

Keynote Speaker

Miljana Horvat

Dr. Miljana Horvat - PhD (Building Engineering), Concordia; M.Arch (Affordable housing), McGill; Dipl.Ing.Arh, (Eng of Architecture), University of Belgrade. Professor, Department of Architectural Science Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science, Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson). With expertise spanning across architecture, architectural engineering and building science, Dr. Horvat has been a faculty member at the TMU's Department of Architectural Science since 2004 where she has been teaching courses at the undergraduate program's foundation years, in building science specialization year and in both graduate programs in architecture and building science. Dr. Horvat was actively involved in the development of Master of Building Science, launched in 2008 and PhD program in Building Science that commenced in 2019. Her research focuses on high-performance building envelopes, building integrated solar technologies, architectural integration of solar energy and solar neighbourhoods planning. Recently, in working with her graduate students, her research expanded into utilization of AI in building science, such as introducing machine learning (ML) algorithms in building envelope deficiencies' detection through processing of thermographic images and implementation of ML in creating solar-centric urban neighbourhoods in order to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and create resilient cities. As an educator and mentor, Dr. Horvat has dedicated over 20 years to inspiring a passion for building science and sustainability in generations of students.

Fireside Participants

Karima Hashmani

Karima Hashmani is the first Chief Inclusion Officer at Metrolinx, and she is building equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) capacity across the organization to create an equitable workplace, drive engagement and a culture of belonging. This includes embedding EDI into everything we do - from the workplace, to how it engages and works with the customers and communities it serves. Karima has successfully developed the organization's first Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) strategy; and launched Metrolinx's first EDI Climate Survey to better understand the experiences of equity-deserving communities in its workforce; and accelerated the use of data to impact change. Karima has more than two decades of experience addressing complex EDI and human rights issues within the education, social housing, and non-profit sectors. Prior to being at Metrolinx, Karima was the first Executive Director, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at the University of Toronto where she focused on addressing systemic change within policies and practices on accessibility, sexual & gender diversity and anti-racism on three campuses. While at U of T, Karima co-convened the National Dialogues and Action and the Scarborough Charter on Anti-Black Racism and Black Inclusion in Canadian Higher Education. Prior to joining the University of Toronto, Karima spent 12 years at Toronto Community Housing, holding many roles in human rights, equity, and community development. Karima has dedicated her career to amplifying voices, advancing systemic change, and building and strengthening inclusive environments. She is from a little island called Scarborough.

Alex Lukachko

Alex Lukachko is a building science consultant and climate change adaptation specialist, who has worked on high-performance, low-carbon buildings and building materials with clients in many parts Canada and the United States, including building material manufacturers, developers, constructors, and design firms. He is currently working with architecture firms to help them change their design and construction practice to address the climate crisis. Lukachko also teaches the integration of energy, building science, and design concepts in the architecture programs at the University of Toronto. He has active research interests in the development of future building enclosure systems and the design of high-performance, low-environmental-impact buildings. In particular, he is interested in the link between architectural design and

quality assurance that ensures high building performance. These interests are part of a long-term pursuit of effective (and measurable) sustainable building practices.

Shristi Joshi

Shristi is a Technical Design Representative with over 3 years of experience in the building sector. Shristi received her advanced diploma in Architectural Technology from George Brown College and is currently working on her thesis to complete her Masters in Architecture from Boston Architectural College. Her research delves into integrating innovative building methods to provide a sustainable solution for marginalized communities. As an active and engaged member of the building industry, Shristi has engaged frequently with a variety of associations within the sector, volunteering to further expand her knowledge while also giving back to the community.

Event Emcee & Moderator

Jennifer Hogan

Recipient of the IIBEC Emerging Professional Award of Excellence and OBEC's Rising Star Award, Jennifer Hogan is passionate about building sciences, energy performance, and baseball. She has been a building science consultant for over 16 years and now uses her experience and knowledge to help clients achieve their energy and carbon goals as the leader of the Energy and Carbon Reduction team at Pretium. If you asked Jennifer what her favorite thing is about her career, she would tell you that it is being able to share her love of the built environment with others. To that end, she is a frequent speaker and presenter at industry events, has authored several technical publications, and is an active member of multiple industry associations including currently serving as the Second Vice President on the IIBEC Board of Directors.

Stephanie Robinson

Stephanie Robinson, P.Eng., is the Director of Building Sciences, Eastern Canada for WSP Canada Inc. She is based in Ottawa, Ontario and has over 15 years' experience in the building enclosure industry, including investigation, design, contract administration and construction review of building enclosure components for new and existing construction in both Canada and the United States. She recognizes that there is more than one solution to every challenge and believes that careful consideration of every option will lead to a unique strategy to both fulfill a client's needs and optimize a building's performance. Stephanie is a licensed professional engineer in Ontario and a Level 2 Certified Thermographer. She was one of the founding members of the IIBEC Quebec Ontario Chapter and currently sits on the IIBEC Board of Directors as Director of Region VII.