

APPI Nominee Platform

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Gary D Willson, RPP

Nominated for the position of Councillor APPI Election 2018

Academic and professional background

1971 - Bachelor of Arts Urban Geography UBC
1976 - Masters Environmental Design (Planning) UC
2002 - Sustainable Enterprise Academy, Schulich School of Business, York University
2010 – Foundations for Leadership, Richard Ivey School of Business, University of Western Ontario
Various continuing education courses in planning and design, stakeholder engagement, alternative dispute resolution.

A community based environmental planner Gary works with communities, private sector entities and government representatives (all levels political and administrative) in identifying and assessing the effects of policy decisions, land use and design guidelines, and physical projects upon communities in which these initiatives are proposed to occur. His forty plus years of experience addressing a variety of land use and environmental topics throughout Canada has helped him develop a keen interest in the attributes people value in their environments. He is known for his active listening skills, sense of humor, the ability to interpolate a number of themes into one story and being fair and respectful.

Involvement in professional organizations

Alberta Registered Professional Planner (RPP)
Member, Canadian Institute of Planners (MCIP)
Member and Former Certified Trainer, International Association for Public Participation (IAP2)
2014 – present, Member, Board, Bridges Social Development
2013 -2016 Chair and Past Chair, Alberta Real Estate Foundation
2009 – 2013 Board Governor, Alberta Real Estate Foundation
1999 – 2004 President and Board Member, International Association for Public Participation (IAP2)
1978 – present Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP)
2000 – 2010 Member and Chair CIP's Awards Jury
2015 – present Co-chair CIP's Climate Change Committee
1978 – present Member Alberta Association Canadian Institute of Planners (AACIP)/Alberta Professional Planners Institute (APPI)
1989 – 1994 Councillor, Vice President and President, Alberta Association, Canadian Institute of Planners
2016 – present APPI's Alberta Sustainability Planning Initiative

Election Platform

Alberta is experiencing challenging times – environmentally economically. As downbeat as these challenges may appear there are also exciting opportunities facing us, one of which is making Albertans aware of what APPI and its members can contribute to Alberta's refocusing. Our collective and individual experiences in environmental, regional, community, municipal planning and design combined with our regulatory knowledge and abilities to engage with a variety of communities Indigenous and Non-Indigenous is integral to helping Alberta and its communities articulate what it is they want to be and how they want to be it as we move into another chapter of the future.

I look forward to working with APPI members in preparing and registering our story with the stakeholders we engage so that they know how our skills will help them realize their and Alberta's opportunities.