Welcome to CSC Conference 2025 – ROCK THAT SPEC!

On behalf of the 2025 Conference Committee, it is our great pleasure and enthusiasm to welcome you to beautiful St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador for this year's CSC Conference: *ROCK THAT SPEC*.

We are proud to present an exciting technical program designed to engage all streams and delegates. Whether you're here to expand your knowledge, exchange ideas, or connect with industry peers, this conference offers a valuable opportunity to learn, grow, and collaborate with construction and design professionals from across North America.

We are confident that your experience here will be both inspiring and enriching—challenging you to reach new heights professionally and personally, all while enjoying the unique charm and hospitality of St. John's.

We extend our sincerest gratitude to our generous sponsors, whose support makes this event possible. Be sure to visit their booths and explore the latest innovations in products and services—especially during *Connections Café* on Thursday night.

Wishing you a rewarding, insightful, and enjoyable CSC Conference 2025!

Sincerely,

Harry Forbes, FCSC
Conference 2025 Committee Chair

Abigail MacEachern, RSW
Conference 2025 Technical Program Chair

Please note that with the exception of the companion program and a portion of Fun Night, all conference activities will take place at the Delta Hotels St. John's.

YOUR NAME BADGE IS YOUR TICKET. YOU MUST WEAR IT ALL TIMES!!!!

The technical sessions will take place in the following rooms:

Stream A: Salon E **Stream B: Salon F/G** **Stream C: Salon C**

Session Information - There are bookmarks for each session summary. Some presentations will be made available following the conference.

All Meals will take place in Salon A.

The start of Fun Night will take in Salon A and then we will make our way by foot to the next venues. **MAKE sure you have your wristband!! We do not replace lost wristbands.**

Companions, please do not be late for the 9:00AM bus departure, they will not wait for you.

Every year the conference committee identifies a charity, this year it is the Home Again Furniture Bank, a nonprofit organization that provides gently-used furniture to individuals and families in need. Central to Home Again is a cycle of giving and receiving that provides the most vulnerable citizens the means to create a stable home life. Home Again provides furniture with a focus on generating comfort, dignity and stability. Getting a good night's sleep on a proper bed positively impacts work, study, relationships and overall well-being. Having a sofa to relax on with family makes life more enjoyable. Being able to offer family and friends a chair to sit on or a table to gather around brings dignity. Home Again helps to build pride in homes, self and in the community.

In addition to the gift that CSC will be donating on behalf of each speaker, there will be an opportunity for each delegate to contribute to Home Again**.**

So, make sure you bring some CASH to the conference to help make a difference.

CSC conferences are not just known for the technical program, networking opportunities and fun to be had, it is also known to have **WEATHER!**

So as a friendly FYI, remember to check the weather before you fly.

St. John's Weather

CSC Rock that Spec

2025 CONFERENCE ST. JOHN'S • NF

May 21-25, 2025

Your name badge is your ticket, please wear it at all times.

Fun Night

Don't forget to wear your FUN NIGHT wristband.

CSC Rock that Spec
2025 CONFERENCE ST. JOHN'S • NF
May 21-25, 2025

CSC CONFERENCE 2025 – Rock that Spec

Start	End				
Wednesday, May 21, 2025					
4:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	**Early Registration** **Room: Pre-Function Lobby/Conception Bay Room**			
5:0 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	New Member and First-Time Conference Attendees Meet and Greet **Room: Salon A**			
6:00 p.m.	9:00 p.m.	**Welcome Reception: Salon A** Sponsored by: **ARCONIC ARCHITECTURAL PRODUCTS**			
	→	**Technical Program: Stream A: Salon E - Stream B: Salon F - Stream C: Salon C**			
Thursday, May 22, 2025					
7:30 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	**Registration** **Room: Pre-Function Lobby/Conception Bay Room**			
7:30 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	**Welcome Breakfast for Delegates and Companions** **Room: Salon A**			
		Delegates Program			**Companions Program**
9:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	**1A- Masonry Specification Pitfalls** **Speaker: Andrew Smith – Canada Masonry Design Centre**	**2B- Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Fires in Canada and Applicable Solutions** **Speaker: Ali Al-Janabi - Rockwool**	**1C- High-Performance Facades for a Sustainable Future** **Speakers: Andrew Brassington, CTR – Owens Corning** **Stephanie Fargas, CSP, RSW - DIALOG**	**Bus Departs at 9 am and returns at 4 pm** **Historic St. John's and Cape Spear with a Taste of Newfoundland** **Visits to:** **Cabot Tower and Signal Hill** **Lunch in Petty Harbour (subject to change)** **Newmans Wine Vault** **Quidi Vidi to visit a local brewery**
10:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	**Speed Networking Session / Avalon B, D and Crush Area** *Take part in this 30-minute networking session and optimize your participation in the conference by meeting professionals with whom you might not otherwise cross paths. This is an excellent opportunity to expand your network with fellow delegates, speakers, and sponsors!*			
10:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	**2A- Fire Code and Design; Understand the Gaps- Specifications** **Speakers: Alana MacLellan-Bonnell – Jensen Hughes Consultants**	2B- **Effective Approaches to Acoustical Challenges in Mass Timber Buildings** **Speakers: Kiyoshi Kuroiwa, CCCA** **Sarah Mackel – Aercoustics Engineering Ltd**	2C- **How Focusing on Embodied Carbon Will Impact Sustainable Specifications** **Speakers: Cyle Sheppard – NORR** **Tanmay Naik - NORR**	

- Please note, all session topics and times subject to change. Last updated May 7, 2025

<table>
<tr><td>Start</td><td>End</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="5">Thursday May 22 – continued</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td colspan="2">Delegates Program</td><td>Companions Program</td></tr>
<tr><td>11:45 a.m.</td><td>1:30 p.m.</td><td colspan="2">Keynote Luncheon for Delegates
Room: Salon A
Sponsored by: DULUX / SICO Architectural Coatings
Featuring: Joelle Jefcoat, of Perkins Will on the topic of “Be Indispensable”</td><td rowspan="5"></td></tr>
<tr><td>1:45 p.m.</td><td>2:45 p.m.</td><td>3A-Revitalizing a Community: Lessons in Large-Scale Building Envelope Retrofits

Speaker: Stacey McDougall – RFC Engineers</td><td>3B- Low-Carbon Concrete

Speakers:
Keith Robinson, FCSC, FCSI, RSW</td><td>3C- How Specifiers Could Benefit from Quantity Surveyors’ Input During Design and Construction

Speaker: Tammy Stockley – Altus Group</td></tr>
<tr><td>2:45 p.m.</td><td>3:15 p.m.</td><td colspan="3">Speed Networking Session
Take part in this 30-minute networking session and optimize your participation in the conference by meeting professionals with whom you might not otherwise cross paths. This is an excellent opportunity to expand your network with fellow delegates, speakers, and sponsors!</td></tr>
<tr><td>3:15 p.m.</td><td>4:15 p.m.</td><td colspan="3">ROOM – SALON C
4 - Panel Discussion – Current Construction Industry Resources: How to adapt to a changing market that impacts both human and material resources in the construction industry</td></tr>
<tr><td>4:30 p.m.</td><td>5:15 p.m.</td><td colspan="3">College of Fellows Induction Ceremony (open to all)
Room: Salon C</td></tr>
<tr><td>5:00 p.m.</td><td>5:30 p.m.</td><td colspan="3">Free time
Relax and get ready for Connections Cafe</td></tr>
<tr><td>5:30 p.m.</td><td>9:00 p.m.</td><td colspan="3">Connections Café
Room: Avalon Ballroom/Foyer
This is your chance to network and mingle with a wide range of attendees from the local construction industry and from across the country</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
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Start	End				
Friday, May 23, 2025					
7:30 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	**Registration** **Room: Ball Room Pre-Function Space/Conception Bay Room**			
7:30 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	**Breakfast for Delegates and Companions** **Room: Salon A**			
7:30 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	**College of Fellows Breakfast (Fellows only)** *Please have breakfast in Salon A before going to the meeting* – **Room: Placentia Bay**			
7:45 a.m.	8:45 a.m..	**Technical Representative Meeting** *You don't have to be a CTR to attend. Please have breakfast before coming to the meeting -* **Room: Salon G**			
		Delegates Program			**Companions Program**
9:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	**5A- Building Code Requirements and Innovation for Gypsum Fire-Rated Systems** **Speaker: Brent Belanger, CTR – CertainTeed Canada**	**5B- Substitutions vs Alternatives – a Terminology Misuse** **Speaker: Paul Gerber – Archispectural Consulting Inc.**	**5C- Practical Guidelines & Best Practices for Low Carbon and Equitable Steel** **Speakers: Stephanie Fargas, CSP, RSW – DIALOG** **Matthew Winters – Steligence, ArcelorMittal**	**Bus departs at 9 am and returns at 4 pm** **A Musical Excursion Around the Bay** **A visit to:** **Conception Bay** **After lunch, learn how to make your own Newfoundland "Ugly Stick," followed by a musical romp during which everyone will learn how to play their newly made instruments.**
10:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	**Speed Networking Session / Avalon B, D and Crush Area** *Take part in this 30-minute networking session and optimize your participation in the conference by meeting professionals with whom you might not otherwise cross paths. This is an excellent opportunity to expand your network with fellow delegates, speakers, and sponsors!*			
10:30 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	**6A- A Sustainable Approach to Building Envelope Construction** **Speaker: Mohammed Dawoud – Ennova Facades**	**6B- A Window on Heritage** **Speaker: Dale Jarvis – Heritage Newfoundland and Labrador**	**6C- Building Enclosure Commissioning** **Speaker: Michael Barrington – Fishburn Sheridan & Associates Ltd**	
11:45 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	**Keynote Luncheon for Delegates** **Room: Salon A** **Sponsored by: DULUX / SICO ARCHITECTURAL COATINGS** **Presentation by Robert Mellin-Architecture in NL**			

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Start	End			
Friday, May 23 2025 - continued				
1:45 p.m.	2:45 p.m.	**7A- Social Media for Architects** **Speaker: Dory Azar – RIB Software**	**7B- Roofing Uplift for Roofing Systems** **Speaker: Troy Terriera – Roofing Canada**	**7C- Robotics and Innovation in Construction** **Speaker: Yuri Bartzis - Pomerleau**
2:45 p.m.	3:15 p.m.	**Speed Networking Session / Avalon B, D and Crush Area** *Take part in this 30-minute networking session and optimize your participation in the conference by meeting professionals with whom you might not otherwise cross paths. This is an excellent opportunity to expand your network with fellow delegates, speakers, and sponsors!*		
3:15 p.m.	4:15 p.m.	**8 - Panel Discussion – Remote projects: challenges with contracting, designing, constructing, specifying, and supplying projects that are remote or do not have many local construction resources.** **ROOM Salon C**		
4:30 p.m.	5::15 p.m.	**Contract Administrators / Specification Writer Meeting** *You don't have to be a CCCA, CSP or RSW to attend.* **Room: Salon E**		
5:30 p.m.	11:00 p.m.	**FUN NIGHT** **RALLY IN THE ALLEY** **The group will experience the famous nightlife of downtown St. John's.** **It will start with a traditional Fish and Chips Dinner at the Delta Hotel and an organized Pub Crawl (three groups) featuring local entertainment and cultural experiences at each venue.** **We finish the event at a venue that can accommodate a live dance band and our group. During the evening, there will be Sing-Songs, screech-in, step-dancing, and more.** **Don't forget to wear your wristband or no entry.** **(We do not replace lost wristbands)**		

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Start	End		
Saturday, May 24, 2025			
7:30 a.m.	8:45 a.m.	**Breakfast for Delegates and Companions** Salon A	
		Delegates Program	**Companions Program**
9:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	**CSC Members' Forum** **Room: Salon E, F, G** *This is your opportunity to ask questions of the Executive Council.*	**FREE DAY**
10:15 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	**Break**	
10:30 a.m.	Noon	**CSC Annual General Meeting** **Room: Salon E, F, G** ***Members only. Meeting includes chapter-by-chapter roll call***	
Noon	1:30 p.m.	**Annual Awards Luncheon** **Room: Salon A** ***Please note: business attire is recommended for this event*** *Recognize and congratulate your fellow CSC members for their dedication and commitment to CSC and the construction industry.* **Sponsored by: OWENS CORNING CANADA**	
1:30 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	**Free Time**	
6:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.	**President's Reception** **Room: Salon C/D** **Please note: Formal attire is recommended for The President's Reception and Ball** Must be 16 years of age or older to attend President's Reception Sponsored by: **ALUMICOR LIMITED**	
7:00 p.m.	1:00 a.m.	**President's Ball** **Room:** Salon A Sponsored by: **CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS**	
Sunday, May 25, 2025			
7:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	**Travelers' Breakfast Buffet for Delegates and Companions** Room: Salon A	

- Please note that all session topics and times are subject to change. Last updated May 7, 2025

Companions Program – Thursday May 22, 2025

Breakfast – 7:30-8:45 AM in Salon A
Bus will depart at 9AM and return at 4PM. You will be informed at breakfast as to where to board the bus. Please be on time. The bus will not wait.

Your day will include the following:

Historic
St. John's and Cape Spear with a Taste of Newfoundland (6 hours)
Become acquainted with the city of St. John's and its surroundings, including Cape Spear, the most Easterly point in North America. This is the oldest colonized region in the new world and your local guide will regale you with its steeped history, legends & lore - all flavored with their personal anecdotes and good humor from which Newfoundlanders are so famous. Enjoy the brilliant vistas from Cabot Tower and Signal Hill, one of the most recognizable skylines in Canada. Walk through a cliffside World War II gun battery, watch for whales and seabirds and visit the oldest standing lighthouse in North America.

On the way back from Cape Spear, we will stop for lunch. Enjoy a traditional and fresh seafood lunch in the picturesque town of Petty Harbour. (Subject to change in the event that Chafe's remains closed for the season due to fire damage)

After lunch, we will head back to the city to visit Newman's Wine Vault, where we'll pair their famous 'Port', aged on the island since 1679 when pirates chased a shipment across the Atlantic for a winter in Newfoundland. Port is best paired with chocolate, especially those from the 'Newfoundland Chocolate Company' whose love and passion goes into every gourmet batch. Made with local ingredients, what's not to love? Finally, we will finish our tour in Quidi Vidi where we will be visiting a local micro-brewery to try an assortment of their award-winning beers and hear an interpretation of the origins.

Companions Program – Friday May 22, 2025

Breakfast – 7:30-8:45 AM in Salon A
Bus will depart at 9AM return at about 4PM. You will be informed at breakfast as to where to board the bus. Please be on time. The bus will not wait.

Your day will include the following:

A Musical Excursion Around the Bay (6 hours)

Let's visit the many pretty outport communities that sprinkle the shores of Conception Bay; a region teeming with amazing stories about ancient pirates, WW2 submarine attacks, the dawn of transatlantic aviation, arctic exploration, and North America's first European colony. This is a true Newfoundland experience that everyone who comes from away will embrace. Great times, great people, and great food await. After a hearty lunch we will have a demonstration of how to make our own Newfoundland "Ugly Sticks," followed by a musical romp, where everyone will learn how to play their newly-made instruments.

CSC Rock that Spec
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SESSION 1A

Masonry Specification Pitfalls

Specifications are the foundation of successful projects, yet they often contain errors that compromise design intent, increase costs, and create unnecessary delays. This presentation will delve into the most common pitfalls in masonry specifications, including unclear requirements for engineering, improper material property specifications, and the inclusion of impossible tolerances. These issues can lead to miscommunication, rework, and material inefficiencies, significantly impacting budgets and timelines. The Canada Masonry Design Centre works with architects, spec writers and engineers across the country. We have reviewed hundreds of masonry specifications, and some errors are much more common than others. Through real-world examples and step-by-step explanations, attendees will learn how clear, accurate, and achievable masonry specifications not only enhance project quality but can also drive cost savings and realistic expectations. This session is valuable for architects, engineers, spec writers and all construction professionals working with, or alongside masonry.

Andrew Smith, M.A.SC., P. Eng
Masonry Design Engineer, Canada Masonry Design Centre

Andrew holds both a Bachelor of Engineering and a Master of Applied Science in Structural Engineering from Dalhousie University, where his research focused on the unintended consequences of masonry infilled frames.

With extensive experience at the Canada Masonry Design Centre, Andrew has spearheaded numerous initiatives to enhance the design and efficiency of masonry structures in Atlantic Canada. His contributions include cost comparison studies, the development of partition wall calculators, and his involvement in the creation of the newly released CSA S304-24 standard.

Andrew is passionate about blending innovative engineering solutions with sustainable practices, aiming to shape a cost efficient, resilient and environmentally responsible future for masonry construction.

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SESSION 1B

Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Fires in Canada and Applicable Solutions

Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Fires in Canada and Applicable Solutions This session is designed to deepen the understanding of Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) areas and the National Guide for Wildland-Urban Interface Fires in Canada. The guide offers a best-practices framework rather than an enforceable code, providing flexible, performance-based guidance tailored to local conditions. This adaptability allows communities to implement measures based on regional needs. However, there is a lack of clear guidance on how to construct more resilient buildings in these areas using commercially available materials. This session will present solutions and construction details that leverage mineral wool and other non-combustible materials to enhance the fire resilience of buildings. Attendees will learn how to design and implement fire-resilient, high-performance assemblies that meet industry standards and client expectations.

Ali Al-Janabi, M.SC., P. Emg.

Ali Al-Janabi is the Building Science Manager at ROCKWOOL. Before stepping into his current role, Ali spent four years as a Building Science Specialist, where he supported the development of building solutions through the strategic application of mineral wool insulation. His expertise has been instrumental in guiding architects, engineers, and contractors to understand and apply complex building science concepts effectively.

With a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Malaysia and a Master's in Civil Engineering from the University of Manitoba, Canada, Ali combines strong academic foundations with hands-on industry experience to support professionals across the field.

Ali's technical contributions have been honored with the Joseph S. Zajchowski, CSI, CCS Technical Excellence Award from the Northeast Region of the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI). He is also a published author on topics including phase change materials, energy modeling, and reducing energy consumption in buildings.

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SESSION 1C

High Performance Facades for a Sustainable Future

Explore how high performance facades and sustainable materials enhance holistic health and well- being in the built environment. This session will examine the intersection of building envelope engineering and wellbeing conscious strategies, focusing on the use of healthy materials, improved occupant comfort, and ethical supply chain. Discover how integrating these elements can foster a more sustainable and health focused approach to building envelope design. Brief description of how session will incorporate an interactive element(s) – 300 characters Session will simulate real-world scenarios discussing how different façade designs and material selections impact envelope performance and well being of occupants. Participants will engage in a poll and receive feedback on design considerations. Four Learning Objectives – 300 characters • Explain the impact of high-performance facades on occupant wellbeing • Use strategies for selecting sustainable materials in façade design • Assess various designs for effectiveness in comfort and sustainability Design a façade integrating healthy and equitable materials and strategies.

Andrew Brassington, CTR - Technical Sales Manager,
Western Canada - Owens Corning Canada LLP

With over 15 years of experience in the building construction manufacturing industry, Andrew Brassington, CTR, has established a remarkable career. He has held key positions at several prominent manufacturers, including Hilti, Rockwool, and Henry (a Carlisle Company), and is currently the Technical Sales Manager for Owens Corning in Western Canada. Andrew is actively involved in the industry, serving on the National Board of Directors for Construction Specification Canada and participating in the Technical Committee of the Canadian Home Builders Association's Net Zero Council. His expertise has led him to present to numerous architecture firms, contractors, and builders on essential topics pertaining to the building envelope, such as waterproofing, air barriers, and insulation. As a result, he has become a valuable resource for members of the building design community.

Stephanie Fargas, CSP, RSW - Associate, Sustainable Materials Specialist – DIALOG

Stephanie, an Associate & Sustainable Materials Specialist, has emerged as a leader in material transparency, bringing extensive experience in material product research and preparation of specifications for projects across North America. In addition to being a Registered Specification Writer, she provides expertise in embodied carbon, circularity, material health, and social equity throughout the supply chain. She is dedicated to sustainability, guiding material transparency for projects seeking LEED®, WELL®, and Envision™ certifications, and notably led the specifications development for Canada's first Living Building Challenge project. With a creative approach, Stephanie excels at translating design intent into clear, precise specifications while mentoring staff and facilitating communication among project participants.

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SESSION 2A

Fire Code and Design; Understand the Gaps-Specifications

This session will focus on understanding the Fire Code compliance gaps that can be managed in advance through the project specifications. Become familiar with occupancy uses that could have additional design considerations beyond the Building Codes. What questions should be asked during design to ensure you are meeting all applicable codes for the occupied building? When should the Fire Codes be consulted in addition to the Building Code? What is the impact of Fire Code considerations on the project specifications? Do current affairs and resourcing, people and material, pose a risk to your project? How can alternative compliance/solution measures offset these risks? Can these be identified in advance? If you have an interest in learning more about this, join our speaker as she uses actual and fictional scenarios to highlight the potential impacts to design, construction, and costs.

Alana MacLellan-Bonnell with Jensen Hughes Consultants

Alana has provided services including specialized and in-depth analysis to determine conformance or alternative conformance with local, Provincial, National, and International Building and Fire Codes and Standards. For more than 24 years and prior to and following the adoption of the 2005 Edition of the National Codes, she has completed many Alternative Compliance Solutions for existing buildings and new construction, where meeting the prescriptive requirements of the codes is limited or restrictive to design. In 2010, Alana was appointed to the Standing Committee on Hazardous Materials and Activities. As a member of this committee, Alana is responsible for the review of existing code requirements found in the National Fire Code of Canada, the National Building Code of Canada, and the implementation of new code requirements or changes to existing code requirements for the 2015 edition. Alana was appointed Chair of the Standing Committee responsible for the National Fire Code of Canada for the 2020 edition of the Codes and continues as Chair for the 2025 edition of the Codes.

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SESSION 2B

Effective Approaches to Acoustical Challenges in Mass Timber Buildings

Effective Approaches to Acoustical Challenges in Mass Timber Buildings As the construction industry embraces more sustainable practices, mass timber has emerged as a leading choice, offering both environmental benefits and aesthetic appeal. However, the acoustic challenges posed by mass timber's natural properties can conflict with strict sound separation requirements. Current and upcoming changes to the fire code requirements have knock on effects on maintaining acoustical performance. This presentation delves into innovative design strategies that enable acoustic requirements to be met without significantly sacrificing the visual elegance of partially exposed wood. Attendees will gain insights into where and why acoustical challenges are most likely to occur in a variety of project types, including commercial, residential and institutional projects. They will walk away with practical solutions for achieving acoustic targets in mass timber buildings. Through compelling case studies, we will explore real-world applications, highlighting effective strategies for designing and constructing mass timber buildings with superior acoustic performance. Join us to discover how to balance acoustic excellence and architectural beauty in mass timber design.

Kiyoshi Kuroiwa, CCCA - Aercoustics Engineering Ltd
Kiyoshi has 25 years of acoustics design and construction experience. Over the past decade, Kiyoshi has helped develop, with painstaking rigor, acoustic details and specifications to ensure that the contract documents accurately represent the acoustical design.

As the head of Aercoustics dedicated Contract Administration department, Kiyoshi helps to ensure the original acoustical design intent is adhered to, while being nimble to modify designs to suit site specific challenges that occur during construction. Kiyoshi's collaborative approach of education and contract interpretation is highly sought after to ensure everyone is on the same beat.

Kiyoshi has worked on a wide variety of projects, including healthcare, performing arts centres, and institutional projects. Some of Kiyoshi's career highlights with mass timber structures include the Wood Innovation Design Centre (WIDC) in Prince George, BC, Centennial College A Block in Scarbough, ON, Trinity College Residence in Toronto, ON, and Humber College Cultural Hub, in Toronto, ON.

Sarah Mackel - Technical Associate Aercoustics Engineering Ltd

Sarah has focused her career on architectural acoustics, working on the design of buildings ranging from condos to educational spaces to studio and performance venues. As a Technical Associate leading Aercoustics' architectural design team, she brings an excellent critical eye and a knack for thorough execution to the team. She is proud of contributing to many of Aercoustics' projects, notably the Wood Innovation and Design Centre (WIDC) in Prince George, B.C., which initially held the title of the world's tallest all-timber structure, and CBC's Maison de Radio-Canada in Montreal, QC, the creative hub for media and digital production.

Sarah is a leader in acoustical design for mass timber buildings, including Aercoustics' research and development initiatives. In addition to the WIDC building, she has played a major role in the acoustic design of many timber structures, including Centennial College A Block, Trinity College Lawson Centre for Sustainability, Kindred Works, Sidewalk Labs, the Royal BC Museum PARC Campus, and the Toronto Zoo Entrance Building.

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SESSION 2C

How Focusing on Embodied Carbon will Impact Sustainable Specifications

The impacts of embodied carbon in buildings are significant and multifaceted, affecting the environment, the construction industry, and long-term sustainability goals. Each year, the embodied carbon from building structures, substructures, and enclosures accounts for 11% of global greenhouse gas emissions and 28% of emissions from the building sector. Reducing these emissions is crucial for combating climate change and achieving the targets set by the Paris Climate Agreement.

The AIA 2030 Commitment aims for carbon-neutral buildings by 2030 with an immediate focus for embodied carbon reductions. They recognize that by 2050, the embodied carbon and operational carbon impacts of buildings will be essentially equal; thus, by focusing on embodied carbon reduction and sequestration – through prolonging the life of existing buildings – a post-carbon future can be realized. The commitment encourages the use of low-carbon materials, circular design, and lifecycle assessments (LCA) to reduce embodied carbon of buildings and products specified. Achieving zero embodied emissions will necessitate the adoption of reuse principles, such as renovating existing buildings, utilizing recycled materials, and designing for deconstruction; reduction strategies, including material optimization and the selection of low-to-zero carbon materials; and sequestration efforts, such as designing carbon-sequestering sites and incorporating carbon-absorbing materials must be adopted.

To evaluate the impact of embodied carbon in buildings, carrying out a lifecycle assessment of building materials in the early design stages is of paramount importance. LCA tools are essential for evaluating the environmental impacts of a product, or whole building, over its entire lifecycle, from raw material extraction to disposal. Some of the key LCA tools used in the construction and building sector consists of One Click LCA and Tally. Both tools offer integration with BIM tools like Revit and consists of a vast database of Environmental Product Declarations (EPD), which allow benchmarking and comparisons of building materials to be conducted.

Whole building life cycle assessment (wbLCA) in LEED v5, coming in Q1 2025, will be a critical tool for addressing the growing concern over embodied carbon in buildings and encourages a more holistic view of a building's environmental impact. LEED v5 will also focus on the adoption of sustainable practices, such as material selection, building reuse and waste reduction, for reducing the overall embodied carbon footprint of the project. Most importantly, it will become a Prerequisite in the new version, not a voluntary credit; thus, instead of being an atypical strategy for projects seeking Gold or Platinum, all projects seeking certification – or equivalency – for LEED v5 will have to evaluate embodied carbon. This change has the power to transition our industry towards focusing on embodied carbon in a meaningful way.

Through the lens of two recent projects completed by the presenters - a LEED v4 ecclesiastical project where aesthetics could not be compromised, and a cost-driven public building project targeting CaGBC Zero Carbon Building Standards v3 - we will review how utilizing LCA in design can result in significant reductions to embodied carbon, on time and on budget, all while working within existing guidelines and on projects requiring three-to-five “equal alternatives”, over proprietary specifications. The goal of this presentation is to demonstrate how LCA fits into the project delivery process, as well as can be used to balance needs of carbon reduction while meeting clients demands.

Cyle Sheppard, Designer, Sustainability at NORR

Cyle is an architectural designer with 8 years’ experience, currently working as a Designer, Sustainability for NORR, an 800-person AE company, headquartered in Toronto, with offices in the US, UK, and Canada. Cyle earned his BSc. in Building Science and Adv. Dipl. in Architectural Technology from Algonquin College in Ottawa, Ontario. He is passionate about educating the next generation of architectural professionals, serving as a part-time professor at Algonquin College. Cyle is currently supporting projects pursuing LEED, Green Globes, and CaGBC Zero Carbon Building Standards, where he manages projects, writes specifications for sustainability outcomes, conducts LCA, and has a proficiency for building performance and daylight simulation.

Tanmay Naik, Designer, Sustainability at NORR

Tanmay is an architect in training with 5 years’ experience, currently working as a Designer, Sustainability for NORR, an 800-person AE company, headquartered in Toronto, with offices in the US, UK and Canada. He is a results-driven design professional, known for design precision and a deep commitment towards leveraging his passion for sustainable design to influence positive health outcomes. Tanmay earned his MSc in Architecture, with a specialization in High-Performance Buildings, from the prestigious Georgia Institute of Technology. He is currently supporting projects seeking LEED and Green Globes certifications, creating lifecycle assessments (LCA) and toolkits, and he is supporting NORR’s Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program, helping track their total Scope-1, -2 and -3 GHG emissions, globally.

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SESSION 3A

Revitalizing a Community: Lessons in Large Scale Building Envelope Retrofits

Sarcee Meadows Housing Co-operative (SMHC) is a 74 building, 380 unit cohousing community constructed circa 1970. Over the last 55 years, SMHC has undergone numerous alterations, including roof structure modifications, siding overclad, and window replacements. To address ongoing issues with water and air ingress and ice damming, RJC was engaged in 2022 as prime consultant for full replacement of the building envelopes and improvement in the energy performance of the buildings. The project has a year round construction schedule. The buildings maintained occupancy during construction with a continual cycle of construction field reviews including whole building airtightness testing, moisture ingress testing, final walkthroughs, and deficiency closing. Each of the 74 buildings is unique and the various stages of construction can be underway on up to 16 buildings at any one time. The presentation will discuss the drawing package, use of a mock-up phase to establish baselines and optimize the design, challenges and solutions for renovating occupied buildings, and the importance of building relationships within the project team and with external stakeholders.

Stacey McDougall - P.Tech.(Eng), NCSO, LEED® AP – Project Technologist RFC Engineers

A project technologist with RJC Engineers, Stacey worked in RJC's structural engineering practice, drafting structural drawing packages and performing field review for buildings under construction, before finding her passion on RJCs Building Science and Restoration team. Stacey enjoys problem solving, collaborating with project teams, and learning more about the complexities of building exteriors. Working on multi-year, phased projects has helped to hone her contract administration skills. Stacey also has a keen interest in safety and is a National Construction Safety Officer (NCSO).

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SESSION 3B

Low Carbon Concrete

Sustainable concrete requires communication, coordination, cooperation, and commissioning—the four C's of any effective approach to environmentally responsible design and construction. Chris and Keith will highlight the importance of embodied water in concrete and how cement production and mix design are driving water-to-cement ratios higher, often exceeding 0.55. This affects the workability, physical characteristics, and durability of concrete. The presentation will also address the challenges posed by innovative mix designs and the necessary measures to minimize quality control and assurance concerns. Concrete is an incredible material that, when used appropriately, can provide sustainable benefits to your projects—especially when partnered with other construction products. An accounting approach for amortizing carbon content over the structure's lifespan can help reduce the environmental impact of construction. Amortization also provides a method to account for the "cost" of carbon emissions and offers a framework for cooperative management of these emissions. Educating all construction participants, from design to construction, is critical for maintaining a sustainable approach to concrete. The traditional methods we've relied on are hindering progress toward the construction industry's stated goals of improving environmental performance, but new methods of measuring, new technologies, and collaborative approaches are making changes for a more prudent approach and how we work with concrete in the future.

Keith Robinson, FCSC, FCSI, RSW

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SESSION 3C

How Specifiers Could Benefit from Quantity Surveyors' Input During Design and Construction

The demand for effective and timely cost control in project budgets has grown significantly in recent years, driven by the need for faster delivery of infrastructure projects without compromising on sustainability. This has led to both challenges and opportunities within the construction industry, particularly when it comes to managing costs and ensuring the quality and delivery of the construction development. This presentation will address how the roles of specification writers and quantity surveyors can work together to ensure projects are delivered within budget while meeting the required standards.

Tammy Stockley, PQS(F), MRICS, GSC, AET - Chair - CIQS, CIQS - Board Director, Altus Group - Director Development Advisory

Tammy is an accomplished Professional Quan□ty Surveyor (Fellow) with a career spanning over three decades. Since beginning her career in 1992, after graduating from Architectural Engineering Technology in St. John's NL, she has developed extensive expertise in the field of Quan□ty Surveying Consul□ng. Her professional career roles evolved from cost planner, cost consultant, senior cost consultant, associate, associate director, and to director in her current position with Altus Group's Development Advisory Business Unit, where she leads the Atlan□c team. Tammy's experience includes working on a wide range of projects, both in the public and private sectors, focusing on pre-construction estimating and project monitoring services. Her leadership extends to her involvement with the Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (CIQS), where she has served on the board of directors since 2019. In 2022, she was elected vice-chair, and chair of CIQS in 2024. Tammy's advocacy work with CIQS has contributed to raising awareness about the professional services provided by CIQS' designate members.

Tammy was bestowed CIQS fellowship in 2022, in recognition of her meritorious contribution to CIQS and advancement of the profession. In addition to her CIQS designation, Tammy holds the MRICS (Member of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors), GSC (Gold Seal Estimator), and AET (Architectural Engineering Technologist) Credentials.

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SESSION 4 – Salon C

Panel Discussion

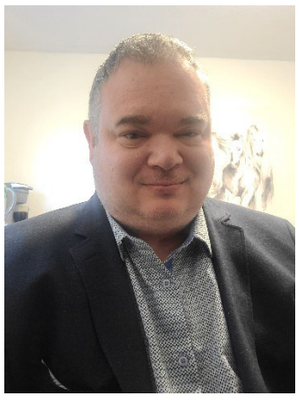
A Panel Discussion on Current Construction Industry Resources: How to adapt to a changing market that impacts both human and material resources in the construction industry

Moderator:

Abigail MacEachern, ARCHITECT, NSAA RSW, LEED AP, AIA International Associate, CDT
Design Director & Technical Office Continuous Improvement Lead, POMERLEAU

Panelist:

Jonathon Greenland, CTR
Western Canada Sales Manager
Arconic Architectural Products



Jeff Haleshewski, RSW
Specifications Writer
DIALOG

Joelle Jefcoat, FAIA, Esq.
Deputy General Counsel,
Principal, Perkins Will

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SESSION 5A

Code Requirements and Innovation for Fire Rated Assemblies

This session will focus on fire-rated gypsum assemblies and their role in providing protection to structures and occupants. In addition to focusing on many aspects related to fire performance and certification requirements, significant time will be spent on innovations with horizontal membranes and low carbon assemblies, as well as recently added fire-rated assembly listings.

Brent Belanger, CTR
Sr. Architectural Technical Solutions Manager
Certainteed Canada

Brent has over 35 years' experience in the Canadian Construction Industry working for several manufacturers. Brent currently serves on the Gypsum Association (GA) Building Code Technical Committee, the NAIMA (North American Insulation Manufacturers Association) Canada Technical Committee, as well as the CAN/ULC S702.1 Mineral Fibre Insulation Task Group.

He has contributed several articles for industry publications and has been involved in the development of many technical resources for the construction industry. Brent is a Certified Technical Representative (CTR) with CSC and a LEED Green Associate

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SESSION 5B

Substitutions vs Alternatives - a Terminology Misuse.

The terms Substitution and Alternatives are often used interchangeably in the construction industry; but are they?? Is there more involved that just terminology?

In this session, we will identify the differences between Substitutions and Alternatives. We will also identify the different types of Substitutions and the timing for submission. This presentation is primarily directed to Product Representatives, Contractors and Subcontractors; but will also be of interest to Architects, Engineers and Owners who may be frustrated with the number of Substitutions they receive on a project and want to re-examine the requirements they specify within the documents they produce and strategies to enforce these requirements.

We will explore not only when to solicit an Alternative, but also the "psychology" behind them and how to structure them for success. The presentation will outline the differences solicited substitutions, unsolicited substitutions and apparent substitutions, but more importantly how the appropriate communication will make the lives of all project participants less stressful and chaotic. We will take a look at why consultants strongly dislike them, how the appropriate timing can affect acceptance as well as how to organize and what information should be presented to increase the chances that the substitution will be accepted while causing the least disruption to the consultant team member evaluating the proposal.

Paul Gerber, Senior Specifier
Archispectural Consulting Inc

Paul has 35 years of experience within the EACO industry. After graduating from Architectural Technology program at Fanshawe College in London, Ontario in 1990, he has filled a number of roles from drawing production, contract administration and since 2007 writing project specifications. His experience has been accumulated from the consulting, owner and contractor sides of the industry. Paul has been involved in CSC since 2010, initially as a member of the Grand Valley Chapter and currently the London Chapter. In 2012 Paul served two terms as Chapter Director for Grand Valley before embarking on his journey through the CSC Executive Council in 2014; serving as President for the 2018-2019 Program Year. Since 2015, he has offered his specification writing services to architects, engineers, owners and manufacturers through Archispectural Consulting Inc.

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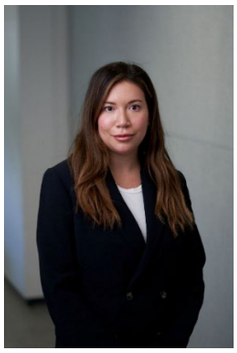
SESSION 5C

Practical Guidelines & Best Practices for Low Carbon and Equitable Steel

The steel industry is a major contributor to global carbon emissions, accounting for approximately 7- 9% of total emissions. The push towards a low carbon future is driven by both regulatory policies and market demands. Governments worldwide are setting ambitious carbon reduction targets, and investors increasingly prioritize Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) criteria. For Consultants, and Contractors, adapting to these changes is not just about compliance but about seizing opportunities for innovation and leadership in sustainability. Objectives of the Session: Best Practices for Material Usage Optimization.



Stephanie Fargas, CSP, RSW - Associate, Sustainable Materials Specialist – DIALOG
Stephanie, has emerged as a leader in material transparency, bringing extensive experience in material product research and preparation of specifications for projects across North America. In addition to being a Registered Specification Writer, she provides expertise in embodied carbon, circularity, material health, and social equity throughout the supply chain. She is dedicated to sustainability, guiding material transparency for projects seeking LEED®, WELL®, and Envision™ certifications, and notably led the specifications development for Canada's first Living Building Challenge project. With a creative approach, Stephanie excels at translating design intent into clear, precise specifications while mentoring staff and facilitating communication among project participants.

Matthew Winters, Project Manager, Steligence, ArcelorMittal

Matthew earned his degree in Civil Engineering and Management from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. In his structural design experience, he has been involved in the design and management of various industrial, commercial, institutional, residential, and demolition projects across Canada. In his role at ArcelorMittal, he builds close working relationships within the AEC community to promote the use of steel in building construction, leads project activities for building design assistance, and assists in the development of technical white papers and presentations on the sustainable use of steel in building construction.

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SESSION 6A

LFW 101: A Sustainable Approach to Building Envelope Construction

The presentation introduces the evolution, applications, and performance benefits of modular wall systems, referred to here as large-format wall (LFW) systems, in modern construction. Drawing inspiration from the unitized curtain wall technologies, LFWs represent a versatile and innovative approach to wall assembly, addressing industry demands for efficiency, quality, and sustainability.

The adoption of LFW systems is fueled by trends like modular construction, labor shortages, and the need for improved productivity. These systems offer significant time savings and enhanced quality compared to traditional methods. The presentation contrasts conventional prefabricated panel joints—such as dual-stage caulking and foam-based solutions—with advanced dry gasketed systems. These dry joint technologies improve air tightness and moisture mitigation without the maintenance requirements or reliability risk of conventional methods.

Mohammed Dawoud
Technical Development Manager
Ennova Facades

Mohammed is a professional engineer with a passion for high-performance envelope design, focusing on the implementation of sound building science principles while maintaining a constructible approach. He holds a Master of Engineering degree with a focus on structural engineering, as well as building science, and Passive House Design certifications.

As the Technical Development Manager at Ennova Facades, Mohammed is deeply involved in the research and development of prefabricated facade technology designed for architects and designers seeking to achieve high levels of thermal comfort with minimal energy demand. He also serves as a director on the board of the Ontario Building Envelope Council, which focuses on bridging the building science and sustainability gaps among the architectural, engineering, research, manufacturing, and construction communities.

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SESSION 6B

A Window on Heritage

A Window on Heritage - The colourful wooden buildings of Newfoundland and Labrador are iconic, and if you've seen a tourism ad for the province, chances are you've admired its streetscapes, fishing stages, and historic structures. Currently, there are over 500 formally designated heritage properties in Newfoundland and Labrador, with thousands of other historic wooden buildings in heritage districts and neighbourhoods. At the same time, there are only a few trained professionals focussing on the repair and restoration of historic wooden windows and doors. Concerned about the loss of traditional skills and the pressures on homeowners to replace wooden windows, Heritage NL has started a project to document, train, and assist with window conservation. Folklorist Dale Jarvis is the Executive Director of Heritage NL, and will give an overview of the province's beautiful traditional architecture, the challenges it faces, and how they are working to safeguard both age-old skills and historic places.

Dale Jarvis
Executive Director
Heritage Newfoundland and Labrador

Dale Jarvis is the executive director of Heritage NL, working to safeguard traditional culture and historic places in Newfoundland and Labrador. He is an adjunct professor at the Department of Folklore, Memorial University, and holds a B.Sc. in anthropology/archaeology from Trent University and a M.A. in folklore from Memorial University. Dale is a past president of the Newfoundland Historic Trust and has contributed as a board member and volunteer to many local arts and heritage organizations. He regularly teaches workshops on oral history, cultural documentation, public folklore, and intangible cultural heritage.

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SESSION 6C

Building Enclosure Commissioning

Building Enclosure Commissioning - With approximately 70% of all construction litigation related to deficiencies of building envelope systems and 41% of all energy consumption related to residential and commercial buildings in North America, the need to design and install building enclosures that provide optimal performance is essential. When implemented, the building enclosure commissioning process (BECx) can significantly reduce the risk of future water infiltration, improve occupant comfort, building operation and maintenance and reduce the overall life cycle building costs. The BECx process is scalable, based on the owner's project requirements (OPR), and is aimed at confirming the building enclosure design, constructability, installation quality and performance meet project objectives. This presentation explains the value of the building enclosure commissioning process to building owners and managers providing an outline of the process guidelines and standards.

Michael Barrington, P.Eng., PE, BECXP
Director, Fishburn Sheridan & Associates Ltd.

Michael Barrington is a Principal and Director at Fishburn Sheridan & Associates Ltd., an Ottawa based engineering firm with offices in Ontario, Quebec, and Atlantic Canada, specializing in Building Envelope and Structural Engineering. Michael got his start in structural engineering in South Florida, where dealing with frequent waterproofing issues provided increasing experience and specialization in identifying and resolving roofing and building envelope issues. As a Building Enclosure Commissioning Provider (BECxP), he is helping provide technical leadership in design, quality control/quality assurance, performance testing and construction administration.

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SESSION 7A

Social Media for Architects: Unlocking Possibilities and Benefits

This presentation delves into the immense possibilities of a strong social media presence for architects. With captivating anecdotes and industry insights, attendees discover how platforms like Instagram and TikTok effectively connect architects with clients and colleagues. Learn how leveraging social media can foster collaboration, promote architectural achievements, and cultivate an influential online persona, propelling architects into the spotlight. The presentation emphasizes authenticity, meaningful connections, and professionalism in the digital realm, addressing common concerns and providing strategies to maximize benefits. By the session's end, architects are inspired to harness social media's power, amplifying their architectural vision, nurturing relationships, and attracting talent to their firms.

Dory Azar. OAA, LEED AO, MRAIC
Senior Strategic Sales Specialist
RIB Software

Dory Azar is an architect and social media influencer who captivates large audiences with his distinctive blend of architectural knowledge and humour. With more than 150,000 followers on Instagram and over 100,000 on TikTok, Dory's videos have amassed over 100 million views and over one million shares. Dory has redefined the way people perceive architecture through his laid-back approach, demystifying a profession that can seem enigmatic to the public. His unique take on discussing architecture has been featured in media outlets such as *The Daily Mail*, *Archello*, and *City Life Magazine*.

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SESSION 7B

Wind Uplift on Low-slope Roofing Assemblies

The presentation discusses the importance of roofs as structural elements exposed to environmental loads like wind. It covers factors affecting wind on buildings, such as geographical location and building shape, and explains wind uplift. The presentation highlights building codes like NBCC and ASCE 7 for wind load calculations and FM Global's updated wind uplift requirements. It also details the procedures for determining wind loads, pressure coefficients for different roof zones, and the correlation of design wind load with tested wind resistance. Additionally, it compares FM's static testing with CSA 123.21 dynamic testing methods and addresses challenges related to roof assemblies. The conclusion emphasizes the need for clear specifications, tested roof assemblies, and the roles of different parties in ensuring roof performance.

Troy Ferriera
Technical Directory
Canadian Roofing Contractors Association

Troy is the Technical Director for the Canadian Roofing Contractors Association (CRCA). He is bilingual, Registered Roof Observer (RRO), and Construction Engineering Technician (CET) graduate with over 30 years' experience in the construction industry. He gained his skills through experience as a Roof Consultant/Field Inspector with Dycon Roof Consultants Inc., and as a site superintendent at Flynn Canada Ltd. His experience has provided him with a strong working knowledge of the Industrial/Commercial/Institutional (ICI) roofing industry and hands-on knowledge of construction and roofing techniques, codes, ethics, equipment, materials and best roofing practices. Troy is a member of research consortiums at NRC evaluating Wind Uplift, Vegetated Roofs, Photovoltaics and Coverboards and on standards committees such as: CSA Bituminous Roofing Materials, ULC Thermal Performance/Energy Use in the Built Environment and ASTM D08 Roofing and Waterproofing Committee. Troy is also a member of NRCA (National Roofing Contractors Association) and is the current chapter president of the Quebec/Ontario Chapter of IIBEC (International Institute of Building Enclosure Consultants), where he obtained his RRO (Registered Roof Observer) designation and also sits on IIBEC's 'Industry Liaison Committee'.

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SESSION 7C

Robotics and Innovation in Construction

Yuri Bartzis presents the future of construction technology and the research and development that he is supporting at Pomerleau. Mr. Bartzis will summarize the vision of construction research at Pomerleau and share details about the different research projects touching Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, IoT Sensor and more! Bartzis will bridge the gap between innovation research and innovation operations ensuring that applied research remains grounded and applicable to the realities of construction.

As part of Yuri's presentation we will take a deep dive into construction robotics. Pomerleau has explored the onsite use of robotics extensively with the Boston Dynamic's Spot robot and over ten other site robots. We will explore the benefits and struggles of implementing site robotics and what place robotics has in the construction industry.

Yuri Bartzis
Director of Innovation Operations
Pomerleau

Yuri's current role as Director of Innovation Operations has him overseeing innovation strategy and implementation on all Pomerleau buildings projects across Canada. Yuri works closely with leaders to identify innovation that can support company growth at the Regional and Corporate level. Bartzis, along with a team of Innovation Directors, leads the Innovation Operations Committee at Pomerleau, which explores new technologies that will have an impact on the construction industry. This Committee oversees 6 research groups and pilots research projects aimed at developing new construction methods on Pomerleau worksites.
Outside of Pomerleau, Yuri is an active member of the BIM Community and leading the implementation of innovation in the construction industry as part of the Ontario General Contractors Association (OGCA) Technology Committee and with the Buildings Transformations Organization. Yuri himself was recognized by On-Site Magazine as a young leader in the 2023 Top 40 Under 40 in the Construction Industry for his contribution.

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SESSION 8 – Salon C

Panel Discussion

Panel Discussion – Remote projects: challenges with contracting, designing, constructing, specifying, and supplying projects that are remote or do not have many local construction resources.

Moderator:

Adam Strachan, RSW, Specification Writer, CBCL Ltd.

Panelist:

Stephanie Fargas, CSP, RSW
Associate
DIALOG

Michael Gehue, P. Eng.
Pomerleau Inc.

Steve Gusterson, FCSC, CTR
VP Pre-Construction Design
Alumicor

CSC

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