

## SUMMARY OF JOINT ASA/CAA CONFERENCE 2018

The joint 176<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America and the Canadian Acoustical Association's Acoustics Week in Canada 2018 was held Nov. 5-9, 2018, in beautiful Victoria, B.C. The conference covered all areas of acoustics, organized according to the ASA's 13 Technical Committees, with a special focus on marine acoustics and bioacoustics, in keeping with the natural coastal setting of Victoria. Over 1300 registrants attended and a similar number of technical papers were presented, making this one of the largest ASA meetings in recent years. As the CAA did not hold a meeting of their own in 2018, formal CAA activities such as the Board of Directors' Meeting, Standards Meeting, Annual General Meeting, and Awards Ceremony were all included as part of the joint event. The conference did not include an Exhibition of acoustics equipment and services, a common feature of regular CAA annual meetings.

The conference was held in the adjoining facilities of the Victoria Conference Centre and the Fairmont Empress Hotel, situated in Victoria's most prestigious location fronting directly on the Inner Harbour Walkway and just steps from the grand B.C. Legislative Building, Royal B.C. Museum, and Government Street pedestrian mall. Most of the technical sessions were held in the Conference Centre, which features an open west-coast, First-Nations décor. The Empress Hotel, a National Historic Site of Canada, provided elegant and unique committee and reception rooms. A buffet social event was held on the Tuesday night of the conference at the Royal B.C. Museum (regularly rated the best museum in Canada), with catering and drinks stations distributed throughout immersive exhibits of the natural and human history of British Columbia, with particularly impressive First Peoples Gallery and Totem Hall. A second buffet social was held on the Thursday night in the Crystal Ballroom at the Empress Hotel, featuring fare inspired by Victoria's traditions and ethnic heritage including fish-and-chips and dim sum.

Planning for the joint conference began 4 years earlier when the ASA sought a local organizer to take on a conference in either Victoria or Vancouver for the fall of 2018. Stan Dosso agreed to take the role of Conference Chair for a Victoria meeting and immediately engaged Roberto Racca as Technical Chair, reuniting a pairing who had worked together in these roles to run CAA meetings in Victoria in 2010 and in Banff in 2012. Stan and Roberto assembled a Local Organizing Committee, largely composed of CAA members, including Xavier Mouy and Sonya Bird (social programs); Graham Warner, Jorge Quijano and Amalis Riera (A/V and Room Monitoring); Tom Dakin, Svein Vagle and Kristen Kanen (Signage); and Shelley Dosso (Accompanying Persons' Program).

The organizers found it a pleasure to work with both the ASA and CAA in convening this joint meeting and bringing to Canada such a large number of acousticians from the United States and the world.

Stan Dosso & Roberto Racca

## PHOTO GALLERY



*Fairmont Empress Hotel on Victoria's Inner Harbour.*



*Victoria Conference Centre (front) and Empress*



*British Columbia Legislative Buildings lit at night.*



*Victoria Conference Centre Entrance Hall.*



*Empress Hotel Palm Court.*



*Royal B.C. Museum Totem Hall (Tuesday Buffet Reception)*