

# Facing the Unknown

## 2022

# Annual TOLGMA Conference

LGMA Thompson Okanagan Chapter



# LGMA

LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION  
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
Thompson Okanagan Chapter

Sponsored by:



Municipal Finance  
Authority of BC



MUNICIPAL  
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BC ASSESSMENT



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Project  
Leaders

## May 12 - 13

## Coast Capri Hotel

## Kelowna, BC

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

## LINDA EDGECOMB

Linda Edgecombe's mission is to get people fired up and ready and she promises to create powerful shifts, increase accountability, while building momentum for her participants... not to mention having the best laugh they have had in a long time. She believes a laugh is worth more than a thousand words and has the power to change the way people feel, think and take action! She energizes every room as she leads people to loosen up, lighten the load and laugh.



# Thursday, May 12

## 8:00 - 8:45am: BREAKFAST

Delegates Breakfast & Registration

## 8:45 - 9:15am: WELCOME

*Conference is opened by Doug Gilchrist  
CAO, City of Kelowna*

## 9:15 - 10:30am: MAGIC OF MENTORING

*Raeleen Manjak & Joanie Clary,  
City of Vernon*

What would happen if more leaders used their superpowers to build future leaders? In this time of uncertainty, it's a joy and a relief to regard change as a transformational opportunity to build the future.

Leaders have mentors: Bill Gates/Warren Buffet, Oprah Winfrey/Maya Angelou, Michelle Obama/Cicely Tyson, Lady Gaga/Elton John. While the relationship between mentor and mentee depends on their unique relationship, understanding the foundational elements of a mentoring program is necessary.

During this session, you will experience the magic of transforming the workplace through mentoring, and gain takeaways to assist you to 'vision' your own program. Now is the perfect time to explore the positive impact a mentoring program can have for your organization.

## 10:30 - 10:45am: NUTRITION BREAK

## 10:45 - 12:00pm: SPEED OF TRUST

*Tracy Lorensen, Civic Excellence*

Trust is key for relationship building, both personal and professional. Trust allows for effective conflict resolution, and successful collective planning. This is critical when we take on new staff members or elected officials. Award-winning speaker Tracey Lorensen will share proven techniques for establishing this trust to set the groundwork for success. Tracey is known for her humour and candour in helping her clients manage difficult situations. Her warm, energetic style combines her leadership experience, practical advice and real-life examples that resonate with audiences of all levels. With a keen interest in problem solving, Tracey has developed a series of proven techniques that help organizations identify their issues and take action to improve their dynamics and decision making.

## 12:00 - 1:00pm: LUNCH

## 1:00 - 1:30pm: SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

*Lidstone & Co*

Racism and discrimination are fundamental issues facing organizations of all kinds and society as a whole.

Local governments that don't proactively tackle racism and discrimination could also expose themselves to potential legal action, for example, in relation to their workplace policies, procurement policies, and services they provide to the public. Don Lidstone introduces the law firm's free model Anti-Racial Discrimination and Anti-Racism Policy which has served as a starting point for some communities to build their first anti-racism policy.

# Thursday, May 12

## **1:30 - 2:45pm: NAVIGATING ELECTION YEAR UNCERTAINTIES**

*Carolyn Black*

How can local governments prepare for the events and outcomes of local general elections? Carolyn Black began her local government career way back in 1988. In her 30+ years with the Columbia Shuswap and Thompson-Nicola regional districts, she conducted dozens of elections, by-elections and other assent processes. Carolyn served on the LGMA committee that re-wrote the Election Manual in preparation for the 2018 elections and participated in the peer review of the update for this coming year's general local election. Carolyn will share her experience and best practices to help navigate election year uncertainties.

## **2:45 - 3:30pm: CORPORATE OFFICER PANEL**

Carolyn Black facilitates a panel of experienced corporate officers and elections staff to support a lively discussion on key election issues and smart practices. Today our elected officials are facing significant wicked problems such as climate change, homelessness, and housing shortage; and all in a time of increasing populist politics. Now more than ever it is imperative that local government has a strong election process and resiliency strategies in place to manage associated challenges and change, and position their organization and community for a successful transition and term.

## **3:30 - 3:45pm: NUTRITION BREAK**

*Delegates check in*

## **3:45 - 4:30pm: KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

*Linda Edgecomb*

Linda Edgecombe's mission is to get people fired up and ready and she promises to create powerful shifts, increase accountability, while building momentum for her participants...

## **4:30- 4:45pm: SPONSORSHIP UPDATE**

*Young Anderson*

## **4:45 - 5:45pm: FREE TIME**

## **5:45 - 6:00pm: DELEGATES RECEPTION**

Join your peers for refreshments and good conversation as the TOLGMA chapter executive opens the reception portion of the conference.

## **6:00 - 7:00pm: DINNER**

## **7:00pm: NETWORKING & TREMENDOUS TRIVIA**

# FRIDAY, May 13

**6:30 - 7:30am: WALK/ RUN**

**8:00 - 8:45am: BREAKFAST/ AGM**

**8:45 - 9:00am: LGMA UPDATE**

*Candace Witkowskyj, Executive Director, LGMA*

**9:00 - 9:30am: MANAGING LONG-DURATION LOCAL EMERGENCIES: WHERE DO WE GO AFTER ROSEWALL?**

*Jeff Locke, Counsel, Stewart McDannold Stuart*

In January 2022, the BC Supreme Court rendered judgment against the Province of BC in the case of *Rosewall v. District of Sechelt*, 2022 BCSC 20. This decision is expected to significantly curtail the exercise of discretion by the Minister of Public Safety in the approval of local government requests for extensions of “state(s) of local emergency”. In this presentation, Jeff Locke will explain the Rosewall decision, discuss its possible implications and, in light of the decision, identify steps local governments can take to manage long-duration emergencies and their related legal risks.

**9:30 - 10:00am: NUTRITION BREAK**

*Delegates check out*

**10:00 - 11:00am: WATER PROTECTION PLANNING**

*Jason Schleppe, Ecoscape*

How can we assess our community's risk for flooding? What steps can we take to mitigate risk? Mr. Schleppe is a leader in the province in the development of the Foreshore Inventory and Mapping (FIM) a methodology that was developed with local, provincial, and federal Government agencies, that is now being used as the template for lake inventory and mapping projects. Jason has developed important spatial risk assessment tools for Source Water Protection Planning in the Okanagan, working with local and provincial agencies to ensure adequate source water protection. Finally, Jason has been involved on numerous water infrastructure projects, such as dams, bridges, culverts, and instream habitat restoration

**11:00 - 12:00pm: WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT**

*John Davies, Davies Wildfire*

Wildfire management has four distinct phases that create the wildfire management process: mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery. Over the last century, human activity and policy have altered the natural disturbance regimes and ecological processes that have historically maintained the integrity of our ecosystems. These alterations are now resulting in more severe wildfire activity. John Davies, a wildfire management specialist, will outline key steps that local governments can take to reduce negative fire behavior and help to avoid its potentially destructive impacts.

**12:00 - 1:00pm: LUNCH**

**1:00 - 1:30pm: CIVIC INFO UPDATE**

*Todd Pugh, Executive Director*

# FRIDAY, May 13

## 1:30 - 2:15pm: COVID-19 OPEN FORUM

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on municipal governments from coast to coast. In recent months it has disrupted nearly every aspect of local business, operations, and daily. As key enablers of local program and service delivery, infrastructure and facilities, our local governments will play an important role as we navigate the pandemic and position for post-COVID-19 success.

During this open forum we will explore as a group key questions that local governments should be asking to understand current and coming implications, and how these may influence go forward plans and decisions, including:

- How has our infrastructure impacted our ability to respond?
- How can these assets help in managing COVID-driven financial pressures?
- How can we capitalize on the coming wave of stimulus funding?
- How will COVID-19 impact our go forward plans and priorities?

In answering these questions we will share our experiences in navigating through each step of our COVID-19 response frameworks, and share highlights and insights gained along the way.

## 2:15 - 2:45pm: UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESERVES

*Shelley Hahn, Chief Services Officer, MFA*

Social Finance is a fast-evolving and important topic for a growing number of local governments who are looking to leverage their investment portfolios to address environmental and social challenges. Without a clear understanding of how various Socially Responsible approaches to investing (such as Fossil Fuel Free and 'carbon-light' investment strategies) practically impact ESG goals, there can be unnecessary complexity and potentially negative outcomes in the investment function and Council-Staff dynamics.

## 2:45 - 3:00pm: NUTRITION BREAK

## 3:00 - 3:30pm: REBUILDING YOUR COMMUNITY

*Colliers Project Leaders*

Climate change has increased the number of local emergencies that we are experiencing, and this is expected to continue. Local government is not only responsible for taking the lead in the response efforts to these events, but also in the community's recovery of them. Currently supporting communities who have faced these challenges, Colliers Project Leaders will share best practices for being proactive and prepared when facing the unknown.

## 3:30 - 3:45pm: PREPARING FOR THE RISE OF CATASTROPHIC RISK

*Megan Chorlton, Director of Member Services & General Counsel, MIA*

The past two years have brought a host of catastrophic events to British Columbia including floods, fires, atmospheric rivers, and a heat dome, all of which are expected to become more frequent and intense in the future. In this brief presentation, the MIABC's Director of Member Services & General Counsel, Megan Chorlton, will share three ways local governments can best prepare to meet the rise of risks from extreme weather.

## 3:45 - 4:00pm: CLOSING & PRIZE DRAW