



Alberta Assessors' Association E-Clipboard

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2011 Fall Symposium and Golf Tournament

Phew! It was a bit windy in Lethbridge, but that didn't stop our members from enjoying a great event. This year was easily one of the best attended fall events with 104 paid delegates (as well as a number of guests). Thursday morning members had a choice of two workshops, followed by a tour of Lethbridge College's Wind Energy Program facility, a brief workshop and a final tour to the Magrath Wind Farm.

Many thanks to Thursday's presenters: Blair Hurt, AMAA and Angel Svennes, AMAA for their presentation "Laying the Foundation"; Verle Blazek, AMAA and Jeff McKinnon, AMAA who provided some insights into the various categories of Gas and Bulk Fuel stations in Marshall and Swift/CAMALot; Morgan Strate, AMAA and David Imrie, AMAA for their brief presentation on the assessment of wind farms. The knowledge and skill available to the membership from these teams was, and is, formidable.

On Friday, Carol Zukiwski of Reynolds Mirth Richards and Farmer provided her perspective on legal issues faced by assessors and Steve White responded to questions put forward by members in the "Ask Municipal Affairs" Bearpit session prior to lunch. During lunch, Wes Sallenback, B.Mgmt, M.Ed. challenged members with a five-step formula for managing time.

The Golf Tournament on Wednesday had 44 golfers and prizes were awarded to nearly everyone - such game! Many thanks to Blair Hurt who did the lion's share of the work organizing the event, along with Brad Hurt who sorted the Flights and Teams.

Winners of

Flight A: Brian Lutz and Blair Hurt

Flight B: Ray Fortin and Kevin Bohlken

Flight C: Rob Kotchon and Michael Krieger

Flight D: Adele Johnston and Don MacLennan



Images from Symposium



It's all about the nosh! Kim McVicar, AMAA and Gord Johnston, AMAA wait for their perfectly grilled steaks courtesy of City of Lethbridge's Stephen Sander, AMAA. Landon Wehlage, AMAA (l) was also a dab hand at the grill.



(Left) Lethbridge College's Wind Energy Training Program outdoor facility—the tower shakes in the wind.- imagine that for an entrance test! (Above) LCC's indoor wind energy training facility.



It was a hot hot day - till we got to Magrath where even taking a photo of the windmill was a challenge



Sponsorship

A thousand thank-yous

- ◆ To our generous Golf Tournament Title Sponsor: Brownlee Law
- ◆ To our tournament sponsors: Compass Municipal Services and Reynolds Mirth Richards & Farmer;
- ◆ To our prize sponsors: Accurate Assessment Group, Wildrose Assessment, Trans Canada Pipelines, TanMar Consulting Inc., DuCharme, McMillan & Associates, KCL Consulting, MD Taber, City of Lethbridge, Mayor's Office. County of Lethbridge, Benchmark Assessment Services, MuniServe and Cypress County; and,
- ◆ To our Symposium Registration Desk sponsor: Brownlee Law.

Frankly, goods came in so fast and furious at the last minute on the Tournament day - we're not so sure we caught everyone. If not - let us know and we'll make sure we get your name/business published next time.

Volunteering

Margaret Mead's oft-quoted line about a "small group of thoughtful, committed citizens" changing the world has been used as an inducement for volunteerism for so long, it's become a battle cry for the volunteer industry. No less true for its overuse, however, the value offered by volunteers to an organization like ours is immeasurable. Not only desired, it's required of members. Without sufficient volunteers to fill the vacancies that arise on many of our committees we can't operate. Indeed, because many of the committees are legislated, the need is amplified for a regulated professional association. To this end, the Association has established a list of potential volunteers - members who have expressed an interest at a time when no vacancies exist. We encourage you to put your name forward to be added to the list, or suggest a member we can contact, for a position. By doing so, you can also indicate a preference for a specific committee and our nominations process can avoid the "encouragement" that is sometimes necessary. It'll likely still happen, but maybe less frequently. Think about it and then contact the Association office by phone or email to have your name added to the list. Currently, we have a vacancy on the Marketing Committee. Appointment isn't automatic, but disappointment may be avoided.

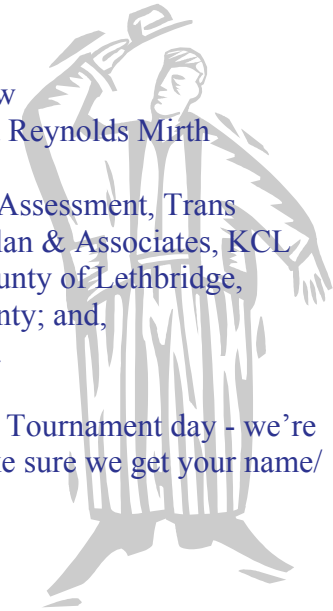
Nominating Committee

Among the duties of the Past President is to Chair the Nominating Committee and secure nominations for vacancies on the Executive Committee for the coming year. This year the task falls to Suzette DeMott and she's looking for some help. Please call her, if you are interested in helping out and if you are an accredited member. Nominations for Urban Director, Vice President, President-Elect, Financial Director and Parliamentarian are being sought.

Membership Changes

Welcome new Candidate members:

- ◆ **Chris Hall**, Lethbridge County
- ◆ **Anna-Marie Meckling**, City of Red Deer
- ◆ **Remiel Doonanco**, Assessment Valuation Group



Educational Offerings

Tools for Practicing Assessment in Alberta

Is currently running with a full complement of students. The exam is tentatively scheduled for December 15 and will be confirmed shortly. Students will be emailed for Proctor information and confirmation of the exam date. The next offering will be early in 2012.

Sauder School Real Estate Division Webinars

Webinars are scheduled on the first Friday of most months for a more participatory experience than strictly on-line study. Go to www.sauder.ubc.ca/Programs/Real_Estate_Division and click on Professional Development to see the link for “Live Webinars and Self Study.” Upcoming webinar dates are October 7, November 4 and December 2.

Call for Proposals

The Practice Review Committee (PRC) is currently planning the 2012 Conference sessions and invites interested members to submit ideas for Pre-Conference education sessions and Conference workshops. Your submission should be made to the Association Executive Administrator for consideration by the PRC.

Surveys

The Practice Review Committee (PRC) is sending out its annual education survey to help with planning the 2012 Conference. As well, the Marketing Committee has been asked to re-do the Membership Demographic survey. These surveys may overlap and for that we apologize - it wasn't intentional, just timing delays. Despite this inundation, we ask that you complete both surveys as each will provide invaluable information to the originating committee and the Association. Watch for emails with links to each survey.

Employment Opportunities

New job postings for this issue:

- ◆ **Director of Assessment and Taxation**, Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
- ◆ **Supervisor, Residential Assessment**, Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
- ◆ **Invitation to Tender**, Beaver County

For links to postings, please visit the Association website [Employment](#) page.

Random Notes

“I don't fail. I succeed in finding what doesn't work.”

Christopher Titus