2022 NLC-RISC Trustees Conference
DRAFT AGENDA

NLC-RISC: 40 Years of Leadership and Connection

Titles and times subject to change

Wednesday, May 11

4:00 pm – 6:30 pm
Registration Desk Open

4:00 pm – 6:30 pm
Pooling Academy Demo Booth Open

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm
Welcome Reception

Thursday, May 12

7:30 am – 2:00 pm
Registration Desk Open

7:30 am – 8:30 am
General Attendee Breakfast

7:30 am – 8:30 am
Newer Attendee Welcome Breakfast

Join us for breakfast to learn more about the resources and programs available through NLC-RISC and how you can make the most of your conference experience. RISC Board members and staff will also be in attendance to network and answer any questions you may have about NLC-RISC or the conference itself.

8:45 am – 9:45 am
WELCOME AND OPENING GENERAL SESSION

40 Years of NLC-RISC Leadership & Connection

Bo Joseph, Director of Legal Services, TMLIRP
Carol Wilmes, Director of Member Pooling Programs, AWC
Chris Krepcho, Director of Insurance Services, FMIT
Dan Greensweig, Administrator, LMCIT
Erin Rian, Chief Operating Officer, NLC Mutual (Moderator)
In the early 1980s, commercial insurers largely pulled out of the municipal market in the United States, leaving a gaping hole in the insurance coverage that is critical for cities to operate and govern effectively. This session will outline how individuals from state leagues stepped forward together to form a solution – municipal risk pools – specifically tailored to the needs of cities, and how these risk pools eventually established NLC-RISC. Additionally, hear from four RISC member pools regarding their ongoing collaboration on complex issues over the last several years. The partnerships between these four pools reflect the best parts of the pooling community – and demonstrate what you make possible in your work as pool board members.

10:00 am – 11:00 am
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

New(er) Trustees Orientation, Part 1

Bo Joseph, Director of Legal Services, TMLIRP
Dan Greensweig, Administrator, LMCIT

As an introduction for newer Trustees and a refresher for more experienced ones, this session will explain the differences between pool coverages, structures, regulation, and decision-making as a way to provide context for your pool’s own structure and operations. This session will cover why pools formed and have been successful, how pools differ from state to state, and an overview of operational functions, including claims, underwriting, loss control, litigation, reinsurance, and administration. (The session continues after the break.)

Law Enforcement Liability in Current Times

David J. MacMain, Managing Partner, MacMain Connell & Leinhauser, LLC

Law Enforcement claims have long been one of the most common and largest exposures faced by public entities and their insurers. In light of the events of the past couple years, has the exposure increased both in frequency and amount? Are there tangible things that can be done to prevent these claims, or at least make them easier to defend? As importantly and relatedly, what can police and public officials do to make sure that law enforcement is responsive to, and changing to hear, the calls for reform in various areas such as racial equality, de-escalation, and interactions with persons with special need and/or mental health? Hear the thoughts and perspectives of an attorney who counsels police agencies and correctional facilities defends law enforcement suits all over the country.

Creating a Strong Workforce for the Future of Your Pool

David Demchak, President and Chief Executive Officer, CIRMA
Janie McCollister, HR Manager, CIS
Pamela Keyes, Senior Vice President of Business Intelligence & Risk Management, CIRMA
Patrick Priest, Executive Director, CIS

As a trustee, you look ahead to the future of your pool. Succession planning, recruitment, and retention are essential to that future, especially as long-time pooling staff have been retiring in recent years and the nature of pool work—and workers – is changing. In this session, panelists from CIRMA and CIS Oregon share their experiences and approaches to succession planning, recruiting new staff, onboarding, and unique approaches to employee training. NLC-RISC will also share how
we are supporting pools in this work. You will leave this session with useful ideas and information to help maintain a strong workforce for your pool.

11:15 am – 12:15 pm
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

**New(er) Trustees Orientation, Part 2**

Bo Joseph, Director of Legal Services, TMLIRP
Dan Greensweig, Administrator, LMCIT

Rejoin this session after the break for the second half.

**Federal Advocacy and U.S. Supreme Court Update**

Lisa Soronen, Executive Director, State and Local Legal Center
Stephanie Martinez-Ruckman, Legislative Director, Human Development, Federal Advocacy, NLC

With the passage of the American Rescue Plan Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, cities, towns and villages are poised to implement historic levels of infrastructure funding, including in the areas of cybersecurity and climate resilience. Meanwhile, Congress is moving forward with the Fiscal Year 2023 budget process. Learn how, as a Trustee, you can engage in these federal arenas and how they will impact your communities as implementation moves forward. Meanwhile, across the street in the judicial branch, the U.S. Supreme Court is deciding countless First Amendment and police cases this term that will affect pools. It also has recently issued two qualified immunity decisions involving police officers. This session will cover these cases, what the “new” 6-3 conservative Supreme Court may mean for pools, and the biggest public employment case in 15 years.

**Maintaining Sustainability of Public Servants in Turbulent Times: Supporting the Humans Behind the Mission**

Rhonda Kelly, Executive Director, All Clear Foundation

Public service, whether in uniformed or civilian roles, has always been challenging, but never more so than over the last few years. Pandemic, discord, social unrest, and unrelenting demands placed on a shrinking workforce are challenges that municipalities, emergency response, and health care workers are facing every day. Often, our dedicated personnel have been expected to meet these challenges with minimal support and preparation to protect themselves against stressors of the work. To recruit and retain passionate public servants, we need to better care for the human behind the badge, the uniform, the scrubs, and the desk. Join us for this discussion about stress, stress injuries including burnout and compassion fatigue, and an overview of the solutions that you can implement within your community.

12:15 pm – 1:30 pm
LUNCH & NLC-RISC WELCOME

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
GENERAL SESSION
Understanding Municipal Cybersecurity Threats & Risk Mitigation Strategies

Bryan Leaird, Associate Executive Director of Risk Management Services, NCLM
Joe Howland, Chief Information Security Officer, VC3
Ryan Draughn, Director of Information Technology, NLC Mutual (Moderator)

Municipalities of all sizes face significant cybersecurity risks, especially in small-to-medium sized cities that present an attractive target for bad actors. Unfortunately, it is likely not a matter of if but when your municipality will be breached. Looming cyber threats coupled with a hard cyber insurance market means that coverage may not be available to your city – or able to cover your losses. During this interactive panel discussion, we will consider real world examples of cyber losses that have occurred in municipalities such as the ones you represent, and present actionable steps your organization can take now to combat the problem.

2:45 pm – 3:45 pm
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Real-World Cyber Threats and Cyber Hygiene for Cities

Marc Bleicher, CTO, Surefire Cyber

Join us as Surefire walks through a real-world cyber incident involving a city that was the victim of ransomware. The walkthrough will exemplify why cities and local governments are attractive targets for cybercrime – especially ransomware attacks – due to the valuable data they store, the critical services that are affected, and the collateral impact a cyber incident can have. The second half of the session will provide a broader overview of the cyber threat landscape, underscoring the top 5 most common threats and attacks to be aware of. Each threat will be broken down into an easy-to-understand format for non-technical audiences. The session will conclude with what you can do to prepare your city to be resilient in the event of an attack and how to respond if the hypothetical becomes reality. The audience will be provided with a list of recommendations and resources for basic cyber hygiene to reduce cyber risk as well as mitigation steps that organizations with limited resources can implement to have a meaningful impact.

The Possibilities and Promise of Virtual Healthcare

Prentiss Taylor Jr., MD, FACP, Vice President, Included Health

It is widely understood that the COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the demand for and utilization of telemedicine. Consumer demand for the convenience, experience, and ease of virtual care visits also means that it’s likely here to stay. As patients return to in-person care, it is no longer enough for virtual visits to be convenient and easy to access; they also need to meaningfully impact clinical outcomes and cost of care. This session will explore the potential for virtual care, including Primary Care, as a crucial component of a comprehensive benefit strategy. We’ll highlight how a compelling virtual care offering must integrate with in-person, local services. We will discuss the importance of providing whole-person care, inclusive of physical and mental health, to optimally serve patients. And we’ll discuss the ability of virtual care to successfully manage health outcomes—from every-day and urgent needs to chronic conditions.

Between a Rock and a Hard Market
Pooling has rightly emerged as the favored choice of local governments for the funding of property, liability, workers' compensation, and health risks since the traditional insurance market abandoned public entities over 40 years ago. This session will review market cycles over the past several years, what they have meant for pools, and what they currently mean for your pool given the existing hard-market circumstances. Our panel of pool executive, reinsurance, and underwriting professionals will help you prepare for and successfully weather a hard market, providing tools and creative solutions you can deploy in your state. We are excited for you to join us to learn more about how you as a trustee can help drive your pool’s success.

5:30 pm – 9:30 pm
OPTIONAL EVENT
Pittsburgh Pirates Game (additional registration cost)

Friday, May 13

8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Registration Desk Open

8:00 am – 9:00 am
General Attendee Breakfast; Pool Administrator Breakfast

9:15 am – 10:15 am
GENERAL SESSION

Reclaiming Civil Public Engagement and Discourse

Leila Brammer, PhD, Executive Director, Parrhesia Center for Public Discourse, University of Chicago

Free and open discourse, made possible by the First Amendment, is a hallmark of American democracy. In our present, heated political climate, public officials face numerous challenges to respond to, facilitate, and mediate public discourse. This session will examine current divisive discourse and provide civic leaders with both principles and practices to more productively and effectively engage with the public to address community issues.

10:30 am – 11:30 am
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Communication Practices to Avert Liability and Focus on Success

Aimee Gourlay, JD, Collaboration Services Manager, LMCIT

Local government city staff and elected officials encounter various communication challenges which potentially increase the city’s risk and impede government function. These challenges can escalate and ultimately lead to losses -- from small moments of miscommunication to employment complaints to council dysfunction. This participatory session will help identify moments that can
turn negative and offer approaches for successful intervention. The presenter will draw from many years of experience as a mediator and facilitator in the public sector and discuss how collaborative interventions can avert escalation and allow staff and councils to focus on the good work of a city.

**Sustainability, ESG, and Socially Responsible Investing: Examining Facts, Fictions, and Misconceptions to Promote Better Decision-Making**

**Dan Smereck**, Managing Director, Strategic Asset Alliance, Inc.
**Stan Corcoran**, Executive Vice President, MIIA

Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) investing is a trend with long-term impact that continues to gain momentum and acceptance across the global investment landscape. In 2020, for example, the value of global assets applying ESG data to drive investment decisions was over $40 trillion. This session will examine, at a high strategic level, the current state of this significant global trend and the actions one risk pool has taken with respect to ESG Investing. Risk and return, investor demand, and regulation about fiduciary duties are three good reasons why you may consider ESG investing when it comes to your pool’s investments. The session will look to disentangle facts from common misunderstandings and misconceptions to promote better awareness and decision-making by Board members.

**Pool Innovations: Establishing Captives to Address Unique Risks**

**Bob Gagliardi**, Senior Vice President - Head of Captive Management, AIG
**Carol Wilmes**, Director of Member Pooling Programs, AWC
**Chris McKenna**, Vice President & Actuary, NLC Mutual
**Erin Rian**, Chief Operating Officer, NLC Mutual & NLC-RISC

Interest in captives is growing rapidly as organizations look for ways to self-insure new and complex risks in an increasingly hardening marketplace. This session will provide an overview of what captives are and how pools can leverage them for strategic benefit. Panel members will share experiences from the recent formation of a medical stop loss captive and explore uses of captives for other challenging risks facing public entities.

11:45 am – 12:45 pm
**General Attendee Lunch; Healthcare Pool Administrators Lunch**

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
**TRUSTEES TALK ROUNDTABLES**

Join an informal, facilitated discussion on various timely topics that are relevant to trustees. This one-hour session will be divided into two 25-minute discussion blocks, so you can join two different conversations. Don’t miss this opportunity to speak directly with fellow trustees and Pool Administrators about issues that matter to you most.

2:15 pm - 3:15 pm
**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**How Racial Equity May Improve Fiscal Health and Well-Being for All Residents**

**Shawna Davie**, Director, Race, Equity and Leadership, National League of Cities
This session provides an introductory overview of the business case for Racial Equity as it relates to the fiscal health of municipalities and the well-being of the communities that they serve. This session will promote awareness of how racial disparities negatively impact municipalities, as well as how improving racial equity improves well-being for all residents.

**The Importance of Developing an Updated, Engaging, and Accessible Website for Your Pool**

**Heather Roberts**, Director of Information Services, IMWCA
**Wendy Parker**, Executive Director, HealthTrust

It has never been more important for risk pools to have an engaging, secure, accessible, and comprehensive web platform. Today, members and enrollees expect easy access to programs, coverage, and benefits in a secure and convenient environment, making websites and other online engagement tools a top priority for many pools. In this session, you will hear from two unique risk pools on the lessons they learned while undergoing website redesigns. Attendees will leave the session with an understanding of successful strategies to overcome barriers in the website design process and tools for building an engaging online presence for your organization.

**Values Matter: Why Accurate Property Values Are Crucial to Governmental Pools**

**Embry Nichols**, Vice President of Underwriting and Internal Services, Public Entity Partners
**Halie Gallik**, Director of Communications & Research, Public Entity Partners

Construction industry experts continue to report significant increases in property values due to unprecedented global demand for materials and the rise in materials and labor costs. Accurate values are important for pools and their members, particularly in claims and reinsurance negotiations. They can also have a significant impact on property premiums. This session will cover some of the challenges pools are facing due to changing construction costs, tips for explaining these challenges to members, and how property valuations can make your pool more attractive to reinsurers.

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
**CLOSING EVENT**
**40 Years of History and Fun - Team Trivia Competition**

Celebrate 40 years of NLC-RISC by participating in a fun and friendly team trivia competition!

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
**CLOSING RECEPTION**
**Heinz History Center**

Celebrate NLC-RISC’s 40th Anniversary together at the Heinz History Center – a premiere museum in downtown Pittsburgh – for our closing reception. All attendees will have exclusive access to explore all exhibits during the event.