International Scientific Conference:

Indigenous Cultural Heritage

- Call for Papers –
  extended to August 20, 2019

Venue and date:

November 13 – 15, 2019; First Nations House of Learning (FNHL) at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

1. Topic of the Conference


The conference/gathering on Indigenous Cultural Heritage is organised by the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration and co-hosted by the First Nations House of Learning (FNHL) at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in collaboration with the ICOMOS ISC for the Interpretation and Presentation of Cultural Heritage Sites. The conference/gathering will focus on the recognition of the diverse and multiple forms of Indigenous Cultural Heritage representation, developing new approaches to World Heritage criteria, valorisation, conservation and restoration.

This conference is organised with the support of ICOMOS Canada and within the framing of the Resolution adopted at the 19th General Assembly of ICOMOS in New Delhi in 2017 on Indigenous Heritage, Resolution 19GA 2017/27.

2. Principal Aim of the Conference

The principle aim of the conference is to provide a forum for dialogue with Indigenous communities in developing new approaches and best practices for World Heritage criteria, valorisation, conservation and restoration that both recognises and ensures the protection of Indigenous Cultural Heritage in all its diverse forms.

This gathering offers Indigenous peoples opportunities to play significant roles in the process of defining the scope and nature of an Indigenous Heritage site or contribution. The gathering provides a safe and respectful opportunity for dialogue and consultation.
This conference aims to work within the framings of the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action (2015).

UNDRIP: Article 11

Indigenous peoples have the right to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs. This includes the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archaeological and historical sites, artefacts, designs, ceremonies, technologies and visual and performing arts and literature.

3. Scope of the Conference

Within the scope of this conference, the principle themes are inclusive of the following:

1. Recognition and identification of the diverse and multiple forms of Indigenous Cultural Heritage representation, including sites that represent heritage as the combination of natural and cultural heritage.

Indigenous cultural heritage is represented through multiple forms such as art, architecture, urban settings, trade routes, sacred places, traditional knowledge, and heritage landscapes.

2. Developing new approaches and best practices for World Heritage criteria, valorisation, conservation, restoration that are inclusive and commensurate with Indigenous heritage perspectives and values.

3. Developing new approaches and best practices for heritage sites that represent the co-existence of tangible and intangible heritage. How is intangible Indigenous Cultural Heritage represented? What are the challenges of conserving Indigenous intangible cultural heritage?

4. Theoretical and practical challenges facing conservation and restoration of Indigenous Cultural Heritage sites that represent heritage as the combination of natural and cultural heritage as in “cultural landscape”. Recognising the intrinsic significance of Indigenous Cultural Heritage and ‘connectedness to the land’, to ‘place’.

5. Developing new approaches and criteria that recognise Traditional Knowledge as Cultural Heritage.

4. Paper submission

Proposals for papers should be sent in summary form up to 2 pages maximum. It is recommended the summary be developed in the form of separate subsections or bullet points to facilitate the understanding of the ideas of the paper.
Proposals for papers should include one or more of the themes outlined, indicating the main theme of the presentation.

**Deadline for Call for Papers extended to August 20, 2019.** Please send proposals for papers to the following address: isctheory@gmail.com

Scientific reviewers of the collaborating committees will select the papers to be presented at the conference. The conference materials will be published as a reviewed monograph.

Authors of papers will be notified of the reviewers' decisions by August 30, 2019.

For additional information please send any questions to: isctheory@gmail.com. We encourage the submission of paper proposals, and we invite you to participate in the conference.

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**5. The conference promoters**

- International Scientific Committee for Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration (TheoPhilos)
- First Nations House of Learning (FNHL) at the University of British Columbia, Canada
- International Scientific Committee for the Interpretation and Presentation of Cultural Heritage Sites (ICIP)
- Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco
- International Institute Life Beyond Tourism

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