

2025 Professional Development Opportunities

The following is a list of the AIBC-offered Professional Development opportunities which were delivered in 2025, including an overview of the session and the dates they were hosted. For more information about AIBC PD opportunities, please visit the [website](#).

2025 Certified Professional (CP) Course

The 2025 Certified Professional (CP) Course is based on the 2024 BC Building Code and the 2019 Vancouver Building By-law. The CP Course is held online, with the CP Exams and site visit taking place in-person.

Registration closes on **December 1, 2024**, or when all spots are filled. Early registration is advised, as capacity is usually reached well before the December deadline.

Partial grant funding for the courses is available through the WorkBC BC Employer Training Grant for those who are eligible. To learn more, visit the Government of BC's Workforce Training Stream [webpage](#).

Please note that while there are no specific prerequisites to register, these are advanced courses and having BC Building Code or Vancouver Building Bylaw knowledge is recommended.

Certified Professional Program Overview

The CP Program is an alternative to the conventional building permit and inspection process adopted by Vancouver, Surrey, Abbotsford, Burnaby, West Vancouver, University Endowment Lands, Nanaimo, District of Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh Nation, and Squamish Nation (Senâk̓w). Through the program, participating Authorities Having Jurisdiction can issue building permits on the assurances of a CP.

Although anyone may take the CP Course, only registered architects (Architects AIBC) and professional engineers (P.Eng.) may practice as CPs. Intern Architects AIBC and engineers-in-training (EIT) who meet all CP Course requirements and pass the CP Exams will be able to practice as CPs when they become registered as architects or engineers.

2025 Certified Professional Course Schedule

The CP Course schedule consists of 12 full-day sessions on Wednesdays from January 15 to April 16, 2025. There are no classes on March 5, 2025 (CP Course break) and March 26, 2025 (Spring Break). There is one half-day tutorial on April 23, 2025. The CP Course concludes with 2 full-day exams April 30 and May 7, 2025. The site tours, mid-term and final exams will be conducted in-person in Vancouver.

The cost for the CP Course is \$5,700+GST.

2025 Advanced Code Knowledge (ACK) Course

The ACK Course is designed to provide advanced building code knowledge without CP certification. It provides all the content of the CP Course, but excludes exams, projects, and site tours.

2024 Advanced Code Knowledge Course Schedule

The ACK Course is taking place online, and is comprised of seven full-day sessions on Wednesdays from January 15 to February 26, 2025.

The ACK course costs \$3,650+GST.

Spring Post-Disaster Building Assessment Training Workshop

The 2025 Spring Post-Disaster Building Assessment (PDBA) Training Workshop is taking place virtually on **May 21 and 28, 2025**.

AIBC Registrants, architectural students, and those with building construction expertise who are interested in participating in Post-Disaster Building Assessment are required to take training that aligns with the provincial and international protocols and standards. Upon completion of the course, participants will be eligible to register with BC Housing as a post-disaster building assessor.

PDBA Training Workshop Overview

Taking place over two half-days, the workshop will prepare participants to perform rapid post-disaster building assessments. Workshop content includes an overview of the following:

- Earthquake hazards, building types, and common forms of construction in British Columbia
- Structural basics, in the context of post-disaster building assessments, with a focus on seismic risk
- Different levels of response, including the regional context of the Lower Mainland
- The ATC-20 and BC Housing Field Guides

Attendees will also learn about relevant case studies and hear from field experts about their experiences with PDBA. Representatives from BC Housing and City of Vancouver will provide updates on preparedness initiatives and anticipated response strategies.

A series of exercises will be part of the training to help participants apply the concepts to case studies and prepare for their role as a PDBA assessor. Be prepared to share and contribute your thoughts, have your cameras and mics on when needed, and collaborate with others during group work. Registration cost includes hard copies of the ATC-20 and ATC-45 manuals.

Date: Wednesday, May 21 and 28, 2025

Time: 8:30 a.m.– 1 p.m.

Location: Online via Zoom

Cost: \$375 + GST

Learning Units: 8 Core

This session will be presented by members of Read Jones Christoffersen Ltd: Dennis Gam, M.Eng, P.Eng, Principal; Adam Lubell, PhD, P.Eng., Struct.Eng., Associate; and James Munro, P.Eng., Struct.Eng., PE (CA), Principal.

Additional presenters include Robyn Fenton Architect AIBC, AIBC Post-Disaster Liaison; Kelly Anderson, P.Eng., CP, Manager, Operational Readiness, Vancouver Emergency Management Agency; Saul Schwebs Architect AIBC, CBO and Director of Building Policy, Inspections & Bylaw Services of the City of Vancouver; and Pat Cullen, Security and Emergency Services Coordinator, BC Housing.

2025 Spring Certified Professional (CP) Update Seminar

The 2025 Spring Certified Professional (CP) Update Seminar is taking place on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. It will include updates on the CP Program including the 2025 Guide to the Certified Professional Program, formerly titled Provincial CP Manual; an update from the City of Vancouver on the VBBL; single egress stair code changes; and adaptable dwelling unit code requirements.

The seminar will be offered online via Zoom Webinar and is open to all, including CPs and their staff, as well as non-CPs. Participants will receive access to the PowerPoint slides via a web link.

The Zoom link to attend the session will be emailed to all attendees, after registration closes.

Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2025

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Cost: \$125 + GST

Location: Online via Zoom

Learning Unit (LUs): 3.75 Core

Shade Seekers: Computational and Experimental Fascinations with Shadows, Heat, Trees, and Humans

Shade Seekers: Computational and Experimental Fascinations with Shadows, Heat, Trees, and Humans is part of the AIBC's Fall 2025 PD Series.

Over the years, the work of Dr. Yuhao Lu and Dr. Justin McCarty has gravitated towards the study of urban trees and how they impact various aspects of human-urban interaction. This presentation will review their initial work at UBC SALA on typifying the urban form of three cities in B.C. and examining simulations on solar irradiance in Vancouver to support urban greening. Then, they will share how Yuhao's current research on urban forestry, remote sensing, and landscape planning complements Justin's work on photovoltaics, waste heat, and building facades to better understand the impact of shading conditions, and the urban and

architectural circumstances that create that shade. Architects will learn the importance of considering shade impacts in their design inquiries and practice.

Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2025

Time: 12 – 1 p.m.

Location: Online via Zoom

Cost: \$50 (Architect AIBC & Architectural Technologist AIBC); \$40 (Intern Architect AIBC & Retired Architect AIBC)

Learning Units (LUs): 1 Core

Presenters: Yuhao Lu Ph. D and Justin McCarty M.Arch, Ph. D

Dr. Yuhao Lu is an Assistant Professor at the University of Manitoba, where he leads the Future Elements Studio, an interdisciplinary research lab that measures and visualizes the intricacies of human settlements, using geospatial analytics, cartography, and an array of sensing technologies such as optical remote sensing and laser scanning. Prior to joining the University of Manitoba, Dr. Lu contributed to urban research and planning initiatives at the Future Cities Laboratory (ETH Zurich) and elementslab (UBC), with projects spanning western Canada, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Rim.

Dr. Justin McCarty is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich. He holds a Bachelor of the Arts degree from Dickinson College in Environmental Studies and a Master of Architecture degree from The University of British Columbia. His undergraduate research was concerned with an analysis of technology transfer mechanisms under the global climate change treaty. After his undergraduate career, he worked in the Western USA, designing small homes for clients with off-grid needs. His graduate research concerned building design given climate change uncertainty, residential retrofit policy in British Columbia, and urban-scale scenario studies of the building envelope, morphology, and energy systems.

2025 Fall Certified Professional (CP) Update Seminar

Registration is now open for the 2025 Fall Certified Professional (CP) Update Seminar, which is taking place on Wednesday, October 29. The seminar will focus on the City of Vancouver's CP Program, including an update on the 2025 VBBL that took effect September 15, 2025; the Deferred Schedule for the City's Development Cost Levies; and reminders and news from various City of Vancouver departments.

The seminar will be offered online via Zoom Webinar and is open to all, including CPs and their staff, as well as non-CPs.

The Zoom link to attend the session will be emailed to all attendees, after registration closes.

Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Time: 9 – 11 a.m.

Cost: \$125 + GST

Location: Online via Zoom

Learning Unit (LUs): 2 Core

A Camel is a Horse Designed by a Committee: The Case for Open Source Architecture

A Camel is a Horse Designed by a Committee: The Case for Open Source Architecture is part of the AIBC's Fall 2025 PD Series.

What is meant by the phrase “a camel is a horse designed by a committee”? Is this true? Or is a camel really just a creature of an entirely other nature – an expression of function over form that evolved from a different set of circumstances?

The session will present a rationale for open source architecture; explore notions of a democratic design process; review examples of participatory design in architecture; and the manner in which standardization for off-site manufacturing can inform architectural design. Lastly, the session will illustrate the application of these ideas/principles through a review of the Standardized Housing Designs Catalogue published by the British Columbia Ministry of Housing in fall 2024, and discuss whether the project has had any identifiable impact on the housing crisis in British Columbia over the past year.

Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2025

Time: 12 – 1 p.m.

Location: Online via Zoom

Cost: \$50 (Architect AIBC & Architectural Technologist AIBC); \$40 (Intern Architect AIBC & Retired Architect AIBC)

Learning Units (LUs): 1 Core

Presenters: Michael Leckie Architect AIBC

Michael Leckie is the Principal at Leckie Studio Architecture + Design, an award-winning multi-disciplinary design practice based in Vancouver. His work with clients across North America includes modernist single- and multi-family residences, heritage and industrial rehabilitations and conversions, and large-scale institutional projects. His firm led the design effort for the Standardized Design Catalogue – standardized, customizable residential building designs for people building small-scale, multi-unit housing on lots previously zoned for single-family homes and duplexes.

Toward a Relationship-Based Approach to Design in Indigenous Communities

Toward a Relationship-Based Approach to Design in Indigenous Communities is organized by the [Architecture Foundation of BC](#). It is part of the AIBC's Fall 2025 PD Series and is eligible for credit towards the AIBC's Indigenous Peoples Learning requirement.

Have you ever wondered how community-led, emergent process happens? In an Indigenous context, how a project is realized is as important, if not more important, than the final product. We'll explore how community vision and values translate into design in our practices, with Scott from the perspective of the Architect, and Alanna as the perspective of an Indigenous process designer, facilitator and owner's

representative. Alanna will share how values are carried forward into every decision through project-specific principles. The principles act as anchors—holding space for culture and community voice while also providing practical direction for the consultant and construction teams. They are the connective tissue between vision and implementation. Just as each person in the community has a gift to bring to the project, so too does each member of the technical team. A very important part of the conversation we'd like to have is about how recognize those gifts, know when to step forward and when to step back, and how to create conditions for buildings that dismantle injustice and nurture thriving communities.

Date: Friday, November 14, 2025

Time: 12 – 1 p.m.

Location: Online via Zoom

Cost: \$35 for all AIBC Registrants

Learning Units (LUs): 1 Core

Presenters: Alanna Quock Intern Architect AIBC and Scott Kemp Architect AIBC

Alanna is a Tāltān and Tlingit planner, designer, and creative problem solver with a passion for building adaptive capacity. Alanna grew up in Whitehorse, Yukon, the home of the Ta'an Kwachan Council and Kwanlin Dun First Nations, and now calls the sriya of the shíshálh nation home. Alanna has 20 years of experience working with individuals, first nations, communities and governments in the Yukon, British Columbia, and Quebec. Alanna is most comfortable when navigating a space of ambiguity and complexity – she seeks to use design thinking as a practical and creative approach to bring clarity and simplicity to complex situations. Her training in architecture supports her ability for cross-scale interdisciplinary thinking that allows her to quickly see patterns and bring together disparate elements into a cohesive whole. Alanna's approach to community-based project design and delivery has been recognized as leading the way in global Indigenous design practice.

Scott Kemp has had the honour and privilege of working with Indigenous communities throughout BC for the past 20 years. During that time, the communities have shared their stories and traditions. A way of working has been developed that is a collaboration between all parties that maximizes the benefits to the communities. The communities participate in the design and creation of the buildings. It is less about the final building but the building of the building that is important.