



Border Free Bees Symposium

October 12—14, 2018
Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada



a place of mind

Okanagan Wine and
Orchard Museum
Kelowna Museums



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada

October 12, 2018

It gives us great pleasure to welcome you to the Border Free Bees Symposium, an event made possible by your presence, the help of our assistants and volunteers, the collaboration between the University of British Columbia, Emily Carr University of Art + Design, and Kelowna Museums, and with funding support from the Office of the Vice-Principal Research at UBCO and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

For the past three years, under the auspices of a SSHRC Partnership Development grant, Nancy Holmes (UBC Okanagan) and Cameron Cartiere (Emily Carr University of Art + Design) have been harnessing the wonder-inducing properties of art, citizen science and community engagement to educate the general public about the plight of wild pollinators. Many community volunteers and non-profits, municipal and business partners and conservation, science and art supporters contributed significantly to a surprising surge of activity, enthusiasm, and creativity. As our funded project comes to an official close, we believe it fitting for us to gather as many of our wide-ranging, innovative contributors as possible and to exchange stories of artist-led change, capacity building, social innovation and public outreach. We welcome you to this conversation and celebration! And invite you to help us think ahead about how we keep up the momentum.

Our Symposium brings together artists, curators, scientists, teachers, scholars, youth, gardeners, conservationists, and bee lovers from across North America, and we are honoured to have each of you with us to celebrate three years of restoration work, art-making, community engagement, learning and much joy.

We also are grateful to be here in the Okanagan which has one of the most diverse populations of native bees in the country. We also would like to respectfully acknowledge that this Symposium is taking place on unceded lands of the Syilx people.

Cameron Cartiere, Emily Carr University of Art + Design

Nancy Holmes, The University of British Columbia Okanagan campus

<http://borderfreebees.com/>



Keynote Speakers

Mace Vaughan

“Bring Back the Pollinators: What You Need to Know to Save Native Bees”

October 12, 7:00 pm, The Laurel Packing House, 1304 Ellis St.

Mace Vaughan is the Pollinator Conservation Program Co-Director of the renowned insect conservation organization, The Xerces Society. He co-leads a team of 24 pollinator conservation specialists, supervising the largest pollinator conservation team in the United States. He also serves as a national partner biologist and Pollinator Conservation Specialist for the US Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service. Through beautiful photos and engaging natural history, he will provide the latest updates on pollinator declines and conservation. He will aim his talk particularly at agricultural issues, urging a new appreciation for how pollinator-friendly plants and habitat can help farmland be more productive and sustainable, and how Xerces’ new Bee Better certification can help farmers tell their pollinator conservation story. Mace will show how pollinator stories that unfold around us everyday can connect us to people and lands thousands of miles away. He lives in Portland, Oregon.



Victoria Wojcik

“Communities, Collaboration & Saving Bees”

October 13, 7:00 pm, BFB Banquet, Community Centre, 702 Bernard Ave

Dr. Victoria Wojcik is the Canadian Research Director of the Pollinator Partnership. She will talk about the challenges and benefits of ensuring scientific knowledge reaches out to communities. Her talk will inspire us to collaborate, make connections and make change that matters. With a Ph.D. in Environmental Science, Policy, & Management from UC Berkeley in 2009, Dr. Wojcik’s research interests center on how pollinators interact with managed agriculture, industrial lands, and urban landscapes. The Pollinator Partnership (P2), a San Francisco-based nonprofit organization, is dedicated to the protection and promotion of pollinators and their habitats. The Pollinator Partnership works closely with local not-for-profit organizations, charities, businesses, and governments and with Canadian, US and Mexican groups to support cross-border and migratory pollinators throughout North America. The Pollinator Partnership Canada is a Canadian registered not-for-profit with HQ in Toronto and offices in Victoria.

Mace Vaughan’s talk is free of charge and open to the public. Victoria Wojcik’s talk is for banquet ticket holders (banquet is open to the public for a fee.)

Symposium Program

Friday, October 12, 2018

All Friday events will be held at the Laurel Packing House, 1304 Ellis St.

1 pm – 4 pm “Local Governments and Pollinators: Why We Need to Support Beneficial Insects in Our Communities and How You Can”

An information session and round table to help local governments and policy-makers develop innovative tools and resources to conserve and enhance habitats for beneficial insects. This workshop and round table is for local and municipal government staff.

Elizabeth Elle is currently Vice-Provost and Associate Vice President, Learning & Teaching at Simon Fraser University. She has been studying pollination for 25 years, and has focused for the last 15 on the wild pollinators of British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest. Elizabeth and her students research pollinator biodiversity, seeking to understand how wild bees, flies, and other flower visitors contribute both to crop production and the resilience of natural ecosystems. Her main message: anyone can help "save the bees" if they help to provide and conserve habitat!



Lesley Douglas is the General Manager of Environment and Parks for the City of Port Moody. With a career that has spanned across the urban-rural landscape of the Lower Mainland, Lesley has bridged opportunities for watershed protection, ecological connectivity and ecosystem planning for a wide variety of municipal projects with a recent focus on pollinator habitat restoration. Over the past 4 years Lesley has integrated pollinator restoration projects into the environment and parks portfolio in the Cities of Richmond and Port Moody. Her keen interest in ecological connectivity and restoration led her to recent innovative collaborations with public art practitioners, local stewardship community members and a variety of municipal staff.

Nan Capogna is the Curator for the Richmond Art Gallery. Before working at the Gallery she was a Senior Lecturer at the Schools of Architecture and Design, Wellington Polytechnic and Victoria University and also was the Schools Education Coordinator at City Gallery, Wellington. She has a ten year history with the Richmond Art Gallery as the Education and Public Programs Coordinator including nearly two years as the Interim Director/Curator. She has a BFA from Wayne State University, Detroit and a MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.



Liesl Jauk is the Manager of Arts Services for the City of Richmond. Prior to joining the City in 2008, she co-produced The Word On The Street Festival and BC Book Prizes and provided marketing and graphic design services for a range of arts organizations and events in Vancouver. Liesl has an M.A. in the Social History of Art (Leeds, U.K.) and an extensive educational and professional background in fine arts, design and communications coupled with a passion for the arts in community.

Friday, October 12, cont'd

7 pm – 8:30 pm: *PLENARY: Mace Vaughan* “Bring Back the Pollinators: What You Need to Know to Save Native Bees”

Laurel Packing House, 1304 Ellis St.

Okanagan Song by Amber Cardenas, Westbank First Nation

Welcome from Linda Digby, Executive Director, Kelowna Museums

Welcome from Dr Greg Garrard, Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies, UBC Okanagan

Introduction, Nancy Holmes, Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies, UBC Okanagan

MACE VAUGHAN talk.

Displays and literature from Border Free Bees, Okanagan Master Gardeners, Buy Local BC Initiative, Okanagan Xeriscape Association.

Symposium Registration Table open until 9 pm.

Saturday, October 13, 2018

Border Free Bees Workshop

The University of British Columbia Okanagan

3333 University Way, Kelowna BC

ARTS 202 and 204

Coffee, tea and baked goods will be available when you arrive.

9 am– 10 am Welcome from Nancy Holmes and Cameron Cartiere.

Round the room to introduce workshop attendees and intentions for the day.

10 am—10:30 am Fabian Cid Yanez

“The BFB Digital Mapping Project”



Fabian Cid, who has been the graduate research assistant for Border Free Bees for the past year at UBC Okanagan, has led the creation of a GIS tool. GIS allows multiple layers of information to be displayed on a single map; this map will identify all the places BFB partners and teams have worked or set up projects. We will be inviting attendees to participate by inputting data related to the projects they've been involved in to help them better understand the many intercontinental and inter-community relationships. Fabian Cid Yanez is an Interdisciplinary PhD candidate focused in Earth and Environmental Sciences at UBC Okanagan. His undergraduate work was in Industrial Engineering at the Universidad de Concepción, Chile and his MSc in Wood Science at Université Laval, Quebec. His own research involves movement modelling to study the Boreal caribou declines across Canada.

10:30 am—10:45 am – Coffee Break

10:45 am—11 :30 am Jaymie Johnson

“Bees– Our Life Line”



Artist Jaymie Johnson will lead us in a weaving experience and talk about Kelowna and Terra Nova projects . Using natural materials while we dialogue, she will teach participants how to twist rope from plant fibres. The task is a way to connect with the Border Free Bees projects she has worked on- net and basket weaving projects in Richmond and Kelowna---and so make her contribution embodied and interactive. While we learn, we will talk about ethical harvesting/gleaning, embodied learning and connectivity. Truly, if we talk about bees, we have to talk about plants and other relationships. Johnson uses plant and earth materials to create site-specific works involving fibre processing and community participation. She is an interdisciplinary artist whose work literally weaves together ecology, art and community. Since graduating with a BFA in Visual Arts from Emily Carr

University, she has worked on numerous community-engaged environmental public art projects as a member of the chART Collective and as a Project Assistant with Border Free Bees.

11:30 am– 12 noon Cesar Damian and Elena Barba of FRONDA

“Symbiosis: Encounters Between Bees, Artists and Scientists in Mexico”



Damian and Barba will talk about the processes FRONDA is developing to create artist-led environmental projects in Hidalgo State. Elena Barba is a pedagogue, cultural promoter and entrepreneur who is executive director and co-founder with Cesar Damian of FRONDA. She studied Pedagogy in the *Direction des Services Départementaux de l'Education Nationale du Tarn* (France) and has international pedagogical experience. Damian is a visual artist, editor, and a cultural promoter. He studied photography at Scottsdale Community College in Arizona and at

Centro de la Imagen in Mexico City. From 2002 to the present he has participated in diverse exhibitions, projects, and exchange programs in Mexico, Canada, USA, Argentina, and England. FRONDA is a non-profit organization whose objective is to promote artistic disciplines in rural and urban spaces, outside of Mexico City through the creation of projects aimed at the creation, exploration, training, exchange and dissemination of interdisciplinary and intercultural art.

12 noon - 1 pm Lunch provided for all workshop participants. In Arts 202. *Bee art work by Kelly Maier*. Slide show of Wildlife Apiaries designed by Evan Hutchinson.

1 pm- 1:30 pm Courtney Gilbert

“A Big Idea: Why Artists Love Bees and Bees Love Artists”



Courtney Gilbert will discuss the experience of installing an art-focused pollinator pasture in the small mountain community of Ketchum, Idaho, placing the planning and execution of the pasture with Border Free Bees within the larger context of a community-wide, multidisciplinary project. She will share how the exhibition offers a community-wide conversation about the challenges bees and pollinators face today in this rural American community. One factor behind The Center's decision to pursue a project on bees is the appeal the topic holds for contemporary artists working across the disciplines. Gilbert holds PhD and MA degrees in art history from the University of Chicago and a BA from Dartmouth College. Since joining the Sun Valley Center for

the Arts in Ketchum Idaho as Curator of Visual Arts in 2006, she has curated more than 25 exhibitions of modern and contemporary art.

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

POLLINATING TABLES– MODELLING FUTURE PROJECTS

We invite participants to join one of the following round tables. The intention of each round table is to envision community projects to move us toward future planning and to share methods: one table will demonstrate the transfer of BFB methods with a new community and one table will deliberate on indigenous engagement. Everyone has something to contribute to this vision process, sharing knowledge, expertise, contacts, potential collaborating partners, enthusiasm and questions. The aim for these discussions is imagining and strategizing future connections.

TABLE 1- IMAGINING A BEE-RELATED ART PROJECT FOR NELSON BC

ARTS 202 Cameron Cartiere (facilitator) with Arin Fay.



Arin Fay is a curator, writer, and artist living in the interior of British Columbia. Areas of special interest include: publications, curatorial writing and advocating for art and artists. Arin has curated and toured several exhibitions in British Columbia. She holds an English degree (with distinction), has attended the Banff Centre – Writing with Style Program (2010), and has undertaken a residency at the Mackenzie Art Gallery in Regina Saskatchewan (2016). Arin has been an active participant in the arts and culture community in the Kootenays for over twenty years, as an artist, volunteer,

board member and curator. Arin is currently the Curator at Touchstones Nelson Museum of Art and History in Nelson, British Columbia.

TABLE 2- IMAGINING A BEE-NAMING PROJECT FOR THE OKANAGAN

ARTS 204 Nancy Holmes (facilitator) with Pamela Barnes

Pamela Barnes is an Okanagan Indigenous Educator at Wildrose Native Traditions. She helps local teachers implement indigenized curriculum. With her husband Grouse Barnes, the youngest fluent speaker of *nsyilxcən* in Westbank First Nation, she leads a Cultural Safety unit for nursing students at UBCO. She and her husband are respected elders in the Westbank First Nation. The goal of this discussion is to talk about a framework for a “bee-naming” project that would ideally involve children, poets, scientists, elders, and schools, to create (or rediscover) names for the countless bees that have no name in English or possibly in *nsyilxcən*. We will imagine what such a project might look like, the protocols, processes, advantages, disadvantages, and resources needed.

2:30 pm — 2:45 pm Coffee Break

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm Brian Campbell

“What’s Next?”



Border Free Bees has been fortunate to have had the wisdom, knowledge and inspiration of Brian Campbell over the past three years. He has 20 plus years as a beekeeper and has been interested in native bees for even longer. He is the former president of the Richmond Beekeepers Association, founder and chief instructor of the Bee School, and owner of Blessed Bee Farm. He has taught a Sustainable Urban Beekeeping program at Langara for three years and is an adjunct professor of apiculture at Kwantlen

Polytechnic University in the Sustainable Agriculture Degree Program. As the Beeologist at UBC Botanical Garden, he leads research in native bees, specifically bumble bees, informing conservation plans for the Garden and campus. His day job is Product Manager and Quality Assurance Operator at West Coast Seeds, he is secretly a big fan of wasps (solitary and social), and he is keen to see bee conservation expanded into Hymenoptera conservation.

3:15 pm— 3:45 pm

Pollinating table participants give a short presentation on their conversation to the group as a whole.

3:45 pm- 4 pm Final thoughts and intentions for Sunday morning.

Banquet and Keynote talk with Victoria Wojcik will be downtown at the Centre culturel francophone de l'Okanagan / French Cultural Centre at 702 Bernard Ave. Doors open at 6:30 pm with dinner beginning at 7 pm. Transport will be on your own.

BFB Banquet

Centre culturel francophone de l'Okanagan/ French Cultural Centre

702 Bernard Ave, Kelowna

Parking is on the street — no parking on site.

6:30—9:30 pm

6:30 pm— Doors open, complimentary cocktail.

7:00 pm— Dinner served. Beer and wine for sale.

8:00 pm- Nancy Holmes welcomes guests. Volunteer appreciation.

8:10 pm— Cameron Cartiere introduces Dr. Victoria Wojcik.

8:15 pm—9 :15 pm— KEYNOTE TALK: “Communities, Collaboration & Saving Bees”.

Sunday, October 14, 2018

Border Free Bees Workshop, cont'd

The University of British Columbia Okanagan

3333 University Way, Kelowna BC

ARTS 202 and 204

Coffee, tea and fruit will be available for when you arrive.

9:30 am - 11 am “Planning the Map”

We will spend the morning working on the Digital Map, following up plans that were made on Saturday and wrapping things up.

11:15 am - 12 noon LUNCH

Hot lunch provided.

12 noon—2:30/ 3 pm “Planting the Pasture”

A Field Trip with Tanis Gieselman

Start at UBC, car pool to plant rescue site, and then travel to the Pollinator Pasture; if you have a vehicle, we’d appreciate your giving participants a ride!

FOR FIELD TRIP: Wear weather appropriate clothes and good walking shoes. A water bottle would be good too.



Tanis Gieselman from Seeds Co Community Conservation will lead us on a field trip to rescue plants on land slated for development and then we will drive to the Pollinator Pasture to plant them— in plots prepared by students from Arrowleaf Academy. Tanis grew up in the Okanagan. After completing a BSc. in Ecology at Okanagan University College in 2005, she became aware of the particular conservation issues in the Okanagan, and began studying seed-saving technologies as a means for conserving native biodiversity outside of parks and protected areas. In 2008 she moved to Vancouver to complete an MSc. at UBC. After her MSc., Tanis stayed in Vancouver for five years to be a science educator at UBC's Beatty Biodiversity Museum, while continuing to develop her seed-saving strategy in Kelowna. She returned to Kelowna in 2015 to work with the Okanagan Collaborative Conservation Program (OCCP) as the Projects Coordinator. She has supported the restoration and development of Kelowna’s Pollinator Pasture as friend, advisor, expert, and inspiration.

**THANK YOU FOR SPENDING THE WEEKEND
WITH US!**

Our website:
<http://borderfreebees.com/>

Contacts

For any Symposium-related issues, please email, text, or call one of the organizers:

- Nancy Holmes: nancy.holmes@ubc.ca; cell: 1-250-809-0439
- Cameron Cartiere: ccartiere@ecuad.ca; cell: 1-778-896-1444
- Fabian Cid: fabian.cid@gmail.com; 1-778-215-8918

<http://borderfreebees.com/>

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to everyone behind the scenes who helped bring this event together: Fabian Cid, Chelsea Robinson, Samantha Woods, Geoff Campbell, Linda Digby, Anu Januhen, Shauna Oddleifson, and Arrowleaf Academy.

With gratitude to Megan Smetzer, Brian Campbell, Maureen Lisle, Evan Hutchinson, Fionncara MacEoin, Robert Lalonde, Tanis Gieselman, Lesley Douglas, Elizabeth Elle, Erin Udal, Megan Hunter, Asia Jong, Nick Strauss, Dave Murray, and our many guest experts, volunteers, businesses, and organizations across British Columbia, for their support over the past three years, including the City of Richmond and the City of Kelowna.

Bee photos in this program are thanks, once again, to Dr. Robert Lalonde.

