

Institute of Transportation Engineers Canada Greater Vancouver Section

2024 Annual Report January 1st to December 31st, 2024

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INTRODUCTION

ITE Greater Vancouver is a not-for-profit organization that supports the advancement of the transportation engineering and planning industry in association with its parent organization, ITE Canada and ITE International. The Section area includes the Metro Vancouver geographic area and has one student sub-chapter at the University of British Columbia's Vancouver Campus.

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1.0 ANNUAL REPORT

1.1. MEETINGS, TOURS, AND EVENTS

1.1.1. Regular Meetings: The 2024 Program of Events

#	Date	Location	Туре	Topic and/or Speaker
1	Feb 21, 2024	Virtual	Technical Presentation	Hwy 5 Reinstatement Program Victor Wang & Jonathan Ho (Kiewit) (2023 Award Recipient)
2	Feb 21, 2024	Steamworks Brewpub Vancouver, BC	ITE GV Past President's Dinner	Connecting Past and Present Leadership
3	Mar 21, 2024	Scott Road Corridor Surrey, BC	Technical Tour	R6 Rapidbus Tour with Translink + Social Event
4	Apr 17, 2024	Funk Coffee House Vancouver, BC	ITE GV + Planning Institute of BC Joint Presentation & Mixer	How Can Transportation Engineers & Planners Move Equity from Rhetoric to Reality? Tessa Williams
5	May 16, 2024	Virtual	Technical Presentation	City of Burnaby Vision Zero Program Eric Tam, Geoff Ho, Suzanne Woo (2023 Award Recipient)
6	Jun 1, 2024	Burnaby Active Transportation Network Burnaby, BC	Technical Tour	Tour of newly opened bike facilities in Burnaby with project team members
7	Sept 7, 2024	Welcome Back Picnic Burnaby, BC	Social Event	End of summer social event at Burnaby Fraser Foreshore Park
8	Oct 23, 2024	Funk Coffee House Vancouver, BC	Technical Presentation & Social Event	A Conversation on Engaging the Public Uytae Lee, About Here
9	Nov 20, 2024	Funk Coffee House Vancouver, BC	Technical Workshop & Social Event	Island Platform Bus Stops: Beyond the Design Guide Presented by the Cities of Vancouver and North Vancouver, Translink, Urban Systems, and Universal Access Design
10	Dec 4, 2024	Virtual	Technical Presentation	4 Year Trends of Personal Mobility Devices in Metro Vancouver Amir Hassanpour
11	Jan 15, 2024	Tap & Barrel Vancouver Convention Ctr. Vancouver, BC	Annual General Meeting	Year in Review Summary, Executive Swearing-in, and Awards Presentation

1.1.2. Event Spotlight

The ITE Greater Vancouver 2024 program had events for everyone. While each event played a part in supporting ITE Canada's mission to "provide the Canadian transportation community opportunities to learn, connect, contribute and grow to best meet the needs for safe and healthy mobility in Canada.", two events are notable for their positive reception and for addressing multiple objectives of ITE Canada and ITE International. These events focused on organizational priorities as follows:

- ITE International Values: Technical Excellence, Community, DEI
- ITE Canada Guiding Principles: Excellence, Future Focused, Inclusive, Community
- ITE Canada Priority Areas and Goals: Membership Growth & Retention

How Can Transportation Engineers & Planners Move Equity from Rhetoric to Reality?

ITE Greater Vancouver continued its partnership with the Planning Institute of BC to present a session on equity in transportation. While equity continues to receive substantial industry focus, practitioners have made it clear that practical guidance and examples are needed to achieve equity principles into day-to-day practice. Furthermore, this strategic partnership directly supports ITE International's push to broaden the organization as *A Community of Transportation Professionals*, with a special focus on the Planning profession. After the technical session a mixer was hosted to allow networking and harbour closer relationships between all of Greater Vancouver's transportation professionals.



Figure 1: Images from How Can Transportation Engineers & Planners Move Equity from Rhetoric to Reality

Island Platform Bus Stops: Beyond the Design Guide

With the recent passing of provincial accessibility legislation (The Accessible BC Act), and the 2020 BC Human Rights Tribunal ruling on Bus Stop Accessibility, professionals are looking for information on how to balance the need to quickly expand active transportation facilities without compromising safety for any members of the community, especially those who rely on transit for mobility.



Figure 2: Presenters and Participants at the Island Platform Bus Stops: Beyond the Design Guide Discussion

1.1.3. Application of Technical Knowledge

Our 2024 program focused heavily on local transportation issues. Nearly every event was a different type of technical partnership tailored to create connections between ITE and the Greater Vancouver transportation industry including planners, engineering consultants, local/regional/provincial governments, students, academia, and even a local "Youtuber"/journalist.

- Events 1 & 3 gave industry partners an opportunity to present work they had done in the region.
- Event 10 shone a spotlight on local academic research specific to our region,
- Events 3, 5, 6 & 9 provided local governments an opportunity to show off their consultant supported efforts in the areas of equity and accessibility.
- Event 4 was a strategic partnership with the planning profession on the topic of equity.

• Event 8 was a unique opportunity to hear from Uytae Lee, host of "About Here" on Youtube. Uytae creates videos on BC and has also partnered with Translink and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) to create videos that tell captivating stories targeted at the public.

1.1.4. Networking Events

ITE Greater Vancouver focused on providing multiple different networking events to ensure there would be something for everyone throughout the year. Not only do these networking events look to grow membership and promote retention by increasing value for existing members, but they also looked to incorporate knowledge management with longstanding members and past executive members. Event 2 gave past presidents an opportunity to connect directly with current section leadership. Events 3, 4, 8, & 9 all incorporated a social event into a technical session or tour aiming to have those interested in the topic stick around and network. Events 7 and 11 were the main networking events. The annual picnic is a pure socializing and networking opportunity that allows attendees to connect and the AGM is a venue for our most engaged section members to participate in the section's governance and connect with each other.



Figure 3: Left: Annual Picnic Attendees Balance Talking about Work & Play; Right: Mavis Johnson Presents the 2023 Mavis Johnson Road Safety Award at the AGM held in Jan 2024.

1.1.5. K-12 STEM Outreach

The 2024 ITE Greater Vancouver executive has recommended in their transition documents to the 2025 executive that they explore K-12 STEM outreach.

1.1.6. New Member Recruitment

New member recruitment takes two main forms. The section's support of the UBC Student Chapter and our attendance at their industry night looks to engage up-and-coming professionals with ITE.

Our ongoing strategic partnership with the Planning Institute of BC aligns with ITE International's efforts to engage the planning profession and drive new membership with important skills in transportation planning.

One of the executive team's goals in 2024 was to keep the costs of events low and host a variety of events carefully chosen to attract new members, and especially student members.

1.1.7. Diversity and Inclusion

As described in the Event Spotlight section, our main technical sessions were intentionally focused on the areas of Diversity and Inclusion, especially accessibility. The highlight of these efforts was the participation of Universal Access Design's Stan Leyenhorst in Event 9 alongside Urban Systems and the Local/Regional Government participating agencies.

Additionally, for the first time ITE Greater Vancouver launched a program that offers reduced or waived attendance fees at our events for individuals for whom the standard rate would be a barrier to participation.

1.1.8. Training/Professional Development

A strategic goal of ITE Greater Vancouver is to offer professional development opportunities at all of our events aside from the main annual social picnic. See the Event Spotlight section for examples of how the section identified technical and professional development offerings that align with ITE and ITE Canada's mission, vision, and goals.

1.1.9. Field Trips and Technical Tours

Section members were out riding busses and bikes at events 3 and 6 respectively in 2024. These technical tours allowed participants to hear about important local projects, seeing and experiencing them in person.

1.1.10. Advocacy

Recent legislative changes in BC have had a direct impact on the practice of transportation engineering. At event 4, participants heard about some of the impacts of the Accessible BC Act on transportation as well as the effects of a 2020 BC Human Rights Tribunal ruling. Event 9 went even deeper into the impact of that ruling on specific bus stop designs, and the designs of transportation infrastructure more broadly. These events also touched on changes to the BC Motor Vehicle Act and Regulations which introduced safe passing distances between vehicles and vulnerable road users.

1.2. STUDENT & YOUNG MEMBER SUPPORT

ITE Greater Vancouver sponsored the UBC ITE Student Chapter Industry Night. Beyond the financial sponsorship, the event was attended by the entire active section executive.

We offered students reduced rates to encourage & support their participation in all of our events.

In March, we visited BCIT (the British Columbia Institute of Technology) for two outreach sessions with students to promote ITE, gauge interest, and encourage participation within our Section. Haesung Ahn, an instructor at BCIT is supportive of ITE and is a champion who can help connect students to ITE with the goal of one day starting a student chapter.



Figure 4: ITE GV President Breanna Jackson and Vice President Matthew Woo Present to Students at BCIT

1.3. LeadershipITE

ITE Greater Vancouver is proud to assist up to one engaged local professional who wishes to participate in LeadershipITE each class. The executive looks for active participation from a member when considering whether to support them.

The 2024 executive is pleased to be supporting Breanna Jackson, P.Eng for the LeadershipITE class of 2025.