



ATLANTIC
PLANNERS
INSTITUTE

INSTITUT DES
URBANISTES DE
L'ATLANTIQUE

Call for Proposals



Charlottetown, October 14 - 16

Atlantic Planners Institute Conference
A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

CALL FOR CONFERENCE CONTENT

The Atlantic Planners Institute (API) is proud to welcome planners and planning champions from across Atlantic Canada to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island where they will gather to discuss, review, and plan ways to provide **a Place for Everyone** at the 2020 annual conference from October 14–16, 2020.

THE CONFERENCE THEME—A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

In 2020, the API Conference will be themed around the work done by planners in creating “A Place for Everyone.” Whether in housing, recreation, or simple pride of place, the forward-thinking work of planners is critical in creating areas where everyone can feel welcome. But, beyond the physical outcomes, the planning process also has a need for everyone to be heard, to know that they have a place in shaping the future of their community.

CONFERENCE SUBTHEMES

Through the conference, we will focus on the subthemes of:

- **Housing for all:** Housing is all-encompassing and affects us in many ways. Making sure there is housing for everyone is critical to ensure the orderly growth, stability, and health of any community. Who are the stakeholders in your community that are responding to the need to provide housing across the entire spectrum? How can planners facilitate these efforts to ensure that housing is available, affordable, and accessible to the changing demographic needs of the public?
- **Climate Change Adaptation:** Climate change is multi-faceted within our built and natural realm. If planners wish to build communities for tomorrow, they must ensure that future generations have the same opportunity for growth and prosperity as previous generations. Can planners leverage the management of public spaces and natural infrastructure to mitigate the long term impacts of climate change? How can natural habitat provide both protection for residents and opportunities for public space?
- **Newcomers and multi-culturalism:** Everyone is a part of the community regardless of who they are or where they come from. There are pressures placed on newcomers and immigrants that differ from the needs of the local population. Measures need to be put in place to ensure that those new to a community can be accommodated through effective social inclusion policies. How can planners help ease tensions often created from immigration? How can principles of inclusivity and diversity be incorporated?
- **Engagement:** Being heard in today’s environment is difficult when planning formats and tools for seeking public input reflect a different era and do not take into consideration the changing dynamic of family units, diversity in ethnic groups, work hours, and various communication platforms that younger people prefer to use for engagement. Smaller local communities are still trying to find their voice in a culture dominated by larger groups who have historically represented the views of the community. How can we encourage non-traditional voices to be heard with today’s rapidly changing modes of engagement?

The selection committee will be looking for presentations in these theme areas that go beyond a simple “show and tell” format, and that display innovation planning theory and practice.

While submissions on the themes listed will be given priority, other topics may also be submitted.

WHO'S COMING?

A Place for Everyone 2020 will attract professional planners, planning students, municipal staff, elected officials, and other professionals with an interest in planning.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

The Program Committee is seeking original, practical, and engaging proposals for sessions on key topics that address the conference subthemes. Proposals for conference content may include the following:

- *Concurrent Session*—a complete 75 to 90 minute panel presentation exploring examples or best practices related to one of the conference subthemes.
- *Workshop*—Deeper explorations of a conference subtheme providing an opportunity to learn about best practice, develop skills, and engage with your colleagues. Workshops may extend from 2 hours to a half day.
- *Learning Tour*—Less formal learning activity, which takes place offsite. This may be a walking or bus tour that visits one or more sites.
- *Walking Workshop*—This conference strongly encourages the submission of complete workshops that combine the opportunity to learn with the chance to get some exercise and get to know the city by foot.
- *Mobile Workshop*—Get conference attendees further afield and outdoors to explore the region.
- *Poster Gallery*—An opportunity to highlight successful projects and research in a gallery setting.
- *Fast or Funny Planning Presentation*—An opportunity to present a fast and/or funny planning presentation—make ‘em laugh or make ‘em think (10 minutes).

The Committee also encourages student presentations.

SELECTION CRITERIA & REVIEW PROCESS

While we strive to include all proposals submitted, the Conference Program Committee reserves the right to select those proposals that best reflect the conference theme and format. The Conference Program Committee will review all proposals, and selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the conference theme
- Presenter's expertise, knowledge and ability to engage and challenge delegates
- Consistency of the submission with the minimum information and format requirements listed under how to submit a proposal
- Alignment with conference subthemes
- Ability to exemplify and articulate a specific activity or approach and have real world application

HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

The 2020 Program Committee invites proposals from planners, other professionals, academics, community groups and organizations. To submit a proposal, interested parties must:

- Review this Call for Conference Content carefully;
- A proposal submission must propose content for an entire conference element; a complete concurrent session, workshop, etc. Proposals for a panel of speakers may be submitted without the full panel of presenters included, but if selected, the proposer (working with the Conference Program Committee) will be responsible for identifying the full slate of panelists.
- Work with your colleagues and find ways to create new relationships with professionals in other professions interested in the conference theme. We are looking for conference content that is broadly appealing, that challenges traditional approaches, that seeks to provide information that will make a real difference in communities.
- An individual should submit, or be involved in, no more than two proposals.
- Present your idea for conference content in a precise and concise way that clearly communicates:
 - a. The type of content proposed: mobile workshop, concurrent session, workshop, learning tour, group discussion, other formats.
 - b. The details and purpose of the content and what you hope conference attendees will learn from it.
 - c. Who will be involved in delivering the content, including a short biography (maximum 250 words) of each presenter.
 - d. Make sure the content will be appealing to an Atlantic audience.

- e. Please keep your proposal brief. No more than 1,000 words please.
- f. Apply online at: <https://atlanticplanners.org/conference2020submissions>

THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ALL PROPOSALS IS FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2020.

Those proposals selected for inclusion in the 2020 API Conference Program will be contacted no later than **April 10, 2020. Only online submissions will be considered.**

The Atlantic Planners Institute thanks you for your interest in our conference.