



[free or low-cost]  
ways to get  
BCSLA CE Credits

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<http://www.bcsla.org/education/continuing-education-ce>

Cover set in Gill Sans Shadow 200 pt & Sitka 30 pt

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## Introduction

*“You’ll never know everything about anything,  
especially something you love.” Julia Child*

The requirement for continuing education (CE) ensures that the BCSLA operates as a self-regulating profession that meets its statutory obligations under the Architects (Landscape) Act. The CE requirements are intended to encourage members to expand their foundations of knowledge and stay current on new developments within the broadest definition of landscape architectural practice. Compliance with the BCSLA CE Policy is mandatory.

The Continuing Education Committee and Board of Directors reviews and refines the policy as each 3-year CE cycle is completed. This zine evolved from the 2014 AGM when several members indicated that doing CE was too expensive and time-consuming. The 101 ideas presented below should trigger your own ideas about what you need to continue your lifelong pursuit of knowledge. Nearly all of the ideas are free and while they do cost you time, they should be fun.

*“Learning is not a product of schooling but the  
lifelong attempt to acquire it.” Albert Einstein*

- 1 Read a journal or magazine (location optional). Sitelines & Landscapes/Paysages are free with membership
- 2 Follow-up on an article of interest
- 3 Give a presentation to colleagues on a topic of interest such as landscape projects visited while on vacation
- 4 Start a blog or transfer your sketchbook/journal thoughts to a blog
- 5 Take the kids/grandkids to a playground and observe how they use the space equipment. Talk to them about happiness and experiences – what works and is fun? What isn’t? No kids? No problem! — tag along with a friend or colleague
- 6 Visit 2, 3, 5, 10 more playgrounds with the same kids; compare observations and write an article for Sitelines to share knowledge gained

- 7 Visit a botanical garden, nursery, or arboretum
- 8 While visiting 7, learn 5, 10, or 20-30 new plants. Renew acquaintances with old plant favourites.
- 9 While visiting 7, check out the site planning & design. Write up observations as a critique (submit to Sitelines)
- 10 Learn some landscape history — check TV listings (e.g. Knowledge Network) for series such as “The Victorian Kitchen Garden” [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Victorian\\_Kitchen\\_Garden](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Victorian_Kitchen_Garden)
- 11 Here’s a link to Garden Television, a listing of online garden-related programs, interspersed with movie trailers that have a garden / landscape connection <http://www.gardentelevision.ca/>
- 12 YouTube: many choices to learn lots of new stuff or learn how people are using landscapes (e.g. parkour <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVIaXvspcU> )
- 13 MIT offers many *free* on-line courses through its open courseware site including communities and the built environment (13 courses), culture and society (29 courses), water (12 courses) and soil (5 courses) <http://ocw.mit.edu/index.htm>
- 14 Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) are offered for free online by universities and institutions around the world <https://www.edx.org/courses>
- 15 iversity <https://iversity.org/> Many courses e.g. Design Thinking that you can audit for free!
- 16 Try a YouTube urban sketching workshop <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pr67Dfi-N0>
- 17 Search on YouTube for more sketching ideas <https://www.youtube.com/user/GasperHabjanic>
- 18 Take a YouTube Sketch-up workshop [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bav\\_t8qw2Mc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bav_t8qw2Mc)
- 19 Attend a Seedy Saturday event and learn how to get involved in protecting plant diversity
- 20 Make some seed bombs and beautify the planet
- 21 Invite some friends to make seed bombs and have a street beautification moment
- 22 After liberating yourself doing 21, have a party and talk about seed bombing and getting involved in a Communities in Bloom project <http://www.communitiesinbloom.ca/>
- 23 PARKing Day happens every September. Gather up some friends and colleagues and create a temporary open space installation in a metered parking space. <http://parkingday.org/about-parking-day/>
- 24 Think Global: research and organize an office lunch and learn around a UN International Day honouring social and environmental justice issues (see below for a few of them; many have a Facebook page as well)
- 25 February 2 World Wetlands Day <http://www.worldwetlandsday.org/>

- 26 March 3 World Wildlife Day <http://www.wildlifeday.org/>
- 27 March 8 International Women's Day  
<http://www.internationalwomensday.com/theme.asp#.VSrUspNSHMs>
- 28 March 20 International Day of Happiness  
<http://www.internationalwomensday.com/theme.asp#.VSrUspNSHMs>
- 29 March 21 International Day of Forests <http://www.fao.org/forestry/international-day-of-forests/en/>
- 30 March 22 World Water Day <http://www.unwater.org/worldwaterday>
- 31 April 22 Earth Day <http://www.un.org/en/events/motherearthday/>
- 32 May 22 World Biodiversity Day <https://www.cbd.int/idb/2015/>
- 33 June 5 World Environment Day [http://www.unep.org/wed/2015\\_slogan/](http://www.unep.org/wed/2015_slogan/)
- 34 June 8 World Oceans Day <http://www.worldoceansday.org/theme-healthy-oceans-healthy-planet/>
- 35 October 5 World Habitat Day <http://unhabitat.org/world-habitat-day/>
- 36 October 16 World Food Day <http://www.fao.org/world-food-day/home/en/>
- 37 October 31 World Cities Day <http://unhabitat.org/wcd/>
- 38 December 5 World Soil Day <http://www.fao.org/globalsoilpartnership/world-soil-day/en/>
- 39 December 11 International Mountain Day <http://www.un.org/en/events/mountainday/>
- 40 Not completely fulfilled by your day job? Volunteering can fill the knowledge gaps and round out your lifelong learning efforts. There are lots of options with some great orgs such as your local community centre, neighbourhood house, or school. Or try some of the community organizations that have won BCSLA awards:
- 1993 The Evergreen Foundation <http://www.evergreen.ca/>
- 1997 Britannia Neighbours Community Group (for Mosaic Creek Park)  
<http://britannianeighbours.blogspot.ca/>
- 1999 SPEC: Society Promoting Environmental Conservation <http://www.spec.bc.ca/>
- 2009 Stoney Creek Environmental Committee <http://scec.ca/>
- 2010 Projects in Place <http://projectsinplace.org/>
- 2011 Community Studio BC <http://communitystudio.org/>

- 2012 Langley Environmental Partners Society <http://www.leps.bc.ca/>
- 2014 Stanley Park Ecology Society <http://stanleyparkecology.ca/>
- 41 Volunteer to speak at a high school career day — bring your portfolio and post-secondary information
- 42 Come to a BCSLA CE event — organized by your CE Committee — just for you
- 43 Join a BCSLA Committee; run for the Board of Directors
- 44 Attend the BCSLA Conference and AGM. The AGM is FREE!!
- 45 Go to the CSLA Conference and AGM
- 46 Explore the BCSLA Web Atlas for an hour <http://www.sitelines.org/webatlas/>
- 47 Pick a few interesting sites from the BCSLA Web Atlas and go visit them
- 48 Document one of your own projects and submit to the BCSLA Web Atlas <http://www.sitelines.org/content/contact-us>
- 49 Attend the UBC SALA Lectures <http://sala.ubc.ca/news-and-events/news/spring-2015-lecture-series-announced> All lectures are free, start at 6:30pm and are held at UBC Robson Square in Vancouver
- 50 Each fall attend the annual UBC Continuing Studies Garden Design Lecture featuring an internationally renowned garden designer. If you have missed this event, you can watch past lectures on-line <https://cstudies.ubc.ca/courses/ubc-continuing-studies-garden-design-annual-lecture-series/ug501>
- 51 Attend the SFU City Program free lectures or watch on-line <http://www.sfu.ca/continuing-studies/about/program-units/city-program/resources/videos.html>
- 52 Re-draw a site CAD plan by hand and hand colour it chromatically, or in purple, or use a colour palette you have never tried before
- 53 Doodle for 10 minutes/day for 60 days
- 54 Journal for 10 minutes /day for 60 days
- 55 Revisit old projects and assess for resilience to climate change
- 56 Read up on ways to adapt landscapes to survive climate change
- 57 Pick a new favourite plant and follow its life cycle through all the seasons
- 58 Organize a project with FreeMind — free mind mapping software [http://freemind.sourceforge.net/wiki/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://freemind.sourceforge.net/wiki/index.php/Main_Page)

- 59 Want to try GIS? – explore GRASS (Geographic Resources Analysis Support System), a free and open source Geographic Information System (GIS) software suite used for geospatial data management and analysis, image processing, graphics and maps production, spatial modeling, and visualization software <http://grass.osgeo.org/>
- 60 Lunch time: head outside to a park, plaza, open space or street corner. Eat and observe how the space it or is not being used. Take notes
- 61 On another day, repeat 58 at a different place
- 62 On another day, repeat 58 at a different place
- 63 On another day, repeat 58 at a different place
- 64 On another day, repeat 58 at a different place
- 65 You have now eaten lunch in 5 different outdoor places/spaces. Compare your experiences and observations at each. Any learnings that can inform your public realm design?
- 66 Write up 65 and send to Sitelines
- 67 Put together a PowerPoint of 65 and do a lunch & learn for colleagues
- 68 *Thinking is more interesting than knowing, but less interesting than seeing* — JW Goethe
- 69 Source a new green / sustainable product or material
- 70 Test out 69
- 71 Visit a museum and get exposed to local culture and history
- 72 Visit an art gallery (A-Z, artist run space, pop-up gallery, contemporary art gallery, sculpture garden, private, post-secondary institution) and get exposed to art
- 73 Attend the thesis reviews at UBC SALA <http://www.sala.ubc.ca/news-and-events/event/thesis-reviews-1> or the annual exhibitions at UBC SALA or Emily Carr <http://www.sala.ubc.ca/programs/sala-wide-opportunities/annual-exhibition> or <https://www.ecuad.ca/about/events/323221>
- 74 Take the Sky Train, Canada Line, or any nearby bus to the end of the line (or jump off at a random stop) and explore the landscape around you
- 75 Mentor a BCSLA Intern
- 76 Read a book on any topic that will expand your mind
- 77 Read another book — they are always free from a public library

- 78 Go to the beach or park on a rainy or snowy day and observe how spaces are used
- 79 Go to the beach or park on a sunny day and observe how spaces are used
- 80 Follow up the happenings in any open space in the public realm through the seasons. Observe, sketch, note, present
- 81 Check out the CSLA:AAPC website <http://www.csla-aapc.ca/csla-aapc>
- 82 Check out the ASLA website <http://www.asla.org/default.aspx>
- 83 Check out the IFLA website <http://iflaonline.org/>
- 84 Check out Land8 — the biggest social networking site for LAs <http://land8.com/>
- 85 Read some blogs by landscape architects <http://pruned.blogspot.ca/> <http://dirt.asla.org/>  
<http://landscapeinvocation.com/>
- 86 Join the BCSLA Facebook page  
<https://www.facebook.com/BCSocietyofLandscapeArchitects?fref=ts>
- 87 Join the CSLA Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Canadian-Society-of-Landscape-Architects/177312791600?fref=ts>
- 88 Join the IFLA Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/IFLAWorld?fref=ts>
- 89 Share your knowledge through social networking (85, 86, 87)
- 90 Check out another national landscape architecture body on the other side of the planet, e.g. what's different, interesting, or the same in Australia? <https://www.aila.org.au/>
- 91 Looking for transformational alternatives to your current state of existence? Try Reality Sandwich <http://realitysandwich.com/>
- 92 If 91 is too out there, take a look at Overgrow the System <http://overgrowthesystem.com/>
- 93 April is World Landscape Architecture Month — do something fun that celebrates our profession <http://iflaonline.org/wlam/>
- 94 Check out landezine for on-line access to contemporary and current projects around the world <http://www.landezine.com/>
- 95 Check out World Landscape Architecture, the on-line magazine that provides landscape architects with news and information about the profession by members of the profession <http://worldlandscapearchitect.com/>
- 96 Take some Land8 webinars on everything from urban agriculture to Sketchup <http://land8.com/webinars>

- 97 Read blogs not by landscape architects e.g. <http://smallstreets.org/blog/>  
<http://bldgblog.blogspot.ca/> <http://cityparksblog.org/> <http://thecityfix.com/>
- 98 Lost your perspective? Have a look at Edge Effects <http://edgeeffects.net/films-to-change-your-perspective/>
- 99 Test the waters without quitting your day job: try entering a design competition  
<http://www.competitions.org/> <http://www.asla.org/OpportunitiesAndEventsListing.aspx>  
<https://www.facebook.com/LAcompetitions>
- 100 Find out what the allied professions are up to, e.g. <https://www.pibc.bc.ca/> <http://www.aibc.ca/>  
<https://www.apeg.bc.ca/Home> <http://www.bcia.com/> <https://professionalbiology.com/>
- 101 Change the world <http://www.worldchanging.com/>

[And if none of the 101 previous ideas appeals you can always try TED <http://www.ted.com/> ]