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President's Message

By Adrienne Brown

Over the past year the BCSLA Board of Directors has received a great deal of support from members who have contributed their time and energy to the current set of initiatives. This team has turned out to be knowledgeable, diverse and truly committed.

David Fushtey's extensive work revising the Code of Ethics and Bylaws has been done so thoroughly, and with such commitment and imagination that it's tempting to sit back and rest on our laurels. There are however, a number of points worthy of discussion before we vote to adopt the package at the 2002 AGM. In an attempt to clarify the intent of this work, we've put together a list of Frequently Asked Questions, which you will find on Page 4 of this newsletter. We hope this discussion will provide some useful background to several of the more complex issues. I attended the 'Future of the Profession' workshop in Montreal last September. Afterwards,

Cecelia Paine of the University of Guelph asked us to send in our thoughts on the issues raised, and I did. The following is an updated take on these ideas, offered to you as a "call to arms" as I near the end of my year as BCSLA President:



Landscape architects tend to start out with passion in spades and if this passion fades over time it's because of a lack of understanding of their role. Limited recognition continues to create glass ceilings, limited budgets and threatens the "turf" of LA practice. I think that in order to keep the passion alive we must look at the following issues.

Turf

If the provincial components of CSLA can share their work while they work to strengthen legislation and associated regulatory responsibilities we will all benefit. Manitoba and Nova Scotia are in the process of developing their title acts at the moment, so there is potentially an important role for CSLA in coordinating consultation on the specifics of their Bylaws and Principals of Professional Conduct. By reducing the duplication of work drafting bylaws, and contributing consistent and predictable regulations throughout the provinces, landscape architects can effectively support the federal Labour Mobility initiative. The core knowledge, skills and responsibilities for landscape architects are clearly defined by David Fushtey in

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BCSLA

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Inquiries regarding editorial, advertising or other issues should be addressed to the Sitelines Editor, c/o The BCSLA at the above address.

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The purpose of Sitelines is to provide an open forum for the exchange of ideas and information pertaining to the profession of Landscape Architecture. Individual opinions expressed are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the BCSLA.

the current bylaw review, and an alternative definition may be found in the practice act recently established in Oregon (Oregon Legislative Assembly 2001 Bill 2196). If you would like to review this act (approx. 13 pages) please contact Tara Culham at the BCSLA office, and she will send you a copy. Does a practice act limit the breadth of practice and marginalize the profession more than the risk associated with not establishing our core set of responsibilities? This is an important question to keep in mind since ASLA announced in 2001 a goal of establishing practice acts in landscape architecture across the US within the next ten years. BCSLA has recently received copies of the CLARB Licensure Support Guide. If you are interested in reviewing this material, please contact Ian Wasson, BCSLA Registrar.

Title

Most of us agree that we must encourage (and fight for) use of the title to support broader recognition of our professional status. To this end the BCSLA Public Sector Committee is looking into this issue as one of its primary concerns in 2002. Please contact Public Sector Committee Chair Ron Myers if you would like to participate in this work.

A number of local landscape architectural firms have recently come forward to sign an agreement with BCSLA outlining terms for the use of landscape architect or a derivation of it in their name. This is very encouraging, as it indicates a growing pride and desire to use the title in the marketplace.

Education

As a number of landscape architecture programs have been moved

to the MLA level, the number of individuals completing accredited programs in landscape architecture across Canada has been reduced. In fact, there are currently less than half the number of places for students relative to the population than in the USA. The task of communicating the value and relevance of programs across Canada remains an important priority for our provincial organizations, and CSLA might take a lead role in supporting and co-ordinating such work. Restoring places lost over the last decade, with a long term goal of matching the current ratio in the USA may be a worthy goal, as the increase in trained practitioners would make landscape architecture significantly more visible in the marketplace.

If the schools explicitly emphasize the KSAs (knowledge, skills and activities) addressed by the LARE in accredited LA programs, it will undoubtedly improve pass rates, and thus increase the number of landscape architects working in Canada. Although many individuals head off in different directions once their careers are underway, having a common set of skills at the outset should promote and strengthen the understanding of core landscape architectural practice. I don't believe the LARE will marginalize landscape architects as much as a lack of agreement on our set of concerns and expertise.

Continuing Professional Development/CE

The voluntary continuing education program should acknowledge the importance of acquiring current knowledge and skills. Although it's challenging to establish a system



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for recording and tracking the information, it should demonstrate to government, collateral professions and the public that landscape architects are committed to maintaining a professional level of knowledge of current practice.

Professional & Public Relations

Professional & Public Relations continues to be one of the largest challenges. There are so many opportunities to initiate and build relationships with other organizations, but we lack the resources to follow up on more than a few of them. We hope that as membership grows the provincial organizations will be able to contribute more time to this work. With an additional 20 members, BCSLA would be able to liaise with collateral organizations on a consistent and predictable basis.

Stars

We need stars, and visible self promoters are a benefit to us all! When I visited the Montreal Botanical Garden in September I really wanted to know who had designed the beautiful new First Nations Garden. The designers weren't mentioned on the map, the sign or the brochure. However I read later in Landscape Architecture Magazine that the firm of Williams Asselin Ackoui was responsible for the design. Although I was able to find out who it was, most people would never know. Do landscape architects end up with their names on bronze plaques? Not often. Actively pushing for recognition may lead to more of it, if only to oil the "squeaky wheel." Over time it might even become part of the normal way of documenting a project!

CSLA

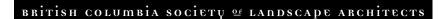
In April of this year I will begin a two year term with the CSLA. I propose to pursue the following issues along with any others which are brought to my attention. Please let me know whether you agree with these ideas, or whether you have suggestions for other approaches.

- To encourage CSLA to focus on programs and initiatives which promote landscape architecture in the public eye. The CSLA Awards and Landscapes/ Paysages magazine are both vehicles that can bring our accomplishments to a much larger audience, and as such they deserve to be supported by us all.
- To pursue the idea of changing membership requirements for CSLA to more closely follow the ASLA model. BCSLA proposed such a change in the summer of 2000, and the idea found support from a majority of provincial organizations at that time. Since then the idea has not been revisited, however I'm prepared to bring it back to the table in 2002. Ideally it would increase the membership of provincial components, as new CSLA members find their allegiance to landscape architecture strengthened.
- To suggest that CSLA co-ordinate membership categories of the provincial components so that they are common across Canada. This will serve the profession well in the eyes of the federal government as a response to the Labour Mobility initiative.
- To assist in the preparation of a formal proposal to the Governor

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- To push for the expansion of the mailing list for Landscapes/ Paysages to include provincial ministries, municipalities, federal agencies, architectural and engineering associations and environmental groups.
- To offer the BCSLA Schedules of Assurance to other provincial components as a template for development of their own. BCSLA is in the process of having its schedules adopted by individual municipalities throughout the province, and sharing this work with the other provincial organizations would be a benefit to all.
- To support the completion of a DesignAccess website. A number of design disciplines have difficulty with the fact that students aren't aware of design career opportunities at an early stage in their education. With this in mind, the DesignAccess Committee (originally set up by Michele Guest of Design BC) worked with the Alliance for Canadian Design until June 2000 to develop resources for school counsellors and students. It was sponsored by Landscape Architects (BCSLA), Industrial Design, Interior Design, Graphic Design, Architecture (AIBC) and Apparel BC (an industry association). The first phase of this project produced a tremendous amount of research.



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However work on the development of the website, and on printed materials for career counsellors has not been done. This website will put career information in front of prospective students when they look into the realm of design. I am continuing to meet with members of the original committee with the intention of completing the work.

• To offer background information on the BCSLA site sign to the other provinces. As many of you know, BCSLA created a sign based on the dimensions and materials of the Architectural Institute of BC sign, and had 50 manufactured early in 2001. To date, members have purchased 42 of these signs. They are 17" x 48", are of highway grade aluminium and are coated with reflective paint with custom cutout reflective letters.

Conclusion

The experience and knowledge I've gained while on the BCSLA Board of Directors has been fascinating and truly rewarding. I believe by working together we can broaden and strengthen Landscape Architecture as a profession, while utilizing the revised bylaws to maintain effective regulation on behalf of the public interest.

Unique Office Space Available!!!

A professional non-profit society located in the heart of downtown Vancouver BC is searching for someone to share our office space.

Located in a high profile lobby on the main level of the Marine Building, the office is compact and will ideally be suited to a 1 or 2 person business operation.

Rental rates are very affordable.

We are friendly, professional and easy going and we are searching for the same in another professional association or business.

For more information on this unique opportunity please call Tara Culham at 604-682-5610 in Vancouver.



Frequently Asked Questions about the BCSLA Special Project

By David Fushtey and Adrienne Brown

Q: What's up with this 'Special Project' thing?

- **A:** The review is the happy coincidence of,
- (a) pent-up need (no overhaul of the Bylaws or Code in thirtyfive years),
- (b) the unfinished Special Project initiative of the mid-1990s,
- (c) a provincial review of regulatory tribunal operations in 1999 – 2000,

- (d) the professional obligation to be organized under a current standard of care, and
- (e) the pragmatic reality that the profession ought to meet, if not lead, other design professionals in a principled and organized approach to decision-making if landscape architects are to take their rightful place in the sun.

Q: What's happened to the BCSLA Code of Ethics?

A: The Code of Ethics has been extensively revised to reflect the range of principles a professional is expected to have today. Some changes were so overdue even commercial legal principles outstripped inequitable codified canons. The new principles also reflect

increasing public expectations, and understandings, of professional responsibilities. The Principles of the Profession are organized by duties to the public, the client, the environment, fellow professionals, and ourselves as well.

Q: Why is the title 'Code of Ethics' being changed to 'Principles of the Profession'?

A: In a global, pluralist society, "Code" carries political or top-down connotations that aren't really applicable to a self-regulating profession; "Ethics" implies Western cultural or religious morality that doesn't relate well to diversified international values which express similar qualities.

Q: How do the Standards relate to all this?

A: The Standards are examples of what happens when you apply the Principles to our working lives. They are guidelines which help remind us of professional conduct, or misconduct. In the context of the organizing documents, the Principles have now been codified in Part 1 of the Bylaws and the Standards are included as an associated policy for ease of updating. Periodically, the Standards should be reviewed and approved by the members at an AGM to underscore their importance, acceptance, and enforceability if need be.

Q: Has the BCSLA policy toward Design/Build work changed?

A: Yes. One Standard outlines the new BCSLA policy for design-build situations, under a broader section dealing with Client/Professional Conflict of Interest.

Q: Seems like a lot of paper. Do you really think I have the time to know all this?

- **A:** At some point, yes; but for now focus on what is important to you. The documents are intended to help several audiences:
- (1) Members the focus is likely to be the Principles and Standards, as these sections are likely to be the most use to Members on a day-to-day headache-relief (or inspiration!) basis;
- (2) Board the more detailed contexts of everything from definitions to processes ought to reduce the amazing amount of time wasted debating similar issues year after year, and result in greater fairness in application;
- (3) Students and Interns who need to learn about how a profession is organized on a professional level;
- (4) Clients and other professionals — who are unclear about whether or not Landscape Architecture is a profession, can now be convinced, if need be, by leadership in principles, standards, and credible processes for self-regulation;
- (5) Public (including the Legislature) — who expect professional standards, and admission and compliance processes, and who are increasingly expecting accountability of the

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Boards in exchange for the credibility offered through regulatory legislation.

Q: Isn't a lot of this common sense?

A: Look around you. Do you have any sense in common with your colleagues? Increasingly diversified backgrounds, experiences, biochemistry, education, support systems — there is no common sense. We can only hope to build common understanding through effective communication.

For example, the Standards are generally organized around two essential qualities to bring to our professional lives: integrity and competence. However, other than impressive sounding, most of us have better things to do than try to decipher whether our conduct on a day-to-day basis does or does not demonstrate these qualities.

The Standards give specific examples as waymarkers. For example, integrity is discussed through such topics as,

- Errors and Omissions;
- Public Statements;
- Financial Obligations;
- Use of Other's Work (Intellectual Property);
- Promoting Business (Advertising);
- Confidential Information; and
- Conflicts of Interest (a big one, including implications to space-sharing, contingency





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Frequently Asked Questions . . . continued from page 5

fees, pro-bono services, competitions and advisory panels, gifts, endorsements and branding).

Competency is reviewed through communications and knowledge obligations.

Q: What has changed about the process for dealing with complaints?

A: If you are objecting to the changes — get involved! This will have been a one-year process, reviewing precedents from over a dozen organizations in several disciplines throughout North America, and including a legal review of recent BC developments. It's now an ongoing process — in fact, the Bylaws now have to be reviewed every three years. At least make a point of being at the AGM to voice your concerns. We now have a "Watch List" to track issues of concern or those issues likely to change.

If you are objecting to the standards of conduct of a Landscape Architect, the old complaint process has been extensively reworked to clarify a more fair and consistent process for the Registrar and Board of Directors to follow in addressing complaints. This will also serve the members at large and the public well in

knowing more exactly what is expected of all parties involved.

Q: Why are we creating a category for non-practicing members?

A: The intent of this category is to include trained landscape architects practicing in an area outside traditional practice as members of BCSLA and encourage their use of title. The principle is to work with the public sector and educators of landscape architects, as a vital part of the profession. What, exactly to call this group has been the subject of some debate (non-practicing is commonly used in other professions).

Q: What kind of activities might qualify an individual to apply for membership in this category?

A: Administration, research, teaching and writing, management or planning.

Q: What happens if you are a non-practicing member and you wish to begin practicing as a designer?

A: In such cases the individual would be expected to report this change, apply for full practicing status, and comply with assessed requirements (which may or may not include writing some or all sections of the LARE exam to establish a full practicing membership, depending on their circumstances).

Q: What about reciprocity?

A: Going out, in jurisdictions such as Ontario and the 46 states that belong to CLARB a registered BCSLA member will have

reciprocity, however a nonpracticing member will not; Coming in, existing reciprocity will remain, subject to the need to reevaluate from time to time on a standards-based system. A general obligation to maintain good records will help maintain more consistent decisions on special cases.

Q: Any other goodies?

A: Well, yes.

- How about a fixed quorum for AGMs, to allow us to get on with it, so to speak, coupled with options for (a) mail or electronic voting for Directors and officers, and (b) video-conferencing in remote locations for more inclusive participation at general meetings?
- How about a set of principles for the conduct of the administration of the Society?
- Here's an easy one how about a definition of landscape architectural practice?
- How about reconciling authorized activities with actual activities of the Board of Examiners, Board and others?
- How about a mandatory review every three years — if only to pull them out and say, nope, nothing's changed — or look around at other professions which amend their bylaws a couple of times a year (see, e.g. definition of landscape architecture).

See you **March 9, 2002** at the AGM!



Thinking of You: An Insider's Look at Modern History.

Frank Lloyd Wright & Lewis Mumford: Thirty Years of Correspondence.

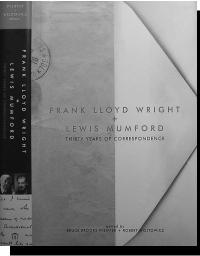
Edited by Bruce Brooks Pfeiffer and Robert Wojtowicz. Reviewed by Andrew Wilson.

The philosopher, R.G. Collingwood, maintained that: "All history is the history of thought." He claimed that to know history we have to think ourselves into an event or people's lives. We have to understand the thought behind the action, the ideas underlying thought. Frank Lloyd Wright & Lewis Mumford: Thirty Years of Correspondence is an incredible book because of the historical insight it offers into Wright's and Mumford's lives and minds. We already know that Frank Lloyd Wright was a brilliant architect and that Lewis Mumford was a renowned writer of architectural criticism and cultural history. We have come to know them generally through their work and that of biographers and critics. But here in their letters they reveal themselves. The correspondence enriches and gives a human context to Wright's and Mumford's work and history.

Fifty-nine year old Wright (1867) - 1959) initiated contact with Mumford (1895 - 1990) in 1926 when Mumford was thirty-one. Their correspondence was that of two professionals responding to each other's work initially, but it became increasingly personal as

their relationship evolved: with Wright's invitations to Mumford to visit Taliesin, Wisconsin and later Taliesin Mid-west, for example. In those invitations was a dilemma for Mumford who was determined to remain objective in his opinions of Wright's work. The sense of frustration and disappointment that Wright felt because of Mumford's excuses for never accepting the invitations is palpable. Such currents running through their letters reveal the men's humanity. It becomes obvious that Wright was a dynamic, forceful, opinionated, egotistical architect, fully prepared and able to place himself in the history of Architecture. His professional and personal life suggests a passionate existence. Mumford too was passionate in his ideas and in his form of expression; but he cherished his independence. Mumford supported Wright's architectural practice, in that he reviewed and critiqued Wright's work. He endeavored to make Wright's western-based work more widely known and understood in the dominant. eastern U.S. architectural establishment of the early and mid-20th century. Despite his general support of Wright's work, however, Mumford did not refrain from being critical of Wright's ideas and vice versa. The genuine respect each felt for the other is clear in their letters, though, in the explanations and clarifications each offers the other with respect to their professional writings.

Equally fascinating are the revelations about other architects, the birth of the modern movement in architecture and urbanism and the rise of regional planning. In a 1952 letter to Mumford about history site Lines · O z · O z



books, Wright states that history: "at best — is made by some man studying a profile seen from where he sits. At worst it is likely false." Pfeiffer and Woitowicz offer us a history book that is a true primary source. It allows us to think ourselves into Wright's and Mumford's lives and therefore better understand the cultural and intellectual context of such works as Wright's, An Organic Architecture (1939), or Mumford's, Technics and Civilization (1934). In understanding the thought behind the text we come to know history.

Frank Lloyd Wright & Lewis Mumford: Thirty Years of Correspondence. Bruce Brooks Pfeiffer and Robert Wojtowicz, ed. 2001. New York: Princeton Architectural Press. 294 pages.

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A New Translation of Japan's Gardening Classic, Sakuteiki.

Reviewed by Clive Justice

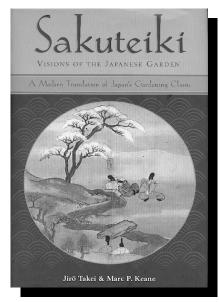
In the 1950's Uji Yoshiura, "a Japanese authority on bonsai with long teaching experience" and Giovanna M. Halford "a Western student of the art with the ability to anticipate the Western reader's questions and problems and to describe an intricate subject in lucid English" teamed up to produce: The Japanese Art of Miniature Trees and Landscapes: Their Creation, Care and Enjoyment, — so said the publisher's note on the front page. It was Christmas 1959 when I received this beautiful green grass-cloth bound, well written book. It is filled with clear 'how-todo-it' diagrams and illustrations with lucid text accompanied by beautiful black and white and colour photographs of this ancient plant art form. It was my first Tuttle Book. I never took up bonsai, but still have the book and value it as among the very best of book art, craft and content.

The same might be said for the preface note and comment given for the most recent book by Tuttle Publishing: Sakuteiki, Visions of the Japanese Garden. It is jointly authored by a learned Japanese professor Jirō Takeo and Marc P. Keane an American landscape architect who practices in Japan. The authors with Tuttle have made this modern translation of Japan's 1000 year old gardening classic much more than a translation from Japanese into English of a 'howto-do-it-book' with diagrams on placing rocks.

The first part of the book incorporates and fully explains the making of the garden in the Heian period (794 - 1184) placing it within the social fabric of the aristocratic class and the four major influences governing their culture, particularly as they pertained to gardens, garden social activities and garden making. These influences were; Nature, (surroundings and planting in part) Geomancy, (yin and yang — five phases etc.), Buddhism (Buddhist trinity stones) and Taboos (kinki) that would directly and indirectly influence the garden maker and the garden, in the beginning and throughout the Heian period. These elements ruled, how the original author who was an aristocrat or Shindin would have looked at, designed and developed Heian period gardens. This was when Kyōto became the new capital and Japan began maturing as a culture or as the book puts it,

". . . when cultural attributes such as poetry, clothing styles, and so on, which had been imported from China and Korea over the previous centuries were reexamined and transmuted into a clearly Japanese context. This is true of gardens as well."

You could say it was the beginning of the truly Japanese garden. In previous periods, when the capital





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was at Nara, in garden making for example, the Imperial court had imported Chinese artisans to place and arrange rocks and set the style of gardens. Now that the new capital was in Kyōto the Shindin could evolve their own styles of gardens.

One of these Shindin, no one is quite sure who but it is believed to be Toshitsuna, an aristocrat who lived at the end of the 11th Century AD wrote the Sakuteiki, on two long scrolls in brush script running vertically. There are no illustrations. Subsequently many copies were made. Parts of the scrolls are reproduced as background to several of the book's section titles and as with things Japanese they are themselves beautiful pieces of art. This is in the tradition of Tuttle publishing along with fine black and white and colour drawings of gardens, many in the traditional Japanese isometric perspective.

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Landscape Poetry ... continued from page 8

Sakuteiki or Records of Garden Making begins with the opening words "Ishi wo taten koto" the art of setting stones or the act of setting stones upright. There are thirteen sections (chapters) to it: Basic Concepts, Southern Courts (garden areas), Ponds and Islands, Gardening Styles, Stones, Waterfalls, Setting Stones, Taboos, Miscellany, Wellsprings, (ground water sources), Trees, and More Miscellany. The appendices include; a glossary of cross-referenced English and Japanese terms and a list of persons mentioned in the book. Valuable appendix items for reader visualization are the measurement conversion tables: a table of length (the 4 Japanese measures of length with feet and meters equivalents), and one for area (2) Japanese area measures with square feet, acre, sq. meter and hectare equivalents). There is a list of Heian plants (62), classified according to their type (coniferous tree) or garden use (groundcover) with English, Japanese and Botanical names for each. There are bibliographies of books in Japanese and English.

The bibliography lists a number of previous *Sakuteiki* translations. This edition is superior. Jirō Takeo and Marc Keane make readers aware of cultural and social conditions of the period and how the garden of the Heian Shindin fitted in to the culture and social mores. The book is a milestone in describing the roots of the Japanese garden; a thorough historical work that belongs in the library of every serious student of garden history, landscape architecture and art.

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It belongs there with two others: Loraine Kuck's 1968 classic: The World of the Japanese Garden from Chinese Origins to Modern Landscape Art, Walker/Weatherall, New York and Tokyo, and the earlier, 1893 and now almost forgotten, Landscape Gardening in Japan, by the English architect Josiah Condor. It was republished in 1964 by Dover Publications Inc., New York.

This is a fine affordable book. Sakuteiki, Visions of the Japanese Garden by Jirō Takeo and Marc P. Keane, Tuttle Publishing Boston, Rutland, Vermont, Tokyo, 2001. 247 pages.



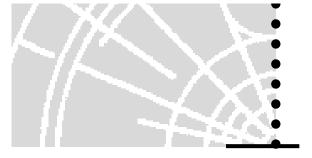
YEAR END EVENT



Art and Gerry



Margot and Colette



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BCSLA 2002 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February BCSLA Membership Committee Meeting

Vancouver, BC

February December 2001 LARE Results

Vancouver, BC

February 7 Under Pressure: Strategies for Protecting & Diversifying Green Space

SFU at Harbour Centre — Vancouver, BC

February 20 - 24 CSLA Awards Jury Meeting

Winnipeg, MB

March 1 - 3 CLARB Spring Meeting

Cincinnati, OH

March 8 – 9 BCSLA Annual General Meeting

Empire Landmark Hotel — Vancouver, BC

April CSLA Board of Governors Meeting

Halifax, NS

April BCSLA Board/Fellows Meeting

Vancouver, BC

April 2 - 3 Buildex

Vancouver, BC

April 10 LARE Candidate Orders

April 20 - 28 Landscape Architecture Week (Canada and USA)

May 24 BCSLA Board of Examiners

May 26 - 29 Canadian Institute of Planners Annual General Meeting

Vancouver, BC

June 6 – 9 Van Dusen Garden Show

Vancouver, BC

August June LARE Results

September BCSLA Membership Committee Meeting

Vancouver, BC

September 12 - 15 CLARB Annual General Meeting

New Orleans, LA

September 18 – 19 CanWest Hort Show

Vancouver, BC



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BCSLA Landscape Schedules

Thanks to Adrienne Brown, Pat Campbell, Gerry Eckford, Bruce Hemstock, Karen Kristensen, Dave Mitchell, Tim O'Brien, Mark van der Zalm and Ian Wasson for volunteering their time and expertise to the BCSLA Schedules.

We recommend that the schedules be used when the local authority requests that they be used **and** whenever a landscape architectural plan is being submitted in support of a building permit application provided that the landscape architect will be involved through to completion of construction. If a development permit is being applied for, the planning department may wish to require that a Landscape Architect be retained to provide these schedules at the time of building permit application as a condition of the development permit. Contact the provincial office for more details.

Continuing Education

Many thanks to those members who have submitted their completed Continuing Education (CE) Annual Monitoring and Recognition forms with their 2002 membership dues.

Members who have not sent in the CE form should submit it as soon as possible. Your form assists the CE Committee in assessing what our membership is interested in and the types of programs that are available throughout the province. Watch for announcements on CE opportunities that are available to you. If you are interested in becoming involved with the Committee or establishing a chapter in your own community please contact Tara Culham at the BCSLA office.

