

The City of Kelowna's annual Inspired City Summit brings together the non-profit sector for dialogue, exchange, and action, to build capacity and resilience into our community.

This is a full-day capacity-building conference for non-profit organizations in the areas of sport, social development, arts, culture and heritage. The conference draws an audience from as far as Oliver, BC to the North Okanagan Monashees.

The 2025 theme, "Evolve: Engaging, Collaborative, Impactful", focuses on the dynamic participation of attendees and the importance of working together to create lasting, meaningful change within the non-profit sector. Through visionary keynotes, practical workshops, and insightful panel discussions, attendees will gain the tools and inspiration needed to drive meaningful progress and amplify their impact in an evolving landscape.



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

APRIL 5TH 2025

Coast Capri Hotel

- 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. conference
- 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. networking event

KEY FEATURES

Sessions presented by local leaders and organizations for real life approaches based on challenges and successes in a variety of subjects.

- A variety of learning formats (panel discussions, presentations, circle talks)
- End of day social networking event
- Inspiring Keynote Address
- 15 unique breakout sessions to choose from lead by local experts
- 240 person capacity

OUR DELEGATES

Executive directors, Board Members, Senior leadership, managers, staff and volunteers associated with non-profits.

CALL FOR SPEAKERS

We are seeking local leaders to deliver impactful breakout sessions that provide practical, in depth skills and knowledge to elevate non-profit organizations. Join us in sharing your expertise and make a difference!

SESSION TIMES

Session 1: 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Session 2: 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Session 3: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SESSION LAYOUT

- Theatre style seating
- One hour long
 - **Presentation:** topic presented with lots of time for Q&A
 - **Workshop:** topic presented with hands-on or interactive component
 - **Panel:** Arrange your own panel discussion to highlight a topic
 - **Round table:** Topic presented with facilitated participant exchange.

CONTACT

Interested speakers can fill in an [Expression of interest](#) or reach out to culture@kelowna.ca to learn more



SESSION CATEGORIES

1

Communications and connections

Communication is a key to success of any organization. Sessions in this category provide valuable insights into developing branding, connecting with audiences and learning practical skills of how to market programs and services. This section also covers inter-personal relationship building and communication skills.

Examples of sessions in this category:

- Digital presence
- Data collection and usage
- Search engine optimization
- Leading for different personalities
- Conflict resolution skills
- Government relations 101
- Conflict and challenging conversations
- Team collaboration

2

People and processes

Without our people we have nothing! Keep your organization thriving with the strength of the people within and the ones you want to reach. Sessions in this category cover elements of community engagement, cultural understanding and to ensure the organization is well-equipped to thrive and connect with its community.

Examples of sessions in this category:

- Equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility focused content
- Ableism
- Creating safe spaces
- Volunteer management
- Cultural competency training
- Decolonizing practices and navigating power
- Unconscious bias training
- Advocacy 101
- Executive Director: Empowering your board
- Leading and managing change
- Personal career planning
- Introduction to performance support
- Giving and receiving feedback
- Tools for recruiting and selection

3

Systems and structures

Effective systems and structures are an evolving topic for every organization. Sessions in this category address both fundamental organizational processes and the integration of emerging technologies like AI to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in the non-profit context.

Examples of sessions in this category:

- Governance models
- Advanced governance: Strategic and generative conversations
- Critical role of the board chair
- Supporting your executive director
- Board roles and responsibilities
- Succession and recruitment
- Effective board meeting facilitation
- Executive director succession planning
- Organizational lifecycles assessment
- Strategic planning and implementation

4

Finance and assets

Financial sustainability is crucial for non-profit organizations to achieve their missions and make a positive impact. Sessions in this category look at strategic and proactive approaches that encourage the development of diversified revenue sources to ensure long term success of your non-profit organization.

Examples of sessions in this category:

- Membership/subscription models
- Crafting a sponsorship package
- Fundraising
- Revenue diversification
- Fund development
- Financial governance

Peer to peer session

Speakers in this category are not necessarily experts in the topic, rather they are peers who are facilitating a collective learning experience by facilitating dialogue and sharing best practices.

5 Community of practice

Learning from others provides diverse perspectives, accelerates personal growth, and fosters innovation through the exchange of ideas and experiences. Sessions in this category foster collaborative learning through peer-to-peer discussions, enabling individuals to glean insights and knowledge from others facing similar challenges.

Sessions in this category could be:

- Rethinking audience engagement- exploring value added events
- Building your audiences
- Panel discussion: Arrange your own panel discussion to highlight a topic
- Serving the next generation
- Any topic from the other themes

WHAT'S IN IT FOR SPEAKERS

AS A SPEAKER YOU WILL RECEIVE:

- **Complimentary event ticket:** Enjoy full access to the entire event, including sessions, keynote, and networking event.
- **Meals and refreshments:** Lunch, snacks, coffee, and light fare will be provided throughout the day and at the networking event.
- **Knowledge sharing opportunity:** Showcase your expertise and share your insights with an engaged audience.
- **Community connections:** Build valuable relationships with attendees, other speakers, and community members, expanding your professional network.
- **Recognition:** Gain visibility as a thought leader in your field and make a lasting impact on the community.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MOBILE EVENT APP: WHOVA

- In-app networking for all conference attendees
- Sponsor logos appear in app as well as on the agenda next to supported program pieces.
- Directly reach conference delegates between January 2025 and June 2025

