

May 7, 2026

## **APPI Inspiration Grant, Student Education Scholarships, Conference Award and Award in Indigenous, Rural and Northern Planning Announcements**

The following recipients of the awards were announced at the Volunteer Appreciation and Awards Celebration on May 7, 2026.

### **Inspiration Grant Announcement**

The Inspiration Grant recognizes and supports the great work being done by members who are engaged in running an event or activity that shares new, innovative, or creative perspectives on planning, and/or presenting and attending at a national, international conference, or APPI Conference.

#### **Congratulations Christine Lee, RPP!**

Christine will utilize the grant towards the *Chinatown Reimagined: A Food, History, and Planning Walking Tour*, which uses storytelling, walking, and culinary experiences to open discussions about planning topics that are often technical or abstract. By connecting planning concepts to local food culture, the event offers an accessible and memorable learning format that reaches both planning professionals and students.

### **Student Education Scholarships Announcement**

APPI annually recognizes and awards the achievements of students entering or enrolled in post-secondary institutions with an interest in planning as a profession.

The Student Education Scholarship is intended to provide monetary assistance to students for tuition, research, books or other academic expenses.

- Sachin Acharya, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Sarah Elizabeth Biju, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Yidi Chen, Master's of Planning, SAPL, University of Calgary
- Edmund Chung, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Jie Deng, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Azin Dinarvand, Master's of Planning, SAPL, University of Calgary
- Diana Haymour, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Mark Locki, Master's of Planning, SAPL, University of Calgary

- Shannon Lohner, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Kieran Moran, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Melika Nateghian, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Kelsey Prud'homme, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Kwadwo Nketia Kumankuma Sarpong, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Noah Seeton, Master's of Planning, SAPL, University of Calgary
- Elizabeth Song, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Spencer Wearden, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Liam Aguda, Bachelor of Arts, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Alberta (Fall 2026)
- Minahil Akmal, Bachelor of Arts, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Lombe Bwalya-Dabi, Bachelor of Arts, Urban Studies, University of Calgary
- Tess Burton, Bachelor of Arts, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Tristen Chang, Bachelor of Arts, Human Geography, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, University of Alberta
- Dezmond Coyes, Bachelor of Arts, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Kaylee Dodd, Bachelor of Arts, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- David Lee, Bachelor of Arts, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Jaden Macyk, Bachelor of Arts, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Hlib Mryha, Bachelor of Arts, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Joel Sarich, Bachelor of Science, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Leah Song, Bachelor of Arts, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Alberta
- Emily Woitas, Bachelor of Arts, Urban Studies, University of Calgary
- Lukas Zvonkovic, Bachelor of Arts, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Alberta

## **Student Conference Award Announcement**

The Student Conference Award is intended to provide monetary assistance to students to attend a planning conference.

- Stephen Baffoe, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta

## **Student Award in Indigenous, Rural and Northern Planning**

The Student Award in Indigenous, Rural and Northern Planning was established in 2020, in honour of David Klippenstein (1994-2020), and in recognition of his outstanding contribution to planning in northern, indigenous, and rural communities across Canada, and in appreciation of David's passion for sharing of his knowledge in this planning realm.

The Student Award in Indigenous, Rural and Northern Planning is intended to cultivate students' interest and further study in the realm of northern, indigenous and planning, which is of paramount relevance within APPI's jurisdiction.

- Aida Esmaeilzadeh Seilabi, Master's of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, University of Alberta

## Congratulations to the Recipients!

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### **APPI Mission Statement**

We are the face of the planning profession within Alberta, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.  
We serve the public interest by providing regulation, advocacy, promotion  
and services for our members.

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