



RAIC | IRAC

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
Institut royal d'architecture du Canada

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Cancellation of RAIC's 2020 Conference on Architecture, Due to Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Why was RAIC's 2020 Conference on Architecture cancelled?

RAIC has made the difficult but necessary decision to cancel the 2020 Conference on Architecture and all pre-Conference events, scheduled for June 2-7, 2020 in Edmonton, Alberta, due to the continued rapid spread of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19).

RAIC staff have been meticulously reviewing updates from the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) with one issue top of mind—safeguarding the health, safety, and well-being of Conference delegates, volunteers, speakers, panellists, exhibitors, and staff. In recent days, a number of significant changes have made the cancellation of the Conference unavoidable.

Will the Conference be rescheduled?

No. Due to the size of the Conference on Architecture, it is not possible to reschedule for another date during 2020. An event the size of the Conference needs to be scheduled at least 1.5 to 2 years before the event to ensure adequate space at the host venue and enough hotel rooms to accommodate all attendees.

Will the Conference be held in a virtual format?

Creative problem solving is core to architectural practice and the RAIC is leveraging this strength in planning the next steps. We are actively exploring alternate virtual continuing education programs as part of our ongoing commitment to enabling meaningful continuing education to support best practices in the profession. Additional information will be shared over the coming weeks about potential opportunities.

Will I receive a refund for my Conference registration now that the event is cancelled?

To ease financial considerations that this cancellation may cause our participants, the RAIC has instituted a flexible refund policy that gives registrants the option to apply their registration fee to the 2021 RAIC Conference on Architecture in Montreal, apply the registration fee to the virtual Conference on Architecture (+ refund of difference) or receive a full refund.

If you or your organization would like to defer your registration investment to be applied to the next RAIC Conference on Architecture—scheduled for June 6-9, 2021 in Montreal—or the virtual Conference on Architecture, you must complete the following survey by Monday, April 6, [2020](#). Otherwise, full refunds will be issued automatically within 30 days.

What if I previously cancelled, will I receive a refund the cancellation fee?

If you previously cancelled, the cancellation fee will be automatically refunded within 30 days.

How can I get reimbursed for accommodation or travel expenses?

If you purchased your housing accommodations through RAIC's room block, no action is needed at this time. The RAIC will cancel all hotel rooms booked through the room block. If you purchased your lodging outside of RAIC's room block, you need to contact the accommodation provider directly. Unfortunately, RAIC cannot reimburse travel expenses. Please contact the airline, train service, etc. directly to inquire about reimbursement.

I'm a sponsor/exhibitor. What is the process to get reimbursed?

The process for exhibitors and sponsors is the same as attendees, the RAIC will issue a refund. If your company would like to defer your trade show booth or sponsorship investment to be applied to the next RAIC Conference on Architecture—scheduled for June 6-9, 2021 in Montreal—or the virtual Conference on Architecture, you must complete the following survey [by Monday, April 6, 2020](#). Otherwise, full refunds will be issued automatically within 30 days.

I had planned to meet a Continuing Education requirement by attending the 2020 Conference on Architecture. What other options do I have?

As we explore alternate continuing education programs with Conference presenters, additional information will be shared over the coming days and weeks about potential opportunities.

I was planning to attend POP // CAN// CRIT and/or the International Indigenous Architecture and Design Symposium, will they be rescheduled?

No, these events are part of the Conference on Architecture, not separate events. Due to the size of the Conference on Architecture, it is not possible to reschedule to another date during 2020.

If you have a question or concern that is not addressed here, please email conference@raic.org. Additionally, information related to COVID-19 will be posted—and updated—[here](#).