



TRANSFORMERS COMMITTEE



September 2, 2016

Dear Committee Members and Guests:

You and your companion are cordially invited to Vancouver and beautiful British Columbia, Canada to attend the Fall 2016 meeting of the IEEE/PES Transformers Committee, to be held October 23-27. We look forward to welcoming you to the Canadian Pacific Northwest!

HOTEL INFORMATION: Our meeting will be held in the heart of downtown Vancouver at the **Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel**, 1088 Burrard Street. Trendy Yaletown, eclectic Granville Island, historic Gastown and spectacular Stanley Park and Vancouver Aquarium are all within walking distance. Our discounted guestroom rate at the Sheraton is CAD\$189, including complimentary fitness center use and wireless internet in the guestrooms. Visit the Committee's website for a link to reserve a room, or if you call the hotel, mention "IEEE Transformers" to receive the group rate. The cut-off date for the group rate is Friday, September 30, but we expect the hotel to sell out well before this date.

GETTING THERE: The Sheraton Wall Centre Hotel is located approx. 10 miles (17 km) from Vancouver International Airport (YVR). Taxi fare to downtown Vancouver is approximately CAD\$35 one way. Parking at the hotel is expensive, at CAD\$33-38/night. Parking in the street is permitted.

MEETING REGISTRATION: Register on-line at www.transformerscommittee.org for social events, tours and the meeting. Register by Friday, September 30 to receive a US\$50 early registration discount. The on-line registration system will be disabled on Wednesday, October 19 to print name badges and finalize counts. The cost to register on-site is substantially higher than the advance registration price.

WEATHER: Fall in Vancouver is comfortable, with an average high of 54°F/12°C and evening low of 43°F/6°C. Come prepared for all kinds of weather in the same day ... in Vancouver, we say "wear layers". Most of our events are indoors, and we are hoping for great weather during your visit! Dress for the meeting is business casual.

SATURDAY EARLY BIRD EVENTS: If you arrive early, we have TWO events to enjoy. For those who arrive very early, join us for a breathtaking all-day tour of Vancouver Island and our capital city of Victoria, including a visit to the famous **Butchart Gardens**. We expect this tour to sell out quickly, so register early!

For those who arrive Saturday, join us on a walk across the street from the hotel for an evening at **The Comedy Mix**, a local comedy club where, what we call "appys", will be served. Showtime is 8:00 pm, but we'll walk over a bit early to enjoy the food and fellowship. See flyers for details.

SUNDAY EVENING WELCOME RECEPTION: Renew old friendships and form new ones! This reception will be held in the magnificent Pavilion Ballroom at the Sheraton Wall Centre. A cash bar and plenty of fabulous food and soft music will be provided. Registered meeting attendees and spouses/companions are welcome to attend. Please indicate whether you will attend this reception during the meeting registration process.

WEDNESDAY DINNER SOCIAL: We invite you to join us on a spectacular ocean dinner cruise aboard the MV Britannia. Watch the unmatched beauty of Vancouver's skyline and mountain views as you dine with your colleagues on this elegant sunset cruise around **Stanley Park**, under the **Lions Gate Bridge** and past the beaches of **English Bay**. Enjoy live music, dancing and indulge in a freshly-prepared gourmet dinner inspired by West Coast cuisine. Shuttle buses will run between the Sheraton and the cruise ship for your convenience. Attendance is limited to 250 participants, so register early.

SPOUSE/COMPANION TOURS: Monday's excursion is the **Sea to Sky Highway Tour**. Rated as one of the most scenic highways in the world, experience the spectacular views of **Shannon Falls** and **Mount Habrich**. Ride the **Sea to Sky Gondola** and be greeted with breathtaking panoramic views of the coastal mountain range, Stawamus Chief and **Howe Sound** vistas. Lunch will be provided at the stunning **Summit Lounge** on top of the mountain. See flyer for details.

Tuesday is the **Vancouver City Tour**, where we will spend the morning exploring the sights of Stanley Park, a 1000 acre forest set in the heart of downtown. The tour continues along the Vancouver shoreline to the University of British Columbia and the Museum of Anthropology, where professional guides will take you on a fascinating walk-through of Canadian Pacific Coast history. Participants will enjoy a three course lunch at Seasons in the Park restaurant beautiful Queen Elizabeth Park. Tour concludes with drive-throughs of Chinatown and historical Gastown. Attendance is extremely limited on the Tuesday tour (one bus, ~50 people), so register early. See flyer for details.

TECHNICAL TOURS: On Monday evening, a dinner and a *virtual plant tour* will be provided with your Local Meeting Host, **IFD Corporation**. Following meetings on Tuesday evening, visit the **TRIUMF Particle Accelerator** at the University of British Columbia. On Thursday afternoon, following the Closing Session, visit BC Hydro's **PowerTech Labs** to learn about their 19 different laboratories, as one of the largest testing, research and development facilities in North America, supporting utilities and electric manufacturers.

ADDITIONAL MEETING INFORMATION: Along with this invitation letter, additional meeting information can be downloaded from the Committee's website at www.transformerscommittee.org:

- Registration Fee Summary. Use this as a guide to review the fees for each activity before you begin the on-line registration process.
- Meeting Schedule and General Sessions Agenda. If any noteworthy changes are made, an updated schedule will be posted on the Committee's website a few days prior to the meeting.
- Other informational flyers, including those for the Saturday Early Bird Events, Wednesday Dinner Social, Spouse/Companion Tours and technical presentations.

Note too that, in association with this meeting, we will be selling the "fruits of our labor", at a special discounted conference price: **2016 IEEE Transformers Standards Collection, CD-ROM**. You may purchase the CD with the on-line meeting registration system, and it will be mailed directly to meeting attendees immediately after the meeting. See flyer for more information.

We look forward to seeing you at the Fall 2016 Meeting, and we are certain you will enjoy the spirit of the Canadian Pacific Northwest which is Vancouver!

Paul Chisholm

IFD Corporation
#3-8755 Ash Street
Vancouver, BC Canada V6P 6T3

