

# 2019 SILGA AGM & CONFERENCE

Penticton, BC

#SILGA2019

## Speakers & Tours

### Keynote Speaker Joe Roberts

**The Skid-Row CEO**

**Infinite Possibilities – From Skidrow to CEO**

**Wednesday 11:05 am**



Joe Roberts (aka The Skidrow CEO) is an award-winning Inspirational Keynote Speaker armed with unwavering determination and 20+ years of speaking

experience. His mission has been, is, and always will be to instigate a ripple effect of positive change everywhere he goes by reminding people of their unlimited potential. Undefeated by addiction, homelessness and poverty, Joe learned to take responsibility for the countless changes in his life. Based on his lived experience and his remarkable achievements, organizations now seek his insight and proven strategies.

### Keynote Speaker Jody Urquhart

**Motivational Speaker**

**Thursday 1:35 pm**



**This Would Be Funny... If It Wasn't Happening to Me!**  
**How to Navigate the Future with Enthusiasm & Vigor**  
Sometimes life just gets in the way. Do you ever think, "Why can't we just do things how we've always done them?" or "Why can't people just leave me alone?" This hilarious and provocative presentation shows government employees how to face stress and

buoyantly navigate the future. Through stand-up comedy, audience engagement and analogy, Jody will unfold the reality that navigating the future has replaced change management.

### Keynote Speaker Harry McWatters

**Founder of BC VQA Wines and former President of BC Winery Association**

**Thursday 6:00 pm Banquet and Wine Pairing**



Harry McWatters is a legend in the world of the BC Wine Industry. He is perhaps best known as the founder of Sumac Estate Winery in 1980 and as the director of the British Columbia

Wine Institute from its beginning in 1990. He currently owns Encore and Time wineries. Harry has been, and remains, a vital leader in developing quality standards for wine growing, winemaking, and wine marketing in the province. He was instrumental in founding VQA Canada, a trade association that spearheaded the development of national wine standards for Canadian vintners and he served as the association's first Chairman. In 2001, he was presented with an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from Okanagan University College in recognition for the pivotal role he played in the development of both BC's and Canada's wine industries.

Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>

Afternoon

**Preconference Session**  
1:00 pm to 3:30 pm

## 2020 and Beyond: Working Together towards a Clean Growth Future for Southern Interior Communities

**BC Municipal Climate Leadership Council (2.5 hours)**

Join the BC Municipal Climate Leadership Council (BCMCLC) and Community Energy Association (CEA) for an in-depth look at the future of climate action in the region. Learn about the Province's CleanBC Plan and the resulting opportunities available to local governments. Explore how to maximize community benefits, such as economic development and health, through regional collaboration applying a "climate lens" across all local government service areas. Practice communicating the co-benefits of climate action in your community and leave the session with tools and resources to move initiatives forward.

Co-facilitated by BCMCLC and CEA, this interactive session will feature guests and success stories from local governments and partners in the region, and peer learning through facilitated table discussion. We will also be joined by a representative from the Climate Action Secretariat, who will share information and lead a discussion about the upcoming new provincial climate adaptation strategy



Maya Chorobik is a Community Energy Manager with the Community Energy Association. She supports local governments with energy and emissions planning, project implementation, capacity building, and research. In addition, One of her current focus areas is assisting communities with

implementing the BC Energy Step Code through coordinating a local government peer network, facilitating industry training, and providing direct implementation support. Maya is also one of the authors of *Closing the Loop: A local government guide to regenerative infrastructure and integrated resource recovery*, which explores a systems-thinking approach to infrastructure planning.

**Preconference Session**  
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

## Should You Become Incorporated?

**John Harwood, former Mayor of Clearwater and Merlin Blackwell, Mayor of Clearwater**

This session will cover the following topics:

- Can a small town prosper and grow more effectively by incorporating?
- Does this mean more downloading?
- Will we be more effective change agent?
- What staffing union contracts will we inherit?
- What roll or functions will the Regional district continue to serve?



John served as the inaugural Mayor of the District of Clearwater for 11 years. He also sat on the Thompson Nicola Regional District as an area director for 15 years, Harwood has served in a

variety of other elected positions - Municipal Director, Chair of the Regional Hospital District, Kamloops Thompson school trustee, chair and vice chair. He was the founding chair of the Dr Helmecken Memorial Hospital and also served on doctors' recruitment and retention committees.

**Preconference Session**  
2:00 to 3:30 pm

## Building a Sustainable Responsible Tourism Destination - Glenn Mandziuk, Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association CEO

- What does it mean?
- Why does it matter?
- TOTA works in this area and certification (why is it important)
- How can communities get on board?



Glenn Mandziuk has over 25 years of experience in tourism management and community development. undertakes destination development, consumer marketing, travel trade, media relations, research, industry and community services. Further, Glenn has acted as a consultant on Community Recreation Master Planning, Economic Development

Planning, and Strategic facilitation projects across British Columbia and Alberta and has ten years of experience in the Hospitality Industry in a family owned and operated hotels and resorts.

Glenn holds a Master of Environmental Design Degree majoring in Planning and a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Leisure and Tourism.

**Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**

*Afternoon*

### Preconference Tours

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

## Winery Tour of Naramata Bench

Enjoy the beautiful Naramata Bench scenery while exploring 3 award winning wineries of the area. Bussing, snacks and tasting fees included. \$75/person



## Bike Tour of Historic Kettle Valley Railway

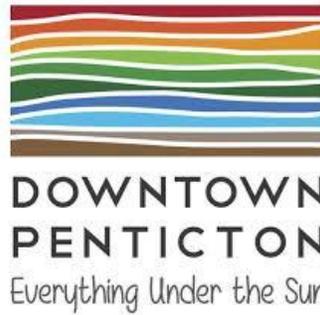
Join Hoodoo Adventures as you explore the KVR on bikes. Easy 20 km ride with a 2% downhill grade. Bussing, bike rentals, water and guide included.

Price with bike rental \$120

Price with no bike rental \$75



## Hop, Pop, and Wine Walking Tour of Downtown Penticton



Travel Penticton is pleased to offer SILGA delegates a guided walking tour of local award-winning craft breweries, an urban winery and a unique craft soda fizzery that creates artisanal sodas from local produce all in the heart of Downtown Penticton. Each location is a convenient 10 minute walk

from each other. Van available for mobility issues. Please send email to [yoursilga@gmail.com](mailto:yoursilga@gmail.com) if needed.

Cost \$75 including tasting fees and food.

*Evening*

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

## Rooftop Patio Party at Cascades Casino

Take this opportunity to relax on the rooftop patio while listening to music courtesy of Papa Keith. Refreshments, appetizers and games - bocce, foosball and jenga - will help you get introduced to your SILGA colleagues.

Sponsored by BCLC and Gateway Casino.

**Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**

*Morning Tours*

**Penticton Fish Hatchery (8:00 am)**

The Okanagan Nation Alliance hatchery is beginning its fifth year of operation. It has the capacity to release up to 8 million juvenile Sockeye into the Okanagan watershed. The hatchery has also begun a pilot program of raising Chinook salmon for release and will soon move into Sturgeon production.

Norm Johnson, Facility Operations Biologist, came to the



Okanagan 4 years ago from Vancouver Island. Before the fish hatchery, he was running the aquatic wetlabs at the University of Victoria. Prior to that Norm worked with salmon along the whole coast of BC from Goldstream to Masset.

**Summerland Research Centre (8:00 am)**

**40 max.**

Located in a semi-arid region, this unique 320-hectare site is ideal for research on high value crops such as wine grapes and tree fruits vital to the Okanagan's



economy. Summerland RDC staff focus on researching sustainable crop production practices to help preserve and enhance the resilience of sensitive environments within and across Canada. The Summerland RDC is also home to the Canadian Plant Virus Collection, part of a nationally mandated program which consists of freeze-dried and "live" viruses maintained in perennial plants and is one of the test sites for AAFC's Pest Management Centre.

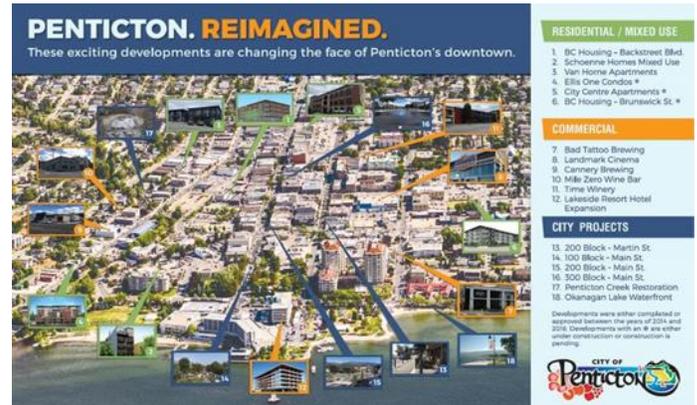
Transportation provided.

**Downtown Revitalization Walking Tour**

**(8:15 am)**

Since the approval of the City's Downtown Plan in 2013, over \$70M in private investment and \$15M in public investment has taken place. Through the development of partnerships and innovative policy changes, Penticton's downtown has seen an influx of new commercial development, residential dwelling mix and public amenity and infrastructure upgrades. Come on this tour to find out

more about how these projects were approved, how they look and how they have made a positive different to the heart of Penticton's community.



**Anthony Haddad, Director of Development Services, City of Penticton**

Anthony joined the City of Penticton in 2009 as the Director of Development Services. He left the City to join UBC Okanagan's campus as Director of Campus Planning & Development for two years and helped develop the 2015 Campus Master Plan as well as initiate a number of new infrastructure projects. Anthony is responsible for overseeing the City's Economic Development, Planning & Land Use, Development Engineering, Building & Licence and Bylaw Services departments.



**Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**

*Afternoon Speakers*

**Address by the President of UBCM**

**Arjun Singh**



Arjun is incredibly humbled to be President of UBCM for the 2018/19 year. He has served on the UBCM Executive since 2013, spending his first two years as a Director at Large and his last three as a Vice President. He is one of UBCM's appointees to the Local Government Leadership Academy Board, where he also currently serves as President.

Arjun was born and raised in Kamloops. He holds an MA in Professional Communication from Royal Roads University and a Certificate in Dialogue, Deliberation, and Public Engagement from Fielding Graduate University.

Arjun has served on Kamloops City Council for just over 10 years and has been a Thompson Nicola Regional District Director for more than four years. He is deeply appreciative to the citizens of his city and of his region for their support and guidance.

Arjun's love for running, technology, fine scotch, good milk chocolate, and great conversation is well known both at home and in the BC local government community.

## Flooding Threats and Solutions

### Anna Warwick Sears, Okanagan Basin Water Board Executive Director



Dr. Anna Warwick Sears is the Executive Director of the Okanagan Basin Water Board, a collaborative local government water agency. Raised in B.C., she received a PhD in population biology at the University of California - Davis. Before returning to Canada in 2006, Dr. Sears was Research Director of a watershed

NGO in California. Dr. Sears is passionate about using science to solve real-world problems and building bridges with community stakeholders. She is a Governor on the

Board of the Real Estate Foundation of BC – a philanthropic organization focused on sustainable land use, and in 2015 was appointed by the International Joint Commission to her current position as a member of the International Osoyoos Lake Board of Control.

## Provincial Active Transportation Strategy – Hearing from your community

### Dean Murdock, Project Manager, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and Andrew Brooke, Executive Director of Programs and Corporate Initiatives, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is developing an Active Transportation Strategy to be released later this year. The Strategy will aim to increase the use of active transportation (including walking and cycling) by British Columbians of all ages and abilities. The Ministry is hosting a series of regional consultation sessions in communities around the province. The SILGA session is an opportunity to share information about the development of the strategy, some of the feedback we have heard so far, and provide details about how communities can have input into the themes, priorities and major initiatives of the forthcoming strategy.

Dean is the Project Manager for the Province's Active Transportation Strategy. He is the former lead for the Province's Healthy Communities program at the Ministry of Health, and stakeholder engagement manager for the Ministry's technology projects. He is a recently-retired municipal councillor for the District of Saanich and Capital Regional District.

Andrew is the Executive Director of Programs and Corporate Initiatives at the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, where he leads a multi-faceted team which is responsible for corporate programs, transportation grant programs and the Ministry's climate action initiatives including the delivery of a provincial Active Transportation Strategy. Andrew has also worked in the provincial government supporting the growth of BC's technology sector, and managed TransLink's Public Consultation and Community Engagement department in Vancouver.

## Wednesday, May 1st

*Afternoon Breakout Sessions*

## Mayors' Roundtable

### John Harwood, former Mayor of Clearwater and Merlin Blackwell, Mayor of Clearwater

This interactive session will cover the following topics:

- Understanding the team
- Making the climate attractive for both governmental and private investments
- Defining the pressing issue
- Are we shelf ready?
- Is the livability road the way to economic growth?



John served as the inaugural Mayor of the District of Clearwater for 11 years. He also sat on the Thompson Nicola Regional District as an area director for 15 years,

Harwood has served in a variety of other elected positions - Municipal Director, Chair of the Regional Hospital District, Kamloops Thompson school trustee, chair and vice chair. He was the founding chair of the Dr Helmecken Memorial Hospital and also served on doctors' recruitment and retention committees.

## Managing Accessibility – You were elected to solve problems...NOT

### Christina Benty, Strategic Leadership Solutions and Ron Mattiussi, retired CAO, City of Kelowna

In a world of constant economic, social, and environmental

change, citizens not only want their say at election time, they want it in the grocery store too. Being subject to a borage of uninformed opinions amassed in coffee shops and locker rooms can create feelings of anxiety for politicians. How do local politicians engage citizens in thoughtful public discourse without undermining their mandate to govern and staff's mandate to manage and operationalize? Maintain your civility and sanity by knowing what to advocate, when to educate and how to abdicate.



Christina Benty, MA is a former politician who loves to talk about all things invisible..... such as sewer, water and strategy! She owns Strategic Leadership Solutions, a consulting service designed to assist teams in building a culture of excellence in governance. Christina considers herself an asset management evangelist by inspiring

local governments to take their stewardship responsibilities seriously and injecting enthusiasm into this complex topic.

After 22 years of public service, including 11 as City Manager, Ron retired from the City of Kelowna. During the 2003 Kelowna Mountain Wildfire, Ron was Director of the Regional Emergency Operations Centre - the person in charge of the City of Kelowna response to the Okanagan Mountain Park Fire. The EOC team managed to safely evacuate over thirty thousand people in one night. It was not the largest evacuation in Canadian history but it may have been the fastest.



Ron's next career will focus on advising communities on a range of topics but with a focus on Emergency Management, Organizational Management and Process Reviews.

### Investment Readiness and Attraction

**David Drohan, Senior Policy Analyst and Ben Kennedy, Engagement Specialist, Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology**

Each community pursues investment attraction in unique ways. What strategies are your community pursuing to be ready for and attract investment? Which areas can you focus on, and what tools can support your efforts? The ministry's new Investment Readiness and Attraction Assessment will help you identify and visualize these strategies to inform your economic development efforts going forward. The Assessment breaks down investment readiness and

attraction into five areas with each area containing multiple activities that a community can pursue to improve their score in that area. These scores then are used to create an investment readiness and attraction graphic which clearly lays out where your community is currently focusing its efforts, and where there are opportunities to improve its overall investment readiness.



Ben and David are part of the Regional Programs and Engagement branch of the Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology.



### Caribou Recovery and Back Country Access Panel

**Darcy Peel, Director, Caribou Recovery Program, and Kathleen Connolly, Executive Director, Dawson Creek Chamber of Commerce**

Enjoy the Legislation at all levels of government exists to ensure species identified at risk are adequately protected. How should communities and governments work together to ensure survival of these most vulnerable wildlife populations while continuing to see economic prosperity?

**Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**

*Evening*  
5:30pm to 7:30 pm

### Welcome Reception

**Lakeside Hotel and Convention Centre, Emerald Ballroom**

Enjoy the beautiful views of Okanagan Lake from the patios of the Emerald Ballroom while you mingle with other locally elected officials from across the BC Southern Interior. Yanti will provide background music. A selection of appetizers and local wine and beer will be served.

Sponsored by Shaw Communications

Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>

Morning Speakers

## Building a Code of Conduct Framework

**Paul Taylor, UBCM Director of Communications and Lesley Scowcroft, Manager, Local government Policy, Research and Legislation with Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

Responsible conduct by elected officials is a key component of good governance and effective leadership. In response to a resolution presented to the Union of BC Municipalities, the Working Group on Responsible Conduct has been developing tools and resources to strengthen the practice of responsible conduct by elected officials. This session will highlight the collaborative research and policy work that has been undertaken by the Working Group, including a Model Code of Conduct. Session participants will also receive an overview of the considerations in developing the broader code of conduct framework, including approaches to enforcement. The session will outline the road ahead for policy development and opportunities for further local government input.



Paul Taylor is the Director of Communications for the Union of BC Municipalities. Paul joined UBCM in 2006 to support the delivery of the Federal Gas Tax Fund in B.C. and has worked on a range of special projects including a defence of local government fiscal management; a review of the office of the Auditor General for Local Government; and the impact of

Employers Health Tax on local government finances. Paul lives in Victoria and has hiked nearly every trail in the Capital Region with his family.

Lesley is a Manager in the Local Government Policy, Research and Legislation branch within the Ministry, where she works on a range of policy issues from campaign financing to land use planning to responsible conduct. She is originally from West Kelowna and has worked for the provincial government since 2012.



## BC Housing and Housing Hub

**Raymond Kwong, Provincial Director, BC Housing**

As part of the Homes for B.C.: A 30-Point Plan for Housing Affordability in British Columbia, the Province is investing in a number of new housing initiatives and programs to create more housing options in B.C. over the next ten years. These programs address housing gaps in the market, creating homes for growing families, low to moderate income individuals, seniors, housing options for women and children fleeing violence as well as individuals who are homeless and need of support services. In addition, the creation of the HousingHub to target housing options for the middle income households as a new initiative by BC Housing to address this part of the housing spectrum.



Raymond has worked in Western Canada's real estate, development and construction industry for over 20 years; encompassing commercial, residential and mixed use projects, from single-family home construction to multi-phased master planned projects. Raymond's role at BC Housing has evolved from developing social and affordable

housing in the Lower Mainland to complex mixed-use projects throughout the Province with various industry partners.

## Communication Tips that Work!

**Christina Benty**

As an elected official, one of your greatest challenges is explaining the facts (also known as the "hard truth") to your residents to demonstrate that you are taking every possible step to control expenditures and budget efficiently all the while ensuring quality service delivery within your municipality. Public expectations are growing, while resources are limited. Your ability to manage those expectations and effectively communicate decisions to the public is key to your role. In this session, Christina will dispel outdated myths and expand your communication repertoire with these 10 insights.



Christina Benty, MA is a former politician who loves to talk about all things invisible..... such as sewer, water and strategy! She owns Strategic Leadership Solutions, a consulting service designed to assist teams in building a culture of excellence in governance. Christina considers herself an asset

management evangelist by inspiring local governments to take their stewardship responsibilities seriously and injecting enthusiasm into this complex topic.

**Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

*Evening*

*6 pm to 11:00 pm*

## **Banquet and Wine Pairing Dinner**

**Penticton Trade and Convention Centre**

*Sponsored by CAPP*

**Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*Morning Breakout Sessions*

## **Looking Forward: The Future of B.C.'s Forests – Steve Kozuki, Executive Director, Forest Enhancement Society BC**

Since inception, FESBC has awarded grants for projects across the province with a combined total value of \$163 million (159 projects). FESBC deploys grant funding to organizations like woodlots, community forests, municipalities, and First Nations who implement projects aligning with these five purposes:

- Preventing and mitigating the impact of wildfires
- Improving damaged or low value forests
- Improving habitat for wildlife
- Supporting the use of fibre from damaged and low value forests
- Treating forests to improve the management of greenhouse gases

This work is crucial given that the forces of climate change, insect epidemics, and catastrophic wildfire events greatly impact B.C.'s forests. Learn about the innovative projects in the Southern Interior region and how your community can benefit. Being committed to forest enhancement will enable us collectively to achieve a shared vision of enhanced forest resilience for the lasting benefit of British Columbia's environment, wildlife, forest health, and communities. Steve has worked within the forest industry since the 1984.

He graduated with his Bachelor of Science in Forestry in 1994 and has held various positions from Timber Valuation Coordinator for Weldwood and General Manager of Forestry for the Council of Forest Industries, to working in BC Timber Sales and timber pricing for the B.C. Public Service. He is passionate about the work FESBC does to advance the environmental and resource stewardship of B.C.'s forests.



## **Funding the Future: South Okanagan Conservation Fund - Bryn White, Program Manager, South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program**

All over the Southern Interior, local governments are stretched to finance aspects of community sustainability and challenged with the increased costs of the impacts to our changing climate. A healthy, functioning environment is the underpinning of our sustainable, resilient communities – safe and abundant water, strong agriculture and forests, tourism and recreation opportunities, and robust property values.

Local Conservation Funds are innovative and powerful solutions for communities to finance environmental sustainability needs.

In 2016, the RDOS and member municipalities – Summerland, Oliver and Penticton – moved forward to establish a sub-regional environmental conservation service that supports environmental conservation projects to protect natural areas in the South Okanagan. Learn how conservation funds can benefit your community.



Bryn White is the Program Manager of a conservation partnership in the South Okanagan Similkameen where fifty government and non-government organizations are working together to conserve nature. Bryn collaborates to build environmental capacity within

local governments, including working with the Regional District Okanagan Similkameen and South Okanagan municipalities to establish and administer the South Okanagan Conservation Fund.

## Taking Communities to Bear Smart Status – Zoe Kirk, WildsafeBC Coordinator, Regional District Okanagan Similkameen



The RDOS is a strong advocate of outreach education to raise awareness about reducing conflict and co-existing with the abundant wildlife that reside here. “Keeping wildlife wild

and communities safe” is the motto embraced by the WildSafeBC program and the RDOS.

Ms. Zoë Kirk has been the RDOS WildSafeBC Community Coordinator (nee Bear Aware) for over eight years and has built strong program recognition (and behavior change) throughout the region. In 2014, Naramata in Electoral Area “E” was awarded the prestigious designation of “Bear Smart Community” by the Ministry of Environment for its community lead reduction of conflict and destruction of bears. An accomplishment that shows what a community can accomplish when working together. The Bear Smart journey and continuing work to stay Bear Smart will be the subject of this break-out session.

## Engaging Youth in Local Government: Real Learning in Real Time

**Councillor Tim Lavery, City of Salmon Arm and Councillor Shelley Sim, District of Clearwater along with Gray Simms, youth council member from Salmon Arm and SILGA youth representative at UBCM**

This is our experience with the learning not just being by the students! Discover the different approaches each community has used to establish their junior councils along with the experiences the students have had from their participation on the youth councils.

**Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
*Morning Speakers*

## The Provincial Response to the Overdose Public Health Emergency

**Justine Patterson, Executive Director, Overdose Emergency Response Centre, Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions**



Justine Patterson is the Executive Director of the Overdose Emergency Response Centre, an initiative of the BC Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions. The mandate of the OERC is to escalate and strengthen the province’s response to the overdose emergency.

With a Bachelor of Psychological Science and a Master of Clinical Psychology from the University of Queensland, Australia and a Post Graduate Diploma of Organizational Psychology from the University of London, Justine brings more than 15 years of clinical expertise and leadership experience in substance use and addiction treatment services.

She founded and operated the Gladstone Health and Wellbeing Centre in Queensland, Australia which provided psychology and allied health services to individuals and families. Following her move to Canada, Justine was the Clinical Director of Addiction and Family Services at the Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver. Subsequently, she was the Regional Lead for the Regional Addictions Program at Vancouver Coastal Health before being seconded to the Overdose Emergency Response Centre in January of this year.

Justine is known for her commitment to social justice and advocacy for under-served and marginalised populations. She is committed to building an equitable, accessible and evidence-based addiction continuum of care.

## Effective Intergovernmental Communications - Stepping Out and Getting On With It!

**Stewart Alsgard, former Mayor of Powell River and L. Maynard Harry, Founder, Indigenous Insight**



This presentation will focus on the value of effective intergovernmental communication. Alsgard and Harry will bring the Tla'amin Nation - City of Powell

River example to the forefront and outline the lessons they learned. This intergovernmental relationship continues to live strong as both communities recently re-affirmed the principles of the 2003 Community Accord in a formal ceremony in June 2018.

### ‘Qoqohq’ (Snow Owl) Stewart Alsgard

Stewart, born in Powell River, BC, is a graduate of UBC (BA) and the University Naval Training Division.

Stewart's military and other appointments include:

- Commander, HMCS Quadra;
- Captain; Command of HMCS Discovery;
- Commandant Naval Reserve Training Centre CFB Esquimalt;
- Senior Canadian Naval Officer to Special Canada/United States Navy Pacific Fleet Planning Committee;
- Senate, University of British Columbia.

Stewart has been the recipient of several military and honorary awards, including:

- Order of Military Merit, rank of Officer (OMM);
- Queen's Silver Diamond Jubilee Medal;
- Named Honorary Naval aide-de-camp to the Governor General of Canada;
- Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal (2012)

recognizing his intergovernmental work with the Tla'amin Nation. In 2004, Stewart received a traditional Tla'amin name 'Qoqohq' (meaning Snow Owl) and continues to serve as Ambassador for the Tla'amin Nation.

Stewart ceased active duty in 1986, retired back to the City of Powell River and subsequently elected Mayor where he served 12 years. Stewart became a primary architect in the signing of the historic 'Community Accord' between Tla'amin Nation and City of Powell River on May 10, 2003.

### **Qwastānayā (L. MAYNARD HARRY) Founder, Indigenous Insight**

A member of the Tla'amin Nation, Maynard is forward-thinking in leadership development with proven track record in Aboriginal governance, Aboriginal rights and title, Aboriginal economic development and community & Indigenous stakeholder engagement. Possesses a detailed knowledge of provincial, national and regional economic conditions in Indigenous communities, municipalities and business interests. Maynard has served in many roles from Chief Councillor & Councillor (8 years); Aboriginal Advisor for a corporate entities; and Partner with Raven Events (owner of the Advanced Business Match trademark). Bestowed with the traditional Tla'amin name 'Qwastānayā' on May 10, 2003 by Tla'amin Elders immediately before the signing of the historic Sliammon First Nation - Corporation District of Powell River 'Community Accord'. Maynard's intergovernmental work was recognized at the regional level by the City of Powell River with a 'Freedom of the Municipality' in 2008 and by the Governor-General of Canada with a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013. Maynard has recently been appointed President of Tla'amin Nation's Holdings Board.

## **Responding to Wildfire and Flood Risks**

### **Jennifer Rice, MLA North Coast and Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness**

Following the devastating flood and wildfire seasons of 2017, the Government of B.C. commissioned co-chairs Chief Maureen Chapman and George Abbott to review and assess the government's response to these flood and wildfire events. The ensuing report, Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in British Columbia (also known as the Abbott/Chapman report), was released May 10, 2018, and contains 108 recommendations, primarily for the provincial government. Numerous other relevant reports capturing recommendations from the 2017 and 2018 flood and wildfire seasons have also been released.

In response to these reports, the Province established the Emergency Management Review Office in September 2018 to lead the cross-ministry coordination on the recommendations and the gathering of additional recommendations from emergency management partners across British Columbia. This work has led to an Action Plan on the Abbott/Chapman report, released by the provincial government on October 31, 2018. The Action Plan reinforced the Province's partnership approach to emergency management enhancement and a commitment to focussed work on improving the Province's resiliency in the face of flood and wildfire threats.

Parliamentary Secretary Rice will speak to the actions that have been taken by the provincial government and its partners in advance of the 2019 flooding and wildfire seasons, as well as additional work underway which is poised to influence future seasons. Delegates will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide additional input with respect to necessary emergency management enhancements.



In 2017, Jennifer Rice was re-elected as MLA for the North Coast of British Columbia, and subsequently appointed as Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness. She previously served as the Official Opposition spokesperson for Rural and Northern Health and Northern Economic Development and is a former city councillor for the

municipality of Prince Rupert.

Jennifer was born and raised in Ottawa where she worked with seniors in long-term care facilities and in the watersports industry. She is a PADI open Water SCUBA instructor and NCCP Level 1 kayaking instructor. She moved to B.C. ten years ago and currently resides in Prince Rupert.