

# Transition Memo



The Association of Kootenay and  
Boundary Local Governments

*Explore your*  
**TRAIL**

## 93rd Annual Convention & AGM

Trail Memorial Centre, 1051 Victoria St, Trail, BC

April 17 - 19, 2026

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## **AKBLG Mission Statement**

To assist our members in providing effective,  
responsible and accountable local  
government through dialogue, education and  
advocacy.

### **2025 - 2026 AKBLG Executive**

President - Kevin McIsaac, Councillor, City of Fernie

Vice President - Aidan McLaren-Caux, Councillor, Village of Nakusp

Director - Susan Clovechok, Area F Director,

Regional District of East Kootenay

Director - Kyle Hamilton, Councillor, City of Fernie

Director - Mike Gray, Mayor, Village of Radium Hot Springs

Director - Colleen Jones, Mayor, City of Trail

Director - Tina Knooihuizen, Councillor, Village of Nakusp

Director - Wesley Routley, Councillor, Town of Golden

Past President - Keith Page, Councillor, City of Nelson

### **2026 Convention Planning Committee**

Chairperson - Mike Gray, Mayor, Village of Radium Hot Springs

Colleen Jones, Mayor, City of Trail

Tina Knooihuizen, Councillor, Village of Nakusp

Keith Page, Councillor, City of Nelson

Linda Tynan, Executive Director, AKBLG

Andrea Tubbs, Convention Coordinator, AKBLG

### **City of Trail**

Paul Butler, Councillor

David Moorhead, General Manager of Corporate Services

*Thank you to our sponsors for their generous and ongoing support of the Association of Kootenay & Boundary Local Governments Annual Convention and AGM, your support is greatly appreciated!*

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# AKBLG

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to this year's convention in beautiful Trail, BC. Thanks to each of you for attending, and thank you for your service to your communities. I'd like to extend an additional thanks to our AKBLG board and executive director for the incredible effort in putting together this convention for you.

This year's convention theme is 'Transition Memo.' For me, it is a reflection that we are all in the last year of this term, and for some of us, at least these last few months are our opportunity to make those last few course corrections before the next council or board arrives. With that comes a new sense of urgency. Have we done enough? Have we made a difference?

It has become a common trope to say and believe that we are living through unprecedented times, a rate and style of change unlike anything experienced before. Any serious student of history would likely disagree with that assessment, but no one can argue that times are changing, and right at this moment, it feels like the change could go either way.

What is our role in such times? Do we change course driven by popular opinion? Are we the steady hand on the tiller, keeping our eye on the horizon? Do we steer towards new opportunities and hope? Each of us has to answer that question for ourselves and our communities.

To help answer that question, this year's convention hopes to give you a few things to think about as we cover health care, housing, OCP considerations and much more. Education and the accumulation of knowledge have long been stalwart friends in the face of change and are pillars of AKBLG. The more you know, the more you can anticipate and the more options you have to respond.

Advocacy is a second pillar of AKBLG, and if there is a bulwark against both unwanted change and unhelpful status quo, it is our collective voice. Together we can name our future and support each other in its realization.

The last pillar I'll leave you with is empathy. The convention is filled with people who share your experience, fears, hopes, and challenges. Bend an ear. Lend an ear. There is wisdom, knowing nods, and just possibly some good advice at your table.

Thank you for being here at the convention. Thank you for your commitment to your community. We are ready for the future when we get ready together.

**Kevin McIsaac, Councillor, City of Fernie & AKBLG President**

# CITY OF TRAIL

## MAYOR'S WELCOME



On behalf of Trail City Council, our staff, and the residents of our community, welcome to Trail and welcome to this year's Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Governments Convention.

It is an honour to host local government leaders and partners from across the Kootenay Boundary. While each of our communities has its own character and priorities, we share a common commitment to building strong, resilient places for the people who call our region home.

This year's theme, "Transition Memo: Passing the Baton," feels especially fitting. With municipal elections taking place this fall, many local leaders are reflecting on the work accomplished in their communities and the responsibility we share to ensure strong foundations for the future. Some of us may be preparing to pass the baton, while others may be just beginning their journey in local government. What connects us all is a shared commitment to the communities we serve.

Trail is proud to host this gathering. As we celebrate 125 years incorporated, we recognize that every generation has played a role in shaping Trail into the community it is today.

It has already been an exciting year for our community. From the BC Winter Games to provincial hockey championships, and now hosting AKBLG, we've had the opportunity to welcome people from across the province and showcase what makes Trail such a unique place.

During your time here, we hope you will take the opportunity to explore our beautiful community. Walk across our pedestrian bridge spanning the Columbia River, discover our hiking and biking trails, take time to enjoy our parks, visit the local shops, restaurants, breweries, and distilleries that give Trail its unique character. You will understand why we love it here! You may also notice a little extra excitement in town if our Trail Smoke Eaters are making another playoff run. Hockey has long been part of the proud tradition of our Home of Champions.

Thank you for joining us in Trail. We hope the conversations and connections made during this convention inspire new ideas and strengthen the partnerships that support communities across the Kootenay Boundary.

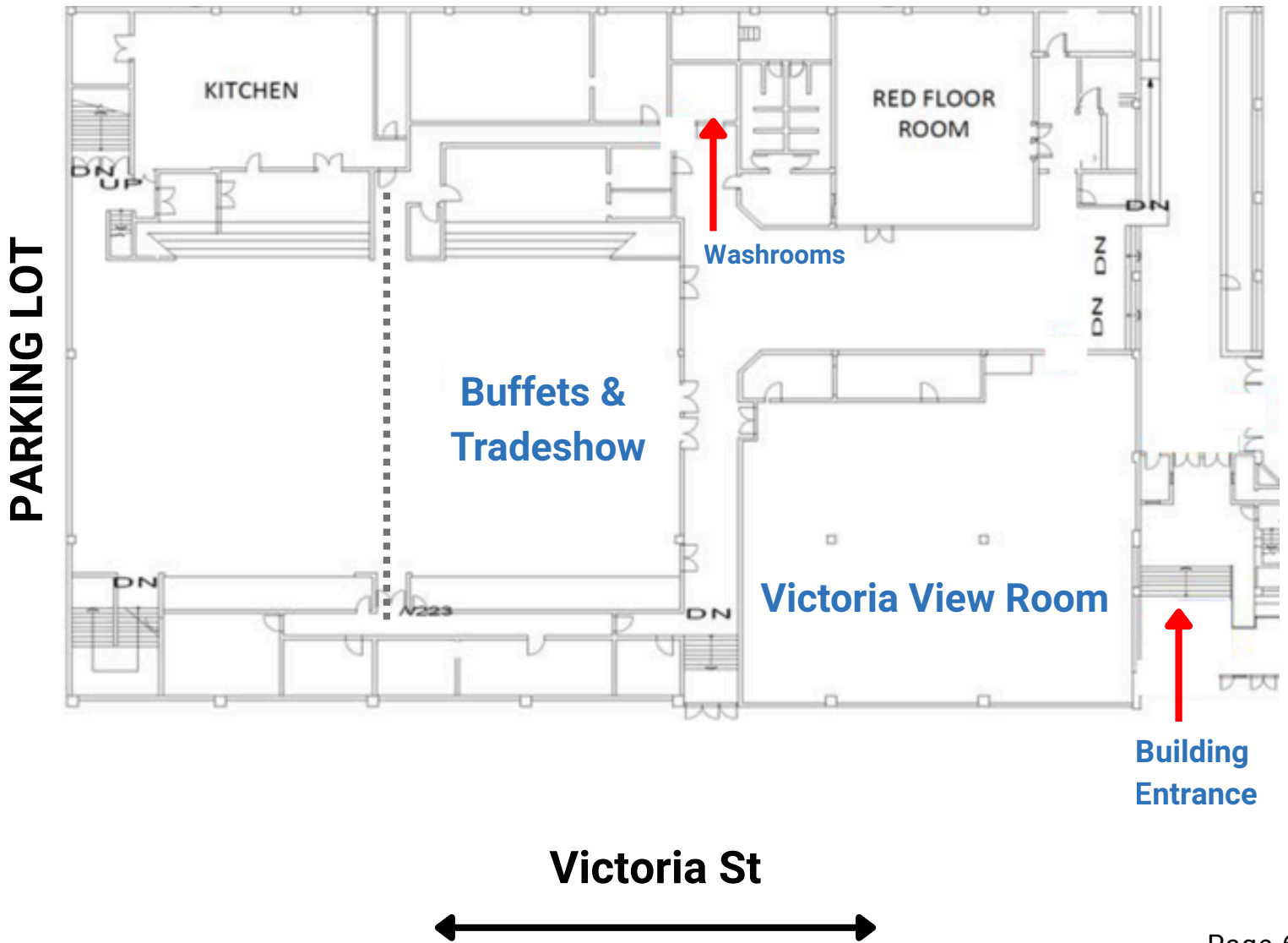
**Mayor Colleen Jones, City of Trail**

# FLOORPLAN

## TRAIL MEMORIAL CENTRE

1051 Victoria St, Trail, BC

*Explore your*  
**TRAIL**



# TOURS

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026

**Departs from: Trail Memorial Centre parking lot by motor coach**

## **TOUR A: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH A CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

AKBLG delegates are invited to experience Trail, British Columbia through a curated economic development tour that highlights how a small city is leveraging industrial legacy, innovation, and strategic connectivity to drive long-term regional prosperity.

Hosted by Cam Whitehead, Executive Director of the Lower Columbia Community Development Team Society (LCCTDS), and Enrico Moehre, Manager of the Trail Regional Airport, this coach-based tour offers a behind-the-scenes look at two of the region's most compelling economic assets.

The tour begins with an overview of Metal Tech Alley, an internationally recognized cluster of metallurgical expertise, advanced manufacturing, industrial recycling, and emerging clean technologies. Rooted in decades of technical knowledge and anchored by global industry, Metal Tech Alley has become a living example of the circular economy in action – where materials are reused, waste is minimized, and innovation supports the responsible development of critical minerals essential to the low-carbon economy. Delegates will learn how collaboration between industry, government, and economic development organizations is attracting investment, supporting workforce development, and positioning the Lower Columbia region as a hub for next-generation industrial solutions.

From there, the coach will travel to the Trail Regional Airport, a vital piece of infrastructure owned and operated by the City of Trail. Enrico Moehre, will share how municipal control of the airport enables responsive decision-making, strategic investment, and strong service partnerships. Delegates will hear how the airport plays a crucial role in keeping the West Kootenay region connected to other communities across British Columbia through scheduled service with Pacific Coastal Airlines. This connectivity supports business, tourism, healthcare access, and regional resilience – particularly in a mountainous and weather-challenged geography.

Together, Metal Tech Alley and the Trail Regional Airport tell a powerful story: how local leadership, circular economic thinking, and strategic transportation infrastructure can anchor sustainable growth in smaller communities. This tour offers delegates practical insights, transferable ideas, and a compelling example of economic development done differently – and done well.

# TOURS

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026

**Departs from: Trail Memorial Centre main lobby on foot**

## **TOUR B: CULTURAL HERITAGE AND MODERN ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES**

Discover Trail on foot through a guided walking tour that reveals what truly makes this community distinctive, resilient, and forward-looking. This immersive experience blends built heritage, dramatic geography, and one of Canada's most successful environmental health initiatives into a story you can only experience here.

Beginning in West Trail, the tour explores neighbourhoods shaped by steep hillsides and ingenuity. You'll see hand-built rock retaining walls and iconic covered staircases—functional works of art that reflect early engineering innovation, skilled craftsmanship, and a long tradition of active transportation in one of the city's most technically challenging residential areas. These features also speak to Trail's leadership in residential soil management and adaptive urban design.

The tour is hosted by Sarah Benson-Lord, Manager of the Trail Museum & Archives, and Michelle Laurie, Lead Facilitator of the Trail Area Health & Environment Program (THEP). Together, they bring Trail's story to life as the walk continues to the Trail Museum & Archives—a modern cultural hub integrated with the Library and Visitor Centre, showcasing how heritage, learning, and tourism thrive together in a purpose-built “third space.”

Crossing the Columbia River via the Sky Bridge, you'll take in sweeping views of the valley, Trail's historic core, and Teck Trail Operations, before arriving at Butler Park, a regional sports destination and home to a community air-monitoring station providing near real-time data.

Continuing toward KIRO, Trail's community health centre, you'll pass residential areas actively participating in THEP's Soil Management Program. Along the way, THEP team members will share candid insights into the challenges, innovations, and successes of supporting community health in a city shaped by more than 125 years of smelting history. This is Trail's story—layered, honest, and uniquely inspiring.

# TOURS

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026

**Departs from: Trail Interpretive Centre - 1199 Bay Ave  
(across from the Memorial Centre)**

## **TOUR C: TECK TRAIL OPERATIONS – ELECTROLYTIC AND MELTING PLANT TOUR**

Step inside the industrial heart of Trail with a guided tour of Teck Trail Operations' Electrolytic & Melting (E&M) Plant—a rare, behind-the-scenes experience that showcases the industry that built this community and continues to power it today.

Trail is globally recognized for its metallurgical expertise, and the E&M Plant sits at the centre of that legacy. The facility produces high-quality zinc and zinc alloys using advanced electrolytic refining, melting, and casting processes that supply markets around the world. This isn't a museum stop—it's a working operation and a living part of Trail's story.

The approximately two-hour tour begins with a safety briefing at the Teck Interpretive Centre on Bay Avenue, followed by a guided bus trip to the E&M Plant site. Tours are led by retired Teck employees who bring the experience to life with firsthand knowledge, personal stories, and decades of on-site insight.

From elevated vantage points, you'll overlook the massive cell house, watch cranes pass at eye level, and see state-of-the-art technology in action—including the skinning machine, skimming robot, and zinc bundles prepared for shipping worldwide.

**Please note:** the tour involves extensive walking and stairs and is not wheelchair accessible. For safety reasons, participants must wear enclosed flat shoes, long pants, and a long-sleeved shirt or jacket.

This is Trail at its most authentic—industrial, innovative, and proud.

# WELCOME RECEPTION

HOSTED BY THE CITY OF TRAIL

6:00 - 8:00PM

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026

TRAIL RIVERFRONT CENTRE, 1505 BAY AVE, TRAIL, BC

Join us at the iconic Trail Riverfront Centre—a signature gathering place that captures the energy, history, and pride of Trail.

Overlooking the Columbia River, the Riverfront Centre is one of the city's most impressive and well-loved civic spaces. With its modern design, light-filled interiors, and direct connection to the riverfront esplanade, it offers a setting that is both welcoming and unmistakably Trail. The Centre is a true cultural hub, housing the Trail Museum & Archives, the Trail & District Public Library, and the community's Visitor Centre—a one-stop gateway to Trail's stories, services, and sense of place. Here, stories of industry, sport, community life, and resilience are preserved, shared, and brought to life.

This special evening will be hosted by Samantha Murphy, Director of the Trail & District Public Library, and Sarah Benson-Lord, Manager of the Trail Museum & Archives, who will welcome delegates and help animate the space and its stories. Guests are encouraged to explore museum exhibits that spark conversation and deepen their connection to the community.

AKBLG delegates will enjoy an evening of networking and connection while sampling appetizers, craft cocktails, and non-alcoholic selections, accompanied by live music from a local musician. It's a relaxed, authentic introduction to Trail and the people who call it home.

Located just steps from restaurants, pubs, breweries, and distilleries, the Riverfront Centre is perfectly positioned for an easy transition into Trail's walkable downtown. Delegates are invited to enjoy the full reception before continuing on to explore Trail's downtown and riverfront nearby.

**It's a warm West Kootenay welcome—Trail style.**

# BANQUET

COLOMBO LODGE, 584 ROSSLAND AVE, TRAIL

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

6:15pm Cocktails

7:00pm Dinner Service Begins

8:30pm Dessert & Boom Town Garter Girls

9:00pm Hairlöss – The Rock Band (main room)  
or Conversations & Networking (games room)

11:00pm Last Call

11:30pm Banquet Closes / Last Shuttle

## **Come hungry – and seriously, pace yourself.**

Join your fellow AKBLG delegates for a Saturday night that delivers Trail at its most iconic self: bold flavours, deep roots, and hospitality that doesn't know the meaning of small portions, all at the historic Colombo Lodge, nestled in Trail's storied Gulch neighbourhood.

This is a Traditional Trail Italian Feast, served exactly the way generations here have done it. The evening opens with an aperitivo, welcoming conversation and setting the tone, followed by a classic antipasto. The primo course arrives hearty and unapologetic – lasagna and meatballs that mean business. The secondi follows with traditional chicken cutlets, while contorni bring a generous spread of vegetable dishes. Just when you think you're finished, Trail stays true to tradition: bread and salad are served at the end. Friendly local advice – this is a marathon, not a sprint.

Throughout the evening, delegates are invited to enjoy a passeggiata – a relaxed Italian stroll – through the Lodge's charming outdoor garden piazza, explore the main staircase to discover the Lodge's artefacts and memorabilia, telling the stories of the families, builders, and traditions that shaped Trail.

We're honoured to welcome Cathy McAlpine, Sorelle (The Sisters of Columbo) Lodge member and local historian, who will share the remarkable story of Trail's Italian community – one of the largest per capita in Canada – and its lasting influence on the city, The Gulch, and the Colombo Lodge itself.

This is Trail. Bring your appetite – and enjoy the night your way.

***Buona serata – see you there!***

# SPEAKER INFORMATION

## THANK YOU TO THE 2026 SPEAKERS!

Aidan McLaren-Caux  
Allan Neilson  
Benjamin Proulx  
Chris Buchan  
Christopher Grove  
Chris Kalesnikoff  
Chris Rempel  
Christina Carbrej  
Colleen Jones  
Cori Ramsay  
Gary MacIsaac  
Gitane De Silva  
Honourable Josie Osborne  
Jeanne Kim  
Jen Comer  
Jonathan Schmidt  
Karin Goodison  
Lindsay Parcels  
Matt Parrilla  
Michelle Laurie  
Mike Gray  
Murray Wilson  
Rob C Gay  
Sarah Kapoor  
Sarah-Patricia Breen  
Steve Lemon  
Sylvia Weir

# MASTER OF CEREMONIES

## **Colleen Jones, Mayor, City of Trail**

Colleen Jones is the Mayor of the City of Trail, and is very proud to say that her grandchildren will be the fourth generation of her family to be living and working in Trail.



As Mayor, Jones has worked to ensure the City of Trail remains a steady convener of partnerships across local government, industry, health, and community organizations. Her perspective also includes six years of involvement with the Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Governments (AKBLG), including service on the Board and its Resolution, Advocacy, and Convention Committees.

Under Mayor Jones' leadership, the City of Trail serves as the convener and champion of the Trail Health & Environment Committee (THEC), participating in the implementation of the program's 2022–2027 Strategic Plan. During a period of organizational change, differing mandates, and competing priorities, Mayor Jones supported the City's role in bringing partners to the table, encouraging dialogue and ensuring the partnership's history, achievements and value were recognized. This collective effort resulted in stronger, respectful relationships but also more effective collaboration where the work is happening right in the community.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1:45 - 2:45PM**

**Leadership in a Time of Transition: Making Sense of the Brave New World**

In a period of rapid geopolitical and economic change, municipal leaders are increasingly on the front lines of global shifts. From evolving U.S. policy and trade priorities to border security, energy, housing, and infrastructure pressures, decisions made in Washington can have immediate local impacts across Canadian communities. What challenges is the U.S. trying to solve – and what opportunities or risks do those efforts create for municipalities?

Framed within this year’s Transition Memo theme, this keynote will help local elected officials and senior staff interpret the big picture while staying grounded in practical realities. Participants will explore how to safeguard local priorities, strengthen regional resilience, and position their communities for continuity beyond the current term of office. The session will also examine how municipalities can move from reacting to external forces toward proactively shaping their own future.

Come prepared with your questions as we connect global change to local action – and discuss what today’s leaders can do now to leave a clear, strategic path for those who follow.

**Gitane De Silva, ICD.D, Founder & President, GDStrategic**

Gitane is a public policy leader with executive experience at the provincial, national, and international levels and expertise in the areas of energy and environment, intergovernmental relations, and Canada-U.S. relations. As CEO of the Canada Energy Regulator from 2020 to 2023, Gitane ensured the safe and efficient delivery of energy to Canada and the world, while also protecting the environment, advancing Reconciliation, and providing relevant and timely energy information and analysis. As Alberta’s Deputy Minister for International and Intergovernmental Relations, Gitane directly served four Premiers and advocated for Alberta’s interests domestically and internationally.



Gitane is a seasoned diplomat and a specialist in Canada-U.S. relations, having served as Alberta’s Senior Representative in Washington, DC during the first Trump Administration, and as Canada’s Consul General in Chicago, among other roles. She promoted trade, investment and energy infrastructure, and was also involved in the negotiations of several trade and environmental agreements, including the Canada U.S. Mexico Agreement, the Canada Free Trade Agreement and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

Gitane is the Founder and President of the consulting firm, GDStrategic. She is also a Managing Director with Negotiations Collective, a Special Advisor at Blue Rock Law, a former Global Fellow with the Canada Institute at the Wilson Center in Washington, DC, and a Board Member with the Public Policy Forum. She loves talking about geopolitics, Canada-U.S. relations, Canada’s energy sector, how Canada works, and why Wonder Woman is the superhero of diplomacy.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 3:05 - 4:05PM**

### **B.C. Is Burning: Wildfire Risk, Preparedness, and Local Government Leadership**

Wildfire is reshaping communities across British Columbia, with growing consequences for public safety, infrastructure, emergency response, and long term resilience.

Following the screening of B.C. Is Burning at the Royal Theatre the previous evening, this plenary extends the conversation by focusing on practical implications for local governments. Bringing together documentary, wildfire operations, and emergency management perspectives, the session will examine how wildfire risk is changing, what communities are experiencing on the ground, and where local governments can have the greatest influence in strengthening preparedness.

Participants will explore practical lessons in wildfire readiness, emergency coordination, and community resilience, with discussion focused on the decisions local governments face as wildfire becomes an increasingly defining issue across many regions of British Columbia. The session will also consider how today's local leaders can strengthen preparedness now while leaving practical foundations for the next term of local government.

#### **Murray Wilson, Director, BC is Burning**

Murray Wilson is a British Columbia-based retired forester and filmmaker with decades of experience in forest management and wildfire risk reduction. He began his career working in forests across the southern interior of the province, including the Kootenays, and later held senior operational and stewardship roles, including Stewardship and Tenures Manager for British Columbia and Manitoba with Tolko Industries.



Murray is the producer of B.C. Is Burning, a documentary examining recent wildfire impacts in British Columbia and what they mean for forests, public safety, and communities, while exploring practical solutions. The film features interviews with forestry professionals with over a century of combined experience in British Columbia's forests and has been screened for audiences across the province, reaching several thousand viewers to date.

#### **Rob C. Gay, Chair, Regional District East Kootenay (moderator)**

Rob C. Gay is serving his sixth term (21 years) as Electoral Area C Director with the Regional District of East Kootenay, representing the citizens in the rural areas surrounding the City of Cranbrook. He is serving his sixteenth year as Board Chair. Rob has always lived in the Kootenay Boundary region of BC. His work experience includes 28 years of professional forestry and 12 years of community economic development, operations and management.



Rob is a Trustee with the Municipal Finance Authority of BC, a member of the Municipal Insurance Association of BC's Board of Directors, Past President of the Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Government and is Chair of Recycle BC's Provincial Advisory Committee and Chair of the Southeast Region Connectivity Committee.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 3:05 - 4:05PM**

**B.C. Is Burning: Wildfire Risk, Preparedness, and Local Government Leadership**

**Christina Carbrey, Protective Services Manager, Regional District of East Kootenay**

Christina is a seasoned emergency management professional with over 15 years of experience in public safety, and a member of the RDEK's senior leadership team. Armed with a master's degree in Disaster and Emergency Management, she brings a balanced blend of academic knowledge and hands-on expertise to the field. Currently serving as a board director with the BC Association of Emergency Managers, Christina is dedicated to enhancing emergency preparedness, response, and recovery strategies. Her pragmatic approach and leadership have been instrumental in navigating diverse crisis scenarios. With a focus on community well-being, she continues to make valuable contributions to the safety and resilience of the areas she serves.



**Steve Lemon, Deputy Fire Centre Manager, South East Fire Centre, BC Wildfire Service, Ministry of Forests**

Steve Lemon is the Deputy Fire Centre Manager for the Southeast Fire Centre. He has 32 years' experience with BC Wildfire Service primarily in fire response roles including 12yrs serving on Incident Management Teams. He currently oversees operations in all 6 zones in the SE including those within the Kootenay Boundary, East Kootenay and Columbia Shuswap Regions. He divides his time between Revelstoke & Silverton with his wife and dogs enjoying all of the outdoor activities and pursuits this area is famous for.



**FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 4:30 - 5:30PM**

### **Building Resilient Communities through Effective Issues Management**

Local government operates in an increasingly volatile environment where a single social media post, community concern, or operational misstep can rapidly escalate into a full-blown crisis. This session explores the evolving landscape of issues management in local government, examining how organizations can shift from reactive approaches to proactive resilience.

We'll dissect the modern risk environment facing municipalities, sustainable structures can be developed to identify and mitigate issues prior to escalation, cross-functional response capabilities, and embedding issues management as a core foundation of organizational success.

Drawing on a deep understanding of process and practice, along with real-world case studies and execution, this session provides actionable strategies for developing early warning and issues tracking systems, strengthening organization-community relationships, and creating organizational cultures that treat issues management as a strategy opportunity rather than administrative burden. Participants will leave with a clear path forward to enhance issues management maturity and protect community trust.

### **Benjamin Proulx, APR, President, Catalyst Communications**

Benjamin Proulx, APR, is an established leader in local government issues management and crisis communications, and public communications and engagement. As president of Catalyst Communications Inc., Ben works specifically in the municipal realm, building on his nearly 20 years' experience supporting municipalities across Canada through major challenges and emergencies, training and workshops, reviews, plan development, engagement, and more, while standing at the forefront of innovation in the relationship held between organizations and community.



An accredited public relations practitioner (APR), Ben founded the Canadian Association of Municipal Communicators (CAMC) and created the Municipal Engagement Continuum as the first local government-specific engagement spectrum. He teaches a course on public engagement with the Elected Officials Education Program (EOEP); guest lectures with Capilano University's Local Government Administration Program and NAIT's Disaster and Emergency Management program; and has written toolkits and curricula for the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA) and multiple municipal associations. Ben works collaboratively with local government leaders in building industry capacity, while setting organizations up for success, stability, and sustainability.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 10:45 - 11:00AM**

**UBCM President's Address**



**Cori Ramsay, Councillor, City of Prince George**

In the 2022 Local General Election, Cori Ramsay was elected to serve a second term on city council for the City of Prince George and appointed to the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George. She was elected to serve as President of the Union of BC Municipalities for the 2025-2026 term after serving three previous terms as First Vice President, Director at Large and NCLGA representative.

Ramsay also advises the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction as a member of the Province's Poverty Reduction Advisory Committee. She holds a Bachelor of Art in English and a graduate diploma in Public Relations and has worked in the finance sector for the last 15 years. In her spare time, she plays with her dog, tolerates her cat, and spends time with family and friends.

## **SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 11:10 - 11:55AM**

### **Navigating Complexity in Community: Local Government Leadership is Key**

The Trail Area Health & Environment Program (THEP) is a ground-breaking collaboration that has transformed a long-standing environmental and health challenge into a story of community resilience and pride. For over 125 years, Trail has lived with the legacy of smelter emissions—yet through partnership, transparency, and shared purpose, the City of Trail, Teck, the Province of B.C., and local health authorities have worked together with community, to protect health, and strengthen trust.

This session explores how THEP turned a potentially stigmatizing issue into an enduring success story. Panelists will discuss how local government, industry, and health partners came together to reduce children’s exposure to environmental contaminants and continue to do so today. Elected officials will gain insights into the trade-offs and opportunities of partnering with industry, the benefits of working across silos, and how to sustain collaborative initiatives through political transitions.

Participants will leave with practical lessons and tools for leading complex, multi-sector partnerships—showing how local governments can turn complex challenges into opportunities for leadership and community well-being.

### **Colleen Jones, Mayor, City of Trail**

Colleen Jones is the Mayor of the City of Trail, and is very proud to say that her grandchildren will be the fourth generation of her family to be living and working in Trail.

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**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 11:10 - 11:55AM**

## **Navigating Complexity in Community: Local Government Leadership is Key**

### **Dr. Karin Goodison, Medical Health Officer, Interior Health**

Dr. Karin Goodison is a Medical Health Officer (MHO) with Interior Health and the MHO for the Trail Area Health & Environment Program. Dr. Goodison provides health guidance and recommendations to protect human health in the local area from lead (Pb). Recently, Dr Goodison provided a recommendation to decrease the gap between the blood lead (Pb) levels of children in Trail and that of other Canadian children of a similar age group. This encourages Teck to continue its holistic approach to reducing bloodlead (Pb) levels in the community.



### **Matt Parrilla, General Manager, Teck Trail Operations**

Matt Parrilla is General Manager, Teck Trail Operations, one of the world's largest and longest-operating lead and zinc smelting facilities. Born and raised in Trail, Matt joined Teck in 2000 as a Steam Engineer in the Lead Smelter and advanced through senior leadership roles in Trail, Corporate headquarters, and other Teck operations across North America.



Throughout his career, Matt has remained deeply committed to the wellbeing of the Trail community and the surrounding environment. Under his leadership, Teck Trail Operations continues its long-standing work—dating back to the 1990s—to identify risks to people and the environment and implement programs to address those risks in the Trail area. Teck is an active and committed partner managing the air quality, soil, and built environment components of the Trail Area Health & Environment Program (THEP) and collaborating with community partners to implement strategic programs that support a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable future for the region.

### **Michelle Laurie, Lead Facilitator, Trail Area Health & Environment Committee**

Michelle Laurie is an experienced consultant and facilitator with over 25 years of supporting corporate, government, and community partners in environment, sustainability, and organizational development. She specializes in designing and leading collaborative processes that foster strategic thinking, learning, and tangible results. Michelle is the founder of Convene Consulting Inc., a member of the International Association of Facilitators, and is currently completing her Certified Professional Facilitator (CPF) designation. She holds a Master of Science in Environment and Development from the London School of Economics, has worked across more than 20 countries and is based in Rossland, B.C.



## SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1:00 - 1:45PM

### **Laying the Groundwork: Setting Up a Successful OCP for the Next Term**

This session brings together two consultants specializing in Official Community Plans, a municipal planner, and an elected official who has recently completed an OCP process. Together, they will share practical advice on what local governments should be thinking about now if they are planning to undertake an OCP in the next term. From early scoping and community engagement to governance considerations and lessons learned, this panel will focus on how to set up a successful process before it begins, helping future councils start strong and avoid common pitfalls.

#### **Mike Gray, Mayor, Village of Radium Hot Springs**

Mike Gray is the Mayor of the Village of Radium Hot Springs, BC. He has been actively involved in local government planning and governance, including leading the recent completion of Radium's Official Community Plan in February 2026. Mike brings an elected official's perspective to community planning, with a focus on practical decision-making, community engagement, and setting future councils up for success.



#### **Chris Rempel, RPP, Community Planner, Urban Systems**

Chris is a community planner with over 19 years of experience working with local governments and Indigenous communities throughout western Canada. During his time with the consulting firm Urban Systems, Chris has been involved on a wide range of planning projects including; economic development plans, active transportation plans, Indigenous land use planning, zoning bylaw and official community plan development, processing of development approvals applications, subdivision feasibility studies, infrastructure asset management, and civic address implementation. Through this work Chris has also gained experienced in conducting extensive community engagement and participation processes.



**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1:00 - 1:45PM**

**Laying the Groundwork: Setting Up a Successful OCP for the Next Term**

**Chris Buchan, Manager of Planning and Climate Action, City of Trail**

Chris Buchan is a community planner with experience across both rural and urban settings, working in local government, consulting, and regional planning roles. His background, rooted in Geography and Environmental Studies, includes processing a wide range of development applications, drafting various major bylaws, leading long range planning projects, and contributing to multiple Official Community Plan major updates.

Chris first worked as a planning consultant supporting municipal bylaw overhauls in the City of Prince Rupert, then moving on to local government as a planner in a small agricultural rural community. Following this role, he shifted to a regional provincial role as a senior planner with the Islands Trust, where he led planning staff and managed complex policy files. Chris now works as the Manager of Planning and Climate Action for the City of Trail, where he leads the department, guides the Official Community Plan update, advances key committee work (Downtown Revitalization, Accessibility), and oversees the modernization to development procedures and regulatory bylaws.



**Jonathan Schmidt, RPP, MCIP, BES, MEDES, President, Bluerock Planning Inc.**

Jonathan is president of Bluerock Planning and is one of western Canada's leading planning consultants. He has led award-winning plans and worked with world renowned regional planner Peter Calthorpe. Jonathan's 16+ years of professional planning experience has focused on raising the bar for municipal planning policy and regulation. He believes strongly in the integration of economic development and planning to achieve more resilient and thriving communities across western Canada. Jonathan is a trained project manager and brings a pragmatic energy to every project - with a focus on changing the normal planning process so that communities can achieve the exceptional. He works on the belief that if you want to change the result you must change the process. One of his unique skills is the ability to truly listen to the needs and desires of a community and address them through the plan-making process. What's missing in your community? How can your community achieve the exceptional?



## **SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1:00 - 1:45PM**

### **Lights, Camera, Action, in the Kootenay Boundary Region**

As productions move quickly and rely on clear, consistent guidance, even small delays or unclear processes can mean missed opportunities for communities across the Kootenays. With elections approaching, this is an ideal moment to learn how film inquiries, location requests, and permitting decisions actually flow through a community. We'll guide participants through a typical filmmaker's journey, highlight where confusion or bottlenecks often appear. We will demonstrate using Creative BC guidelines and real life examples on how films succeed or fail in communities.

### **Sarah Kapoor, Commissioner, Kootenay Film Commission**

Sarah Kapoor is a seasoned producer and co-creator of the acclaimed program 'Past Life Investigation' for CBC Television, which received a Gemini nomination, won The Gracie Award from the Foundation of American Women in Radio and Television, and was notably featured on The Oprah Winfrey Show.



Ms. Kapoor has also lent her expertise as the Senior Producer for CBC's 'Canada's Next Great Prime Minister' further proving her diverse range of skills in the industry. Her talents extend beyond the traditional boundaries as she has served as a writer, producer-director, and protagonist for the independent dramatic comedy feature, 'The Bad Mother', currently available on streaming platforms.

Sarah's 20-year career in the media industry is split between a significant tenure with the CBC in Toronto and her role as co-owner of a niche production company, where she catered to the needs of substantial public and private sector organizations. Most recently she produced a documentary with Telus Storyhive, 'The Dear Me Project' (January 2025).

She is a sought-after consultant, actively contributing to several projects in the capacities of story editor and senior producer as well as currently serving as the Kootenay Regional Film Commissioner. Sarah is an embodiment of relentless dedication, multifaceted talent and life-long personal and professional growth.

## **SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1:55 - 2:55PM**

### **Addressing Rural Housing Needs Through Local Modular Timber and Buildings**

Kalesnikoff is a locally owned, inter-generational family business based between Nelson and Castlegar and is recognized as North America's most advanced vertically integrated, multi-species mass and modular timber manufacturer.

Chris Kalesnikoff, CEO of Kalesnikoff, will speak to AKBLG delegates about the company's significant role in rural economic development and how its mass timber and modular products and solutions align with the all levels of government's housing needs. Delegates will learn about Kalesnikoff's innovative approach to manufacturing, the company's experience navigating growth and opportunity, and the benefits of its new modular mass timber products. Chris will also share insights into what lies ahead for the company and the broader opportunities for communities across the Kootenay–Boundary region.

#### **Chris Kalesnikoff, CEO, Kalesnikoff**

Chris Kalesnikoff is the fourth generation to lead the family-owned business as President and Chief Executive Officer along with his sister, Krystle Seed, Chief Financial and Strategic Services Officer. Chris has always been fascinated by and adept at understanding how things work and fit together, rooted in his work at the family's lumber mill through his teen years before heading off to university. In 2019, he applied his passion for state-of-the-art equipment and entrepreneurial spirit by bringing mass timber – and now modular mass timber – to Kalesnikoff's offerings. Under Chris' leadership, the Kalesnikoff mass timber team has successfully provided design, manufacturing and onsite support services on hundreds of mass timber projects in Canada and the U.S. He's a problem-solver who enjoys new opportunities and challenges. He and the Kalesnikoff team have a bold and assertive vision for the future of mass timber and modular/pre-fabricated mass timber building solutions.



## **SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 3:10 - 4:05PM**

### **UBCM Governance Review**

Update and engagement on the UBCM governance review process, which responds to recent requests from the membership through resolutions and direct correspondence. The governance review focuses on representation of the range of UBCM members as reflected in the composition of the UBCM Executive board and the name of the organization.

### **Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director, UBCM**

Gary is the Executive Director of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities – a position he has held since 2007.

Gary has spent his entire career in local government. He started his career as Clerk-Treasurer of a small town in Nova Scotia, spent five years in the City Clerks Department with the City of Vancouver in the mid-1990s, and spent 9 years as the CAO for a county government in Nova Scotia.

Gary has a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Dalhousie University.

In his capacity with UBCM Gary also serves on a variety of boards and committees. Among these appointments, he is a Trustee on the Municipal Pension Plan Board of Trustees, a UBCM representative on the Municipal Pension Plan Partners Working Group, Co-chair of the Green Communities Committee and Chair of the Gas Tax Management Committee.



### **Allan Neilson, Principal, Neilson Strategies**

Allan Neilson is an advisor with 25 years of experience in British Columbia's local government system, both as a consultant and a senior manager. Allan is a recognized authority on local government service design and delivery, as well as local governance and administration. He is a strong facilitator, regularly engaged by clients to guide strategic planning processes, to assist decision-makers in developing collaborative, inter-jurisdictional services, and to guide public processes.



**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 4:10 - 5:20PM**

### **Rural Retention & Attraction Workshop**

Resident retention and attraction are important parts of community development. However, too often this important work is poorly understood, overlooked, or mishandled. This interactive, capacity building workshop will build on the foundation laid by the Provincial Rural Resident Retention and Attraction Guidebook, providing insights and ideas specifically for elected officials. Participants will build their knowledge and explore how to apply the guidebook in their own communities - with an emphasis on setting communities up for success through continuity of activities. The workshop will also identify opportunities for regional collaboration.

#### **Dr. Sarah-Patricia Breen, BC Regional Innovation Chair, Rural Economic Development, Selkirk Innovates**

Dr. Sarah-Patricia Breen is the BC Regional Innovation Chair in Rural Economic Development at Selkirk Innovates, the applied research department of Selkirk College. She uses research to inform and support our region and rural communities across Canada to thrive under conditions of rapid change. The goals of the Regional Innovation Chair are



- Developing capacity in the region for sound decision-making through the provision of relevant research data and analysis, together with related skill and capacity development.
- Assisting in the diversification of the regional economy through the promotion of innovation and technology transfer in existing and new enterprises.
- Supporting provincial and national networks that undertake applied research on the revitalization of high amenity, highly rural communities and regions.

In addition to her role at Selkirk Innovates, she is an adjunct professor at the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development at the University of Guelph. She has over 15 years of experience in research, policy and project management. Her research interests include economic development, infrastructure, natural resource management, resilience, governance, and policy—all with a focus on rural.

#### **Jen Comer, Regional Manager, Central Kootenays and Revelstoke, Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth**

Jen Comer has spent the last three years as Regional Manager for the Central Kootenays and Revelstoke area with the Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth. A former two-term elected official with the Creston Town Council, she also served 2 years as the municipal Director on the Regional District of Central Kootenay board. Her professional experience spans diverse aspects of rural community economic development, including leadership roles in small business, social enterprise, non-profit organizations and Indigenous-owned corporations. Recognized as one of Kootenay Business' Top 40 Under 40, Jen is dedicated to building partnerships that strengthen regional resilience and brings a practical, collaborative approach to governance and community development.



**SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 8:30 - 9:30AM**

**What the Cowichan Decision Means for Local Governments**

The recent Cowichan Tribes decision is changing how local governments understand Aboriginal rights, and title. This session breaks down Section 35, the Honour of the Crown, and what the ruling means in practice—from approvals and taxation to governance and procedural fairness. Learn suggested best practices for local government after Cowichan.

**Lindsay Parcels, Partner, Lidstone & Company**

Lindsay Parcels is the head of our Alberta office and practices municipal law with an interest in land use, real property, corporate, commercial, indigenous relations, and environmental matters. Lindsay has extensive experience advising municipal clients with respect to real estate and economic development, expropriations, the provision of municipal services and contracts. He was called to the Alberta bar in 1992 and the British Columbia bar in 1995. Lindsay completed a master's degree in Municipal Law from Osgoode Hall Law School in 2009 and a combined Bachelors of Laws and Masters of Business Administration degree from Dalhousie University in 1991. Before attending Law School, he served for one year as a legislative intern at the Alberta Provincial Legislature. Lindsay is an editor for the Real Estate Development Practice Manual published by the Continuing Legal Education Society of BC. He is also a past chair of the National Municipal Law section of the Canadian Bar Association and is currently a member of the National Municipal Law Section and the Southern Alberta Municipal Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association.



**Christopher Grove, Managing Partner, Lidstone & Company**

Christopher Grove is the Managing Partner of Lidstone & Company. He assists and advises clients on commercial, corporate, real property, land use, planning, construction, and finance matters. Prior to joining Lidstone & Company in 2022, Chris practiced for 17 years in central Ohio as a lawyer and manager of a boutique law firm focused on closely held businesses, contracts, and contracts. He was called to the Alberta bar in 1992 and the British



**SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 8:30 - 9:30AM**

## **Beyond the Counter: Elevating Local Government through Extraordinary Customer Experiences**

Every day, residents form opinions about local government through small moments, a helpful conversation, a timely response, or the way they feel welcomed at a community facility. These moments build trust, credibility, and connection, which are the true foundations of effective leadership.

In this engaging and practical session, consultant Jeanne Kim introduces the Achieving Extraordinary Customer Experiences (AECE) framework, designed to help councils and senior staff strengthen community trust by embedding exceptional service into their culture and strategy. Participants will explore how to move from listening to acting, turning resident feedback into visible “you said, we did” outcomes that demonstrate responsiveness and accountability.

Through interactive mini-surveys and reflective discussion, elected officials and participants will identify simple, high-impact actions they can take to elevate service consistency, empower staff, and reinforce the values that communities remember most. Grounded in local examples from the Kootenay and Boundary regions, this session will help leaders understand that strengthening customer service isn’t just good operations, but also good governance.

### **Jeanne Kim, Injeanneous Projects & Consulting**

Jeanne Kim is the founder of Injeanneous Projects & Consulting and a trusted consultant to local governments and organizations in the Kootenay region. For more than 18 years, she has helped teams plan better, work better together, and deliver consistent, reliable, community-focused services. Her work centers on helping people and organizations build strong, capable teams that deliver better service and results.



Jeanne delivers customized training and consulting in project planning, customer service, and building high-performing teams. Her programs include Achieving Extraordinary Customer Experiences, Planning Projects Perfectly, Managing Change, and Managing Team Conflict, along with leadership development and coaching. She also supports organizations with process re-engineering and professional project management, using practical tools to improve how work gets done.

Clients value her ability to simplify complexity, strengthen accountability, and help teams build on their existing strengths to navigate meaningful change. Jeanne brings over two decades of experience leading complex, multi-stakeholder initiatives across public and private sectors, with a strong focus on service delivery and organizational change.

She holds an MBA, a PMP, and is completing her Doctor of Education. Jeanne lives, works, and plays in Trail, BC with her husband and is deeply invested in the communities she serves.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 9:35 - 11:15AM

### **Health Care in Our Communities: Provincial and Regional Perspectives**

Health care is one of the most frequently raised concerns facing elected officials across the Kootenay–Boundary region. This 90-minute plenary session brings together provincial and regional health leadership for a facilitated fireside chat designed specifically for local government decision-makers.

Through a moderated conversation with the Minister of Health and the CEO of Interior Health, participants will gain insight into current health system pressures, anticipated changes, budgetary constraints, and how provincial priorities align with the realities experienced in local communities. Discussion topics will be informed by issues raised by AKBLG members in advance of the convention, ensuring the conversation reflects the questions and concerns most often heard at council and board tables.

A facilitated question-and-answer period will provide elected officials with an opportunity to ask questions directly, better understand roles and responsibilities across levels of government, and identify ways local governments can effectively advocate for and support community health outcomes.

### **Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health**

Josie Osborne was first elected as the MLA for Mid Island-Pacific Rim in 2020.

Josie was appointed the Minister of Health in November 2024. She previously served as Minister of Municipal Affairs, Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship and Minister Responsible for Fisheries, and most recently as Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation.

Josie grew up on Vancouver Island and has lived in Tofino for over 20 years, first moving there to work as a fisheries biologist for the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council and later as executive director of an environmental education non-profit organization.

She was the Mayor of Tofino from 2013-2020, and also served as Chair and Vice-Chair for the Alberni Clayoquot Regional District. Josie also chaired the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional Hospital District for four years and sat on the Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network for six years. During her time in local government, Josie chaired the Tofino Housing Corporation and was a strong proponent for active transportation and regional transit. She has served as Chair of the Board for the Island Coastal Economic Trust, and in 2017, she was appointed by the BC Minister of Environment and Climate Change to the BC Clean Growth and Climate Action Advisory Council.



**SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 9:35 - 11:15AM**

**Health Care in Our Communities: Provincial and Regional Perspectives**

**Sylvia Weir, President & CEO, Interior Health**

As President & Chief Executive Officer, Sylvia is responsible for Interior Health’s overall strategic direction and operations, and for working with IH’s many key partners.



Sylvia is a proven strategic health leader with 25 years of experience working in the financial sector, including internationally within the UK National Health Service and provincially within the B.C. public sector, including five years as IH’s Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Prior to becoming CFO, Sylvia served as IH’s Corporate Director of Business Integration and Development for 11 years, where she gained experience forming and sustaining partnerships with community, government, and private entities.

Sylvia completed a Fellowship in Health System Improvement through the University of Alberta and has her Project Management certification through the UBC Sauder School of Business. She is active in her local community as a vice-chair of the Kelowna Women’s Shelter and an Immigrant Employment mentor with the Kelowna Community Resources Centre.

**Aidan McLaren-Caux, Councillor, Village of Nakusp (moderator)**

Aidan is a councillor with the Village of Nakusp, municipal director and vice-chair of the RDCK board, and the vice president of AKBLG.



He chairs both the resolutions and advocacy committees at AKBLG, has been actively involved in advocating for lasting and meaningful change in the realm of responsible conduct in governance.

<b>Friday April 17th</b>	Unless otherwise noted all portions of the convention will take place at the Trail Memorial Centre, 1051 Victoria St, Trail, BC
7:00 am - 1:00pm	Shuttle Service - official accommodation/ Trail Memorial Centre
7:00 am - 4:30pm	Registration Open (Trail Memorial Centre)
11:00am – 5:00pm	Trade Show (Cominco Gymnasium)
7:45am depart	<b>Tour A: Economic Development through a circular economy</b> Meeting time: 7:30am
8:30am depart	<b>Tour B: Cultural Heritage and Modern Environmental Initiatives</b> Meeting time: 8:15am
9:15 or 9:30am depart	<b>Tour C: Teck Trail Operations – Electrolytic and Melting Plant Tour</b> Departs from: Trail Interpretive Centre - 1199 Bay Ave (across from the Memorial Centre)
11:45 – 12:30pm	<b>Lunch &amp; Trade Show</b> (Cominco Gymnasium)
12:30 – 1:30pm	<b>Convention Opening Ceremony + Opening Remarks</b> (Victoria View Room)
1:30 - 1:45pm	Bio Break
1:45 – 2:45pm	<b>Leadership in a Time of Transition: Making Sense of the Brave New World</b> Gitane De Silva, ICD.D, Founder & President, GDStrategic (Victoria View Room)
2:45 – 3:05pm	<i>Sponsor Message - BC Council of Forest Industries</i> Refreshment Break & Trade Show (Cominco Gymnasium)
3:05 – 4:05pm	<b>B.C. Is Burning: Wildfire Risk, Preparedness, and Local Government Leadership</b> Rob C. Gay, Chair, Regional District of East Kootenay (Victoria View Room) Murray Wilson, Producer, B.C. is Burning Christina Carbrey, Regional Protective Services Manager Steve Lemon, Deputy Fire Centre Manager, South East Fire Centre, BC Wildfire Service
4:05 – 4:25pm	Refreshment Break & Trade Show (Cominco Gymnasium)
4:25 - 4:30pm	<i>Sponsor Message - ICBC</i>
4:30 – 5:30pm	<b>Building Resilient Communities through Effective Issues Management</b> Benjamin Proulx, Catalyst Communications (Victoria View Room)
5:15 - 7:00pm	Shuttle service - Trail Memorial Centre/ official accommodations/ reception
6:00 - 8:00pm	<b>Welcome Reception – hosted by the City of Trail</b> Location: Trail Riverfront Centre, 1505 Bay Ave, Trail
7:00 – 9:30pm	Shuttle Service from reception to official accommodations
7:30pm onwards	Evening Options in the City of Trail - see pocket guide for a list

<b>Saturday April 18th</b>	Unless otherwise noted all portions of the convention will take place at the Trail Memorial Centre, 1051 Victoria St, Trail, BC	
<b>6:30am - 5:00pm</b>	Shuttle Service - official accommodation/Trail Memorial Centre	
<b>6:45 - 7:45am</b>	<b>Breakfast Buffet</b>	(Cominco Gymnasium)
<b>7:45 - 8:00am</b>	<b>Daily Opening Remarks</b>	(Victoria View Room)
<b>8:00 - 10:30am</b>	<b>AKBLG Business Meeting</b>	(Victoria View Room)
<b>10:30 - 10:45am</b>	<i>Sponsor Message - FortisBC</i>	
	Refreshment Break & Trade Show	(Cominco Gymnasium)
<b>10:45 - 11:00am</b>	<b>UBCM President's address</b> Cori Ramsay, President, Union of B.C Municipalities	(Victoria View Room)
<b>11:05 - 11:08am</b>	<i>Sponsor Message - Municipal Finance Authority</i>	
<b>11:10 - 11:55am</b>	<b>Navigating Complexity in Community: Local Government Leadership is Key</b> Colleen Jones, Mayor, City of Trail Karin Goodison, Medical Health Officer, Interior Health Matt Parrilla, General Manager, Teck Trail Operations	(Victoria View Room)
<b>11:55 - 12:00pm</b>	<i>Sponsor Message - ETSI-BC</i>	
<b>12:00 - 1:00pm</b>	<b>Buffet lunch + Trade Show</b>	(Cominco Gymnasium)
<b>1:00 - 1:45pm</b>	<b>Laying the Groundwork: Setting Up a Successful OCP for the Next Term</b> Mike Gray, Mayor, Village of Radium Hot Springs Chris Buchan, Manager of Planning and Climate Action, City of Trail Jonathan Schmidt Blue Rock Planning Chris Rempel, RPP, Community Planner, Urban Systems	(Victoria View Room)
<b>1:00 - 1:45pm</b>	<b>Lights, Camera, Action, in the Kootenay Boundary Region</b> Sarah Kapoor, Commissioner, Kootenay Film Commission	(Red Floor Room)
<b>1:45 - 1:50pm</b>	Room Transition	
<b>1:50 - 1:55pm</b>	<i>Sponsor Message - CUPE BC</i>	
<b>1:55 - 2:55 pm</b>	<b>Addressing Rural Housing Needs Through Local Modular Timber and Buildings</b> Chris Kalesnikoff, CEO of Kalesnikoff	(Victoria View Room)
<b>2:55 - 3:15pm</b>	<i>Sponsor Message - Urban Systems</i>	
	Refreshment Break & Tradeshow (Cominco Gymnasium)	

<b>Saturday April 18th</b>	Unless otherwise noted all portions of the convention will take place at the Trail Memorial Centre, 1051 Victoria St, Trail, BC
<b>3:15 – 4:05 pm</b>	<b>UBCM Governance Review</b> (Victoria View Room) Gary Maclsaac, Executive Director Allan Neilson, Principal, Neilson Strategies
<b>4:05 - 4:10 pm</b>	<b>Sponsor Message</b>
<b>4:10 – 5:20 pm</b>	<b>Rural Retention &amp; Attraction Workshop</b> (Victoria View Room) Sarah-Patricia Breen, Regional Innovation Chair Rural Economic Development, Selkirk College Jen Comer, Regional Manager, Ministry of Jobs & Economic Growth
<b>5:00 - 7:00pm</b>	Shuttle service from Trail Memorial Centre/official accommodations/AKBLG Banquet
<b>6:15pm - 11:30pm</b>	<b>AKBLG Banquet</b> Colombo Lodge, 584 Rossland Ave, Trail, BC
<b>8:30 - 11:30pm</b>	Shuttle service from AKBLG Banquet/official accommodations
<b>Sunday April 19th</b>	Unless otherwise noted all portions of the convention will take place at the Trail Memorial Centre, 1051 Victoria St, Trail, BC
<b>PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OF YOUR ACCOMMODATIONS PRIOR TO BREAKFAST</b>	
<b>7:45 – 8:30am</b>	Breakfast (Cominco Gymnasium)
<b>8:15 - 8:30am</b>	<b>AKBLG Business meeting continued - Candidate Speeches &amp; Election Election Results</b> (Victoria View Room)
<b>8:30 – 9:30am</b>	<b>What the Cowichan Decision Means for Local Governments</b> (Victoria View Room) Lindsay Parcels, Partner, Lidstone & Company Chris Grove, Managing Partner, Lidstone & Company
<b>8:30 – 9:30am</b>	<b>Beyond the Counter: Elevating Local Government through Extraordinary Customer Experiences</b> Jeanne Kim, Injeanneous Projects & Consulting (Red Floor Room)
<b>9:35 - 11:15am</b>	<b>Health Care in Our Communities: Provincial and Regional Perspectives</b> (Victoria View Room) Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health Sylvia Weir, CEO, Interior Health Aidan McLaren-Caux, Vice President, AKBLG (Moderator)
	<b>AKBLG Business meeting continued</b> (Victoria View Room) Immediately following the Health Care session, reconvene AGM to complete resolutions (if necessary)
	<b>Convention Closing</b>



**Thank you for  
attending!**

