



American Water Works Association
Pacific Northwest Section

2019 PNWS-AWWA Conference Vancouver Local Arrangement Committee Report

The Local Arrangement Committee (LAC) has been actively planning details for the conference over the past couple of months. A walk-through of the Hilton Hotel and Convention Center took place in late May.

Opening Ceremony/Keynote Speaker:

Planning for the opening ceremony is progressing and discussions are taking place with the color guard and an opening ceremony act.

The LAC is planning to include a keynote speaker during the opening ceremony. Keynote speakers are still being evaluated. We will make contacts soon to lock in a speaker.

Competition Night:

Competition night planning is progressing. The current plan is to have an outdoor competition night located across the street from the convention center in Esther Short Park. Due to potential weather conditions in western Washington in early May, large tents will be rented to provide cover for competitors and attendees. A gazebo or other park amenities may be incorporated into the staging for the competitions. An outdoor, open air market theme is planned with food carts brought in to provide a variety of different foods. Each attendee will receive vouchers good for a small plate of food from each of the food cart. In an effort to conserve money, sponsors will be recruited to sponsor each food cart. Local brewers will also be invited to provide beer. A competition for best beer is planned with voting available to all attendees on the App. Awards will be handed out to the brewers based on attendee voting.

Golf:

The LAC is still in the process of reviewing location for the golf tournament. The two locations currently being reviewed include Camas Meadows and Heron Lakes. Both facilities are available for the requested date and tentative pricing has been received.

Gifts:

The current plan for a conference gift is a vacuum insulated stainless steel tumbler.

The LAC is still discussing and reviewing ideas for banquet gifts. The gift will likely be something edible made locally.

Miscellaneous:

Online registration will be handled through Action Registration this year. The registration platform will be tested in December and go live on January 2.

A new App will be used this year in an effort to have a more user friendly App. We will begin App development in November with a “go-live” date in February.

Due to the limited number of hotel rooms in the immediate vicinity of the convention center, the LAC will be working with a transportation company to provide shuttles between the Hilton Vancouver and the Red Lion on the River.



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Due to the layout of the venue, meals will be served in a separate room from the vendors. The LAC is currently discussing ideas on how to get attendees into the exhibit hall to visit the vendors on a regular basis.

The LAC has found an entertaining band for the Water for People auction and will soon contract with them for the conference.

The LAC is excited for the conference in May. We will continue to finalize plans and look forward to continuing the conference planning to make the 2019 Vancouver conference great.