



International Property Tax Institute

PROPERTY TAX CONFERENCE 2025

POLICY AND PRACTICE



SEPTEMBER 16 & 17, 2025



HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA



Venue: Halifax Convention Center, Nova Scotia, Canada

Organized By: International Property Tax Institute (**IPTI**) in Co-operation with
the Property Valuation Services Corporation (**PVSC**)

P R E A M B L E

The property tax is an important source of revenue for local governments around the world. Ideally, the tax would have a broad tax base with few exemptions, the use of tax incentives to attract businesses would be minimal, properties would be assessed at their market value that is updated annually, and tax limitations (such as tax capping and assessment limits) would be minimized. Taxpayers would be able to appeal their assessed value if they perceive it to be unfair, property tax collection would be enforced, and the administration of the tax would be cost-effective. The tax would also generate adequate revenues for local governments to provide services.

In many countries and jurisdictions, however, the property tax does not adhere to this ideal model. There are many reasons why that might be the case -- for example, inadequate legislation, lack of technical capacity, poor administration, or the unpopularity of the property tax. What are the challenges we face with implementing a property tax? What can we learn from international experience about how to overcome these challenges? What opportunities are available to improve the property tax?

This conference will share experiences from around the world on what works and what does not work. International experts will talk about various aspects of property tax systems including policy, legislation, valuation and administration.

AGENDA-DAY 1, SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2025

TIME	DETAILS	SPEAKER
08:15 am	Registrations	
09:00 am	Opening Remarks & Welcome	Jerry Grad Mayor Andy Fillmore
09:15 am	Keynote Address: Property taxation Issues and Challenges – Why is it so complicated?	Dr. Enid Slack
09:45 am	Property Tax Policy – International Experience	Paul Sanderson
10:15 am	Networking Break	
10:35 am	Stakeholder Perspectives – What works and what does not? Municipalities	Moderator: Cathie O'Toole Panelists: Jean Marc Nadeau Lindsay Jones Victoria Brooks
12:00 pm	Lunch	
01:00 pm	Stakeholder Perspectives, Cont'd Directors of Assessment and Senior Executives	Moderator: Scott Farmer Panelists: Jason Grant Kevin Siu Greg Martino Lisa Dionne
02:40 pm	Networking Break	
03:00 pm	Stakeholder Perspectives, Cont'd Private Sector	Panelists: Marc Sances Jeff Grad
03:50 pm	Property Tax Oversight Agencies – Comparing and Contrasting the Netherlands and Idaho Systems, International Standards	Marco Kuijper Alan Dornfest
04:20 pm	Developing the Future Property Tax Professionals	Alan Colston and VOA Team
05:15 pm	Networking Reception	
06:15 pm	Day 1 Concludes	

AGENDA - DAY 2, SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2025

TIME	DETAILS	SPEAKER
09:00 am	Day 1 Summary	
09:15 am	Tax Base and Rate Policy Challenges	Dr. Almos Tassonyi
09:45 am	Innovative Tax Administration – Spanish Experience	Jose Belso Ramon Andarias
10:30 am	Modernization Efforts	Prof. Roy Kelly
11:00 am	Networking Break	
11:20 am	Modernization Efforts – Practical Realities	Moderator: Prof. Roy Kelly Panelists: Alan Colston Dr. Claudia DeCesare Prof. Dirk Lohr Evelyn Khoo
01:00 pm	Lunch	
02:00 pm	The “Ideal” Property Tax Appeal System - Does it Exist?	Panelists: Matt Kanter Robert Andrews Ruud Kathmann
03:15 pm	How Do We See the Future for Property Taxes	Moderator: Dr. Enid Slack Panelists: Rebecca Vostermans Prof. Roy Kelly Kevin Siu Jason Grant
04:30 pm	Conference Summary and Conclusions	Jerry Grad
04:45 pm	Conference Concludes	

ABOUT THE CHAIRS/SPEAKERS

SPEAKER	TITLE	LOCATION
Ramon Andarias	Institutional Relations Manager, Suma	Alicante, Spain
Robert Andrews	Senior Legal Counsel, PVSC	Nova Scotia, Canada
Jose Belso	Executive Director of Suma, and Professor of Economics at UMH University	Alicante, Spain
Victoria Brooks	CAO, County of Yarmouth & AMANS Vice President	Nova Scotia, Canada
Alan Colston	Chief Valuer, Valuation Office Agency	United Kingdom
Dr. Claudia DeCesare	Municipality of Porto Alegre	Brazil
Lisa Dionne	Executive Director, Property Assessment Services	New Brunswick, Canada
Alan Dornfest	Property Tax Policy Bureau Chief, Idaho State Tax Commission	USA
Scott Farmer	CEO, PVSC	Nova Scotia, Canada
Mayor Andy Fillmore	Mayor of Halifax	Nova Scotia, Canada
Jeff Grad	Partner, PwC	Ontario, Canada
Jerry Grad	CEO, IPTI	Ontario, Canada
Jason Grant	CEO, BC Assessment	British Columbia, Canada
Lindsay Jones	Director of Policy and Government Relations, Association of Municipalities of Ontario	Ontario, Canada
Matt Kanter	Vice-President and General Counsel, MPAC	Ontario, Canada
Ruud Kathmann	Technical Manager, Netherlands Council for Real Estate Assessment	Netherlands
Evelyn Khoo	Assistant Commissioner, Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore	Singapore
Marco Kuijper	Strategist, Netherlands Council for Real Estate Assessment	Hague, The Netherlands
Roy Kelly	Professor of the Practice of Public Policy, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University	North Carolina, USA
Prof. Dirk Lohr	Tier University	Germany
Greg Martino	Vice-President, MPAC	Ontario, Canada
Jean Marc Nadeau	Chief Executive Officer, SUMA	Saskatchewan, Canada
Cathie O'Toole	Chief Administrative Officer, HRM	Nova Scotia, Canada
Marc Sances	Senior VP, Prologis	Massachusetts, USA
Paul Sanderson	President, IPTI	United Kingdom
Dr. Enid Slack	Dr. Enid Slack, Director, Institute of Municipal Finance and Governance, School of Cities, University of Toronto	Ontario, Canada
Kevin Siu	Commissioner of Rating and Valuation, Government of Hong Kong	Hong Kong, China
Dr. Almos Tassonyi	Executive Fellow, School of Public Policy, University of Calgary; Senior Associate, IMFG, School of Cities, University of Toronto	Ontario, Canada
Rebecca Vostermans	Vice-President, PVSC	Nova Scotia, Canada

FEES AND REGISTRATION

	Early Bird Rate (Until July 18, 2025)	Regular Rate
Individual	\$667.00 CAD (\$580 + \$87.00 HST) or \$435 USD	\$701.50 CAD (\$610 + \$91.50 HST) or \$465 USD
IPTI Members / 5 or more people from the same organization (to be registered at one time)	\$609.50 CAD (\$530 + \$79.50 HST) or \$385 USD	\$644.00 CAD (\$560 + \$84.00 HST) or \$415 USD

Fee includes conference material, networking breaks, lunches and reception on Day 1. Accommodation is not included. No cancellations but substitutions are welcome.

Register (Pay in CAD)

Register (Pay in USD)

VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION DETAILS

Venue Address:
Halifax Convention Center,
1650 Argyle Street, Halifax, NS B3J 0E6

Recommended Hotels for Accommodation:

Residence Inn by Marriott
1599 Grafton Street, Halifax, NS B3J2C3

Please book your accommodation directly with The Residence Inn and use our special discounted rate [HERE](#)
Note: Last day to avail discounted rates is **August 14, 2025**

The Hollis Halifax
A DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Hotel
1649 Hollis St, Halifax, NS B3J 1V8

Please book your accommodation directly with The Hollis Halifax and use our special discounted rate [HERE](#)
Note: Last day to avail discounted rates is **August 25, 2025**