



Construction Specifications Canada is an organization representing diverse interests in the construction industry and related professions. It is dedicated to improving the quality and flow of information between these interests, whether in the form of specifications, contract administration or marketing.

May 2022 Edition

Editor: Tracey Stawnichy

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CSC Annual Golf Tournament – Joint Venture with ABECN Edmonton

Thursday, June 30, 2022, 7:00am – 3:00pm

The Quarry – 945 – 167 Avenue NE, Edmonton, AB T5Y 6L2

We are so pleased to host our annual golf tournament with a welcome joint venture to our tournament, ABECN Edmonton. We are looking forward to seeing some new and some familiar faces to close out our 2021/2022 season!

Deadline to Register: June 15, 2022

Register by midnight May 27, 2022 to be entered to win two golf passes to The Quarry.

For further information and sponsorship opportunities, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/csc-edmontonabecn-edmonton-joint-golf-tournament-tickets-266231163577?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>



2021 / 2022 Edmonton Chapter Executive

Director	Tracey Stawnichy	780 994 3699
Chairman	Andrew Brassington	587 341 5268
Vice-Chairman	Dylan Leclair	587 335 9552
Secretary	Jessica Prosser	587 340 7169
Treasurer	Catherine Osborne	780 705 7108
Architect	Kevin Osborne	780 717 1007
Chapter Liaison	Position Open	
Education	Mike Ewaskiw	780 237 7844
Engineer	Jamie Murphy	780 983 0288
General Contractor	Renee McKenzie	780 717 7798
Interior Design	Corry Bent	780 995 1647
Manufacturer/Supplier	Mike Lafontaine	780 907 4920
Marketing, Promotion, and Communications	Jamie Murphy	780 983 0288
Membership	Dave Lawrence	780 901 7260
Newsletter	Tracey Stawnichy	780 994 3699
Specifications	David Watson	780 758 4147
Website Administrator	David Watson	780 758 4147
Trade Contractor	Position Open	
Program	Jessica Prosser	587 340 7169
Owner's Rep	Cam Munro	780 231 1739
Sustainability	Position Open	
At Large	Dave Lawrence	780 901 7260

Advertising Rates

Business Card: April 1 to May 30

Rates cover your ad on our website 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Business card on-line:

Annual \$100 if received by May 1;

\$75 if received by August 1;

\$50 if received by November 1;

\$25 if received by February 1

Add \$50 to have a link to your company web site from the CSC Edmonton Chapter web page.

Chapter Sponsor

New Chapter Sponsor Bundles:

edmonton.csc-dcc.ca/About+Us/Sponsor+Opportunities+-+CSC+Edmonton+Chapter/

Student Sponsor

Meeting Sponsor

\$50 for Individual (personal) Sponsor
\$250 for Corporate Sponsor

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact any member of the Executive, attend one of our Chapter Meetings, send your name and address to CSC Edmonton Chapter, PO Box 35093 Mid Town PO. Edmonton, AB T5J 0B7, or go to edmonton.csc-dcc.ca for additional contact information.

GOALS OF CSC

Construction Specifications Canada is a multi-disciplinary non-profit association dedicated to the improvement of communication, contract documentation, and technical information in the Construction Industry. CSC is a national Association with Chapters in most major Canadian Cities.

To this end, CSC pursues the study of systems and procedures that will improve the coordination and dissemination of information relevant to the construction process.

We seek to enhance the quality of the design and management aspects of the construction activity through programs of publication, education, and professional development, believing that by so doing, we can contribute best to the efficiency and effectiveness of the construction industry as a whole.

OBJECTIVES OF CSC

To foster the interest of those who are engaged in or who are affected by the compilation or use any forms of specifications for the construction industry.

To publish literature pertaining to the construction industry.

To engage in activities to improve procedures and techniques related to the construction industry.

The opinions and comments expressed by the authors do not necessarily reflect the official views of Construction Specifications Canada. Also, appearance of advertisements and new product or service information does not constitute an endorsement of those featured products or services.

Announcements:

Chair's Message



Andrew Brassington, CSC Edmonton | Chapter Chair

Fellow Chapter Members,

The days are warming up and it's a good opportunity to get active. Our annual golf tournament takes place on June 30th. Check out the Events page or go on the CSC Chapter website for more information.

Although we have had to stay indoors out of necessity, we as an Executive have been able to accomplish a lot, paving the way for a strong and bright future for this Chapter.

If you would like to find out ways you can help contribute, please reach out to our Executive Committee. There are a few open positions that could use some support.

Something you would like to see? An event you would like us to put on? A speaker you would like to hear? Please let us know. Your event could be the next event that we put on.

Wishing everyone a fantastic May, and a Happy Mother's Day!

Membership in CSC

Dave Lawrence



In the construction industry's fast-paced environment, the need for and value of Construction Specifications Canada is greater than ever. CSC brings together individuals from all segments of the construction industry. All who have a vested interest in Canada's largest industry are invited to join CSC. When you join CSC, you become part of the only association that brings together professionals from all aspects of the construction industry.

DESIGN TEAM

CSC offers members of the Design Team the opportunity to meet with other members and exchange information. It also affords you the chance to help improve technology and its management, and the means to improve ways in which your ideals are translated into clear, concise, and complete documentation.

BUILDING TEAM

If you are a member of the Building Team, CSC offers you the opportunity to become involved in formulating specifications. Your valuable input into the programs can help generate time and cost savings, as well as improve performance.

SUPPLY TEAM

The multi-disciplinary composition of CSC allows members of the Supply Team to meet with other members of the construction team. CSC programs in data filing and information retrieval are geared to present convenient and concise information on your products for proper evaluation and specification.

THE STUDENT

If you are a student of architecture, engineering, or construction technology, CSC will provide you with a greater exposure to, and a better understanding of, the construction industry, giving you an excellent opportunity if you plan a career in the construction field.

People and Places – Welcome to new and past CSC Edmonton Chapter Members!

Fresh Faces (New Members)

Patrick Bond

Architectural Consultant Representative
Dormakaba Canada
Tel: (780) 868-1165
Email: patrickbond@shaw.ca

Yes, We've Moved (Contact / Mailing Address Update)

Heather Ziober, CCCA

Project Manager
Heather.ziober@edmonton.ca

Tammy Fulks, CCCA

Tpaydlt00@outlook.com

Previous Members Re-Joining / Re-Activated

Ian Colville, Architectural Technologist

DIALOG
100, 10237 – 104 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5J 1B1
Tel: (780) 429-1580
icolville@dialogdesign.ca

CSC Education:

Mike Ewaskiw, CTR



Principles of Construction Documentation

The PCD course is an introductory course that will enable the student to have a better understanding of construction documentation (specifications, drawings, and schedules), products, bidding procedures, and contracts. **It is also a prerequisite to all the other CSC education courses.**

Specifier 1

Specifier 1 is an intermediate level course that will take the individual beyond the concepts previously introduced in the PCD Course. Although some of the same topics are included, the depth of comprehension and explanation exceed that of the PCD course. The Specifier 1 is a prerequisite for the **Certified Specification Practitioner (CSP)** designation from CSC. Successful completion of the course may be credited toward the experience component requirements for the Registered Specification Writer (RSW) designation.

Technical Representative

The TR course provides a better understanding of contract documents and bidding procedures, product representation, professionalism, and ethics, and will provide a new depth of understanding and explanation of concepts beyond what was previously introduced in the PCD course. The course is designed for the individual involved in the supply section of the construction industry, such as manufacturer representatives, agents, or distributors of products. The student will have successfully completed the PCD course.

Contact Mike for all your education needs.

Mike Ewaskiw, CTR, Manager
Architectural & Engineering Services
P: 780-237-7844 E: mewaskiw@stonhard.com

EDUCATION COURSES

Upcoming Classes:

Principals of Construction Documentation (PCD) – TBD

Specifier – TBD

Construction Contract Administration (CCA) – TBD

Technical Representative (TR) – TBD

Upcoming Classes Online:

Principles of Construction Documentation (PCD) – TBD

Construction Contract Administrator (CCA) – April 8, 2022 – June 20, 2022

Specifier – TBD

Technical Representative (TR) – TBD

Upcoming Workshops:

Principles of Construction Documentation (PCD) 5 Day Workshop – TBD

Construction Contract Administration (CCA) 5 Day Workshop – TBD

Specifier (SP) 7 Day Workshop – TBD

Technical Representative (TR) 5 Day Workshop – TBD

Social Media:

Check us out:



MEET YOUR CSC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Catherine Osborne

Treasurer of the Edmonton Chapter

GH Construction Ltd.



How long have you been in the construction industry?

I have been in the industry for seven years.

What is the one thing that people would be surprised to know about you?

People would be surprised to know that I LOVE musicals! I love movie musicals, and in-person theatre musicals, too! I grew up watching The Sound of Music, My Fair Lady, and Mary Poppins, and I can recite every single word and do almost every move in the movies!

Who is your favourite musician?

Andy Grammer

What is your favourite Architecture type?

Victorian architecture is my favourite.

Articles of Interest

5 Principles of Great Architecture – According to Pritzker Prize-Winner Francis Kéré

Sourced from: <https://thespaces.com> / Claire Carponen

Diébédo Francis Kéré won the 2022 Pritzker Architecture Prize – often called ‘architecture’s Nobel’ – making history as the first African architect to be recognised in the award’s 43-year history.

The Burkinabe architect – who grew up in a rural village in the Boulgou province of Burkina Faso – is celebrated for his innovative designs that blend indigenous vernacular with modern engineering. Kéré’s uplifting, socially responsible works draw on tradition and span Africa and beyond.

The Pritzker jury, chaired by Chilean architect Alejandro Aravena, said: ‘In a world where architects are building projects in the most diverse contexts – not without controversies – Kéré contributes to the debate by incorporating local, national, regional and global dimensions in a very personal balance of grassroots experience, academic quality, low tech, high tech, and truly sophisticated multiculturalism.’

Here are five core principles connecting Kéré’s ground-breaking Afrofuturist architecture – in his own words.

1. Involve the community

Kéré’s first-ever building was a primary school in his home village of Gando in southeast Burkina Faso. He designed the building while still studying at the Technical University of Berlin, and built it with the help of the whole community.

‘This is what I have learned: to believe in order to innovate, and then people become part of it. I just wanted my community to be part of a process,’ Kéré told ArchDaily.

The 56-year-old architect said that although people were familiar with materials such as clay, which is used locally, it took a while to convince them it was the right choice. ‘It was not easy. I had to spend time talking, explaining, but this alone was not enough. We needed to make some samples, mockups...’

2. Innovate with local knowledge and materials

‘Architecture can bring a lot to a local society like mine,’ Kéré told Dream Idea Machine. ‘The more local materials you use, the better you can promote the local economy and (build) local knowledge, which also makes people proud.’

Gando Primary School (which won the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in 2004 and has since been expanded) was constructed using bricks made out of clay improved with cement. Easy to manufacture, the bricks can tolerate intense temperatures – a design solution tailored for the semi-arid local climate.

‘Everyone deserves quality, everyone deserves luxury, and everyone deserves comfort. We are interlinked and concerns in climate, democracy and scarcity are concerns for us all’ – Francis Kéré

The school building also has a perforated, curved brick roof, so the hot air can escape. It sits under a raised, overhanging corrugated metal roof that protects it from the sun and heavy rain.

3. Use minimal resources

Kéré creates structures that are naturally light-filled and ventilated, which don’t require

mechanical climate control systems thus reducing running costs and carbon consumption.

‘I try to use the material in the most efficient way, I try to see what is available on site, to discuss and look together with the client for the best material for the project. Then of course we think about designing in a way that doesn’t consume a lot of energy, for heating and cooling,’ Kéré told critic Shumi Bose.

His Sarbalé Ke installation (which translates from Bissa as ‘House of Celebration’) was created for the 2019 Coachella Music and Arts Festival in the California desert, where temperature can reach over 100 degrees.

The colourful baobab towers – which are now permanently located in East Coachella Valley – are formed of triangular wooden panels arranged in a radial design to allow light and air to pass through them. Their colourful exterior meanwhile reflects the Indio Valley’s striking sunrises and sunsets, as well as the hues of the nearby mountain range.

4. Design with regional sensibilities and traditions

Kéré is connected to both Europe and Africa, with his office located in Berlin and Burkina Faso. He creates modern works that are ‘neither westernised or traditionally African’ but fit into the context of their surroundings. For example, his Startup Lions information and technology campus in Kenya features wind towers inspired by the forms of nearby termite mounds. And the design of his Benin National Assembly building and the 2017 Serpentine Pavilion in London are based on great trees, which in west African tradition are meeting places and places of discussion.

He has said he has been inspired by the rational architecture of Mies van der Rohe (‘So efficient, so simple, very clear to understand’) and Louis Khan’s 1974-built Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, which used local brick (‘An eye opener for me’).

5. Build architecture that improves equality

Kéré has designed numerous schools, community housing projects, a library, a health centre, as well as national assemblies and institutes, which aim to raise living standards and instil a sense of pride through good design.

In his Pritzker statement, he explained: ‘I am hoping to change the paradigm, push people to dream and undergo risk. It is not because you are rich that you should waste material. It is not because you are poor that you should not try to create quality. Everyone deserves quality, everyone deserves luxury, and everyone deserves comfort. We are interlinked and concerns in climate, democracy and scarcity are concerns for us all.’

First Nations Playing Greater Role in Canadian Infrastructure Development

Sourced from: <https://canada.constructconnect.com> / Peter Caulfield

Engagement with Canadian First Nations has been a long and winding road that takes time to navigate and the different ways in which that engagement manifests itself have been changing.

To take one example, the Canadian government has a duty to consult with First Nations groups and communities.

In legal-speak, consultation with First Nations is required if existing or asserted Aboriginal rights might be impacted by a government decision, in the event that, for example, a permit for a construction

project is issued.

Even though the Crown is ultimately responsible for undertaking “adequate consultation and accommodation,” it is often a good idea for project proponents to get ahead of the game by engaging and consulting with those First Nations who could be affected by a project.

Although Impact Benefit Agreements (IBA) are separate from consultation, they can be an effective way to satisfy the requirement for accommodation.

An IBA is an agreement whereby a project proponent provides benefits, in the form of employment and/or supply contracts for goods and services used on the project, to a First Nation in exchange for its support of the project.

More recently, First Nations’ participation in projects has been evolving to taking part in infrastructure projects both on and off their lands.

“It’s the trend,” says Sharon Singh, a partner in Vancouver law firm Bennett Jones who is very familiar with both First Nations and infrastructure projects.

There are a number of reasons for the growing move to Indigenous infrastructure ownership, says Singh.

Some examples are the growth of environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations for non-Indigenous investors, banks and industry; better First Nations’ access to credit; stronger commitment to Indigenous self-determination and self-governance; and greater public awareness and acceptance of First Nations’ ambitions.

“The growth of Indigenous ownership of infrastructure is significant for a number of reasons,” says Singh.

For one thing, it’s a chance for Canada to advance economic reconciliation with First Nations. In addition, it shows there are mutually beneficial opportunities in large projects for both First Nations and industry.

“It highlights what investors look at to help de-risk their investment, therefore attracting capital and potentially competitiveness,” said Singh.

Singh says there is more infrastructure in Canada’s future, and more Indigenous activity in building it.

“We’ll need to build infrastructure once the pandemic is over, and First Nations will be part of some infrastructure construction,” she said. “Recent Canadian legislation has increased opportunities for Indigenous participation in infrastructure projects.”

Singh has some advice for infrastructure project proponents on working with First Nations.

“Understand that equity ownership is different than impact benefit agreements with neighbouring communities,” she said. “Equity ownership discussions may arise in these engagements with neighbouring Indigenous communities or it could be ownership by Indigenous peoples in projects outside their territories. Engage early and understand the landscape and the aspirations.”

There are many successful infrastructure projects in Canada in which First Nations have played an important part.

For example, seven Alberta Indigenous communities own a combined 40 percent equity stake in Alberta PowerLine (APL) and its Fort McMurray West 500-kV transmission project.

Financed through the largest P3 bond transaction in Canadian history, the 508-km transmission line is the longest of its kind in Canada and was energized in March 2019.

Canadian Utilities, one of the partners in the project, offered Indigenous communities along the transmission line route the opportunity to purchase up to a 40 percent equity interest in APL out of CU's ownership stake as part of the sale.

(Bennett Jones acted for Canadian Utilities on the sale of APL)

Singh says Bennett Jones also gave project structure and financing assistance that facilitated Indigenous equity ownership in the Cascade Power Project.

The \$1.5 billion project is a 900-megawatt combined cycle power generation facility under construction near Edson, Alberta.

The Cascade ownership deal was structured through what Bennett Jones calls an innovative and precedent-setting partnership with six Alberta First Nations.

It is the first transaction financially supported through the participation of the Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation (AIOC).

(With up to \$1 billion in loan guarantees, AIOC helps to reduce the cost of capital for Indigenous groups and make it easier to raise capital to invest in natural resource projects.)

The AIOC has provided a loan guarantee to the consortium of Alberta First Nations to enable their participation in the project.

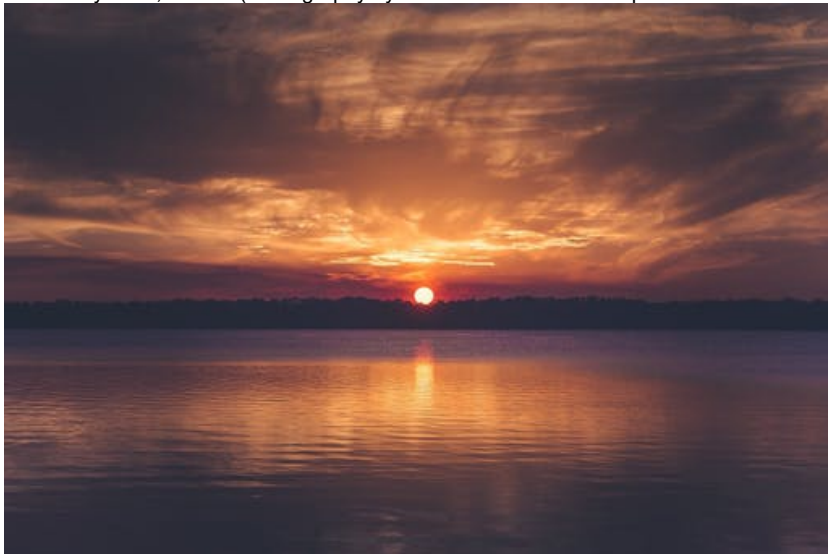
Cascade is intended to help lead Alberta's transition to a lower carbon-intensive power grid by supporting the province's move away from coal-fired power.

Six hundred jobs will be created during peak construction and commercial operations are expected to begin in 2023.

Can Nature Sue an Architecture Project? A Lake in Florida Thinks So

Sourced from: <https://archinect.com> / Niall Patrick Walsh

Lake Mary Jane, Florida (Photography by Brandon Parisi/Earthscope)



In what has been dubbed a milestone in U.S. legal history, a lake has filed a lawsuit against a developer in Orange County, Florida. Lake Mary Jane is suing property developers Beachline South Residential in Florida state court over the developer's plans to construct a new development on the north side of the lake, converting 1,900 acres of wetlands and forests into a mixed-use residential, commercial, and office development.

The lawsuit, filed on behalf of the lake by attorney Steven Meyers, claims that the development would "adversely impact the lakes and marsh who are parties to

this action," causing injuries that are "concrete, distinct, and palpable." As a deep-dive article in The New Yorker notes, the case marks the first time that an inanimate slice of nature has sued an entity in a U.S. courtroom, sparking a debate over the extent to which natural objects have rights.

The proposed development, named Meridian Parks Remainder, would see the construction of

townhouses, apartments, and commercial space, part of the broader Meridian Parks master plan which will deliver 4,400 residential units to serve the nearby city of Orlando. The lawsuit claims that the filling and altering of 100 acres of wetlands as part of the development would restrict the natural flow from the streams into the lake, thus destroying the local ecology and the lake's right to exist.

Right - Proposed Meridian Parks Development / City of Orlando

While the case marks the first example of a lawsuit filed on behalf of an inanimate natural object, there have been several successful lawsuits filed in the U.S. by animals and species. As *The New Yorker* also cites, a dissenting opinion by Supreme Court Justice William Douglas in 1972 noted that "A ship has a legal personality, a fiction found useful for maritime purposes. A corporation, too, is a 'person' for purposes of the adjudicatory processes..."

So it should be as respects valleys, alpine meadows, rivers, lakes, estuaries, beaches, ridges, groves of trees, swampland, or even air that feels the destructive pressures of modern technology and modern life."



There is also ample precedent for inanimate or speechless entities being represented in court, including corporations, states, estates, or universities. "We make decisions on behalf of, and in the purported interests of, others every day," wrote the late USC law professor Christopher Stone, who advocated for the granting of rights to inanimate natural objects. "These 'others' are often creatures whose wants are far less verifiable, and even far more metaphysical in conception, than the wants of rivers, trees, and land."

Proposed Meridian Parks Development / City of Orlando



Despite the intrigue generated by the lawsuit, Lake Mary Jane's efforts seem likely to fail. As *The New Yorker* notes, a 2020 bill by the Orange County charter commission which sought to give rights to waterways was fought against by business lobbyists who successfully added an amendment that prohibited local governments from granting legal rights to any part of the natural environment. The developer behind Meridian

Lake is hence seeking to have Lake Mary Jane's case dismissed on the grounds that the lake cannot invoke or be granted rights.

"We're realistic," attorney Meyers told *The New Yorker*. "We're trying to make new law, and that's always hard. But it's like Michael Jordan said: You miss a hundred percent of the shots you don't take."

Look for These 12 Red Flags to Avoid Hiring Bad Contractors

Sourced From: Sourced from: <https://www.architecturaldigest.com> / Terry Williams

Starting a new home project is exciting, but it's also a huge undertaking. Your contractor can make or break the renovation. Hire the wrong person for the job, and you could be living in a construction

zone—or sleeping in a hotel or with the in-laws—for much longer than you ever planned. In addition, your budget might double or triple, and you could still end up having to hire a second contractor to finish the project or fix the one that was botched. That's why you need to know when to walk—or better yet, run—from a contractor who is about to turn your home into a money pit or burn a hole in your wallet. We spoke to five experts to find out what to look for and look out for in a contractor.

.1 The contractor wants a large downpayment.

No one expects contractors to work for free. On the other hand, your Spidey sense should start tingling if they ask for a large down payment before they'll start doing any work. "It is typical to collect an advance toward securing large-ticket items such as cabinetry and countertops," but in certain states it is illegal for a contractor to exceed a certain down payment cap, explains Sarah Gaffney, design manager and project designer at Next Stage Design in San Jose, California. With or without those regulations, you should expect to fork over a down payment of about 10–25 percent of the total project cost.

.2 The contract is vague.

The contract presented by your contractor should be detailed enough that you need to put on your reading glasses to view it. "Be wary of a contract that is devoid of details – or the language is vague at best – regarding the scope of work for the project, responsibilities, payment schedules, and start and stop times," says Jody Costello, home renovation planning and contractor fraud expert at Contractors From Hell. In fact, she says the scope of work and every single detail must be included in your written agreements. "This includes materials used, supplies, equipment, vendors, subcontractors – everything that goes into your project."

Why is this so important? You don't want to make assumptions regarding what you thought you signed up for. And every time you say, I thought you were going to..., Costello explains this will become a "change order," which will cost additional money. For example, you might assume that paint would be included in the cost of painting your house, or debris removal is included in a demo, but if it's not in the contract, you'll be paying extra.

.3 The contractor had bad or zero reviews.

You can give the contractor the benefit of the doubt, but you still need to see if there's any dirt on them. "These days everything is online, and if you see bad reviews, take them seriously," advises real estate broker Egypt Sherrod, one of the hosts of HGTV's new show, *Married to Real Estate*. She admits the adage that you can't please everyone is true – but she also points out that multiple bad reviews are usually a smoke signal. And where there's smoke, there's fire.

"If you don't see any reviews at all about a company, chances are they have dissolved previous companies and reestablished under a new name," she explains. Sherrod says when contractors can't clean up their brand or reviews, they often start over.

.4 The contractor doesn't have references.

In addition to reviews, contractors should also have references. Also, if this person has great reviews for painting, but they're offering to build a pool, you need examples of the latter. "Renovations or new builds are significant investments of both time and energy for homeowners," says Joe Raboine, director of residential hard-scapes with Belgard. "The best way to understand a contractor's work is to review photos, reviews, and references from their work." And Raboine says they should be eager to share the contact information of happy customers who can answer questions about their performance.

.5 The bid or estimate is extremely low.

Usually, consumers are concerned about prices being higher than necessary. However, Costello also warns about a low-ball bid. “Contractors know that homeowners will be fixed on costs and the bottom line, and unethical contractors will leave out some scope of work details just to obtain the job,” she explains. “You need to review bids against your scope of work to ensure it includes everything you expect.”

.6 The contractor doesn't have proof of insurance.

Don't just ask a potential contractor for insurance – ask to see a copy of it. Raboine says you should also be sure it includes workman's compensation and general liability. “If the project is large in scope, you may want to also check and see that they are bonded,” he recommends.

Costello agrees, adding, “Contractor surety bonds are required at the state, county, or local level for a licensed contractor.” She explains that these bonds are limited in dollar amount to around \$15,000, but since they protect the homeowner you want to ensure that they are active. “Additional insurance such as General Liability and Builder's Risk is a plus that ethical contractors obtain to protect both parties,” she says.

.7 The contractor is a poor communicator.

We're not saying your contractor needs to have a BA in communications. However, if they fail to return phone calls or address your concerns, Costello says this is a preview of what you'll get if you hire them – and she says they may end up abandoning the project.

Written communication skills are also important. “When a contractor is hesitant to provide information in writing, or engage in proper digital communication, this is a definite red flag that he or she doesn't want a paper trail of evidence, or isn't legally licensed to do the work requested,” says builder Mike Jackson, one of the hosts (along with Sherrod) of HGTV's *Married to Real Estate*. “A running paper trail is a normal expectation when you're dealing with a contractor.”

.8 The contractor doesn't mention permits, or suggests the homeowner obtain them.

“Each municipality has different ordinance requirements for various home remodeling projects, including outdoor spaces,” Raboine says. “Many projects – including retaining walls, driveways, fireplaces, and outdoor kitchens – need to be permitted and engineered, and require a substantial amount of expertise to execute properly.” And he says your potential contractor needs to address this as it can affect timelines and costs to pull permits.

Even worse is a contractor who asks you to pull the permits. Costello says this usually means you're dealing with an unlicensed contractor or someone whose license has been revoked. “Never obtain the permit as a homeowner because whoever obtains and signs for the permit is responsible for everything, including fines and fees when things go wrong,” she explains. “You want the contractor to carry the burden of doing the work.”

.9 The contractor doesn't address materials or lien waivers.

If the contractor is executing draws, and the project is large, Raboine says you may want to ask about lien waivers. “This is an extra step that will ensure that nobody, including a contractor's supplier, can place a lien on your property,” he says. “For example, if a contractor doesn't pay their dealer, the dealer can issue a lien directly on the homeowner, which must be satisfied to receive if there is ever a sale to receive a clean title or deed.” In other words, you can't sell your house until this debt is paid.

.10 You're unable to verify the contractor's license, or the names do not match.

There's a reason you should always verify the contractor's license. Costello says this is how you can find out if the contractor is unlicensed and using someone else's license. It's possible this individual's

license has been revoked, and they got someone else to apply for one. “It may even be a corporation, but the principals do not match the name of the contractor,” she says.

.11 The contractor asks for cash payments.

If the contractor asks if you can pay in cash, it’s quite possible this individual is trying to avoid paying taxes on the business or for employees. Costello says this is a sign that you’re dealing with a dishonest person. But there’s yet another reason why you shouldn’t pay in cash. “It’s important to have proof of payment using a canceled check, receipts, and lien releases upon payments made to the contractor in the event he or she claims they weren’t paid,” Costello says.

.12 The contractor is under the influence.

What people do on their time is their business – but what they do in your home is your business. It might go without saying, but “when it comes to deciding on who you want to work on your home renovation project, a major, waving red flag that says, Don’t hire me, is a contractor who shows up to the job site, and you suspect they are under the influence,” Sherrod says.

ASSOCIATION LINKS

- **Alberta Construction Safety Association (ACSA)**
www.acsa-safety.org
- **BuildingSMART Alliance** (North American Chapter of BuildingSMART):
www.buildingsmartalliance.com
- **BuildingSMART International** (formerly IAI) www.buildingsmart.com
- **Biomimicry Guild**
www.biomimicryguild.com
- **Canadian Green Building Council (CaGBC)** www.cagbc.org
- **CCDC Documents**
www.ccdc.org/home.html
- **Construction Specifications Institute (CSI)** www.csinet.org
- **International Construction Information Society (ICIS)** www.icis.org
- **OmniClass**
www.omniclass.ca
www.omniclass.org
- **Uniformat**
www.csinet.org/uniformat
- **Institute for BIM in Canada (IBM)**
www.ibc-bim.ca
- **Architecture 2030**
www.architecture2030.org
- **Building Information Modeling (BIM) Forum**
www.insightinfo.com/bimforum
- **Biomimicry Institute**
www.biomimicryinstitute.org
- **Canada BIM Council**
www.canbim.com
- **Canadian Green Building Council (CaGBC) – Alberta Chapter:**
www.cagbc/chapters/alberta
- **Construction Specifications Canada (CSC)**
www.csc-dcc.ca
- **buildingSMART Data Dictionary**
bsdd.buildingsmart.org
- **MasterFormat**
(<https://secure.spex.ca/siteadmin/freedocuments/images/1.pdf>)
- **buildingSMART Canada**
www.buildingsmartcanada.ca
- **Ace BIM**
www.acebim.ca

ASSOCIATION LIAISONS

Alberta Association of Architects (AAA)

<http://www.aaa.ab.ca/>

Alberta Painting Contractors Association (APCA)

www.apca.ca

Alberta Wall & Ceiling Association (AWCA)

<http://awca.ca>

Alberta Roofing Contractors Association (ARCA)

<http://www.arcaonline.ca>

info@arcaonline.ca

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE)

<http://www.ashrae.org/> / ashrae@ashrae.org

The Canadian Wood Council (CWC)

<http://www.cwc.ca>

info@cwc.ca

Portland Cement Association

ConcreteTechnology@cement.org

Interior Designers of Alberta

www.interiordesignalberta.com

Alberta Painting Contractors Association (APCA)

www.apca.ca

Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists, and Geophysicists of Alberta (APEGGA)

<http://www.apegga.org/> dward@apegga.org

Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta (ASET)

<http://www.aset.ab.ca/>

Russ Medvedev, russm@aset.ab.ca

Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)

<http://www.bomaedmonton.org/> /

edmonton@boma.ca

Consulting Engineers of Alberta (CEA)

<http://www.cea.ca/> info@cea.ca

Edmonton Construction Association

www.edmca/.com

contact@edmca.com

Terrazzo, Tile & Marble Association of Canada (TTMAC)

<http://www.ttmac.com/>

association@ttmac.com



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Bulletin Board

Message from the Executive:



















We in the Executive are looking for creative-minded individuals who can take on a position and follow through with ideas...if this is YOU, send a message to information@cscedmonton.ca and we will be quick to get back to you!

Open Positions Include:

Officer Marketing
Chapter Liaison
Officer Membership
Trade Contractor
Sustainability

You don't need to be a member of the Committee to come and participate in our monthly Chapter meetings but watch out if you do! You may find yourself holding a position...maybe even as Chapter Chair...

The Executive

Director / Newsletter Editor  Tracey Stawnichy, LEED AP, CSC Contract Administrator ACI Architects Inc. P: 780-994-3699 tstawnichy@aci-arch.com	Chair  Andrew Brassington, CTR Western Canada Sales Rep ROCKWOOL P: 587-341-5268 Andrew.brassington@rockwool.com	Vice-Chair  Dylan Leclair, CTR IKO Commercial P: 587-335-9552 Dylan.leclair@iko.com	Treasurer  Catherine Osborne GH Construction Ltd. P: 780-705-7108 catherine@ghconstruction.ca
Secretary  Jessica Prosser Business Development / Sales AZZ Galvanizing - Edmonton P: 587-340-7169 jessica@daamgalv.com	Officer Architect  Kevin Osborne, CET, CSC Consultant Holo-Blok P: 780-717-1007 kevin@holo-blok.com	Officer Specifications & Website Development  David Watson FCSC, CET President NBS (Canada) (formerly Digicon) P: 780-758-4147 David.Watson@theNBS.com	Officer Professional Development  Mike Ewaskiw, CTR Architectural & Engineering Services Manager Stonhard / Fibergrate P: 780-237-7844 MEwaskiw@stonhard.com
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Officer Marketing  Position Open	Officer Trade Contractor  Position Open	Officer – Owner's Rep  Cam Munro, CTR Alberta Infrastructure P: 780-231-1739 Cam.munro@gov.ab.ca	