



In This Issue

[Upcoming Events: Lots Going On at the GVCA](#)

[Bright Spots: GVCA Members Shine](#)

[FAQ: Building Excellence Awards](#)

[Member News: Who's doing what](#)

[Detroit Car Show Road Trip](#)

[Ski Day At Osler](#)

[Let GVCA Advocate for YOU](#)

[Condolences](#)

[How to Enter Building Excellence Awards](#)

[Business & Learning Management Series: HST](#)

[The Business & Management Learning Series: OCIP vs CCIP](#)

[2010 Building Excellence Awards: Save the Date](#)

[AGM & AON Heritage Awards & Hall of Fame](#)

[Free CCA CCDC Reference Binder with GVCA Membership](#)

[GVCA Safety Group](#)

[Gold Seal Courses: Start soon, register today](#)

[New WSIB President](#)

Quick Links

[GVCA website](#)

[Become a Member](#)

[Bidding Opportunities](#)

[Online Members Directory](#)

[Contracts & Forms](#)

[Gold Seal Program](#)

[Education](#)

[Safety Training](#)

[Hot Jobs - Employment](#)

[Careers in Construction](#)

January 2010 GVCA NEWS

Showcase Your Team: Enter the Building Excellence Awards & Reap Rewards



In my role as president of the GVCA, I find myself in the offices of many of our members. While they may be GCs or subs, many of them have something in common: They proudly display their GVCA Building Excellence Awards on their walls for all to see.

When your team wins a Building Excellence Award it is a mark of your professionalism as well as excellence. While entering these competitions require some effort, the returns on investment are huge.

Potential clients are truly impressed by the GVCA Building Excellence Award, knowing that they are not given out lightly and are carefully adjudicated. When a company is part of a winning project, it means that they all worked together as a successful team, resulting in a brilliantly executed building.

Staff are also inspired by the win: Everyone wants to be part of a winning team.

When organizations win a Building Excellence Award they should be publicizing this fact on their RFQs, their website and their marketing. It is a mark of Excellence!

Now is the time you should be entering the 2010 Building Excellence Awards.

- It is free to enter.
- We have an Olympic theme to the event (how appropriate!)
- Deadline for submissions is February 5, 2010
- [Submissions forms](#) are available on the GVCA website (easy to complete pdfs)
- If you want professional assistance, Angela Pause of [W4R Marketing](#) (a GVCA member and the GVCA's own marketing consultant) is available for hire at a discounted price. Angela has been helping GVCA members develop winning submissions since 2006.

However you choose to enter the BE Awards, I urge you to do it now. You did the work - now reap the rewards.

Sponsors are winners!

This event is an outstanding marketing and awareness opportunity for sponsorship. When you become a sponsor you put your company's name in front of the best of the best. GVCA guarantees thousands of dollars worth of positive exposure for your firm before, during, and after the event. We have partnered with Exchange Magazine again this year to feature coverage of this prestigious

[Resource](#)

[News & Events at GVCA](#)



[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

January 19, HST Info Session ([download registration pdf](#)). This is part of our Business & Management Learning Series

January 20, Detroit Car Show, Cobo Center, Detroit, Michigan ([download registration pdf](#))

January 22, OCIP vs CCIP ([download registration pdf](#)) This is part of our Business & Management Learning Series

January 25
Project Manager Level Two: Gold Seal course begins [Registration Form](#)

January 26
Estimator Level Two: Gold Seal course begins [Registration Form](#)

January 27
Construction Site Superintendent: Gold Seal course begins [Registration Form](#)

January 30
Blue Print Reading: Gold Seal course begins [Registration Form](#)

FEBRUARY

February 5
Building Excellence Awards Submission Deadline

February 16 GVCA AGM, Hall of Fame and Heritage Recognitions. [Download Registration PDF Here.](#)

APRIL

April 23, Building Excellence Awards Gala

event. They have a high circulation in our market and is well respected. Thousands more will read about your company! Please support the industry that supports you.

To be one of our Sponsors (Gold, Silver, Bronze) please download and complete the [Sponsorship application](#).

Sincerely,

Martha George, P.GSC
President, GVCA
Email: mgeorge@gvca.org

How To: Enter the Building Excellence Awards

Step One: Download the [Submission Form](#). It is a "fillable pdf form" for your convenience.

Step Two: Decide if you have the in-house capability to complete the submission form in time or need to hire an outside writer who specializes in construction Award Submissions. GVCA Member [W4R Marketing](#) is a local and recommended resource.

Step Three: Compile the information and photos required in a pleasing format and submit by February 5, 2010

The Business & Management Learning Series:

HST Info Session

Everything you every wanted to know about Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) but were too busy to stay on hold with a government agency to get the answers.

This condensed workshop will be specific to construction and will help you through the transition of implementation, and address your concerns on bidding, purchasing materials and equipment and progress draws.

This would be of interest to Estimators, Project Managers, Finance and Accounting, and Owners

Presented by: Deloitte

When: Tuesday, January 19 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Where: GVCA office, 25 Sheldon Drive, Cambridge, Ontario N1R 6R8

Cost: Free to GVCA members/ \$50.00 for non members (or to GVCA pre-registered no-shows)

Register: email staff@gvca.org or [download registration pdf.](#)

The Business & Management Learning Series:

OCIP (Owner Controlled Insurance Programs)
vs

CCIP (Contractor Controlled Insurance Programs)

Once just a concern for large general contractors, now smaller general contractors are facing situations where the Owners are providing the key insurance to them (such as Builders Risk and Wrap-Up liability programs).

This can have some advantages and disadvantages to contractors (e.g. While insurance is provided, the terms may not be advantageous to the contractor - but it does lower insurance costs and administrative costs.)

Bright Spots

Olympic Torch Bearer

The Olympic Spirit was alive and well when

GVCA member Don Gosen, (Gosen Electric) had the incredible honour of carrying the Olympic Torch on December 27, 2009 (Day 59 of Torch Relay).

Don carried the Olympic Flame in Cambridge, during the London to Kitchener relay stretch.



Way to go Don!

Barnraiser Award

Roger Farwell, GVCA member and senior partner at The Walter Fedy Partnership was recently honoured with the Barnraiser Award.

This award is given to a local person who has contributed to our community in long-lasting and positive ways.

Roger has been innovative and far-sighted in his work with community groups. He has worked on projects ranging from the KidsAbility Centre for Child Development and Waterloo Regional Police Headquarters to the Waterloo Region Catholic Education Centre and Kitchener Downtown Community Centre. He devoted his time to community groups such as Junior Achievement, the Salvation Army and the YMCA.

Congratulations Roger.

Frequently Asked Questions: Building Excellence Awards

Q. As a sub contractor can I enter the Building Excellence Awards?

A. If you were part of a project that you would like to see entered in the 2010 Building Excellence Awards, please contact [Martha George](#) about entering a submission. Martha will contact the prime contractor on the project and help to initiate

As the Grand Valley Construction market continues to grow, there are more Risk Managed firms offering their own insurance program to contractors. There is much you need to know to protect yourself.

This session will highlight the benefits, costs and concerns associated with these OCIPs.

Presented by: Phil Dynes, Vice President, Marsh Canada

When: Friday, January 22, 2010 8:00 am

Where: GVCA office

Cost: Free to GVCA members/ \$50.00 for non members (or to GVCA pre-registered no-shows)

[Download Registration PDF.](#)



2010 Building Excellence Awards

Save the date:
Friday April 23, 2010
[Read all about it here.](#)

This is a celebration of excellence by our members for projects that have been substantially completed between January 1, 2008 and Dec 31, 2009.

You've built something excellent. Let your team share in the recognition.

[Download the PDF Nomination Forms](#)

[Download the PDF Sponsorship Form here.](#)

Three Events: One Night
Tuesday, February 16, 2010

1. Annual General Meeting
2. Aon Business Heritage Tributes
3. Hall of Fame

Annual General Meeting

Find out how your GVCA performed in 2009 as well to approve and vote on proposed bylaw changes. (Did you know we were named the Canadian Construction Association of the Year!)

Open to all members. [Download your Proxy Form here.](#)

Was your business founded prior to 1985?

The GVCA is honouring companies who have been in business for 25 years or more (and have not been previously recognized) please contact GVCA staff at 519-622-4822 ext 27 prior to January 15 for inclusion in this tribute. It's an



honour to be included!

We are gathering nominations for the GVCA Hall of Fame. Think of someone in the construction industry



the project submission.

Q. Do only big projects win at the Building Excellence Awards?

A. No, there are 26 awards to be one that cover 5 categories and numerous divisions ranging from "any project size or dollar limit" for restoration/conversion or environmental to projects that fall into the following ranges:

- \$750,000 to \$2 million
- \$2 million to \$10 million
- More than \$10 million

Q. We completed a project in February 2008, does it qualify for entry into the BE Awards?

A. Yes. All projects submitted must have posted substantial completion between January 1, 2008 and Dec 31, 2009.

If you have any questions regarding your submission, contact Martha George at mgeorge@gvca.org or call 519-622-4182 x 23.

Member News

Heeding the business advice that recessionary periods are an ideal time to enhance marketing, **Conestoga Roofing** chose to invest in a complete website redesign: conestogaroofing.com.

Like all marketing efforts, websites need to be updated and reflect company capabilities, while featuring current projects and important information that potential customers need to know.

Conestoga Roofing also uses their website as a recruiting tool for new workers and sharing information about Conestoga College's new [Roofing Skills Training Institute](http://ConestogaSkillsTrainingInstitute.com).

Conestogaroofing.com was created by GVCA member [W4R Marketing](http://W4RMarketing.com). Contact [Angela Pause](mailto:AngelaPause@w4r.ca) at angela@w4r.ca / 519 570-3947 for more information.

Detroit Car Show

that has helped us all through their innovation, commitment and passion not only to the industry that we all love, but to the community as well.

Great individuals can affect change and through their leadership have influence to look out for our interests. Its time to honor them for all they have done. If you know of someone whose contributions to the construction industry should be recognized, please download the nomination form. This Hall of Fame recognizes the best of the best.

[Download your Hall of Fame Nomination Form here.](#)

When: February 16, 2010

Time: AGM 5:30 pm followed by dinner. [Download registration form here.](#)

Where: Holiday Inn, Kitchener (Fairway Road)

Cost: \$60 plus GST

Getting EVEN MORE with your 2010 GVCA Membership

Membership has its advantages. Especially a GVCA membership!

By now, you would have received your invoice for your yearly GVCA membership dues. (If you haven't please contact staff@gvca.org).

Enclosed with the invoice was a notice of your **free Reference Binder of selected CCA and CCDC documents and guides.**

- As a key *reference guide*, it will be invaluable to have on your shelf for quick access.
- **The binders are available for pick up from the GVCA upon receipt of your dues.**

You will be very happy - this reference guide/binder is worth \$400 and was made possible by the Canadian Construction Association (CCA).

Did you know your GVCA membership dues includes membership to the Canadian Construction Association and to COCA, the Council of Ontario Construction Associations. Both of these associations work hard to ensure that your concerns are addressed at the provincial level, and the federal level.

Also, enclosed with the invoice is a notice for pre authorized debit for services/items/documents/registration you may wish to purchase from the GVCA.

This system is just like the automatic withdrawal that you have for your phone bill or hydro bill. This system will save you time and money and increase efficiency in your office.

Simply fill out the agreement we enclosed in your invoice and send it back to the GVCA. **You will receive an invoice from the GVCA 15 days prior to the withdrawal so you are aware of the amount that will be automatically withdrawn from your account.** If you need more information on this convenient payment method please call the GVCA office at 519-622-4182 or you can log onto www.cdnpay.ca or contact your bank.

GVCA Safety Group: It pays to belong

The GVCA Safety Group is one of WSIB's



"We're on the Road Again" (It's a trip to the Cobra Center in Detroit!)

Due to popular demand, the Detroit Car Show "road trip" is back.

When: January 20, 2010

Where: Cobra Conference Center, Detroit, Michigan
Bus Leaves: 7 am at Carpool Lot at Homer Watson & 401. For more information: Phone: 519-622-4822 ext 27 Email: staff@gvca.org
Cost: \$60 plus GST
Registration: [Download Registration PDF here](#)

Limited seating. Register today!

most successful safety groups.

Last year 18 of 50 Safety Group sponsors were eliminated due to the low scores of their members. However, the GVCA Safety Group members were among the top scorers. We accomplished this through our focused attention on critical binder work and by offering unique tools, templates and assistance to each safety group member. The standards for any Safety Group are exceptionally high and only the GVCA has a dedicated Safety Trainer/Facilitator working with us closely to ensure we all know what to do, how to do, when to do it and why we do it.

At the GVCA Christmas luncheon, we presented a WSIB rebate cheque to Safety Group members that was over \$335,000!

We are accepting GVCA Safety Group applications until January 7, 2010 (we realize that many of you have completed the application in December but have yet to deliver to our offices...please HURRY as the WSIB collects them on January 7.)

The next GVCA Safety Group meeting is at the GVCA office on January 8, 2010 at 9 am.

Ski Day at Osler: February 18, 2010

Our annual Ski Day at Osler is coming up soon! GVCA members Don Gosen and Paul Seibel



have kindly arranged this always-fun event for us. Check the [GVCA Events page](#) on our website for details and registration.

Gold Seal Courses @ GVCA Register Today

Construction Project Manager Level Two - Planning and Scheduling

This is a must for Project Managers and Superintendents.

Construction planning and scheduling are fundamental and challenging activities in the management and execution of a construction project. It involves the choice of technology, the definition of work and durations for individual tasks, the estimation of the required resources, and the identification of any interactions between different work tasks. A good construction plan is the basis for developing the budget and the schedule for work. Whereas the construction schedule, in addition to assigning dates to project activities, is intended to match the resources of equipment, materials and labour with project work tasks over time.

This is a 30-hour course. It will consist of in class work, and homework assignments.

Successful completion of this course will enable the student to:

- Understand the objectives of planning and scheduling as well as the major phases of the planning process
- Analyze the project for planning and breakdown activities
- Identify differences between resource and time oriented scheduling as well as the critical path allocation
- Understand sources of task duration and factors affecting task durations
- Know time calculations and establishing a work sequence in addition to delivery dates and shop drawing deadlines.

Cost: \$400.00 per person +GST.

***All course materials are included with the price Non member price \$700.00 per person +GST.**

Gold Seal: Earn Five Gold Seal Credits

Date: Monday Nights January 25-March 8, 2010 (6 sessions) Excluding Feb. 15

Let us Advocate on Your Behalf

GVCA Helps You

Are you having issues with projects that are financed in part by Federal Infrastructure Stimulus programs?

The insistence of the Federal government that the March 31, 2011 deadline is firm and that Federal dollars will not flow for work undertaken after that date is causing concern in our industry.

Some projects have tender documents that contain penalty clauses requiring the General Contractor to pay (damages or make up the shortfall) if the project is not completed by March, 2011 when Federal funding ceases.

The Canadian Construction Association is bringing these concerns forward to the Minister responsible

and will inquire about projects in Ontario that may or may not be in this situation. If you are aware of a project like this, please contact Martha George at mgeorge@gvca.org. As president of the GVCA, Martha will make sure that CCA is aware of all our concerns so the CCA can lobby on our behalf.

CAA Bulletin
Find out what the **Canadian Construction Association** has to say this week.
[December 15, 2009](#)

Our Condolences

We wish to extend condolences to the families and friends of the four construction workers who were killed when their swing stage collapsed on December 24, 2009 in Toronto, Ontario.

While we have no special knowledge of the circumstances that led to this tragedy, we urge everyone in our industry to work and live safely everyday.

Our industry is inherently dangerous; it is up to every one of us to make it safe for all.

Industry Links

[Daily Commercial News](#)

[Canadian Construction Association](#)

[COCA](#)



Time: 6:30 - 9:30pm

[Download Registration here](#)

Construction Blueprint Reading 101

This course is intended for anyone interested in gaining a working knowledge of blueprint reading from site and landscape plans, foundation plans, floor plans, electrical/mechanical plans, elevations, sections, underground water systems, details and shop drawings to specifications, dimensions, scale and measurement.

This is a 30-hour course comprises in-class work and homework assignments. Successful completion of this course will enable the student to:

- Identify all trades work when reviewing a set of architectural and structural plans
- Cross reference construction drawings to specification documents
- Understand drawing dimensions and scale
- Locate columns
- Identify elevations
- Understand site grading and landscaping plans
- Recognize benchmark locations and adjacent property lines
- Strengthen the perceptual ability to see the finished product

Cost: \$400.00 per person +GST.

***All course materials are included with the price Non member price \$700.00 per person +GST.**

Gold Seal: Earn Five Gold Seal Credits

Date: Saturdays January 30 - February 13, 2010 (3 sessions) Time: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.

[Download Registration here.](#)

Construction Site Superintendent

This course is a must for Site Superintendents and for Foreman who take on the role of Superintendent.

This course is intended for anyone interested in running a construction project on-site. Attention will focus on the role of a superintendent, motivation, dealing with architects, subtrades, team management, job meetings, site planning, settling disputes, purchasing and rentals, safety methods, monitoring cost controls, hiring and layoff. This is a 30-hour course. It will consist of in-class work and homework assignments.

Successful completion of this course will enable the student to:

- Recognize the importance of the construction site superintendent's position on a construction team and identify the essential tasks of a construction superintendent
- Setup site administration and documentation
- Effectively communicate with on-site labor and other personnel
- Setup field office and plan a project schedule
- Purchase materials for a project
- Discuss layout with surveyor team
- Work with subtrades
- Discuss use of equipment on site and site supervision

Cost: \$400.00 per person +GST.

***All course materials are included with the price Non member price \$700.00 per person +GST.**

Gold Seal: Earn Five Gold Seal Credits

Date: Wednesday Nights/ January 27- March 3, 2009 (6 sessions)

Time: 6:30 - 9:30 pm

[Download Registration Form here.](#)

Construction Estimator Level Two

Estimator two is designed to guide the student through a proven method of quantity surveying and estimating. This will aid the student in determining material quantities and unit cost for a complete project. The students are grouped together in teams and deliver a complete and comprehensive cost of construction for a given set of plans and exercises.

Successful completion of construction estimator two will enable the student to:

- Determine material quantities and unit costs
- Read plans and locate sections
- Estimate quantities and cost of concrete, formwork, steel, site work carpentry, etc.
- Develop a total cost of a structure
- Demonstrate accuracy and detail required in construction estimating for Divisions 1 - 16 of the CSC/CSI Master Format Construction Specifications Canada

Cost: \$400.00 per person +GST.

***All course materials are included with the price**

Non member price \$700.00 per person +GST.

Gold Seal: Earn Five Gold Seal Credits

Date: Wednesday Nights/January 26- March 2, 2010 (6 sessions)

Time: 6:30 - 9:30 pm

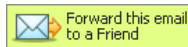
[Download Registration Form here.](#)

David Marshall: New WSIB President

Ontario has nominated respected former international banker, diplomat and senior Canadian government executive, David Marshall, as President of the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB).

As WSIB President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Marshall would head up one of North America's largest workers' compensation systems and promoters of workplace health and safety. Marshall would be succeeding Jill Hutcheon who is retiring at the end of January 2010.

Marshall has held many key federal government positions, including Assistant Auditor General and Deputy Receiver General for Canada. A certified general accountant, he has also held senior roles in the Toronto and New York banking sectors. Most recently, Marshall was Canada's ambassador to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean.



**Grand Valley Construction Association
25 Sheldon Drive, Cambridge, Ontario
N1R 6R8**

[website: gvca.org](http://www.gvca.org)

Phone: 519-622-4822

Fax: 519-621-3289

GVCA Contacts

- [Martha George](#), P GSC -President (ext. 23)
- [Barb Flagel](#), Administration and Membership Services(ext. 24)
- [Michael Murray](#), Plansroom Manager (ext. 22)
- [Rob Agley](#), Plansroom Coordinator (ext. 21)

**EXTRA
GVCA
MEMBER**

your GVCA Members Directory should have arrived in the mail. **Pick up a copy for each of your vehicles and departments. Additional copies are available for purchase: Member price \$10 per directory; non-member \$50 per directory.**

This directory was carefully designed with a pocket in the back to hold updated information. GVCA will

DIRECTORY ONLY \$10

issue a list of new members and any changes or corrections to your listing on a quarterly basis and mail them to you. You can always check out our membership listings via the GVCA website. **We encourage MEMBER TO MEMBER business! That keeps us all busy!**

Your directory is another benefit of belonging to the GVCA



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