



Public Interest Alberta's  
5th Annual Advocacy Conference



March 31, April 1 & 2, 2011  
Chateau Louis Hotel & Conference Centre  
11727 Kingsway Avenue, Edmonton



# MOBILIZING FOR A BETTER ALBERTA: *Strong Communities, Public Solutions*



## *Welcome to PIA's fifth annual advocacy conference*

When you think about the overall situation in Alberta at this time, I believe that you will conclude that this year's conference theme is focused squarely on the most important task in front of all those who care about public services and the public interest in our province – that is, the need to mobilize public support in effective advocacy.

The good news is that Albertans overwhelmingly favour supporting quality public services, a fact which has been consistently reflected in public polls over the last several years. Given a choice, Albertans continue to reject tax cuts and service cutbacks in favour of more support for our public institutions, despite the actions of our governments.

The task, then, is to mobilize that solid support, and to use it as a foundation for action and advocacy across our province. That is what this year's PIA Conference is all about.

The opportunities for effective advocacy at this time are particularly encouraging, with three political party leadership campaigns going on, constituency nomination contests occurring across the province, and a provincial election likely within the next year. There is also a growing realization that our provincial government has a revenue problem, and that quality public services need to be paid for through fair taxation and royalties.

We have designed this year's conference to help individuals and organizations take advantage of these opportunities by exploring the most effective approaches to advocacy in this changing context. We have first-rate plenary speakers and breakout-session leaders to help with this crucial task. Most important, we have our committed conference participants, representing progressive organizations and individuals across the province who value public services and the public good, and who are prepared to take strong action to preserve and enhance these vital elements of our society.

I want to thank the sponsors of our conference, PIA's member organizations, our valued volunteers and committed staff for their efforts in creating this important opportunity for you to work together to better promote the kind of society that Albertans need and deserve.

Best Wishes,

Larry Booi, Chairperson



# Agenda

## Thursday, March 31, 2011

- 7:00 pm Welcome & Introductory Remarks Grand Ballroom  
**Keynote Presentation – Dr. Dennis Shirley**  
***“The Inspiring Future of Public Interest Organizing”***
- 8:30 pm Reception

## Friday, April 1, 2011

- 9:00 am Welcome & Overview of the Day Grand Ballroom
- 9:10 am **Plenary – Rob Hopkins**  
***“Transition Towns: Communities Mobilizing to Meet the Challenges of Peak Oil and Climate Change”***  
**Panel Reaction - Bob Hawksworth, Melina Laboucan-Massimo, Gil McGowan**  
***“Making the Alberta Connection”***
- 10:30 Lifestyle break Solarium
- 10:50 am **Mobilizing for Public Solutions**  
***Concurrent Breakout Session One***
- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Childcare                | Grand Ballroom |
| Democracy                | Rosslyn        |
| Education                | Grand Ballroom |
| Environment              | Commercial     |
| Healthcare               | Leland         |
| Human Services & Poverty | Roseberry      |
| Seniors                  | Executive      |
- 12:00 Noon Organized Lunch Grand Ballroom
- 1:00 pm Plenary - Dr. Ritika Goel**  
***“Students for Medicare: Building a Movement”***
- 2:00 pm **Mobilizing for Public Solutions**  
***Concurrent Breakout Session Two***
- |             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| Democracy   | Rosslyn        |
| Education   | Grand Ballroom |
| Environment | Commercial     |
| Healthcare  | Leland         |



	Human Services & Poverty	Roseberry
	Post-Secondary Education	Grand Ballroom
	Seniors	Executive
3:10 pm	Lifestyle break	Solarium
3:30 pm	<b>Plenary – Dr. Trevor Harrison</b> <i>“Tea Party Populism: Lessons for Alberta?”</i>	Grand Ballroom
4:30 pm	Adjournment	

## Saturday, April 2, 2011

9:00 am	Overview of the Day	Grand Ballroom
	<b>Plenary –Walter Davis</b> <i>“Tools for Change in These Times: Building Strong Communities through Public Solutions”</i>	
10:10 am	Lifestyle break	Solarium
10:30 am	<b>Mobilizing for Action</b> <i>Concurrent Breakout Session Three</i>	
	Our Cities, Our Schools	Grand Ballroom
	Delivering the Message	Roseberry
	Art in Action	Commercial
	Fair Revenues for Public Services	Executive
	Countering Privatization	Leland
	Localizing our Economy	Rosslyn
12:00 Noon	Organized Lunch	Grand Ballroom
1:00 pm	<b>Mobilizing for Action</b> <i>Concurrent Breakout Session Four</i>	
	Our Cities, Our Schools	Grand Ballroom
	Building Successful Campaigns	Leland
	Mobilizing in Rural/Aboriginal Communities	Commercial
	Fair Revenues for Public Services	Executive
	Countering Privatization	Leland
	Localizing our Economy	Rosslyn
2:30 pm	Lifestyle Break	Solarium
2:50 pm	<b>Mobilizing Activity</b> <i>“Hope Within the Movement”</i>	Grand Ballroom
3:50 pm	Wrap Up & Closing	
4:00 pm	Adjournment	



## Keynote Presentation



### DENNIS SHIRLEY

#### **“The Inspiring Future of Public Interest Organizing”**

Thursday, March 31, 2010

7:00 pm - Grand Ballroom

An internationally renowned speaker, author of numerous books and professor at the Lynch School of Education at Boston College, Dr. Shirley’s research on organizing has involved establishing multi-issue, multi-class, and multi-racial coalitions around social justice issues. His latest book, *The Fourth Way*, illustrates how the old ways for effecting social and educational change are no longer suited to the fast, flexible, and vulnerable new world of the 21st century.

In many jurisdictions around the globe the economic recession of recent years has led to curtailed public services as a result of cutbacks. In other contexts, however, activists and leaders have responded imaginatively with strategies to promote transparency, to conserve the environment, to uplift democracy and to promote the public good. In this provocative presentation Dr. Shirley will draw upon his many years as an activist and scholar working with civic groups around the world to describe new openings in civic engagement. He will outline ways in which ordinary people are using new technologies to advance their struggles for social justice with special relevance for the future of the public interest in Alberta.



## Plenary Speakers



### Mobilizing to Meet the Challenges of Peak Oil and Climate Change

Friday, April 1, 2011  
9:10 am - Grand Ballroom

ROB HOPKINS is the originator of the Transition Town concept, which promotes community-driven responses to peak oil that focus on cooperative effort to meet basic needs as sustainably and close to home as possible. In just a few years, his work has inspired an international movement of hundreds of communities and thousands of people pursuing Transition initiatives. A teacher of permaculture and natural building techniques, Rob is co-founder of the Transition Network and author of *The Transition Handbook: From oil dependency to local resilience* (2008). Rob is a Trustee of the Soil Association (UK), the winner of the 2008 Schumacher Award, and a Fellow of Ashoka International.



### Students for Medicare: Building a Movement

Friday, April 1, 2011  
1:00 pm - Grand Ballroom

RITIKA GOEL is a family physician working primarily in the inner city of Toronto. One of the founders of Students for Medicare, she is a strong advocate for a publicly funded health care system believing that its principles are deeply rooted in equity and social justice. She also advocates for migrant justice and has a strong interest in the health of marginalized communities worldwide. Students for Medicare focus is on education and they have a strong commitment to equity and addressing the social determinants of health, operating on the principles that health care is a right and should not be treated as a market good, that a focus on the social determinants of health is essential and that we have a responsibility to advocate for equity within health care.



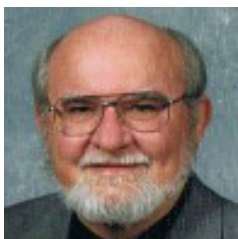
## Plenary Speakers



### Tea Party Populism: Lessons for Alberta?

Friday, April 1, 2011  
3:30 pm - Grand Ballroom

TREVOR HARRISON earned a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Alberta. His areas of specialty include political sociology, political economy, and public policy. He is currently Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology at the University of Lethbridge and Associate Director of the University's Prentice Institute for Global Population and Economics. Previously, Dr. Harrison was a visiting professor at the University of Alberta where he also co-founded the Parkland Institute and was its first Research Director. He is best known for his studies of populist politics in Canada and the political culture of Alberta and the Canadian west in particular. In addition to numerous journal articles and book chapters, he is the author, co-author, or co-editor of seven books dealing with politics, economics, and sociology.



### Tools for Change in these Times: Building Strong Communities

Saturday, April 2, 2011  
9:10 am - Grand Ballroom

WALTER DAVIS is the Executive Director of the National Organizers Alliance, a membership organization of community and labor organizers in the US. Prior to NOA, he spent twenty years with the Southern Empowerment Project training hundreds of organizers and thousands of community leaders. His varied work experiences included: U.S. Peace Corps in Colombia, recruiter/trainer with CUSO, Vietnam antiwar organizer, and popular educator at Saskatchewan's One Sky Center training in international and domestic development issues. Davis is co-author of "Grassroots Organizing Training" in the Stephen Fisher book *Transforming Places* and "Sustaining Organizing: A Survey of Organizations During the Economic Downturn."



## Panel Presenters

### Making the Alberta Connection

Friday, April 1, 2011  
9:50 am - Grand Ballroom

**BOB HAWKSWORTH** joined the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC) as Coordinator in January 2011. Bob has served 10 terms in elected office as an Alderman in Calgary and as an MLA in the Alberta Legislature for Calgary Mountain View. His accomplishments over the years have been recognized with a number of awards. He served for three years as President of the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (2004-2007). In 2005, Alberta Venture Magazine named Bob one of Alberta's 50 Most Influential People. Bob's leadership on environmental sustainability has been acknowledged by his provincial appointment since 2000 as a Founding Director of Climate Change Central. Bob has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alberta and a Master of Arts Degree in Resources and the Environment from the University of Calgary.

**MELINA LABOUCAN-MASSIMO** is Lubicon Cree from Northern Alberta. She has been working as an advocate for Indigenous rights with various NGOs such as the Indigenous Environmental Network, Redwire Native Media Society, and the Indigenous Media Arts Group and has written and produced short documentaries covering topics ranging from the tar sands, inherent treaty rights, water issues to cultural appropriation. She has studied and worked in Australia, Brasil, Mexico, and Canada focusing on Indigenous rights and culture, resource extraction and international diplomacy. Before joining Greenpeace as a Tar Sands Climate and Energy Campaigner in Alberta, Melina was pursuing her Masters in Environmental Studies at York University.

**GIL MCGOWAN** is a political and labour movement activist with a committed track record of standing up for working people. He was elected President of the Alberta Federation of Labour, the largest trade union central in Alberta in 2005. Before being elected President, Gil worked for 10 years as the AFL's Communications Director and is the author of three booklets on unions and the Alberta economy: *Now More than Ever* (1999); *Missing Out on the Boom?* (1998) and *Crumbs from the Table* (1997). He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Parkland Institute and the Friends of Medicare.



# Mobilizing for Public Solutions

**Breakout Session 1 - Friday, April 1 @ 10:50 - 12:00 Noon**

**Breakout Session 2 - Friday, April 1 @ 2:00 - 3:10 pm**

## **CHILDCARE – Breakout 1 - Grand Ballroom**

### **SANDRA AZOCAR**

Sandra is a Vice-President of the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees and works for the provincial government's Children's Services department, where she is employed as a Social Worker with the Edmonton Crisis Unit. At a very early age, Sandra said she learned it was important to stand up and be heard, and to be involved in affecting positive social change, rather than sitting on the sidelines. Apart from being actively involved in AUPE, she has also been an active participant/member of various political, social, cultural and multicultural groups within the Chilean-Canadian Community, as well as the Edmonton community at large.

### **BILL MOORE-KILGANNON**

Bill is the Executive Director of Public Interest Alberta. Prior to joining Public Interest Alberta, he worked in Ottawa as the Director of Campaigns and Communications of the Council of Canadians from 2001 – 2004 and was the Executive Director of the Parkland Institute at the University of Alberta from 1997 - 2001. He was the coordinator of the Global Visions Festival from 1992 – 1997 and is also a documentary video maker (most recent production is a video about the music, art and theatre of street children in Nicaragua). Bill studied Canadian and Latin American history, political science and economics at the University of Alberta and l'Université de Sherbrooke, and speaks French and Spanish. Bill also worked as a forest fire fighter in Alberta.

## **DEMOCRACY - Breakout 1 & 2 - Rosslyn**

### **LARRY BOOI**

Larry is a former President of the Alberta Teachers' Association and was a member of the Executive Board of the Canadian Teachers' Federation. He is also currently on the Board of Directors of Canadian Council on Learning. He has played a central role in the establishment and growth of Public Interest Alberta and is Chair of the Democracy Task Force.



## **EDUCATION – Breakout 1 & 2 - Grand Ballroom**

### **HAROLD NETH**

Harold worked thirty-four years as an educator in the classroom with Edmonton Catholic Schools. In the past, he served teachers on committees and the executive of the Edmonton Catholic Teachers' Local and most recently served on Provincial Executive Council of the Alberta Teachers' Association as District Representative for Edmonton City. Harold currently serves on the Board of the Aspen Foundation for Labour Education and chairs its Curriculum Committee. He also is a member of Public Interest Alberta's Democracy Task Force and chairs Public Interest Alberta's Education Task Force.

### **DENNIS THEOBALD**

Dennis is the Alberta Teachers' Association Coordinator of Communications. In this role, he assists with the planning and implementation of the Association's communications and lobbying strategy and, as well, is responsible for administering the Association's initiatives to promote teacher engagement in the political process. Dennis' primary interest is in issues relating to the K-12 Education sector, but he is also involved in promoting the public interest as it relates to post-secondary education and democratic governance in Alberta. He played a key role in establishing Public Interest Alberta.

## **ENVIRONMENT – Breakout 1 & 2 - Commercial**

### **JULIA DALMAN**

Julia is the Environmental Intern for PIA working on the Our Water Is Not For Sale campaign and has a Bsc with a major in Biology and a minor in International studies from the University of Alberta. Julia's community engagement and volunteer work has its roots in her passion for food and cooking and the way that being more connected to what we eat can enhance your quality of life. Julia is involved with the Sexual Assault Center on campus and provides support for survivors in crisis. She is currently part of a youth leadership program called Next Up.

### **SHEILA MUXLOW**

Sheila is the Director of the Sierra Club Prairie, and a steering committee member with the Our Water is Not for Sale Network. She's traveled extensively and volunteered in places like Addis Ababa Ethiopia where she helped start up a free school for street children with the Little Voice Foundation. She worked at the Ottawa Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation (CERA) as a researcher on the UN Convention of Economic, Social, and Cultural rights. She came to Alberta in 2008 to be the Prairie Regional Organizer for the Council of Canadians. Sheila is grounded with years of grassroots activism, volunteerism, facilitation training, and experience in community based advocacy and organizing for environmental justice, Indigenous sovereignty and human rights.



## **HEALTHCARE – Breakout 1 & 2 - Leland**

### **DAVID EGGEN**

David has had extensive experience in public advocacy and teaching. He was a teacher for 18 years in Edmonton, Zimbabwe and Thailand before being elected as a Member of the Provincial Legislative Assembly for Edmonton Calder. David became the Executive Director of Friends of Medicare in June 2008.

### **RITIKA GOEL**

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## **HUMAN SERVICES & POVERTY - Breakout 2 - Roseberry**

### **JOE CECI**

Joe has practiced Social Work in Alberta since 1980. He has worked at Cambyr Counseling, Inter-Faith Youth Services and the City of Calgary in Family Support, Youth Work and Community Development roles respectively. In October 1995, Joe was elected to Calgary City Council. He was re-elected 4 times and represented the constituents of Ward 9 for 15 years. Joe served on all committees of Council as well as on numerous community non-profit boards and committees. He was also elected President of the Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta for 5 years. Since February, Joe has been coordinating poverty reduction planning for the Inter-City Forum on Social Policy – a network of 19 Alberta cities promoting progressive social policy initiatives.

### **JOHN KOLKMAN**

John is the Research and Policy Analysis Coordinator for the Edmonton Social Planning Council, a social research and advocacy organization addressing issues of poverty and low-income. Since joining the Council in May 2006, John has worked on social policy issues related to poverty, wealth and income inequality, removing employment barriers for those with low and modest incomes, social determinants of health, affordable housing, and neighborhood revitalization.

### **ANN NICOL**

Ann is the CEO of the Alberta Council of Disability Services which represents adult community disability services organizations throughout Alberta. Her background includes 20 years with the Government of Alberta Social Services, and 8 years with the private and non-profit sectors in both rural, urban and First Nations communities. Her experience includes FCSS, community development, and community advocacy. She is also a part-time sessional instructor at the University of Calgary Faculty of Social Work.



## **POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION – Breakout 2 - Grand Ballroom**

### **STEVEN KWASNY**

Steven is finishing up his second term as President of the Students' Association of Red Deer College. In addition to that, he served one year as Director of Policy for the Alberta Students' Executive Council (ASEC) and most recently is finishing his term as Chair. He is doing his degree in political science.

### **DUNCAN WOJTASZEK**

Duncan is the Executive Director of the Council of Alberta University Students, which represents undergraduate students from the University of Alberta, University of Calgary and University of Lethbridge to the provincial government, the public and other stakeholders. He graduated from the University of Calgary in 2002 with a Bachelor of Arts in both History and Political Science. While at the U of C, Duncan also served as Vice President External at the University of Calgary Students' Union as well as being active in the U of C Model United Nations Team, Political Science Association, U of C Speech and Debate Club, Volunteer Services and served as a SU Commissioner for three terms.

## **SENIORS – Breakout 1 & 2 - Executive**

### **NOEL SOMERVILLE**

Noel retired as Executive Secretary of the Edmonton Public Teachers Local 37 in 1997. Since then, he has been active in social justice issues with the Seniors Action and Liaison Team (SALT) and has served on the City of Edmonton Subdivision and Development Appeal Board. Noel served on the PIA Board of Directors for six years and has been chairperson of the Seniors' Task Force since 2004.

### **BRIAN STAPLES**

Brian is a retired educator and has been chair of the Seniors' Action Liaison Team from 1998 to 2009. He suffered quietly from the fact that both his parents were rural Alberta teachers. In his work life he has been a young army officer, a teacher, superintendent of schools and an Alberta public servant. He developed the province's further education councils and its program of designated community schools. He will take anyone sailing at any time.



## Mobilizing for Action

**Breakout Session 3 - Saturday, April 2 - 10:30 am - Noon**

**Breakout Session 4 - Saturday, April 2 - 1:00 - 2:30 pm**

### **OUR CITIES, OUR SCHOOLS - Breakout 3 & 4 - Grand Ballroom**

#### **MICHAEL JANZ**

Michael lives to promote education, literacy and community. He was elected in October 2010 to the Edmonton Public School Board as the Trustee for Ward F. In addition to his service as a Public School Trustee, he works as the Marketing Director for the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues where he works with volunteers all over Edmonton to help make their community vision a reality. Michael has served as President of the University of Alberta Students' Union, Vice-President of the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters Society and volunteers with numerous other partisan and non-partisan political projects.

#### **AMARJEET SOHI**

Amarjeet is a City Councillor representing Ward 12 in Edmonton. Since 2007, he has been Council's leading voice on multiculturalism and community safety, and a strong advocate for public transit and community services. Most recently, he has championed the Racism Free Edmonton partnership and the REACH Edmonton Council for Safe Communities. A former Edmonton Transit employee and union representative, Amarjeet has a strong background in public-sector advocacy, having founded the citizen-led Mill Woods Crime Council and volunteered with the Centre for International Alternatives, the Canadian Labour Congress, and Public Interest Alberta.

### **DELIVERING THE MESSAGE - Breakout 3 & 4 - Roseberry**

#### **SAMANTHA POWER**

Samantha is currently the News Editor at VUE Weekly. She previously served as News Director at CJSR FM 88.5 in Edmonton, and has worked in various forms of political protest from hanging bridge banners as a volunteer for Greenpeace Alberta to running various student organizations and campaigns. From 2005 - 2007 she worked as the Vice President and then President of the University of Alberta Students' Union. She has a degree in political science and creative writing from the University of Alberta.



### **JONATHAN TEGHTMEYER**

Jonathan is an executive staff officer of the Alberta Teachers' Association. He joined the Association in December 2007 having previously worked as a high school teacher in Wild Rose School Division. Jonathan assists with ATA political advocacy and communications. He is responsible for initiatives relating to website operations, social networking and media, local communications and Association social responsibility programs. He also blogs as atypicalalbertan.blogspot.com and is currently pursuing advanced studies relating to communication and communication technology.

### **ART IN ACTION - Breakout 3 - Commercial**

#### **DON BOUZEK**

Don is the Artistic Director of Ground Zero Productions, a 27 year old company which creates theatre on a variety of social issues. The company has recently produced GWG:Piece by Piece with music by Maria Dunn, which has been seen in Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa, and Toronto. Since 2000, he has been working with Banner Theatre from Birmingham, UK to produce video ballads. Their current show in opposition to the Con-Dem cuts is supported by unions including PCS, UNISON and UNITE. Don also creates videos and has just completed two tapes for Access TV. He has recently completed national tapes for the Canadian Labour Congress and UNA here in Alberta.

#### **DANIEL COURNOYER**

Daniel is a graduate of both Theatre Arts and Arts Administration (GMCC, Banff) programs and has been working hard as the Artistic and Managing Director of L'UniThéâtre (Alberta's only professional French language theatre company) for the past 16 seasons. Daniel has directed over 21 professional plays and has worked as a dramaturge on many new works. In addition, Daniel has performed as an actor in a variety of projects over the past 20 years. Daniel is presently the president of the Professional Arts Coalition of Edmonton (PACE), that has recently launched an advocacy campaign called "I love Alberta Arts".

### **MOBILIZING IN RURAL/ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES - Breakout 4 - Commercial**

#### **DIETLIND BORK**

Dietlind Bork is an MA student in political anthropology at the U of A. She has been working alongside the Lubicon Lake First Nation since 2006, first as a member of the solidarity organization Friends of the Lubicon Alberta, and later through Amnesty International Canada on their Indigenous Land Rights campaign work. For the past few months, she has been developing a film that gives the Lubicon people the opportunity to communicate their concerns and experiences regarding the current role of Indian Affairs in the community.



**MELINA LABOUCAN-MASSIMO**  
**BIO - SEE PLENARY SPEAKERS - PAGE 7**

**ELLEN PARKER**

A Camrose resident for over 25 years, Ellen has been active in public service as a school teacher, global educator, community activist, homemaker, and politician. Becoming a politician was the furthest thing from her mind until she realized how many of her personal concerns required political action. Currently Ellen is serving as the federal NDP candidate for Crowfoot. Ellen has provided leadership within several community, environmental, health, peace and development organizations, such as KAIROS, Canada World Youth, and Camrose International Institute. She believes in putting practical solutions, like the Camrose Regional Recycling Centre, to work. With strong, caring leadership, visions do become realities.

**FAIR REVENUES FOR PUBLIC SERVICES - Breakout 3 & 4 - Executive**

**DIANA GIBSON**

Diana is the Research Director of the Parkland Institute, a think tank based at the University of Alberta. She has an extensive background in public policy both as a researcher and as a popular educator. She has published on topics ranging from health care reform to energy policy.

**COUNTERING PRIVATIZATION - Breakout 3 & 4 - Leland**

**RICARDO ACUNA**

Ricardo is the Executive Director of the Parkland Institute, a political and economic research institute at the University of Alberta. Prior to the Parkland Institute he worked as the project coordinator for Change For Children, an Edmonton based international development agency. He has a degree in Political Science and History and has over 18 years experience as a volunteer, staffer and consultant for various non-profit organizations.

**JASON HEISTAD**

Jason is a Vice-President with AUPE and a long-time activist in their education sector. He served as chair of his local which represents non-academic employees of Olds College, and was a member of the union's Committee on Political Action. In addition to his many AUPE activities, Jason was elected to a second term as a member of the Innisfail Town Council in 2004. He is a member of the council's committees on general government development services, transportation services and recreation, culture and education.



## **LOCALIZING OUR ECONOMY - Breakout 3 & 4 - Rosslyn**

### **KEVIN GANGEL**

Kevin is a professional networker, change agent, and green economy advocate. He is a certified negotiator and mediator who's background includes corporate leadership, early stage "angel" investing, non-profit board governance, and social enterprise. He holds a double-major in the Arts from the University of Kansas and is a father of two. He currently operates his own consulting practice as a Performance Coach, Alternative Dispute Resolution professional, and Facilitator. Kevin is an investor with and/or advisor for several Alberta-based green economy companies.

### **ERIN MCFARLANE**

Erin is a Master of Social Work student at the University of Calgary concentrating on eco-social work. She is most passionate about just, resilient, and creative community-driven alternatives to the current social order. Erin is thrilled to be working at the Arusha Centre, where she can channel this passion into action. She is also currently a participant in the Calgary cohort of Next Up, a leadership program for young people committed to social and environmental justice.

### **ANTOINE PALMER**

Antoine is Edmonton's one and only monk-turned-business consultant, with an extensive background in social enterprise, community development, communication and mediation. He works with community leaders and provides a range of strategic consulting services. Antoine is married with three children and volunteers with several community organizations.

### **CORRINE YOUNIE**

Corrine is an activist, writer and community development consultant. She has been working for social change in Calgary for over 20 years and has written extensively on women's equality and accessibility for persons with disabilities. More recently she has devoted her energies to sustainable community economic development, with a focus on innovative approaches to reducing poverty and social isolation. Corrine is motivated, inspired and tenacious with all things social justice, and is currently working at the Arusha Centre on the Calgary Dollars local currency initiative.



# Hope Within the Movement

## Plenary Session - Saturday, April 2 @ 2:50 pm - Grand Ballroom

In this closing plenary session Walter Davis and participants of the newly formed Centre for Community Organizing and Popular Education (CCOPE) and Next Up will lead conference attendees in an interactive discussion about hope and community mobilizing. This will help bring together the various positive ideas from the conference and set the stage for the next steps in a provincial strategy for mobilizing for a Better Alberta for All.

### **WALTER DAVIS**

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### **THE CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND POPULAR EDUCATION**

The Centre is an emerging coalition of academics, educators, activists and organizers interested in promoting positive social, political and economic change and building community in the face of global neoliberalism.

### **CCOPE PARTICIPANTS:**

Colin Piquette  
Nicole Smith-Acuna

### **NEXT UP**

The Next Up leadership program was created to help young people who are committed to social and environmental justice become leaders by developing new and better skills, smarts and ideas. The 6 month program is intense and they delve into a number of topics and disciplines, combining theory, practice, deep thinking, and hard skills.

### **NEXT UP PARTICIPANTS:**

Saima Butt  
Laura Collison  
Julia Dalman



## *Conference Planning Committee*

Bill Moore-Kilgannon, PIA  
David Eggen, FOM  
Jon Weller, U of A  
Karen Werlin, PIA  
Keith Wiley, UNA  
Larry Booi, PIA  
Lyndsey Henderson, FOM  
Phil McRae, ATA  
Ricardo Acuna, Parkland  
Russell Charlton, PIA  
Sandra Azocar, AUPE  
Scott Harris, COC

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Health Sciences Association of Alberta  
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**Advocating for a Better Alberta for All**