

Call for Proposals



# Building Resilience

Saskatchewan Professional  
Planners Institute (SPPI)

Virtual Conference  
September 13 - 17, 2021

# Overview

The Saskatchewan Professional Planners Institute is holding its 2021 annual conference over the week of September 13th to 17th using primarily a virtual platform. As such, the Conference Committee would like to invite proposals for virtual presentations, workshops or training modules. In the hopeful event that COVID-19 circumstances improve enough for in-person sessions or events to be held safely, the Committee also invites creative proposals including alternative formats that could be carried out in regions across the province while respecting distancing and other potential restrictions that may be in place in September.

The theme of this year's conference is 'Building Resilience,' which will focus on highlighting initiatives, tools and techniques that can assist communities and organizations to prepare and adapt to these unpredictable and challenging times. The sessions may relate to climate change, COVID-19, economic downturns or any other situation that involves change and requires a coordinated response. This may also include preventive planning measures that enable municipalities, community-based organizations, First Nations and Metis communities, or other groups to take advantage of emerging opportunities.

Submissions from a variety of different types of professionals are encouraged including practicing planners, educators, engineers, administrators, building officials, economic development professionals, government leaders, leaders of community-based organizations and associations, developers, politicians, community advocates, etc. In particular, presentations or workshops that involve collaboration across different professional sectors are desirable.

Potential topics may include, but are not limited to:



Innovation relating to community engagement techniques



Planning for Community Health (accessibility, affordable and attainable housing, and mental health)



Tools or programs to improve operational efficiencies or records management



Successful and innovative economic development or economic recovery initiatives or programs



Planning for public spaces taking COVID-19 and other potential public health concerns into account



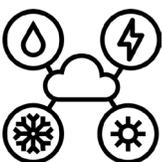
Infrastructure development to prevent impacts from climate change



Procedural efficiencies to improve responsiveness and transparency



First Nations and Metis Relationship-Building and Collaboration



Climate Adaptation Policies and Planning



Emergency response planning



Adaptation in Rural and Small Town Planning



## Submission Requirements

Abstract submissions must include the following information:

- **Title:** Title of the presentation, which clearly specifies the topic.
- **Bio and Contact Information:** Name(s) of presenter(s), job title, academic background, institutional or corporate affiliation and contact information, including e-mail address and telephone number.
- **Experience:** Presenters' previous speaking experience, including relevant speaking engagements.
- **Format:** Proposed presentation, workshop or session format, which must specify if the proposal is for a virtual or in-person setting. Note: in-person sessions should be catered to a crowd of not more than 10 people.
- **Presentation Length:** Proposed length of session (see Presentation Formats below for further information)
- **Description:** Clear and concise description or abstract of the session, no more than 500 words in length.
- **Additional Info:** Specialized equipment requirements, if any, and any other relevant information.

The conference program is intended to include a mix of different types of sessions that are designed to appeal to a variety of learning styles. Sessions may include panel discussions, workshops, tours and training sessions. Most sessions are intended to be delivered virtually; however, there may be an opportunity to host a couple of local in-person events as well. COVID-19 protocols and potential restrictions should be considered for in-person sessions or events.

The Conference Committee encourages innovative approaches to presentations!

If you are interested in submitting or have questions, please contact [info@sppi.ca](mailto:info@sppi.ca)  
All proposals must be submitted to the SPPI Executive Director, Sarah Taylor, by e-mail to [info@sppi.ca](mailto:info@sppi.ca).

**Submission deadline is May 31, 2021.**

## Presentation Formats

Short Presentation	Long Presentation, Workshop, or Virtual Tour	Specialised Session	Training Workshop
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 30 minutes in length, including 5 to 10 minutes for any questions and discussion</li> <li>- Typically, 1-2 speakers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1 to 2 hours in length, including 20 minutes for any questions and discussion</li> <li>- Typically, 2-3 speakers</li> <li>- May include interactive sessions, panel discussions and virtual workshops.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Length may vary based on type of presentation, workshop or event.</li> <li>- Number of leaders may also vary.</li> <li>- May be a virtual or in-person session that could involve assembly in one particular location or mobility across an area (i.e. a walking tour).</li> <li>- Note: In-person sessions should be designed to be catered to a group of no more than 10 participants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 to 3 hours in length on a particular topic</li> <li>- Typically, 1-3 speakers</li> </ul>

## Selection Process and Review Criteria

The Conference Committee, composed of volunteers from planning practice in both the public and private sector and academia, will review all proposals and selection will be based on the following criteria:

- **Relevance:** The relevance of the topic to planning and to the conference theme(s).
- **Compliance:** The consistency of the submission with the minimum information and format requirements listed in this Call for Abstracts.
- **Qualifications:** The presenter's expertise, knowledge and ability to engage and challenge delegates.
- **Fit:** The proposed session's fit within the conference structure.

The Conference Committee may determine that a proposal may fit better within the conference program using a format other than that proposed by the submitter. The submitter will be consulted regarding this option.

**The Conference Committee will notify those who have submitted proposals of its decision by e-mail by June 18, 2021.**

## Presenter Responsibilities

Each presenter or group of presenters:

- Must have their presentation, a summary of their presentation (no more than 500 words), a brief biography (no more than 300 words) and a photo submitted to [info@sppi.ca](mailto:info@sppi.ca) by July 1, 2021.
- Must indicate intent to attend and register for the conference.
- Will be responsible for all expenses including conference registration, travel and accommodation (where relevant), non-sponsored meals (where relevant) and miscellaneous charges.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Sarah Taylor, SPPI Executive Director  
[info@sppi.ca](mailto:info@sppi.ca) | 306.535.0993

Reminder: you must submit your proposal in accordance with the requirements provided in this Call for Proposals package in order to be considered for participation in this year's conference.

**SPPI thanks you for your interest in our conference. While we strive to include all proposals submitted, SPPI reserves the right to select those proposals that best reflect the conference theme and format.**

