

Ontario Natural Building Coalition

Natural Building Conference - March 1 and 2, 2014

Conference Presenters



Dawn Smith President and Chair of ASRi (Alternative Solutions Resource initiative)

After a decade of working in grassroots natural building, Dawn and a team of local professionals founded ASRi with the goal of increasing the influence of alternative materials in the province of BC. She was the lead editor and project manager for the ASR straw bale manual. Although surprised to find herself an aspiring policy wonk, she claims it makes her very happy. Her family claims it makes her very boring, but that they love her any way. She spends her days on Vancouver Island attending college, running in the drizzle and scheming up ways to build a future worth living in.

In her life before ASRi she worked with multiple communities engaged in natural building, including OUR Ecovillage, the Occidental Arts and Ecology Centre, and Emerald Earth. She's taught numerous workshops, and presented on topics relating to facilitation, natural building, and community skills. Her goal in college is to study how policies and regulations impact the sustainability of the built environment.