



## LEADING TO THE FINISH: REFLECTIONS ON A TERM IN OFFICE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY  
2018 LEADERSHIP FORUM  
JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 2, 2018  
RADISSON HOTEL VANCOUVER AIRPORT  
RICHMOND, BC

### PROGRAM

We have officially entered the last year of the current local government electoral term. It's time to take a look back at the challenges we've faced and the successes we've achieved, and to move forward through the coming months with determination, dedication and a desire to ensure our communities are healthy and thriving as the next round of elections approaches. Whether you plan to throw your hat in the ring for another four years or not, take advantage of this last opportunity in the 2014-18 term to gather with local government and First Nations leaders from around the province for camaraderie, conversation, and education under the LGLA banner.

Our theme for the 2018 Forum is *Leading to the Finish: Reflections on a Term in Office* and we invite you to join us in Richmond, January 31-February 2, as we learn from one another and from the experts. We have a not-to-be-missed opening keynote from Shachi Kurl, Executive Director of the Angus Reid Institute; a joint LGLA/LGMA plenary session on the issue of responsible conduct and its practical implications; sessions on social media survival strategies; women in local government; lessons from the summer 2017 forest fires; stories of local government-First Nations partnerships and community economic development; legal and finance clinics on timely topics; an open discussion forum; a look at preparing for the 2018 elections; and more. And as usual, there will be plenty of excellent networking opportunities.

Take some time out from your busy schedule to connect with your colleagues and to reflect back on your last three years of community service. Come away with the inspiration and renewed determination you will need to make it to the finish line – and perhaps to carry on from there. LGLA welcomes all local government and First Nations elected officials and senior administrators and we encourage every community to invest in this unique leadership development opportunity.



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## **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31<sup>ST</sup>**

### **Forum Registration (Ballroom Foyer, 12:30-1:30 pm)**

Pick up your registration package in the Ballroom Foyer, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Radisson Hotel.

### **Welcome (President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 1:30-1:45)**

Join LGLA President, Councillor Arjun Singh and special guests as we officially open the 2017 Forum.

### **KEYNOTE ADDRESS Shachi Kurl, Executive Director, Angus Reid Institute (President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 1:45-3:00 pm)**

As Executive Director of the Angus Reid Institute, **SHACHI KURL** can be found offering analysis on CBC's "At Issue," Canada's most-watched political panel, as well as in *The Globe and Mail*, the *National Post*, and other influential forums. At the Institute—one of North America's premier nonpartisan, not-for-profit research and public opinion polling organizations—she works to further public knowledge, debunk myths, and contribute to debate and discussion in meaningful ways, enhancing the understanding of issues that matter to Canada and the world. She brings nearly two decades of public policy expertise to her role, spending the first part of her career as political reporter. Kurl is a recipient of the prestigious Jack Webster Award for Best TV Reporting. Along with former Australian and UK Prime Ministers Julia Gillard and Margaret Thatcher, she is an Alumnus of the US State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program. Her expertise has been sought by policymakers who have invited her to testify before parliamentary committees at the House of Commons. She holds a degree in Journalism and Political Science from Carleton University.



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### **Tributes and Special Introductions (President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 3:00-3:10 pm)**

Here we pay tribute to former LGLA staff member Eydie Fraser; honour the contributions of past LGLA President, Chair Rhona Martin; acknowledge LGLA certificate recipients; and introduce various special guests.

### **Refreshment Break (Ballroom Foyer, 3:10-3:30 pm)**

Coffee, tea and snack break in the Ballroom Foyer.

## **Responsible Conduct: Codes of Conduct – From Principles to Action!**

### **LGMA/LGLA Joint Workshop**

**(President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 3:30-5:00 pm)**

**Panelists:** Director Wendy Booth, East Kootenay RD, UBCM President; Mayor Andy Adams, Campbell River  
Mayor Jonathan Cote, New Westminster

Responsible conduct of elected officials is a frequent topic of conversation these days. The Working Group on Responsible Conduct, a tripartite team made up of UBCM, LGMA and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing staff representatives, has been exploring various potential tools, including codes of conduct, to support responsible conduct of elected officials in BC. This session is an opportunity to learn more about the work being done in BC on supporting responsible conduct; and to engage elected officials in a discussion on responsible conduct foundational principles and the use of codes of conduct in BC.

## **The Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing**

**(President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 5:00-5:15 pm)**

The Minister will address delegates and bring greetings from the provincial government.

## **Networking Reception – Sponsored by Young Anderson, Barristers & Solicitors**

**(Ballroom Foyer, 5:15-7:00 pm)**

This is your chance to unwind and reflect with your colleagues on the opening plenary sessions. Join local government and First Nations leaders from around the province, as well as some of our opening-day presenters, for a beverage, a bite to eat, and some great conversation.

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## **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1<sup>st</sup>**

### **Breakfast**

**(Ballroom Foyer, 7:00-8:30 am)**

Buffet breakfast served in the ballroom foyer – please bring your plate with you to the early morning plenary session.

## **LGLA Founding Partner Early Morning Clinic – Union of BC Municipalities**

**Building Housing Affordability, (Panel TBA)**

**(President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 7:30-8:15 am)**

Communities across the province are increasingly faced with shortages of affordable housing. The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) has struck a Special Committee that is exploring the supply and demand side of the housing equation, including areas of voluntary local government action and collaboration with the senior orders of government, in order to identify actions that will make housing more affordable for people who live, work and contribute to BC's communities. This session will explore the themes and findings from this initiative as UBCM prepares its final report.

## **Morning Concurrent Sessions – Choice of Two**

**(8:30-10:00 am; repeat 10:30-noon – check onsite agenda for room allocations)**

### **1) Overcoming Challenges – Social Media Survival Strategies: Keeping Social Media Social, Jan Enns**

Social media, like Facebook and Twitter, offers elected officials and local governments a dynamic platform to both inform and engage our constituents. And while social media provides many

benefits, such as the potential for a rewarding two-way conversation, it also presents some challenges when it comes to engaging in this amplified and unregulated arena.

Drawing on strategies and success stories from both the public and private sectors, this workshop explores how you can use these popular forms of social media to better build, engage and manage your online audience, your message and your reputation. Including key steps to help you navigate those “nasty” online comments, so you can keep your social media social.

## **2) Moving Forward – Women in Local Government, Mayor Josie Osborne, Tofino with Panelists (TBA)**

Women have faced many challenges in taking their seat at the Council/Board table over the years, but as we enter 2018 there are signs of success amid the ongoing struggle for gender equity. This panel discussion will explore the history of women’s involvement in local government, the current state of things, and how we are moving forward together. Hear from women leaders who have been there and who are here to share their stories and their advice to aspiring female politicians, to those who have already entered the fray, and to those who have a role to play in welcoming women into local governance.

## **3) Celebrating Achievements – BC Ideas Exchange: Community Economic Development Showcase, Representatives from the Ministry of Jobs, Trade & Technology with Panelists (TBA)**

Some of the best ideas are right in your own backyard! This session showcases innovative economic development success stories from small and medium-sized communities across BC. Learn from the experiences of three communities who have led transformative change within their communities and region by taking new approaches to their economic development initiatives. By trying something new they have experienced great successes and have learned how best to take advantage of their unique local assets. Then join with other participants in a dynamic and highly interactive session to share your own successes and find potential solutions to your community's economic development challenges.

### **Lunch – Sponsored by FortisBC (Ballroom Foyer & President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 12:00-1:00 pm)**

Join us for a delicious buffet lunch sponsored by longtime LGLA supporter, FortisBC.

### **Thursday Afternoon Concurrent Sessions – Choice of Two (1:00-2:30 pm; repeat 3:00-4:30 pm – check onsite agenda for room allocations)**

#### **1) Overcoming Challenges – Learning from the Summer 2017 Forest Fires, Director Al Richmond with Panelists (TBA)**

Summer 2017 was officially the worst ever wildfire season in BC history. The coverage and the devastation is unprecedented and the wildfire response was a match in size, scope and complexity. This session will feature a multi-sector panel of representatives from one of the worst hit areas of the province as they discuss their experiences on the ground and what they learned from the highs and lows of coordinating firefighting and evacuations. Join the discussion and gain a better understanding of how local governments can work together with their neighbours and with supporting agencies to minimize damage, ensure public safety, and navigate the challenges of recovery after a wildfire emergency.

## **2) Moving Forward – Dam It! Channelling Negative Pressure into Positive Change, Janice Otremba**

Dam-it! Channelling Negative Pressure into Positive Change is a proactive, humorous and insightful presentation that delivers laughs and strategies for optimal mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health. Audiences will understand how stress in the right doses can be a perfectly healthy stimulant towards success and wellness.

Dam-it! presents tools and techniques to identify strengths, core values and the warning signs of distress, and the skills needed to manage and master stress when demands of public service life are high. Participants are encouraged to realize they are only human, despite the public expectation they hold superpowers.

Through this presentation you'll learn how to transform stress into strength, maximize personal and professional achievements and to go the extra mile when your tank is on empty – the true superpowers of community leaders.

## **3) Celebrating Achievements – Local Government-First Nations Partnership Stories, Joel McKay with Panelists Councillor Murry Krause, Prince George, Councillor Peter Newbery, New Hazelton and Chair John Jack , Alberni-Clayoquot RD and Huu-ay-aht First Nation**

We all know that we achieve more when we work together, but sometimes the early challenges we face in building bridges and relationships can seem like an insurmountable barrier to success. At this session, we feature three stories of local governments and First Nations recognizing the potential in working together to achieve mutual benefit for their citizens. Learn about the journey to rename Fort George Park to Lheidli T'enneh Memorial Park; hear about the "Heart of the Hazeltons" Recreation Centre development; and meet Councillor John Jack of the Huu-ay-aht First Nation, who will talk about the history of relationship building that laid the foundation for his election as Chair of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District.

### **Optional Evening Discussion Forum on Local Governance Issues Facilitated by LGLA Board Members Councillor Arjun Singh & Peter Urbanc (President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 7:00-9:00 pm)**

This session is an opportunity for you to spend some time engaging with your peers from communities around the province – discussing your challenges, sharing your success stories, and coaching one another. LGLA Board members Arjun Singh and Peter Urbanc will lead an informal discussion covering topics that have come up over the course of the forum so far, and any other local governance issues on your mind. Bring your ideas, your advice, your tales from the trenches, your conundrums, and your everyday concerns. Expect to meet new people and enjoy the camaraderie that comes from sharing a common experience with people who understand what it's like to sit at the council or board table.



### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2<sup>nd</sup>**

### **Breakfast – Sponsored by BC Assessment & Municipal Insurance Association (Ballroom Foyer, 7:00-8:30 am)**

Buffet breakfast served in the Ballroom Foyer – please bring your plate with you to the early morning plenary sessions.

**LGLA Founding Partner Early Morning Clinic – BC Assessment**  
**BC Assessment: Past, Present & Future, Michael Spatharakis, Manager, Local Government Customers**  
**(President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 7:15-8:00 am)**

Commencing in 1974, BC Assessment has provided property assessments which form the basis of a significant source of revenue to fund important services in communities across British Columbia. This session will take a fun look back at our 44-year history, including the challenges we've overcome, the achievements we've realized, and how we see the future unfolding.

**LGLA Founding Partner Early Morning Clinic – Municipal Insurance Association of BC**  
**You're Canadian! How hard can it be to say sorry? Tom Barnes, Chief Executive Office & General Counsel and Sherman Chow, Director of Claims**  
**(President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 8:05-8:50 am)**

This session will cover responding to defamation claims and when to take practical steps to defuse a situation. The benefits and limits of insurance coverage and indemnity bylaws will be discussed.

**Refreshment Break**  
**(Ballroom Foyer, 8:50-9:05 am)**

Coffee, tea and snack break in the Ballroom Foyer.

**Concurrent Sessions – Choose One**  
**(9:10-10:10 am)**

**1) Legalizing Cannabis: The Role of Local Governments, Sukhbir Manhas, Young Anderson Barristers & Solicitors (President Ballroom, Salon B&C)**

The federal government is legalizing the recreational use of cannabis in Canada. From zoning, to business licensing, to health and safety considerations, this session provides practical insight on how local governments are able to regulate the use, production, and retail sales of cannabis.

**2) Why Should Local Governments Care about the Global Capital Markets? Peter Urbanc, CAO, Municipal Finance Authority of BC (President Ballroom, Salon A)**

Join MFABC CAO and LGLA Director Peter Urbanc for an exploration of MFABC's unique role in Canada, its value proposition, and how global markets impact returns on local government investment portfolios and borrowing rates.

**Refreshment Break**  
**(Ballroom Foyer, 10:10-10:30 am)**

Coffee, tea and snack break in the Ballroom Foyer.

**Concurrent Sessions – Choose One**  
**(10:35-11:35 am)**

**1) Preparing for the 2018 General Local Election, Michelle Dann, Director, Governance & Structure Branch & Louise Sawdon, Manager, Local Elections Campaign Financing (President Ballroom, Salon B&C)**

This session will provide an opportunity for potential candidates to learn more about the new campaign contribution and expense limit rules for the 2018 general local election and refresh their memories about the nomination process and other election related activities. Attendees will also have an opportunity to view and provide feedback on new videos and material created by a working group of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing, LGMA, LGLA and UBCM about the role of

elected officials and some of the characteristics necessary to be an effective leader. The clinic will include representation from Elections BC and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing.

**2) New Economic Development Opportunities & Alternative Revenue Sources, Don Lidstone QC, Lidstone & Company Law Corporation (President Ballroom, Salon A)**

Join Don Lidstone, QC, for a look at new economic development opportunities including: Tax Increment Financing, Business Incubator and Regulatory Assistance, Leveraging Local Government Lands, Law of Assistance to Business Undertakings, Public-Private Partnerships and Revitalization Tax Exemptions; and innovative revenue sources such as Enterprise Procurements of Services, Proactive Generation of Gifts and Bequests, Grantsmanship, Area Wide Parcel Tax, Agreements with First Nations, Amenity Contributions, Fine Policy, Fee Policy, Air Space Parcels, Park and Highway Revenue, and Franchise Agreements.

**Greetings from Green Party Spokesperson for Municipal Affairs & Housing, MLA Adam Olsen (President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 11:40-11:50 am)**

MLA Adam Olsen brings greetings from the Green Party of BC.

**Forum Closing, Councillor Arjun Singh (President Ballroom – Salon B&C, 11:50-12:00 noon)**

LGLA President, Councillor Arjun Singh, officially closes the 2018 Forum.

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