

# Collyn S. Chan

cellphone: 857-800-4036. email: [collynschan@gmail.com](mailto:collynschan@gmail.com) linkedin: [ca.linkedin.com/in/collynchan/](https://ca.linkedin.com/in/collynchan/) web: [collync.github.io](https://collync.github.io)

## EDUCATION

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology** | *Masters in City Planning Candidate, Department of Urban Studies and Planning* Cambridge, MA | June 2019 Expected

**Activities:** Students of Color Committee Executive Board, Climate Change Working Group, Peer Application Mentor, Student Council, WMBR Radio Host

**Relevant Courses:** Land Use and Environmental Law, Big Data and Visualization, Local policy-driven strategies for economic development

**Awards:** MIT Sandbox Innovation Fund Award, MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives Italy Fellowship 2019, MIT Climate Changed Ideas Competition 2018 Runner Up, American Planning Association Student Poster Winner 2019 (Technology and Planning)

**University of British Columbia** | *B.Sc. Global Resource Systems, with Honors, Specialization in Economics and Environmental Studies*

Vancouver, Canada | 2015

**Activities:** Student Senator, Undergraduate Society Academic Liaison, Tuition Policy Advocate, Dragon Boat Team Canada

## SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND PROJECTS

**Sasaki Foundation** | *Community Design Award Fellow (Received \$15,000 for innovative community planning)*

Boston, MA | 2018 - present

- Create strategies and develop a community-based toolkit for using community land trusts to address managed retreat in Boston's East End
- Employ analog and digital spatial analysis tools, such as physical models and web asset mapping, to assess and build a shared understanding of the long term, collective impacts of climate change

**City of Boston, Office of City Councilor Michelle Wu** | *Harvard Kennedy School Rappaport Public Policy Fellow*

Boston, MA | Summer 2018

- Recommended implementable strategies regarding community engagement, housing affordability, transportation access and climate change for the East Boston Master Plan which aims to re-establish a cohesive framework for development in the rapidly changing neighborhood
- Collaborated with and interviewed staff from city council, administrative offices and the Boston Planning and Development Agency
- Conducted 20 interviews with key community stakeholders, designed a bilingual survey which received over 160 responses in three weeks, and provided backgrounders on history and governance in the neighborhood

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Coastal Resilience Research Group** | *Research Assistant*

Terrebonne Parish, LA | 2017 - present

- Develop proposals for the project focused on climate-induced displacement, adaptation finance and indigenous planning
- Conduct policy research regarding risk and resilience for sea level rise, subsidence and migration, and social vulnerability assessment
- Advocate for meaningful and effective collaboration between research group, local non-profits and tribes to build trust and long-term partnerships

**Coquí Solar Microgrid Project** | *Finance and Community Engagement Student Researcher*

Salinas, Puerto Rico | 2018

- Developed and produced strategic overview, guiding charter and engagement strategy for the cooperative focused on alternative participation methods and strategies to involve low-income community members in resilient solar energy investments
- Conducted economic policy research and provided recommendations to the State Office for of Energy and Public Policy and Federal Oversight Management Board (FOMB) in support renewable energy transition following the blackouts post-Hurricane Maria in 2017

**Infrastructure Urbanism: A Resiliency Framework for Pellestrina Island** | *Student Researcher*

Venice, Italy | 2018 - present

- Conduct site and environment systems analysis to support the redesign of an industrial land reclamation site and provide resilient development strategies for Pellestrina, a barrier island in the Venetian Lagoon

**Foundation** | *Co-founder / Adaptation Policy Lead*

Jamaica Bay, NY | 2018 - present

- Developing a 3D web platform to visualize land use, zoning and form to enable spatial decision making for climate adaptation planning

**Energy Democracy Collaborative** | *Economic Policy Lead*

San Juan, Puerto Rico | 2018

- Conducted market research and co-led a team of five to develop viable strategies that enable solar loans for low-credit and low-income households in Puerto Rico

**MODUS Planning, Design & Engagement** | *Engagement Specialist*

Vancouver, Canada | Jan 2016 - Aug 2017

- Developed a strategic visioning tool and framework of assessment for sustainability outcomes in the built environment
- Facilitated small group dialogues, with focus on diversity, intercultural understanding, and inclusion-based engagement
- Manage reports including liaising with clients, data analysis, graphic visualization, design and other media
- Coordinated engagement processes for Metro Vancouver's Regional Transit Fare Review, Northeast False Creek Park Design, City of Vancouver Zero Waste 2040, City of Burnaby Environmental Sustainability Strategy, BC Environment Land Remediation

## SKILLS

- Adobe Creative Suite (Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, After Effects), ArcGIS, HTML5, d3.js, Python, AutoCAD, SketchUp, Nvivo
- Facilitation, LGBTTTQIA+ Positive Space Training

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS** American Planning Association National Planning Conference 2019, Boston Area Research Initiative Spring 2019, Columbia University Resilience Building in the Coastal Zone 2019, European Climate Change Adaptation 2019

**MEMBERSHIPS** American Society of Adaptation Professionals, American Planning Association, Rappaport Institute