

IAP2 BC and Yukon Chapter President's Report, October 11, 2023

How we continue working together

- In 2022 we began organizing our time in smaller working groups, outside of our regular monthly meetings
- These are small groups organised around special interests identified by individuals that align with goals in our Strategic Plan
- Three working groups were formed around topics including:
 - Member Engagement
 - Indigenous Inclusion
 - Students and New Professionals
- Working groups meet regularly outside of monthly Board meetings to undertake initiatives within their chosen area of interest to provide programming for members and further the strategic goals of our Chapter

Overview of Chapter successes

- **2023 membership statistics**
 - 291 active members in BC & Yukon Chapter
 - Over 55 communities represented through membership
- **Spring Social:** In August we held two concurrent in-person social events; one was held in Burnaby and the other was held in Smithers. These summer socials were free for members to attend, held in accessible locations, and provided members an opportunity to meet other P2 professionals working in their communities.
- **Overview of Principles of OCAP:** In September our Chapter held a free virtual session to provide an introduction to the principles of OCAP - this will be followed by a more in-depth workshop in early November
- **Connecting Communities, October 24:** In partnership with the SFU Centre for Dialogue, panelists from different backgrounds and areas of engagement practice will share their stories, with an emphasis on increasing diversity in the field of engagement practitioners

Wrapping up my time on the Board

- I first joined the Board in 2018 as a Director at Large and assumed the role of President in 2021.
- Participating in a volunteer-driven Board is both rewarding and challenging:
 - **Rewarding:** Working with (and learning from) colleagues living across many geographic regions has been a pleasure
 - **Rewarding:** Being part of a group sharing our passion for IAP2 that is always looking ways to connect with and serve our members
 - **Challenging:** Prioritising our limited time as volunteers across a number of potential exciting initiatives is always difficult. There is so much opportunity and so little time in the day.
- My time on the Board is wrapping up after five years of service and I am grateful for the colleagues I've made in BC and Yukon.
- I'm proud of the work the Board has done and I wish our Chapter leadership all the future success as the chapter continues to grow.