



FAST FORWARD
PLANNING AT THE SPEED OF CHANGE
2026 SEPTEMBER
27 - 29
CALGARY, ALBERTA

DEADLINE
12:00 PM
THURSDAY
FEB 19, 2026

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Join us at the 2026 APPI Conference in Calgary:
FAST FORWARD Planning at the Speed of Change

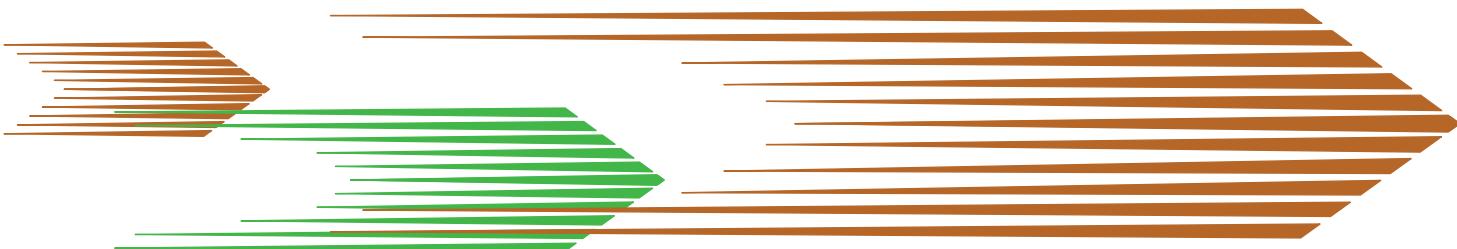
In a world where transformation is constant and acceleration is the new normal, Planners are being called to lead with agility, foresight, and innovation. **FAST FORWARD Planning at the Speed of Change** seeks to explore how Professional Planners are thriving amid rapid technological shifts, climate urgency, evolving community needs, and policy reform. This theme invites participants to reimagine planning practices that are not only responsive but anticipatory, leveraging data, collaboration, and creativity to shape resilient, inclusive, and future-ready communities. We want to connect with planners in both the urban and rural context to further our collective understanding. Through dynamic sessions, thought-provoking keynotes, and hands-on workshops, APPI 2026 will empower planners to move beyond adaptation and into proactive leadership.

APPI invites professional planners, related professionals, and students to submit their proposals for interactive, interdisciplinary, and unconventional discussions which prove that for planners, change is not a challenge, but a catalyst for bold ideas and transformative action. Individual contributors looking to be a part of a panel discussion assembled by the APPI 2026 Conference Committee are also welcome to submit.

Join us in September 2026 as we fast forward into the future of planning!

Thank you from the APPI 2026 Conference Committee! We look forward to seeing you in Calgary!

Dino Civitarese RPP Conference Co-Chair
Misty Sklar RPP Conference Co-Chair





KEY DATES

JANUARY 13	FEBRUARY 19	APRIL 29	SEPTEMBER 27-29
CALL FOR PROPOSALS OPENS	CALL FOR PROPOSALS CLOSES	NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL STATUS	CONFERENCE

THE CONFERENCE

The conference will explore how planning is evolving and will continue to evolve in the future and how to navigate the interdisciplinary nature of planning. The expected outcomes of the conference include introducing participants to new and exciting ways that can help planners learn how to build future-ready cities and communities with other industries — while providing them with tangible and technical perspectives to utilize in day-to-day lives.

ELIGIBLE PRESENTERS

The 2026 Conference session proposals call for creative, interactive, and engaging discussions that meet the conference theme. We are seeking a wide range of applicants, including, but not limited to:

- Professionals outside the planning industry
- Practicing professional planners both within and outside of the APPI jurisdiction
- Professional planning practice in the realm of Indigenous, rural and/or northern planning which is of paramount relevance in the APPI jurisdiction
- Students — both APPI Student Members and non student members

SESSION FORMAT

The 2026 APPI Conference will be hosted in-person and the preferred session formats include workshops, panel discussions and a pecha kucha session. However, the Conference Committee will also consider a mix of session types designed to appeal to a broad range of interests and include various sectors of the planning profession.

SESSION DURATION

The recommended length for session proposals is 1.25 hours. This time includes the presentation (30 minutes, but flexible), attendee interaction (30 minutes), and a question period (15 minutes). Alternative formats will be considered, including longer sessions, discussion panels, workshops, or an exciting and different method of your proposed session. **Do not hesitate to submit it or reach out to the Conference Committee!** APPI is always open to considering new, innovative, and engaging ways for attendees to learn. Please provide justification for the additional time required.



For the Pecha Kucha presenters, each presenter will be allowed to show 20 slides for 20 seconds per slide (20X20 format).

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, identify key takeaways and why attendees should choose your session. If you are identifying yourself as Interested to Speak on a panel, please provide a summary of your interests and areas of expertise for discussion purposes.
3. Contact details include name, company/organization, and contact information for all session presenters (telephone number and email address) as well as a brief biography for each presenter (80 words max per 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. Pecha Kucha presenters will be combined with other speakers in their allotted time.
5. Format: describe the format (panel discussion or workshop), or tools used to accompany your presentation (PowerPoint, PDF, video, etc.).
6. Confirmation that you are willing to allow your session to be recorded

SELECTION CRITERIA AND REVIEW PROCESS

All proposals are peer reviewed by APPI's Conference Committee and each reviewer assesses proposals against established criteria. Additional considerations by the Conference Committee include format type, interdisciplinary topics, content that represents Indigenous, rural and/or northern planning interests and issues, geographic distribution across the APPI jurisdiction, public sector and private sector perspectives and experience.

- The Conference Committee may determine a proposal could or should be presented in a format other than how proposed. The applicant 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 Conference Committee on the inclusion or rejection of a proposal, and the presentation format, is final.
- Reviewer comments will not be supplied to those who have submitted proposals, nor will the Conference Committee respond to requests for comment regarding rejection of any proposal.
- Please note content intended to solicit business or sell products or services will not be considered.



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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 are required to register and pay the applicable reduced registration rate.
- The Conference 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 to as it will be used to market the conference.
- Please be available and start preparing the session materials as soon as possible.
- Presenters will receive no compensation (financial or otherwise).

If you have any questions about the call for proposals or the APPI Conference, please email APPI Administration at admin@albertaplanners.com



**PLEASE SUBMIT PROPOSALS IN PDF
VIA ONLINE SUBMISSION**
CALL FOR PROPOSALS — ONLINE APPLICATION

**DEADLINE: 12:00 PM
FEBRUARY 19, 2026**

Privacy Clause: Personal and commercial information is collected under the authority of the Personal Information Protection Act. The use of personal and commercial information is limited to administration of the conference registrations and management.