**Ontario Natural Building Coalition**

**Natural Building Conference – April 4 and 5, 2020**

**Conference Presenters**

**Paula Baker-Laporte FAIA, BBNC**

Paula is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a certified Building Biologist. Her architectural practice is focused on the creation of environmentally sound and health enhancing architecture working with traditional, nature-based building systems. Paula also serves as a consultant on the health aspects of building throughout North America. She has been an instructor for the Building Biology Institute since 2006. Her published books include “Prescriptions for a Healthy House”, now in its third (soon to be 4th) edition and two books about her architectural work with husband and co-author Robert Laporte: “EcoNest.-Creating Sustainable Sanctuaries of Clay and Timber(2007)*”* and *“*The EcoNest Home*”(2015)*

**Matt Adams**

In 2007 Matt was a co-founder of the Fourth Pig worker co-op and is the Fourth Pig Operations and Education Director. For over thirty years Matt has worked in non-profits in a variety of capacities, including in education, communications and business administration. He has a Masters Degree in Sociology and Equity Studies (Adult Education) from OISE/University of Toronto. He is the co-author of two adult education text books. He is a PHIUS Certified Builder.

Matt was the program director for a national literacy program in the U.S., he co-founded a popular education co-op in Toronto where he designed curricula and delivered trainings and workshops to many non-profits. He was also part of a community based research team exploring the social determinants of health. For many years he was a senior staff member at rabble.ca, Canada's most read independent news source and worked as the publicist for a long-running art festival and an independent press.

**Annie Murphy**

Annie Murphy is a builder and educator based in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Annie’s interest in building was sparked after spending a few winters in a beautiful but frigid stone house in Ottawa, Ontario. After studying sustainable building through the Endeavour Centre in Peterborough, Canada, she has gone on to work for design/build companies from Ontario to the East Coast of Canada where she now resides. From natural, green and high efficiency projects, she has developed a skill set specific to the demands of sustainable building in a northern climate.

Her passion for education has lead her to direct and instruct both the Endeavour Centre’s Natural Building Intensive and YM Design/Build School’s Natural Building Certificate, where she’s taught construction skills with an emphasis on social justice and sustainability, and always with a healthy dose of humour!

**Melinda Zytaruk**

Melinda Zytaruk, General Manager, is a PHIUS Certified Builder and has completed the Net Zero Home Building Science Training and the PHI Passive House consultant training. Melinda has a Masters in Environmental Studies and is a graduate of SEI’s full Renewable Energy and Green

Building Education Program. Melinda has been a frequent speaker and educator on a wide variety of matters related to sustainability for over 20 years. Melinda has been general contractor for Fourth Pig green construction and renovation projects since 2007.

**Jeremy Clark**

****Jeremy Clarke is the founder of Simple Life Homes, a manufacturer of prefab-panelized homes for the high performance and passive house market. Previously, Jeremy explored a variety of careers including music production, aviation, renewable energy sales and construction. While discovering new interest’s, Jeremy discovered a common calling, and chose to focus on “green” construction. With a strong entrepreneurial spirit, Jeremy is currently focused on providing the building industry with a truly sustainable building system that utilizes carbon capturing materials and high performance assemblies to increase occupants health and reduce our impact on our environment by living within our carbon budget.