
From: Greene,Kelly
Sent: Thursday, 14 March 2019 12:02 PM
To: Weber,David
Subject: Text for agenda item

Columbia Institute Civic Governance Forum Higher Ground: Rising to the Challenge March 29-30 at Harrison Hot Springs Resort

\$475 plus \$10 pre-forum Women in Leadership dialogue Accommodation approximately \$210 Meals are included except lunch on Friday March 29 Lunch per diem is \$19.85

280 km round trip \$162.40

Incidentals per diem (2 days)(17.30/day) = \$34.60 Total forum cost: \$911.85 Speakers List:

<https://www.civicgovernance.ca/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/>

Speaker-spotlight_working-doc_3-11-2019.pdf

Program: <https://www.civicgovernance.ca/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/2019-At-a-Glance-03-11-195943.pdf>

Registration: <https://events.eply.com/2019HighGroundRisingtotheChallenge2754606>

Kelly Greene
Richmond City Councillor

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HIGH GROUND 2019: PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Friday, March 29				
10:00– 11:30 am	Pre-Conference Workshop: Women in Leadership Dialogue (Please pre-register)			
1:00 – 1:40 pm	Welcome Stratcom's BC public opinion poll results			
1:40 – 3:00 pm	Homes for BC; A Year in Review Opening with Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing			
3:15 – 4:30 pm	Breakout Workshops I			
	Reducing Poverty and Income Inequality in BC	Child Care: Next Steps in BC	BC's natural disasters and climate change adaptation	Changing landscape of digital communications: how to use research and technology to increase citizen engagement
4:45 – 6:00 pm	Breakout Workshops II			
	Moving our Communities with Public Transport	Today's Classroom: Equity in Action	Katowice talks and how municipalities are ramping up climate action	So You're Elected, Now What? Building Roots in the Community
6:30 pm	Reception			
7:15 pm	Dinner begins with Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care			
8:10 pm	Dinner continues with Pecha Kucha			
Saturday, March 30				
7:00 am	Breakfast buffet opens			
8:30 – 9:10 am	Mobilizing Popular Support for Public Education: The People for Education Story			
9:15 – 10:30 am	Breakout Workshops III			
	The Opioid Crisis: What You Need to Know	Popular Priorities for K-12 Renewal: Insights from Ontario	Jobs for Tomorrow and Net Zero Emissions	Communicating with Staff as a Newly Elected
10:55 am – 12:00 pm	Plenary: Emerging Issues			
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch with Minister Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction			
1:15 – 2:30 pm	Breakout Workshops IV			
	Reconciliation: Making It Tangible	Indigenous Education	Food Security	Budgeting 101
2:45 – 3:30 pm	Closing Plenary with Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture			

Subject to Change: As of March 11, 2019

FEATURED SPEAKERS



SELINA ROBINSON was elected as the MLA for Coquitlam-Maillardville in 2013 and re-elected in 2017. She is the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Selina served as the Official Opposition spokesperson for mental health and addictions, seniors, local government and sports. As a former city councillor, Selina advocated for the rights of taxpayers, fought to protect the health of children and families by introducing a local ban on cosmetic pesticides, and worked to improve access for people with disabilities as chair of the Coquitlam Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee.



SHANE SIMPSON was first elected MLA for Vancouver Hastings in May 2005. He is the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. Shane has worked as the Director of Policy and Communications for Smart Growth BC, chair of the Vancouver City Planning Commission, an instructor in the Community Economic Development program at Simon Fraser University, Executive Director of the Worker Ownership Resource Center, Legislative Coordinator for the Canadian Union of Public Employees, coordinator and fundraiser for the Ray Cam Cooperative Center, Executive Assistant to former Vancouver East MP Margaret Mitchell, and as a self-employed consultant on business and economic development for labour, co-operative and non-profit groups.



LANA POPHAM was elected MLA for Saanich South in 2009. She is the Minister of Agriculture. She served as the Official Opposition spokesperson for Small Business and Agriculture & Food, and as the Official Opposition spokesperson for Tourism and for Arts & Culture. Lana was raised on Quadra Island in a do-it-yourself community, where growing food, raising animals and harvesting from the sea was a way of life. Lana entered politics to improve the quality of life in Saanich, promote sustainable agriculture and strengthen the provincial response to climate change.



KATRINA CHEN was elected as the MLA for Burnaby-Lougheed in May 2017. She is the Minister of State for Child Care. She has served as a Trustee on the Burnaby Board of Education, and worked in both provincial and federal government constituency offices for over 10 years. Katrina has a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a political science major and a history minor from Simon Fraser University, and also earned a certificate in Immigration Laws, Policies and Procedures from the University of British Columbia. She has also worked as a community organizer with ACORN, emceed for major cultural festivals, and volunteered as an executive member for several local non-profit organizations for many years.



ANNIE KIDDER is the Executive Director and a founder of People for Education. She regularly provides advice to policy-makers and government, and her writing on education has been published in a range of media. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Ontario Principals' Council 2004 *Outstanding Contribution to Education Award*, the Canadian Teachers' Federation 2005 *Public Education Advocacy Award*, and in 2018, an honorary doctorate from York University. She has spoken at conferences in Canada, the United States, Europe, Africa and South America. [@PeopleforEd](#)

SPEAKERS



CATHERINE ABREU is the Executive Director of Climate Action Network - Réseau action climat (CAN-Rac) Canada. CAN-Rac is a coalition of 115 organizations operating from coast to coast to coast. For 30 years, it has been Canada's only national network dedicated to climate change and energy issues. Catherine is one of Canada's foremost climate campaigners, with over 15 years of experience campaigning on environmental issues including 7 years in the heart of the Canadian climate movement. [@cat_abreu](#)



CAROLA ALDER is an urban planner and marketing guru. At 14 she transformed the mobile juice business in Victoria with Juice on the Goose. In her early 20's she was designing jewelry for Lady Gaga and other A-list celebs under her own brand, Bun. Now a partner in CityState Consulting Group, Carola helps clients through complex rezoning processes and presenting their projects to Councils throughout the lower mainland. As a member of the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee, she is committed to building better communities; a vision only possible when we rise to the challenge!



ANITA ANSARI is a working mother, a professional engineer, and the newly-elected Vice-Chair for School District 40, in New Westminister. She also serves as the co-chair of New Westminister's oldest non-profit day care society, and as an administrator for the over 3,000-member strong New West Mom's Group on Facebook. She is passionate about increasing equity and access in all her roles, and believes that empowering diverse perspectives produces innovative solutions and progress in our communities. [@newwestanita](#)



THOM ARMSTRONG has more than 30 years of experience in the co-operative housing movement, holding leadership positions in Saskatchewan, Ontario and BC. He is currently the executive director of the Co-operative Housing Federation of BC (CHF BC), COHO Management Services Society, and the Community Land Trust Foundation, all headquartered in Vancouver, BC. He also chairs the board of Encasa Financial Inc., a Canadian social purpose mutual fund company owned by the community housing sector. CHF BC is the voice of the co-operative housing sector in BC, with the vision to play a leadership role in growing a community of permanently affordable co-operative housing in British Columbia.



RHIANNON BENNETT is a much-sought-after speaker and is well known for asking tough questions in a manner that encourages engagement and dialogue. In 2014, she was the first Indigenous person elected to the Delta Board of Education. While not successfully re-elected, she was inspired to find other ways to continue to do the important work. Hummingbirds Rising vision is to work towards creating a society that understands the violence of colonization and its other impacts and are actively reconciling and working towards decolonization. [@salishRhiannon](#) [@hummingbirdsRA](#)



GEORGE BENSON is the Green Building Market Acceleration Consultant for the Vancouver Economic Commission, the economic development agency of the City of Vancouver. He works to support BC manufacturers of green building products to meet future local demand and assist them with global trade opportunities. George has sat on the provincial planning association's Climate Action Task Force, the Canadian and American planning associations' national executives, and is Co-Founder of a youth-led nonprofit, the Climate Migrants and Refugees Project. [@georgepbenson](#)



DR SCOTT BENWELL has more than twenty years of experience in educational leadership ranging from Vice-Principal to Superintendent of Schools/CEO. He has served students, families, and communities in British Columbia, Yukon, and Alberta. Currently he is both Superintendent of Schools/CEO for SD64 (Gulf Islands) and Field Liaison with the B.C. Ministry of Education. Scott earned a PhD in Educational Leadership from the University of Calgary in 2005 and continues to have research interests in school effectiveness and improvement, responsive learning environments and leadership that makes a difference and creates equity of opportunity for each learner. [@sbenwell1](#)



ELVEZIO DEL BIANCO (ELVY), Vancity Credit Union's Cooperative Portfolio Manager, works internally on disseminating knowledge of the cooperative business model to increase Vancity's capacity to support co-ops, and externally on building partnerships and developing projects with cooperatives and others to help realize a stronger cooperative economy. This work is largely informed by the activities of the Italy's Emilia-Romagna region, the world's most significant cooperative economy and the focus of Vancity's Cooperative Study Tour, which Elvy has organized since 2008. Elvy is the founder and organizer of Cooperate Now, a co-op business model education program and a board director of the Foodlands Cooperative of British Columbia.



RICHARD BOASE has worked in environmental geoscience and urban watersheds for over 25 years delivering programs ranging from bylaw enforcement to pollution prevention. He currently supervises the administration of the District's Natural Hazards Management and Risk Tolerance program involving new development and is assisting with the implementation of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan. Currently Vice President of the Partnership for Water Sustainability in BC, a non-profit society working on innovative tools and the promotion of leadership towards BC's water sustainability action plan.



CHRISTINE BOYLE is a newly elected Councillor with OneCity Vancouver. She is a community organizer, a climate justice activist, and an ordained United Church Minister. She previously did national climate justice organizing among diverse faith communities, including at COP21 and at the Vatican. She also led Strategic Communications at the Columbia Institute. She has a teenager and a preschooler. [@christineboyle](#)



KALEB CHILD, Musgamdzi is a member of the Kwakiutl (Kwagiulth) First Nation and is currently the Provincial Director of Indigenous Education at the Ministry of Education. His education and professional experience has been connected closely to First Nations communities throughout his career as a teacher, director and educational leader. In his role across communities he works to enhance and support leadership development committed to equitable learning environments, an Indigenous vision for pedagogy, authentic Aboriginal learning connections for all learners, language and culture revitalization, and strengthening meaningful relationships across communities. [@kalebchild](#)



TERESA DOWNS is the Superintendent of Schools for the Gold Trail School District. Teresa completed her practicum in Gold Trail and has stayed in the district since that time. She has been a classroom teacher, Learner Support Teacher, Principal, Director of Instruction and now Superintendent. She is dedicated to the students and families of Gold Trail and to improving the quality of the educational experience for each student with a focus on Indigenous learners for whom the system has disadvantaged.



SHARMARKE DUBOW only recently gained Canadian citizenship in July, 2017. He arrived in Canada in 2012 after fleeing civil war in Somalia at the age of 8. He was a refugee for 20 years until he got resettled to Canada. Sharmarke cast his first vote in October 20, 2018, and at the same time was elected as a Victoria City Councillor. Sharmarke's passion and commitment to diversity, inclusion, equity and his work for immigrants and refugees at the local and national level has earned him a reputation as a respected community leader and voice for human rights. [@deardubow](#)



MEGAN DYKEMAN is the Managing Director of Strategics Canada, a firm which specializes in board governance and strategic planning; project management; marketing; and public relations. She is also Chair of the Langley Board of Education and founder of a specialty poultry farm in Langley. She is a Farm Business Management graduate from U. Sask and holds a BPA in Governance Law and Management and a Masters of International Relations focused on the effects of International Trade Agreements on Food Security. [@megandykeman](#)



PAUL FINCH was elected Executive Vice President of the BCGEU in 2011 and Treasurer in 2014. The BCGEU is the most diverse labour union in BC, representing over 78,000 members at 550 different employers and government ministries. As Treasurer, Paul works closely with the President of the BCGEU and serves as the Union's Chief Financial and Administrative Officer. In his role he has closely overseen the move to ethical investing, technological innovation, communications modernization, constitutional and structural changes and policy development. Paul has written on land economics since 2014, and in 2017 co-authored the Affordable BC plan with members of CUPE 1767 and BCGEU staff.



SHARON GREGSON is the provincial spokesperson for the successful \$10aDay Child Care campaign in British Columbia, building a public system of quality affordable child care. She works with the Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC and travels extensively speaking with local governments, school boards, community, labour and business about current child care chaos and the solution - the \$10aDay Plan. She was twice elected as a Trustee to the Vancouver Board of Education and is well-known to be a feminist and relentless advocate, skilled in campaign strategy and campaigning, government and stakeholder relations.



LYN HALL has been an active member of the Prince George community for over 30 years. He first entered local politics in 2001 when he won a seat as a School Trustee on the Prince George School Board. He spent 10 years on the board holding various positions including vice-chair and chair. In 2011, he ran and successfully won a seat on Prince George City Council. As a Councillor, he was a member of several committees and community groups. In 2014 and 2018 he ran successful campaigns for Mayor of Prince George. @Lynhallpg



DOUG HILLIAN is a four-time Courtenay councillor and Regional District Director. A community volunteer and activist throughout his life, Doug recently retired from human services management after a long career on the front lines of social work and the justice system. He finds balance playing soccer, singing in a community choir and hiking in the mountains. Doug's presentation considers the challenges municipalities face grappling with homeless campsites, an ongoing manifestation of the housing crisis that continues to afflict our communities.



IGLIKA IVANOVA is a feminist economist who researches and writes on key social and economic challenges facing BC and Canada, including poverty, economic insecurity and labour market shifts toward more precarious work. Iglika also investigates issues of government finance, tax policy and privatization and how they relate to the accessibility and quality of public services. She is particularly interested in the potential for public policy to build a more just, inclusive and sustainable economy. @IglikaIvanova



KHELSELEM is serving his first four-year term as an elected Councillor & Spokesperson for the Squamish Nation Council based in North Vancouver, BC. He serves on numerous committees but has spent his first year in office focusing on housing, capital projects, language and culture, and economic development. He believes in progressive policy and ending the climate emergency. @khelsilem



LISA LANGEVIN is an electrician and a passionate advocate for making trades more accessible to women. She was a founding member of both the IBEW 213 and BC IBEW Women's Committees, as well as the national and the provincial chapters of Build Together – Women of the Building Trades. She helped form, and is currently the president of, the BC Tradeswomen Society. She currently works as an Assistant Business Manager for Local 213 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), based in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia. In addition to serving on the Governance Committee for the BC Centre for Women in The Trades she is also a board member of the ITA (Industry Training Authority) in British Columbia. @ElectricLisaL



JANETTE LOVEYS is the Chief Administrative Officer with the Sunshine Coast Regional District, a beautiful coastal community since 2015. Janette has been a public sector employee since 1989 where she started her career with the Province of Ontario. She went on to work for the City of Guelph where she provided the leadership for the first policy in Canada to allocate tax funds by citizens – participatory budgeting. Janette has the opportunity to work in senior roles at the Capital Regional District and in the Niagara Region, Ontario. In 2013, Janette received the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee award for her work with Federation of Canadian Municipalities.



AMY LUBIK is a first term City Councillor in Port Moody. Amy is a health policy analyst and researcher, currently working for Fraser Health Authority. She works on the social determinants of health: broadly how issues such as poverty and unequal access to housing, transit, and services impact health outcomes. She also has experience researching how the built environment can influence health, focusing on the mental health impacts of social isolation, as well as municipal resilience to climate change. She is also member for the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, and the Public Health Association of BC.



STEPHANIE LYNN joined Stratcom in June 2016 on her return to Canada from Asia, bringing her commitment to excellence in innovation to Stratcom's clients in British Columbia and Alberta. She comes with three decades of experience working with heads of state, legislatures, political parties and community activists in over twenty countries. Stephanie is renowned for her achievements in leveraging research on public and political leaders' opinions and policy advocacy to advance representative, responsive governance. She brings her expertise to bear in message development and communications training, particularly in support of women leaders.



ADRIENNE MONTANI is the Provincial Coordinator for BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition. She has lived, worked and been a social justice activist in Vancouver since 1976. She joined First Call in 2000 and became the provincial coordinator in 2005. Prior to working with First Call, she served as the child and youth advocate for the City of Vancouver, and as the chairperson of the Vancouver School Board for three of her six years as an elected school trustee. Some of her earlier leadership positions included serving as the executive director of Surrey Delta Immigrant Services Society and of Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland. [@FirstCallBC](#)



LEE MOSSMAN is the Local Government Liaison for CUPE BC. Lee has worked in the Public Sector for nearly 35 years in Public Works. He served three terms as President for the Municipal Workers of the Central Okanagan and was also a member on the CUPE BC Executive Board. More recently, Lee was elected as a School Board Trustee for District 23 in the Central Okanagan, serving from 2014 – 2018.



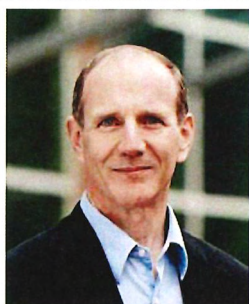
LORI PRATT was elected as Sunshine Coast Regional District director for Area B - Halfmoon Bay in 2018. The board elected her as chair at their inaugural meeting. Prior to moving into this role at the SCRCD, Lori spent 10 years as an elected trustee to the Board of Education of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast). Lori has a strong drive to create space for women's voices that is inspired by her own experiences and by wanting to create a better world for her three daughters. [@LoriAnnPratt](#)



CHUCK PUCHMAYR is a City Councillor for the city of New Westminster and Retired Member of the Legislative Assembly of BC. He is the founder and volunteer for A Beef With Hunger Society, chairperson of the Lookout Housing and Health Foundation and an avid volunteer for BC Transplant. Chuck was first elected to city council in 1996 and went on to serve in the provincial legislature from 2005, retiring in 2009. Chuck re-entered civic politics in 2011. [@chuckPuchmayr](#)



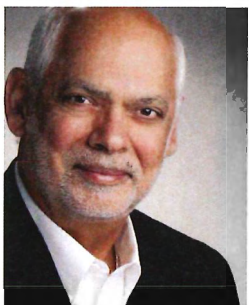
JENNIFER REDDY is working towards an inclusive community where people are engaged as valuable and deserving individuals, who can use their agency to lead the changes they wish to see. I hold a Masters in Social Policy and Development from the London School of Economics, a Bachelors in Development Studies from the University of Calgary, and a Certificate in Curriculum Development and Instructional Design from Mount Royal University. From SFU, EdMeCo and the VSB to Kuru Kuru Training Centre in Guyana, I have been inspired by global leadership in education and social change. I look forward to the opportunity to learn from and contribute to the efforts of individuals and communities that drive educational leadership in our city. [@reddyforchange](#)



GAETAN ROYER is the CEO of CityState Consulting. His love of everything urban brought him to hundreds of cities in 30 countries. An urban planner originally from Québec City, he received a Governor General's Medal for his humanitarian work in Sarajevo. During his time as City Manager in Port Moody, the city received numerous awards including the International Livable Communities Award. The author of "Time for Cities," a book about getting a better deal for cities, he is also an Associate with the Columbia Institute who contributed to several reports.



HALENA SEIFERLING is the Campaign Organizer for the Living Wage for Families Campaign, hosted in Vancouver on unceded Coast Salish territory. Halena is originally from Regina (Treaty 4) and moved west in 2014 to obtain a Masters in Public Policy from SFU. Her thesis focused on measures to encourage more women to run for office at the local level. Halena has also worked on issues including electoral reform, gender equity, and climate justice and adaptation within a municipal context. [@lwforfamilies](#)



PAUL SHAKER is a career educator who has served as teacher, teacher educator, and dean in five of the United States, in the Mideast, and in Canada at Simon Fraser University where he is professor emeritus and former dean. Shaker created Friends of Simon, an outreach to immigrant children that provides university students as tutors. He also hosts Your Education Matters a community engagement project supporting British Columbia education. Shaker is the co-author of Reclaiming Education for Democracy and numerous articles. For more, see [paulshaker.com](#) and [youreducationmatters.ca](#). [@profpaulshaker](#)



DARNELDA SIEGERS has served the District of Sechelt as a Councillor since 2011 and was elected Mayor in 2018. She currently also sits as Vice-Chair of the Sunshine Coast Regional District. She and her husband, Adrian, moved to Sechelt from Alberta in 2009. With a passion for life-long learning, Darnelda has a diploma in Business Administration, a Bachelor of Education Degree and recently completed an Executive Certificate in Local Government. She is committed to supporting women as they pursue leadership roles. [@dsiegers](#).



SUSSANNE SKIDMORE was elected BCFED Secretary-Treasurer in November 2018. A well-known human rights, social justice and queer rights activist, Susanne has served as executive vice-president of BCGEU since 2014. She has also served as co-chair of the BCFED's Human Rights Committee, and is active in the Women's Rights Committee.



ADRIENNE SMITH is a human rights activist and drug policy lawyer. Adrienne worked to ensure access to prescription heroin in British Columbia. They recently settled a BC Supreme Court case which guaranteed access to opiate replacement therapy for prisoners in BC jails. Adrienne appeared at the BC Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada where they argued about the deleterious effects of mandatory minimum sentences for women, indigenous people, and people who come before the court as a result of their addiction. They live and work in the Downtown Eastside where 5 people die every day of preventable opiate overdose. [@Vanalias](#)



MATT SMITH is the President of Stratcom since May 2017 and oversees the company's day-to-day operations in fundraising, research and engagement to serve Canada's progressive governments, charities, unions and political parties. Matt was Senior Director of Research & Engagement for six years and continues to play a lead role in all government-facing and election-related work. With fifteen years of research and campaign experience, Matt's expertise includes strategic planning, designing multi-modal research projects, audience analysis and targeting and campaign planning and execution.



CHA'AN DTUT (Rena Soutar) is of Haida descent and works as Reconciliation Planner for the Vancouver Park Board. Her portfolio includes the ambitious goal of decolonizing the Vancouver Park Board. Among other initiatives, she works with local First Nations on a long-term comprehensive plan for Stanley Park. Author of *Songhees*, a cultural biography of the Songhees Nation in Victoria, she makes her home in Greater Vancouver with her husband and six year old daughter. Rena draws strength from her family and is reminded that helping build a world beyond colonialism means building a better future for all young ones. [@unsettling_us](#)



RON STIPP is a Regional Representative for the Canadian Labour Congress in British Columbia. His responsibilities include political action, media and communications for the CLC in the Pacific Region. He regularly instructs workshops and seminars on campaign management, candidate training, working with the media and media training. Additionally, he chairs the CLC Regional Federal Working Group and Municipal Working Group. Ron is a member of the Living Wage Advisory Committee, and the coordinator of the Sustainable Communities Initiative.



BRAD WEST is a life-long resident of Port Coquitlam and was first elected to Council in 2008. He was re-elected in 2011 and 2014, receiving the most votes of all candidates both times. In 2018, Brad was elected as the 16th Mayor of the City of Port Coquitlam. He is a graduate of the University of Victoria, St. Francis Xavier University and most recently completed a program in Leadership at Harvard University. [@BradWestPOCO](#)



ALLAN WONG is currently serving his eighth term as a trustee of the Vancouver School Board, being first elected in 1999. Allan is an alumnus of UBC graduating with a Diploma in Multicultural Teachers Program and a Bachelor of Arts in Asian Area Relations. His public service experience includes terms with several boards and committees, including the Vancouver Public Library Board and numerous Diversity related Advisory Committees. He is a lifetime advocate for Public Education.



MARY CLARE ZAK is the Managing Director of the Social Policy & Projects Division with the City of Vancouver. She has decades of public sector experience at all three levels of government and the not-for-profit sector. Her role at the City of Vancouver is to provide advice to the Mayor and Council on social issues, and to work across government and various sectors to address these issues.

STAY TUNED FOR MORE SPEAKERS