



ZERO EMISSIONS INNOVATION CENTRE

MORE SOLUTIONS, LESS CARBON.

ZEIC Lands Trio of Economic Development Leaders

George Patrick Richard Benson, Peter Sun, and Andrew Williamson will support the organization's new market transformation work.

PRESS RELEASE / APRIL 16, 2024 / FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Today the Zero Emissions Innovation Centre (ZEIC) welcomed three new recruits who will apply their extensive expertise, relationships, and knowledge of the energy transition to advance the Centre's new Economic Development and Market Transformation initiatives.

Until recently, the trio—**George Patrick Richard Benson**, **Peter Sun**, and **Andrew Williamson**—worked at the Vancouver Economic Commission. Following a planned phase-down process, the City of Vancouver is closing that agency and centralizing its role within a new Business and Economy Office. As of today, Benson, Sun, and Williamson are full-time ZEIC employees.

"We're delighted to have these three decarbonization champions on our team," said Melina Scholefield, Executive Director of ZEIC. "Each of them brings specialized skills and knowledge on how to effectively and thoughtfully accelerate this region's transition to prosperous, equitable, and zero-emissions communities."

The trio will report to Namendra Anand, ZEIC's Director of Business Strategy and Impact Investing. Anand is leading ZEIC's work on climate action strategies that transform markets and leverage sustainable finance to create low-carbon economic development opportunities.

Contact:

Gordon Patrick Newell

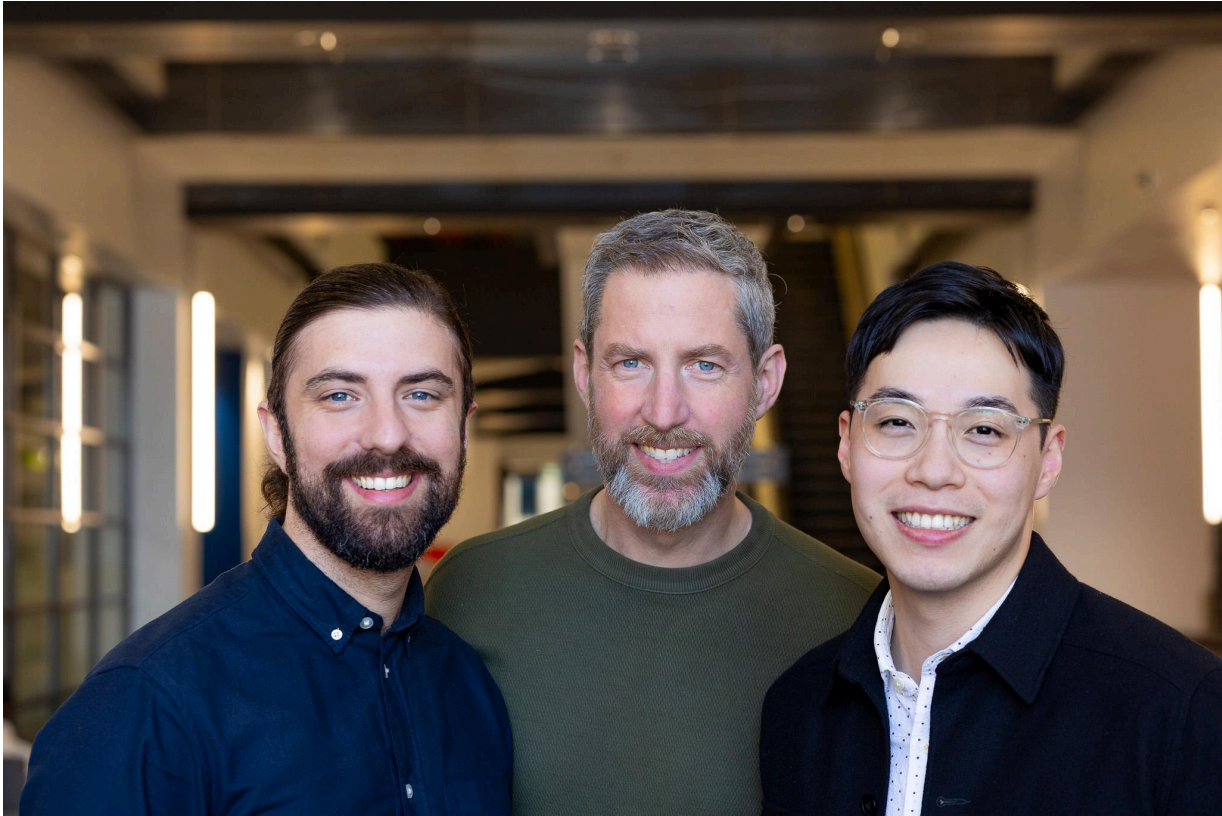
info@zeic.ca

zeic.ca

604-330-2017

The Zero Emissions Innovation Centre (ZEIC) is an independent nonprofit and charitable organization that is part of the Low Carbon Cities Canada network established by the Government of Canada and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Its mandate is to catalyze, accelerate and scale climate action innovation across Metro Vancouver related to green buildings, renewable energy and transportation through a combination of impact investing, granting, partnerships, research and capacity building.

Backgrounder: Meet the New Recruits



Left to right: George Patrick Richard Benson, Andrew Williamson, and Peter Sun. Photo credit: Courtesy Zero Emissions Innovation Centre (zeic.ca).

George Patrick Richard Benson

Senior Manager, Economic Development and Market Transformation

Benson is an experienced economic developer who thrives at the intersection of business, equity, climate action, and policymaking. His work on urban carbon pollution reduction has been recognized globally. Benson has led the development of numerous high-level resources, such as the Zero Emissions Economic Transition Action Plan and the BC Heat Pump Technology Attraction Strategy.

Andrew Williamson Program Manager, Sustainable Workforce Coalition

A seasoned film and television producer, Williamson has in recent years stepped away from the camera to concentrate on full time climate change work. As manager of ZEIC's new Sustainable Workforce Coalition, Andrew is now helping catalyze a just and equitable energy transition for Greater Vancouver workers via research, community activation, and programming.

Peter Sun

Project Manager, Market Transformation

Sun's professional and educational background touches on sustainability, business strategy, real estate development, and construction. He is an effective champion of building electrification via practical solutions to accelerate the reduction of carbon pollution. Among other projects, Sun will oversee the Heat Pump Technology Attraction working group, which aims to make zero-carbon technologies more affordable and accessible.