# Specifier

Editor: Tracey Stawnichy

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.

new products.

#### January 2025 Edition

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## Breakfast Networking for Architects and Dealers

Date: Friday, January 24, 2025 Time: 9:00am – 11:00am Place: Edmonton Expo Centre, 7515 – 118 Avenue NW, T5B 0J2 Presented by: Paul Chang, Provincial Municipal Building Administrator, Alberta Municipal Affairs Pre-Registration is required. CEU credits will be granted for architects. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. After this session, architects are welcome to walk the show floor and have access to all

Paul is the Provincial Building Administrator with Alberta Municipal Affairs who has played a key role in the development of multiple editions of national and provincial building and plumbing codes. With over 46 years of industry expertise, Paul has attained safety codes officer certifications

in the building, fire, plumbing, and gas disciplines. https://wrla.org/events-calendar.html/event-conference/index/id/101 Learn about:

- Some of the changes in the National Building Code 2023 Albert Edition (NBC (AE))
- Discuss technical changes, explore the Harmonization Project, and gain insight into the application of Alberta's Tier 1 for Section 9.36 of the NBC (AE)
- The National Energy Code for Buildings 2020



2025 Edmonton Chapter Executive		Advertising Rates		
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#### 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.

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# January 24 | 9:00 a.m. – 11 a.m. Edmonton Expo Centre **Breakfast Networking for Architects & Dealers**

Moderated by Paul Chang, Alberta Municipal Affairs

The Western Retail Lumber Association is a memberbased organization that advocates, connects and educates the building supply industry in Western Canada to facilitate the growth of member businesses. At WRLA, we strive to build a community that connects you, our members, to build relationships through quality programs, services and products.



# **Session Overview**

Join Alberta Municipal Affairs Provincial Building Administrator, Paul Chang, as he walks through the building discipline session.

#### Learn about:

- Some of the changes in the National Building Code 2023 Alberta Edition (NBC(AE)).
- Discuss Technical changes, explore the Harmonization Project and gain insight into the application of Alberta's tier 1 for Section 9.36.of the NBC(AE)
- The National Energy Code for Buildings 2020.

# **About Paul Chang**

Paul is the Provincial Building Administrator with Alberta Municipal Affairs who has played a key role in the development of multiple editions of national, and provincial, building, and plumbing codes. With over 46 years of industry expertise, Paul has attained safety codes officer certifications in the building, fire, plumbing and gas disciplines.

## **Event Details:**

Pre-registration is required.

CEU credits will be granted for architects.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

After this session, architects are welcome to walk the show floor and have access to all new products.

# **PRICING:**

Architects Badge: \$59.99



## **Announcements:**

## **Chair's Message**



Dylan Leclair, CSC Edmonton | Chapter Chair

Happy New Year Edmonton Chapter,

I hope everyone was able to take time to recharge and spend time with their families, friends, and loved ones.

As we start the new year, I am excited to say our Education Program has restarted, headed by Kevin Osbourne. We are starting with our Principles of Construction Documentation (PCD) in January and should anyone wish to attend, go to our Eventbrite page to sign up. This is a 12-week course (one day a week) and it is the prerequisite for our CTR, Specifier, and CCCA courses which we hope to run in the fall of 2025.

I am also happy to say that we are ready to launch our 2025 Infonet. This year we will be changing the event a bit to allow for more networking opportunities for those in attendance. While we will still start the evening with our customary trade show, we will then move into a night of networking and gambling at our fun money casino hosted by Edmonton Casino. The event will take place downtown at The Matrix Hotel and I look forward to seeing everyone there.

Have a Fruitful New Year!

## **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.

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#### 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)

Matthew Dyck Lead Systems Engineer, Rail & Transport WSP P: (780) 410-0094 E: matthew.dyck@wsp.com Alexander Grams, CSP, RSW Specifier at Dialog 100, 10237 – 104 Street NW Edmonton, AB T5J 1B1 P: (780) 782-4612 E: agrams@dialogdesign.ca

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

Shaune Smith, CCCA Architectural Technologist Stantec P: (587) 756-6210 E: shaune.smith@stantec.com

Previous Members Re-Joining / Re-Activated

None this month.

## **CSC Education:**



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## 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.

## **EDUCATION COURSES**

## **Upcoming Classes:**

Principals of Construction Documentation (PCD) – Monday, Jan. 20, 2025 – April 7, 2025 RJC Engineers, 100, 17415 – 102 Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T5S 1J8 Specifier – TBD Construction Contract Administration (CCA) – TBD Technical Representative (TR) – TBD

## **Upcoming Classes Online:**

Principles of Construction Documentation (PCD) – January 6, 2025 (14 weeks) Construction Contract Administrator (CCA) – TBD Specifier – TBD Technical Representative (TR) – TBD

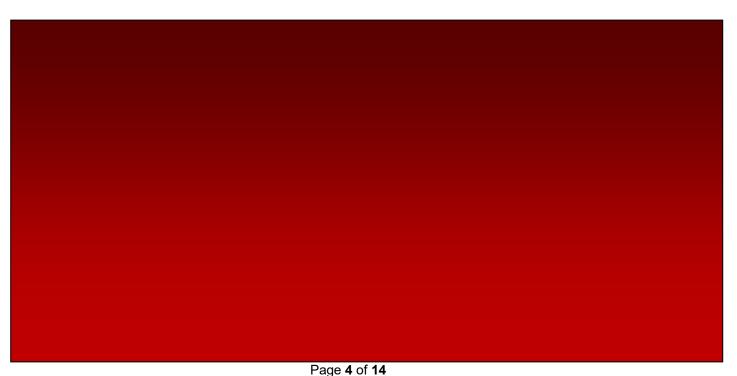
## **Upcoming Virtual Classes:**

Principles of Construction Documentation (PCD) – January 10, 2025 (5 weeks) Construction Contract Administration (CCA) – November 22, 2024 (5 weeks) / March 7, 2025 (5 weeks) Specifier (SP) – November 1, 2024 (7 weeks) / March 7, 2025 (7 weeks) Technical Representative (TR) – November 1, 2024 (5 weeks) / March 7, 2025 (5 weeks)

Social Media:

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## **Articles of Interest**

## **Proposed Central Alberta Wind Project Met with Opposition from Residents, Conservation Group**

Sourced from: cbc.ca / Mrinali Anchan

The Fox Meadows Wind project by ABO Energy would produce 165 megawatts and include up to 25 turbines. The proposal is currently being assessed by the Alberta Utilities Commission with a hearing set for February.

The developer said if completed, it will produce enough electricity for more than 65,000 homes.

The project is located on privately owned land between the Town of Provost and the Village of Edgerton, about 265 kilometres southeast of Edmonton,

Jasona Rondeau is group representative for the Edgerton Land Advocates, which Rondeau said was formed for residents in the surrounding area to communicate their concerns about the wind power proposal in a unified way.

Rondeau told CBC that concerns from interveners, people or entities who have an interest in the outcome of the project, range from effects on wildlife to health concerns from the noise.

"They want to construct 25 towers that are the size of the Calgary Tower, right on very prime agricultural land and surrounding vast numbers of livestock and a few residences," Rondeau said.

"There are a number of concerns whether they are environmental, because the bird environment protected areas report came back with a very high mortality risk for birds and bats."

The project turbines would have a hub height of 115 metres and a rotor diameter of 162 metres.

The project was reviewed by the province's Environment and Protected Areas Fish and Wildlife Stewardship, which found as of January 2024, that there was a moderate risk to wildlife and wildlife habitat.

The team of three biologists did not conduct an independent on-site assessment and reviewed submitted documents, completed by Maskwa Environmental Consulting on behalf of ABO Energy.

On Oct. 15, the Alberta Wilderness Association also wrote to the Alberta Utilities Commission to express concerns on the impacts of Fox Meadows Wind Project to habitat and wildlife.

"While we appreciate that the majority of the project is situated on cultivated lands, with a low proportion (9 per cent) of native grassland habitat, we are concerned with the high risk it could pose to local wetlands, birds, and bats," association conservation specialist Ruiping Luo wrote.

"Wind turbines provide an alternative to fossil fuel energy generation with lower carbon emissions, and cause nearly 35 times less bird fatalities than fossil fuel power stations. Yet, the extent of their environmental impact depends strongly on the location and operation of the wind power station."

The association said while it supports increasing renewable energy generation in Alberta, development must proceed in a fashion respecting and promoting wildlife and landscape protection and health values.

Rondeau said there is also concern surrounding mechanical failure of wind turbines, particularly after a turbine broke at the Capital Power Halkirk 2 Wind Facility in Paintearth County on November 8.

A representative from Capital Power told CBC in a statement that the nacelle and rotor at one of the turbines (T33) fell from the tower and there were no injuries and no damage to public property.

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"In response, a full site-wide safety stand-down has been implemented with the remainder of the H2 turbines not operating, and the site has been secured," the statement said.

"As a precautionary measure, the area around each tower is being secured and an investigation is underway."

Rondeau said the group has also heard concerns over potential health impacts.

"Headaches and nausea and sleep disturbance, and in some cases ... depression, anxiety, things that are difficult for them to manage," she said.

A Health Canada study from 2014 found no link between exposure to wind turbine noise and negative health effects in people.

ABO Energy held an open houses in 2022 and 2023 to address some of the most common concerns.

"Although audible sound, infrasound and low frequency noise (LFN) are emitted from wind turbines it is not at a level that causes health impacts, headaches, nausea, sleep problems and tinnitus," the company says on its website.

## Collaboration needed, expert says

John Parkins is an environmental sociologist with the University of Alberta and studies rural community resistance to wind projects.

Parkins told CBC that there are many factors at play that can lead to community unease about a wind project.

"One of them is that landowners are concerned that there will be a lack of local benefits, and those benefits, they do accrue they often will go to the owners of the projects."

ABO Energy has stated that it may employ up to 100 people during the estimated 18-month construction period.

The company says there will be \$70 million of goods and service contracts going to Alberta companies, with preference going to qualified local entities.

ABO Energy asserts that the MDs of Provost and Wainwright will gain split revenue of tens of millions of dollars in municipal tax revenue over the anticipated 30-year life of the Fox Meadows Wind project.

Parkins said more research is needed in determining how landowners feel about wind projects in the years after they have been built.

"We have found, for example, that in places like Pincher Creek, Alberta, where we've had wind turbines for more than 20 years, annual surveys or regular surveys, follow-up surveys with landowners have shown that the concerns persist over time."

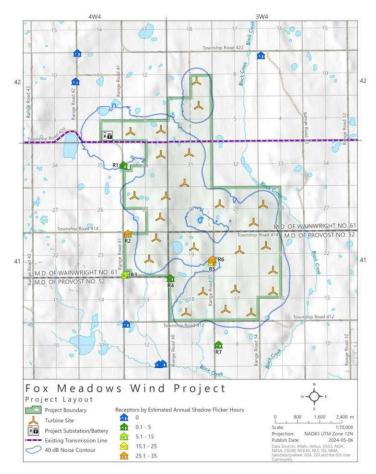
"There may be benefits in terms of renewable energy for the grid that can benefit Albertans, particularly urban folks, but the benefits don't really go to the local landowners and the local communities in ways that people would want," Parkins said.

He added that it is important that the consultation process be a collaborative endeavour between the prospective developer and landowners opposed to just a process of declaring the project and then defending its merits.

"Instead of just thinking about consultation as a way to convince landowners that this is the project, they need or that this project would benefit from them a much more elaborate or a full version of consultation, would be letting landowners, be involved in the design of these projects from the get-go."

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The Fox Meadows Wind project is a 165 megawatts proposal of up to 25 turbines by ABO Energy, over 265km southeast of Edmonton (ABO Energy)



The AUC will be holding a hearing for this project on February 24, 2025.

Construction on the project is expected to start in the third quarter of 2025 with it becoming operational in 2027.

Tyler Lawrason, chief administrative officer with the MD of Provost, told CBC in a statement that the MD is a registered intervener in the proceeding.

"An application for rezoning relative to this project, as a required part of the municipality's development process, was considered by council in January of 2023 and was denied."

Due to its status as an intervener, Lawrason said there would be no further comment.

The Reeve of the MD of Wainwright Mike Wildeboer said in a statement it is aware of the Fox Meadows Wind Project.

"The municipality has always followed provincial legislation in regard to development," he said. "As a member of council, I have attended two open houses to learn more about the project. We always take into consideration the concerns

of our residents for any industrial project within the MD."

## **AI Shows Vatican City is More Damaged Than Previously Thought**

Sourced from: https//www.msn.com / Jasper King

The digital twin of the famous St. Peter's Basilica was created through AI (Picture: Microsoft)



Al has been used to find structural vulnerabilities in St Peter's Basilica, at the Vatican City, that are invisible to the naked eye.

A digital twin of the famous Catholic church was created through AI creating an ultra-precise 3D computer model that simulates an object in the physical world.

The project was developed by Microsoft and the Vatican in collaboration with Iconem, a French startup specializing in digital preservation.

It is called La Basilica di San Pietro and involved drones, cameras and lasers being used to take more than 400,000 detailed images to create an exact digital replica of the exterior and interior over a

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## period of three weeks.

A view of St. Peter's Basilica during the preview to the press of the exhibition (Picture: AP)



Al analysis then identified cracks and fissures invisible to the human eye which will help with restoration work.

It also revealed previously hidden or lost mosaic tiles and uncovered an ornate ceiling.

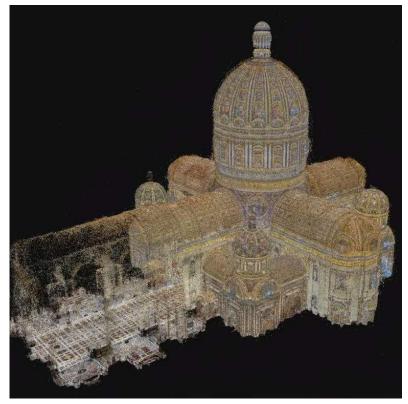
Vice chair and president of Microsoft Brad Smith said: 'It is literally one of the most technologically advanced and sophisticated projects of its kind that has ever been pursued.'

'Everyone, really everyone should feel welcome in this great house,' Pope Francis

told Mr. Smith and members of the project's development teams at an audience held on Monday.

He continued: This house of prayer for all peoples has been entrusted to us by those who have preceded us in faith and apostolic ministry.

It is hoped people can explore the famous church virtually (Picture: Microsoft)



'Therefore, it is a gift and a task to care for it, in both a spiritual and material sense, even through the latest technologies.'

The project also allows people who may never visit the Vatican in person to experience the site with the same level of details that in-person visitors can.

Digital twin technology has already been used on other buildings like the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris to help with reconstruction efforts after the fire in 2019.



## Architects Suffer Higher Levels of Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct Than Other Professions

#### Sourced from: https://www.dezeen.com / Amy Peacock

Research into architecture workplace culture conducted by the UK's Architects Registration Board has revealed widespread bullying, discrimination and sexual misconduct in the profession.

The Architects Registration Board's (ARB) workplace culture report found that architecture professionals experience higher levels of discrimination and sexual misconduct compared to other professions that have published comparable research, including academia and some medical sectors.

#### Quarter of women in architecture have experienced unwelcome sexual advances

Conducted by the independent agency Thinks Insight and Strategy, the research surveyed 898 architecture professionals at various career stages and also interviewed 15 of the research participants.

It found that a quarter of female professionals had experienced unwelcome sexual advances and 38% had experienced unwelcome sexual comments.

The research also found that 38 per cent of architecture professionals had received insults, stereotypes or jokes related to protected characteristics. This statistic increased to 53% for female professionals, 46% for people from ethnic minorities, and 46% for those with disabilities.

In total, 41% of professionals had experienced bullying, 33% had experienced discrimination of some kind, and 10% had experienced sexual misconduct, which the ARB described as "significant proportions".

## **RIBA** "ready to take bold steps"

ARB's report claimed that a third of professionals would not feel confident raising concerns if they experienced or witnessed misconduct in the workplace, fearing that they would not be taken seriously or that it would impact their careers.

"The vast majority of architects are good professionals who behave ethically, but we are appalled to learn that many of them suffer higher levels of discrimination and sexual misconduct than some other professions," said ARB chair Alan Kershaw.

"There is a clear need for leadership here – all professionals in the built environment sector need to support a better culture for a better built environment."

"Championing changes to improve workplace wellbeing is a priority for RIBA, and we recognise both our unique, important role in achieving this and the work it will take," added president of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Muyiwa Oki.

## ARB will "set firmer professional standards for architects"

The research was conducted to support ARB's revised Code of Conduct and Practice for Architects, following concerns of misconduct raised in its education survey.

The ARB claims it will "set firmer professional standards for architects" by providing guidance in leadership and inclusion and offering support to those raising concerns.

The workplace culture report will also inform recommendations put to the ARB in early 2025 through the Professional Practical Experience Commission, which is investigating challenges faced by British architecture students.

"As we prepare to publish the findings of our own investigation, we are ready to take bold steps," he said. "We continue to work with ARB and others to enable a profession that is rooted in safety, respect, and inclusion for everyone."

In interviews with research participants, some architects shared experiences of inappropriate behaviour on construction sites, at client meetings and while at university.

Many raised concerns about being underpaid, overworked and undervalued, with 59% of professionals agreeing that their workload is detrimental to their wellbeing.

Dezeen is conducting its own research into people's experiences of working in architecture and design, including job fulfilment, workload, pay and workplace culture. Fill out a short survey here.

Recently on Dezeen reported on why the gender pay gap in UK architecture is failing to close and Helen Parton wrote how "design can do more to reduce the built environment's capacity for enabling misogyny".

## **Notre Dame Cathedral Reopens in Paris, France**

Sourced from: https://www.archdaily.com / Maria-Cristina Florian

The Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris has officially reopened, five years after a devastating fire destroyed its roof and spire and threatened the integrity of the entire structure. The reopening ceremony took place on Saturday evening with a two-hour sermon, attended by global leaders and dignitaries. The ceremony also represented the first opportunity to witness the result of the estimated €700 million (\$739 million) restoration, a process that included the thorough cleaning of the stone interiors, revealing a glistening white gothic interior.

Architecturally, the restoration focused on meticulous reconstruction. The Gothic nave, damaged extensively in the fire, has been completely refurbished. The destroyed spire was reconstructed to be identical to the original 19th-century one, as was the "forest" roof structure, reconstructed using oak trees from across France. The 28 flying buttresses of the nave were secured before any work began. Twenty-nine chapels surrounding the interior, added in the 13th century, were also restored.

The interior was completely refurnished with new liturgical pieces designed by Guillaume Bardet, including the high altar, ambo, and tabernacle. Significant relics, such as the Crown of Thorns, were preserved and displayed in new reliquaries. The south rose window, a gift from King Louis IX, was also restored to its former glory.

Among the most surprising elements of the reopening were the bright and luminous interiors. Conservationists used a new technology involving a latex paste to clean the damaged interior stonework, removing not only the soot but also the accumulated dust and grime that darkened the stonework. The result is an "uncharacteristically" bright stone interior, which some have found to clash with the image of a centuries-old Gothic cathedral.

The five-year restoration involved over 2,000 workers from 250 companies. The project encompassed not only structural repair but also the artistic restoration of murals and the creation of new liturgical furnishings. The reopening ceremony itself was a blend of Catholic tradition and French national pride, highlighting the scale of the undertaking and the collaborative effort that brought the iconic cathedral back to life. Ahead of the reopening, several cities from around the world hosted

augmented reality exhibitions to bring the iconic cathedral closer to the public and showcase its history and restoration efforts. In parallel with the restoration works, the city of Paris also set out to redesign its surroundings, a project led by landscape designer Bas Smets.

## **ASSOCIATION LINKS**

- Alberta Construction Safety Association (ACSA)
   www.acsa-safety.org
- Alberta Building Envelope Council (ABEC) www.abecnorth.org
- Building Information Modeling (BIM) Forum www.insightinfo.com/bimforum
- 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

## **ASSOCIATION LIAISONS**

- Architecture 2030
   www.architecture2030.org
- BuildingSMART Alliance (North American Chapter of BuildingSMART): www.buildingsmartalliance.com BuildingSMART International (formerly IAI) www.buildingsmart.com
- 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

Alberta Association of Architects (AAA) http://www.aaa.ab.ca/	Alberta Painting Contractors Association (APCA) www.apca.ca			
Alberta Painting Contractors Association (APCA) www.apca.ca Alberta Wall & Ceiling Association (AWCA) http://awca.ca	Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists, and Geophysicists of Alberta (APEGGA) http://www.apegga.org/ dward@apegga.org			
Alberta Roofing Contractors Association (ARCA) http://www.arcaonline.ca info@arcaonline.ca	Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta (ASET) <u>http://www.aset.ab.ca/</u> Russ Medvedev, <u>russm@aset.ab.ca</u>			
American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and	Building Owners and Managers Association			
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Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) http://www.ashrae.org/ / ashrae@ashrae.org

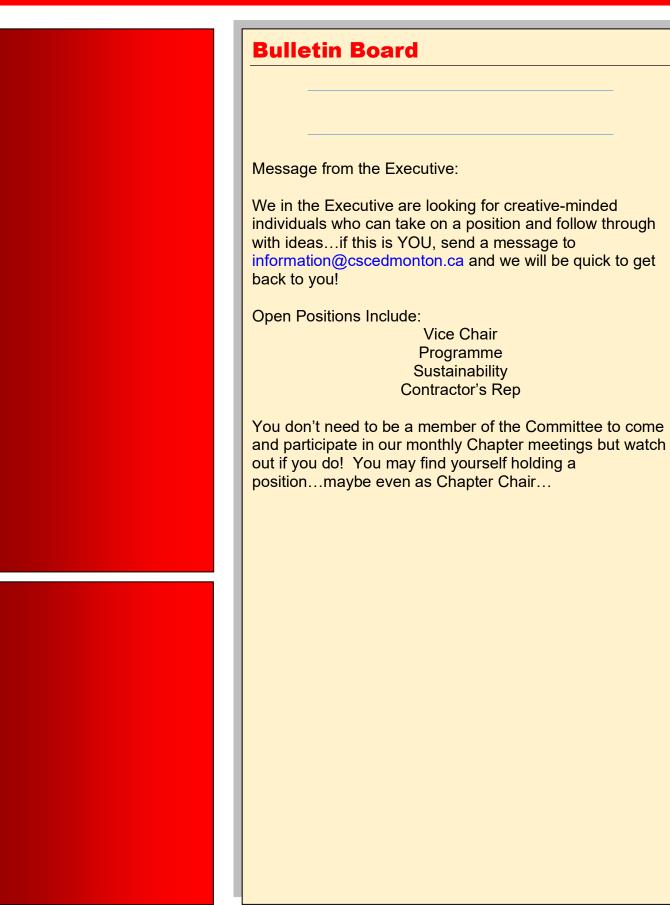
The Canadian Wood Council (CWC) http://www.cwc.ca info@cwc.ca Portland Cement Association ConcreteTechnology@cement.org

Interior Designers of Alberta www.interiordesignalberta.com (BOMA) <u>http://www.bomaedmonton.org/</u> / <u>edmonton@boma.ca</u> Consulting Engineers of Alberta (CEA) <u>http://www.cea.ca/\_\_\_info@cea.ca</u>

Edmonton Construction Association www.edmca/.com contact@edmca.com

Terrazzo, Tile & Marble Association of Canada (TTMAC) http://www.ttmac.com/ association@ttmac.com





## **The Executive**

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Officer Technical Program Position Open	Officer Membership David Lawrence Retired P: 780-901-7260 davidlawrence@interbaun.com	Officer at Large David Lawrence Retired P: 780-901-7260 davidlawrence@interbaun.com	Officer Sustainability Position Open
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