

2025 APPI Outstanding Contribution to the Profession Awards

Erin O'Neill RPP



Erin O'Neill earned her Master of Science in Rural Planning and Development from the University of Guelph in 2007 and began her Alberta career with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. Since receiving her RPP designation in 2009, Erin has been a steadfast advocate for professional certification and ethical practice. She has mentored numerous Candidate members, offering guidance, and encouragement and her contributions to the Institute's professional development offerings, have significantly deepened the members' understanding of the Professional Code of Practice and fostered ethical decision-making within the profession.

Erin has been a committed leader of APPI, serving two terms on Council, including holding the Office of President. Erin has and continues to serve on many of the Institute's committees, including the Planning Awards Committee, various Conference Committees, the Discipline Committee, and the Registration Committee. Her involvement has strengthened APPI's programming, governance, and professional development initiatives, making a lasting impact on the Institute and its members.

Erin has also championed planning outside of APPI, with service on the Board of the Community Planning Association of Alberta (CPAA), as co-chair of multiple CPAA conferences, and as a past member of the Canadian Institute of Planners Board. Her influence extends across local, provincial, and national levels, underscoring her deep and sustained commitment to strengthening the planning profession in Alberta and Canada.

Erin's visionary leadership, long-standing volunteerism, and dedication to professional integrity have significantly shaped both the Institute and the broader planning profession. Erin has, and continues to, enrich the profession, elevate the Institute, and inspire a generation of planners to follow her example.