NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BUILDING AND FACILITY OPERATIONS 2025 | KELOWNA

THURSDAY MORNING JUNE 19, 2025

7:30 – 9:30 REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST (INCLUDED) – ROOM: SUNROOM (ADMIN BUILDING)

8:30 – 9:30 **CONFERENCE OPENING**
Thank you to Our Amazing Sponsors / House Keeping
Welcome from BCxA WCC and International Headquarters President
Breakfast Plenary Panel

9:30 – 9:45 BREAK

9:45 – 10:45 **Keynote Speech: Ellis Don**
Enhancing Cohesion and Integration in Complex Building Technology Systems

Modern buildings rely on complex, integrated systems, making early coordination essential for successful commissioning. Building operators must work closely with project teams to ensure systems perform reliably. Misalignment during design and construction often leads to issues operators must resolve later. A shortage of skilled professionals adds to the challenge, as much expertise comes from hands-on experience. To improve outcomes, the industry must prioritize collaboration, invest in training, and support clearer pathways for developing skilled operators.

10:45 – 11:00 BREAK

TRACK	Business / Owners (Arts Building Theatre 103)	Technical / Operators (Arts Building Theatre 114)

11:00 – 12:00

Cx Software in Real World Scenarios
Thane Vajda & Jacob Terry, CxAlloy

In this presentation, the CxAlloy team will showcase their commissioning software and explore key commissioning objectives from ASHRAE Guideline 0.
Jacob Terry will highlight software features that support and empower commissioning teams, while Thane Vajda, CBCP, will share real-world examples demonstrating how software improves tracking, reporting, collaboration, and turnaround times.
The session will conclude with a look at the future of commissioning software, including CxAlloy's work on automated functional testing, fault detection, and system integration.

PERSIST Detailing for Building Envelopes PART 1 Windows
Chris Makepeace, Building Sciences Engineering

The Pressure Equalized Rain Screen Insulated Structure Technique (PERSIST) is a common Part 5 Code strategy for managing water ingress, insulation, air leakage, vapor control, and durability. However, poor design, detailing, construction, or maintenance can compromise its effectiveness. When failures occur, the challenge becomes forensically determining what went wrong and deciding whether to repair or replace the system.

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THURSDAY AFTERNOON JUNE 19, 2025

12:00 – 1:30

LUNCH PLENARY SESSION (LUNCH INCLUDED) – ROOM: SUNROOM (ADMIN BUILDING)

Bridging Worlds: Individual Impact within the Collective Action in Building Sustainability

Fane Waqatabu, Impact on Wheels Foundation

This presentation highlights the role of individual actions and collective efforts in driving sustainability within building operations. As the Co-Founder of Impact on Wheels, a nonprofit for individuals with medical conditions, I'll discuss our commitment to using existing resources rather than promoting new constructions.

Drawing from my Indigenous background in Fiji, I'll share how rising sea levels impact Pacific Island nations and emphasize how everyday choices, like transportation, affect energy use and the environment. I'll also explore community-based solutions that support marginalized individuals while promoting sustainability. This talk aims to inspire a commitment to sustainability, urging attendees to recognize their role in combating climate change and creating sustainable communities.

TRACK	Business / Owners (Arts Building Theatre 103)	Technical / Operators (Arts Building Theatre 114)
1:30 – 2:30	**Is Commissioning Really Necessary?** **Einar Halbig, E3 Eco Group Inc.** Is Building Commissioning still necessary in today's world of advanced design and construction? Despite modern standards, buildings often fall short of optimal performance—making the role of an independent Commissioning Provider (CxP) as critical as ever. This presentation explores real-world examples that highlight the value of well-executed commissioning. Case studies will include ventilation airflow testing, duct leakage, installation versus design comparisons, filter access, and airtightness testing—primarily from townhouse and apartment projects. As we build smaller, more energy-efficient homes in response to climate demands and evolving codes, commissioning will continue to add value by ensuring systems perform as intended.	**PERSIST Detailing for Building Envelopes PART 2 Roof/Wall Junctions** **Chris Makepeace, Building Sciences Engineering** The Pressure Equalized Rain Screen Insulated Structure Technique (PERSIST) is a common Part 5 Code strategy for managing water ingress, insulation, air leakage, vapor control, and durability. However, poor design, detailing, construction, or maintenance can compromise its effectiveness. When failures occur, the challenge becomes forensically determining what went wrong and deciding whether to repair or replace the system.

2:30 – 2:45 **BREAK**

2:45 – 3:45 **Round Table: Forged Collaboration: The Cx Stakeholder Panel**

Focusing on the collaborative efforts of multiple disciplines to bring buildings online.

3:45 – 4:00 **BREAK**

4:00 – 5:00 **Site Tour – UBCO Geo Plant and CO Heat Pump**

5:00 – 9:00 **Networking Event at Upside Cider**

Round Trip Transportation will be provided to the event.

University of British Columbia, Okanagan Campus, 3333 University Way, Kelowna, BC V1V 1V7, Canada

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BUILDING AND FACILITY OPERATIONS 2025 | KELOWNA

FRIDAY MORNING JUNE 20, 2025

7:30 – 9:30 BREAKFAST (INCLUDED) – ROOM: SUNROOM (ADMIN BUILDING)

8:30 – 9:30 Owner's Round Table

9:30 – 9:45 BREAK

TRACK	Business / Owners (Arts Building Theatre 103)	Technical / Operators (Arts Building Theatre 114)

9:45 – 10:45

Decarbonizing District Energy
Colin Richardson, UBCO

UBCO operates two district energy systems: an 80°C medium-temperature system (MDES) and a low-temperature energy-sharing system (LDES). To decarbonize and expand capacity, a 1.5MW CO_2-based reversible heat pump was introduced, operating subcritically for heating and transcritically for cooling. With an average annual COP of 3.5, it displaces 430,000 m^3 of natural gas and offsets over 815 metric tons of CO_2 annually.

ASHRAE Standards and Indoor Air Quality – Case Studies
Nick Agopian & Kelly Burnham, ReviveAire

Learn how ASHRAE Standards 62.1 and 241 guide ventilation and pathogen control to reduce health risks and enhance well-being. This session offers practical design insights and encourages discussion on real-world strategies for improving indoor air quality.

10:45 – 11:00 BREAK

11:00 – 12:00

Decarbonization Focused Retrofits for Existing Buildings
Kelly Christensen, Black & McDonald Limited

This presentation explores decarbonization strategies for existing buildings, focusing on achieving net-zero through lifecycle retrofits. It will cover practical steps for implementing decarbonization projects, including using energy management technologies to establish baselines, set data-driven carbon reduction targets, and optimize performance through measurement and verification.

We'll also discuss how asset management and capital planning can create key opportunities to replace aging systems with low-carbon alternatives, rather than simple like-for-like replacements. A case study will highlight how expanded building condition assessments—incorporating energy use, emissions, and costs—guided decarbonization efforts across a building portfolio.

IST: Process, Roles and Common Challenges
Logan Wriglesworth, Inland Technical Service

Integrated Systems Testing (IST) of Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems (CAN/ULC-S1001) ensures systems operate as intended. This presentation covers the IST process, highlighting the roles of key stakeholders and how they collaborate to streamline testing and certification, reducing costs and delays.

Key topics include design submission, documentation review, testing plan development, coordination, and issue resolution. Common challenges like incomplete sequences, design coordination issues, and missing documentation will be discussed, along with strategies to minimize retesting and delays, benefiting both new and experienced professionals.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BUILDING AND FACILITY OPERATIONS 2025 | KELOWNA

FRIDAY AFTERNOON JUNE 20, 2025

12:00 – 1:30 NETWORKING LUNCH (LUNCH INCLUDED) – ROOM: SUNROOM (ADMIN BUILDING)

TRACK	Business / Owners (Arts Building Theatre 103)	Technical / Operators (Arts Building Theatre 114)

1:30 – 2:30 Criticality of Documenting the Commissioning Process

Reza Naghash, Stantec Consulting Ltd.

As the saying goes, "the weakest pencils last longer than the most powerful brains," highlighting the importance of documentation. Without proper documentation at each stage, the commissioning process will lose value once the provider completes their scope. Documentation is crucial for:
a) Helping the O&M team understand the history of equipment and make better operational decisions.
b) Enabling in-house testing without relying on external agencies.
Today, project stakeholders expect commissioning entities to not only document testing but also interpret test results and assess equipment readiness. This has led to important discussions between commissioning professionals, building owners, and O&M teams about expectations for documenting the commissioning process.

Navigating a BECx Project from Start to Finish: A Practical Walkthrough

Saphron Skinner-Willson, Willson Projects

This session offers a comprehensive walkthrough of a hypothetical Building Enclosure Commissioning (BECx) project from initiation to post-substantial completion. Participants will gain practical insights into the commissioning process, guided by the National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) and the Building Commissioning Association (BCxA) Best Practices.
Covering the pre-design, design, construction, and post-construction phases, attendees will explore key elements like OPR/BOD development, testing matrices, specification reviews, field testing, infrared thermography, owner training, and final BECx reports. The presentation also includes real-world examples from various firms, providing a collaborative view on industry challenges and best practices.
By the end, attendees will have a deeper understanding of how to enhance project performance, mitigate risks, and foster collaboration among stakeholders in the BECx process.

2:30 – 2:45 BREAK

2:45 – 3:45 Implementation Strategies to Develop Best Performance

Wolf Geisler, Element Sustainable Design Consulting Inc.

How can design consultants optimize building performance, promote occupant and community well-being, and address the urgent climate crisis?

Unlocking Better Decisions with AI and Data in the Building Industry

Michael Dreidger, MCW Consultants

AI is transforming decision-making in construction and infrastructure, addressing long-standing productivity challenges. This session explores key adoption barriers, practical use cases like energy modeling and predictive maintenance, and how AI supports compliance, collaboration, and sustainable outcomes. Attendees will gain actionable strategies to integrate AI and stay ahead of regulatory shifts.

3:45 – 4:00 CLOSING REMARKS – ROOM: SUNROOM (ADMIN BUILDING)

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