goals into clear cases for support, matching public dollars with private gifts, and engaging donors as long-term partners in community prosperity and reconciliation. Group workshop with PowerPoint presentation and small-group exercises. Pamela Simmons, APR, CFRE, CTT Senior Consultant, Global Philanthropic
	1.0 CPL*	1.0 CPL*	1.0 CPL*
3:30 – 4:00PM	Networking Break and Exhibitor Showcase		

<p>Session 5 4:00 – 5:00pm</p>	<p>(PB-3) – Delta A</p> <p>Unlocking Municipal Potential: The Municipal Maturity Model in Action</p> <p>Discover Manitoba’s unique planning tool for the delivery of municipal services in both official languages. This practical assessment framework helps Manitoba’s bilingual municipalities evaluate readiness, identify opportunities, and build sustainable strategies, benefiting Manitoba’s Francophone and bilingual communities. See how AMBM member municipalities are leveraging Manitoba’s bilingual advantage to unlock their potential.</p> <p>Découvrez l’outil de planification unique du Manitoba pour la prestation de services municipaux dans les deux langues officielles. Ce cadre d’évaluation pratique aide les municipalités bilingues du Manitoba à évaluer leur état de préparation, à identifier des opportunités et à élaborer des stratégies durables, au bénéfice des collectivités francophones et bilingues du Manitoba. Voyez comment les municipalités membres de l’AMBM tirent parti de l’avantage bilingue du Manitoba pour libérer leur potentiel.</p> <p>Justin Johnson Chief Executive Officer, Association of Manitoba Bilingual Municipalities (AMBM)</p> <p>1.0 CPL</p>	<p>(SB-3) – Delta B&C</p> <p>The Town of Churchill: Planning when the World is Watching</p> <p>Churchill isn’t a typical Manitoba town, and we probably shouldn’t have expected that community planning would follow a typical process. What began as a straightforward update to the Town’s Development Plan and Zoning By-law must now respond to a quickly evolving global political and economic context. How can planning balance national needs for energy, reliable transportation, and security with local priorities such as environmental sustainability and social equity?</p> <p>Mayor Michael Spence Town of Churchill Jeff Palmer, RPP MCIP Community Planner, Urban Systems Rachelle Kirouac MALA CSLA Landscape Architect, Urban Systems</p> <p>1.0 CPL</p>
<p>6:30– 9:30PM</p>	<p>Reception & Gala Dinner</p>	

TIME	DAY 3 – FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026
7:30am – 12nn	Registration
7:30 – 9:00AM	<p data-bbox="380 459 1793 521">8:05 – 8:15 Conference Opening & Welcome from: David Neufeld & Jeff Pratte, MB Planning Conference Steering Committee Co-chairs</p> <p data-bbox="380 597 1255 626">8:15 – 9:00 Keynote Address (K-3): Dr Enid Slack, University of Toronto</p> <p data-bbox="380 667 995 696">Rethinking Municipal Finance in a Changing World</p> <p data-bbox="380 737 1976 837">This keynote will address the current challenges municipalities are facing including, for example, an infrastructure deficit, a shortage of affordable housing, climate change, cybersecurity threats, and tariffs. It will explain how these challenges impact municipal finances, and suggest what needs to be done to make municipalities fiscally sustainable.</p>
Session 6 9:00 – 10:00 AM	<p data-bbox="380 927 583 956">Plenary Session</p> <p data-bbox="380 997 1976 1058">Keynote Address (K-4): Dr. Brent Roussin, MD JD MPH FRCPC, Chief Provincial Public Health Officer, Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care</p> <p data-bbox="380 1099 1976 1200">This keynote highlights findings from Manitoba’s 2025 Health Status Report and explores how a Health in All Policies framework for cross-sector partnership and collaboration can be used to address shared challenges and promote health and well-being for all Manitobans.</p>
10:00 – 10:30 AM	Networking Break and Exhibitor Showcase

**Session 7
10:30 AM –
11:30 AM**

Planning for People	Planning for Places	Planning for Prosperity
<p>(IB-3) – Charleswood B</p> <p>Mapping Winnipeg’s Abandoned Transportation Scheme or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Winnipeg’s Transportation Network</p> <p>The 1968 Winnipeg Area Transportation Study (W.A.T.S) proposed a dramatic network of highways cutting across many of Winnipeg’s urban neighbourhoods. This presentation will showcase a never before seen view of the unbuilt freeway master plan, discuss its legacy in Winnipeg’s planning lexicon, and reflect on current transportation planning in Winnipeg.</p> <p>Evan Allan, RPP, MCIP, MCP Senior Planner, City of Winnipeg Anna McKinnon, MCP Planner, City of Winnipeg Andrew Condon Public Works Manager, City of Winnipeg</p>	<p>(SB-3) – Delta B&C</p> <p>Practical Tactical – Road Safety Community Quick-builds</p> <p>Our transportation networks are changing to increase safety and encourage mode shift. Changes can be temporary, and they don’t have to cost a lot. In this session, City of Winnipeg staff will highlight two projects. The first is a pilot that made streets safer using temporary quick-build traffic calming to rapidly change the layout of intersections and roads. The second is a work-in-progress that is transforming a Downtown street into a temporary (and hopefully permanent) public space. Join for a discussion highlighting processes, designs, partnerships, lessons learned, and next steps.</p> <p>Karin Kliewer, RPP, MCIP Senior Planner, City of Winnipeg Dan Iskierski, RPP, MCIP District Planner, City of Winnipeg Denae Dorge Road Safety Outreach Coordinator, City of Winnipeg Amanda Pushka, M.Sc., P.Eng., RSP2 Road Safety Engineer, City of Winnipeg</p>	<p>(PB-3) – Delta A</p> <p>Accelerating Housing in Turbulent Times: How Winnipeg’s Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) Team is Accelerating Housing Development through Innovative Initiatives and Partnerships</p> <p>On December 5, 2023, the City of Winnipeg received \$122.4 million in HAF funding contingent on the City fast tracking the development of over 3,100 housing units in a three-year period. This session highlights the eight targeted Action Plan initiatives implemented by the City to accelerate development and increase the supply of affordable housing units. It will share lessons learned from “building the plane while flying it” and provide practical tools for practitioners facing similar challenges across Manitoba.</p> <p>Lissie Rappaport HAF Manager, City of Winnipeg Elise Finnigan, RPP, MCIP HAF Affordable Housing Concierge, City of Winnipeg</p>
1.0 CPL*	1.0 CPL*	1.0 CPL*

Lunch 12:00 – 1:00pm	University of Winnipeg undergrad Certificate Program in Planning announcement Scott McCullough, MCP Sr. Research Associate Institute of Urban Studies, Dept. of Geography University of Winnipeg		
Session 8 1:15pm – 2:45pm	<p>Planning for People</p> <p>(IB-3) – Charleswood B</p> <p>Planners in a Turbulent Time Developing Conflict Readiness for Muddy Waters (1.5 hours)</p> <p>In increasingly polarized and high-pressure planning environments, conflict is unavoidable. This interactive session introduces conflict readiness as a practical skillset for planners, municipal staff, and councillors. This interactive session will introduce frameworks and exercises to navigate tense public engagement, misinformation, and development pressures with greater confidence, and clarity, increasing internal resilience and mitigating burnout.</p> <p>Paul Bell RPP, MCIP Place and Community Lead, Narratives Inc. Meaghan Morrish Dialogue & Transformation Lead Project Director, Narratives Inc.</p> <p>1.5 CPL*</p>	<p>Planning for Places</p> <p>(SB-3) – Delta B&C</p> <p>Managing Momentum: Winnipeg Policy Responses to Recent Population Growth, Urban Expansion, and Fiscal Pressures</p> <p>In the 1990s, Winnipeg faced low growth, prompting tax-focused policies that limited municipal tax increases and service delivery. Since the mid-2000s, immigration-driven growth has created planning and fiscal challenges. This presentation explores historical trends, infrastructure pressures, financial challenges, and tools the City uses to manage growth and inform policy decisions.</p> <p>Tyler Kroeker Senior Economist, City of Winnipeg Michael Pyl Growth Management Coordinator, City of Winnipeg</p> <p>1.0 CPL*</p>	<p>Planning for Prosperity</p> <p>(PB-3) – Delta A</p> <p>Building Healthier Communities Together: Collaborative Opportunities for Public Health, Planners, and Municipalities</p> <p>The design and creation of our built environments profoundly influence population health, equity, and well-being. Evidence-informed planning principles that support healthy neighbourhood design, transportation networks, food systems, housing, and natural environments will be introduced. Collaborative opportunities for public health professionals, planners and municipal officials to address these and other current societal challenges (e.g. climate change) will then be explored.</p> <p>Dr. Brent Roussin, MD JD MPH FRCPC Chief Provincial Public Health Officer, Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care</p> <p>Dr. Lisa Richards, MD MNRM MSc FRCPC Medical Officer of Health, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority</p> <p>Susanne Dewey Povoledo Sustainability Planner, City of Winnipeg</p> <p>1.0 CPL*</p>

