



**EVOLUTION**  
**2021** OCTOBER  
4-6  
VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

DEADLINE: 4:00PM THURSDAY APRIL 22, 2021

In October 2021, we will gather with planning professionals for the 2021 APPI Conference. While we will connect with each other virtually, we are excited to bring an interactive experience where delegates will share ideas, lessons learned, emerging practices and stories of the ever-changing landscape of the planning profession.

We have all experienced unprecedented times over the past year, and planners seem to always find themselves at the forefront of change. The 2021 APPI Conference will put a spotlight on this evolving nature of the profession. We are excited to announce this year's conference theme is **EVOLUTION!** Our conference theme of **EVOLUTION** will have us talking about how our profession, and we as individuals, have evolved!!

- ▶ How do major shifts, like economic downturns, social movements, and pandemics, shape our professional practice and the way we approach our work?
- ▶ How do they impact the importance or value of our profession within broader society?
- ▶ What professional obligations do we have to pivot and respond to emerging scenarios?
- ▶ What is our responsibility to support other industries and professions to adapt to change?

As planners, we are charged with creating and shaping the way people interact with one another. We can influence the capacity of people, businesses, and organizations to thrive. **HOW** will we evolve in this new era of working and interacting with one

another? How will industries and organizations adapt? The 2021 APPI Conference is an opportunity to open up and be honest with one another about our experiences.

*We want to create a space where we can learn from each other about evolution both individually and collectively, and shape how we evolve together.*

The **EVOLUTION** of planning, human interactions and relationship building, community development during societal change, comfort with transitioning to our post-2020 way of life, and supporting emerging trends in industry, small business, and technology... **is a shortlist of topics we are considering for the APPI 2021 Conference.** We will try to dissect how we as planners see the way things will evolve. As generalists, we know the way landscapes and environments have evolved. Let's talk about it!

APPI invites professional planners, related professionals and students to submit their proposal for unique, creative, and unconventional discussions that reflect the theme of **EVOLUTION**.

We can't wait to talk about how we evolve together.

Thank you from the APPI 2021 Conference Program Committee!

Jordan Zukowski RPP, *Program Committee Chair*

Matt Boscarol RPP, *Conference Co-Chair*

Natasha De Sandi, *Conference Co-Chair*

Peter Vana RPP, *Conference Program Committee*

Nabil Malik, *Conference Program Committee*

#2021APPICONFERENCE



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## 2021 APPI CONFERENCE CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS CRITERIA

### KEY TOPICS

The key topics APPI will be exploring at the Conference are the EVOLUTION of planning, human interactions and relationship building, community development during societal change, comfort with transitioning to our post-2020 way of life, and supporting emerging trends in industry, small business, and technology. The conference theme of EVOLUTION may be presented using functional topic areas as, traditional land use planning, housing low income and homeless populations, transportation planning, growth management, recreation planning, or using broader societal topics as racism, climate change, health and wellness and planning for vulnerable populations (i.e. indigenous peoples, people of color, LGBTQ2s+).

### KEY DATES

- Call for Session Proposals opens: **March 15, 2021**
- Session Proposals closes: **April 22, 2021**
- Notification of proposal status: **May 10, 2021**
- **EVOLUTION Conference: October 4 - 6, 2021**

### ELIGIBLE PRESENTERS

2021 Conference session proposals for unique, creative, and unconventional discussions that reflect the theme of EVOLUTION are encouraged from a wide range of applicants, including, but not limited to:

- Practicing professional planners within or from outside of the APPI jurisdiction
- Related professionals
- Students – both APPI Student Members and non-student members
- Individuals who identify as First Nations, Inuit, Métis, LGBTQ2S+, persons with disabilities, women and other marginalized or disadvantaged groups

### SESSION FORMAT

The 2021 APPI Conference will be hosted virtually using the services of a professional production company dedicated to ensuring the on-line presenter experience is easy and stress free. The conference program will include a mix of session types designed to appeal to a range of learning styles. Proposals for non-traditional and interactive sessions are highly encouraged, including submissions of virtual tours.

A maximum of two presenters per session is preferred. All sessions will be recorded for viewing after the conference. Depending upon the response to the call for proposals, most sessions will be livestreamed [and recorded]. Exceptions to session format may be considered on a case by case basis.

### SESSION DURATION

The session maximum block of time is 1.25 hours. This time includes the presentation (45 minutes but flexible), attendee interaction (if applicable), and attendee Q & A. However, if you propose a longer workshop session, panel presentation or an exciting and different method for your proposed session, do not hesitate to submit it! APPI is always open to considering new, innovative and engaging ways for attendees to learn, providing justification is provided for the additional time, and the details of how the session can be accommodated in the virtual environment are provided.

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### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Submissions must include the following:

1. Title of presentation (limit 50 characters, make it creative!)
2. Session description in 200 words or less. Outline the content of your presentation and how it relates to the theme of Evolution. Identify key takeaways and why attendees should choose your session.
3. Contact details including name, company/organization and contact information for all session presenters (telephone number and email address) as well as a brief biography for each presenter. The person submitting the proposal is considered the primary point of contact. This individual receives communications and is responsible for sharing information with any co-presenters.
4. Session maximum block of time is 1.25 hours (75minutes). Suggested session length (flexible) to be 45 minutes with 30 minutes for question/answer period.
5. Format: all sessions will be live streamed: describe the tools used to accompany your verbal presentation - pptx; video: OR will it be a panel or workshop format (this will have be determined with the virtual production vendor).



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6. Special requirements for engaging the virtual delegates during the presentation (if applicable).
  7. Confirmation that you are willing to allow your session to be recorded.
  8. Let us know if you are willing to stick around and hop into any virtual “coffee rooms” to talk about your presentation, or engage in conversation with interested delegates.
  9. Proposal Checklist [CLICK HERE TO VIEW](#) (separate document)
- Reviewer comments will not be supplied to those who have submitted proposals, nor will the Program Committee respond to requests for comment regarding rejection of any proposal.
  - Please note that content that is intended to solicit business or sell products or services will not be considered.

### SELECTION CRITERIA AND REVIEW PROCESS

All Conference proposals are peer reviewed by APPI’s Conference Program Committee, and each reviewer assesses proposals against established criteria. [CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE CRITERIA](#). Additional considerations by the Program Committee include content that represents rural interests and issues, geographic distribution across the APPI jurisdiction, public sector and private sector, perspectives and experience of First Nations, Inuit, Métis, LGBTQ2S+, persons with disabilities, women and other marginalized or disadvantaged groups.

- All submissions will be peer reviewed.
- The Program Committee may determine that a proposal could or should be presented in a format other than that proposed. The submitter will be consulted in this circumstance.
- The primary contact person listed on the proposal will be emailed with a final decision.
- The decision of the Program Committee on the inclusion or rejection of a proposal, and the presentation format, is final.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Presenters are not required to be registered delegates of the conference if they plan to participate only in the session they are presenting. Presenters looking to attend the rest of the conference via live streaming or watching recordings are required to register and pay the applicable registration rate. The conference registration rates are set to maximize access and attendance to learning opportunities; therefore, no discounts are being offered to session presenters or volunteers.
- The Program Committee will work with selected presenters to finalize their presentation time slot within the conference schedule, and will share the final conference schedule with presenters as soon as possible. The schedule must be strictly adhered as it will be used to market the conference.
- Presenters will be contacted to schedule initial technical meeting and then virtual rehearsals within 60 days of confirmation.
- Please be available and start preparing the session materials as soon as possible.

If you have any questions about the call for proposals or the APPI Conference, please email Jordan Zukowski, Program Committee Chair, at: [Jordan.Zukowski@calgary.ca](mailto:Jordan.Zukowski@calgary.ca)

PLEASE SUBMIT PROPOSALS IN PDF FORMAT VIA EMAIL TO:

JORDAN ZUKOWSKI PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR  
[JORDAN.ZUKOWSKI@CALGARY.CA](mailto:JORDAN.ZUKOWSKI@CALGARY.CA)

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