



CCA UPDATE REPORT (March 2008)

The following is an update report on new and on-going CCA initiatives including highlights from the Council, Committee and Board meetings convened during the recent 90th Annual CCA Conference held March 2-6, 2008 in Victoria, BC.

CCA Signs MOU with Architects to Promote CANet

On March 10th, CCA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC) that recognizes the importance of the plansrooms operated by construction associations in the procurement process. It commits both to work together to promote and support the Construction Association Network (CANet), a network of electronic and physical plansrooms operated by construction associations across Canada (see <http://www.canet.cc/>).

Board Approves New Partnership Program/Account

The CCA Board of Directors approved in principle the establishment of a new CCA Partnership Program that will see CCA set aside an amount every year in its budget for investment in regional/provincial initiatives undertaken by Member Associations that address national industry priorities and interests. This move was prompted by CCA's healthy financial situation and its current Strategic Plan, which calls for CCA to strengthen its working relationship with its Member Associations.

CCA Establishes 2008-09 Priorities

With input from its Member/Partner Associations at a special forum convened during the recent Annual Conference, CCA established its priorities for 2008-09 as follows:

Federal Lobby Objectives:

- Continue to press for long-term federal **infrastructure** funding;
- Continue to press for meaningful **tax reforms** in such areas as the treatment of employer-provided vehicles;
- Pursue methods by which **innovation** in construction can be encouraged;
- **Training** - Seek increased federal funding for construction training capacity at Canadian community colleges.
- Continue to pursue reforms to the **immigration** system that will facilitate the entry of foreign construction workers to Canada both on a temporary and permanent basis;
- Develop and have ready a federal **election strategy** that will ensure construction's issues and views are known by all candidates;

Human Resource issues:

- Work with CCA Partner Associations to increase the capacity and effectiveness of Canadian community colleges as important training providers for the construction industry.
- Promote and encourage federal and provincial governments to live up to their promise of unfettered labour mobility throughout Canada by April 2009.

Environmental Issues:

- Work with PWGSC and Environment Canada to develop strategies to increase waste diversion and increase recycling capacity within the industry.
- Work in partnership with the Canadian Trucking Alliance to obtain a financial incentive for new lower emitting diesel-powered engines.

Industry Practices:

- Promotion of the new version of CCDC2.
- Updating of related forms and documents.

Innovation:

- Work with the federal research granting councils to encourage more funding for applied research in construction and construction-related projects and programs, including the possibility of creating a research Chair in construction management and/or technology.

Gold Seal:

- Continue to promote Gold Seal as the industry's preferred standard for construction management excellence.

Communications

- Work with Member/Partner Associations to find the best means and effective tools to continually enhance communications and the delivery of services to the members including consulting on the use of the CCA Tour and the delivery of Gold Seal support services.

NEW Codes of Ethics Adopted

The CCA Board endorsed for publication two new Codes of Ethics. The first, called **Code of Ethical Conduct for Staff, Directors and Volunteers**, applies to CCA's own operations and the conduct of its staff and volunteers. The second, entitled **Model Code of Ethics for a Construction Firm**, is a template or model Code that can be used as a starting point by individual industry firms wishing to develop their own corporate code. The latter goes beyond the scope of traditional industry codes in that it does not deal exclusively with bidding and contracting practices but also touches on such matters as environmental practices, safety, and financial disclosure. Both will be posted on the CCA website in the near future.

NEW CCA Construction Accounting Guide ready in June

The CCA Finance Committee is finalizing a new *CCA Construction Accounting Best Practices Guide* that will address such topics as the valuation of work-in-progress, (i.e. percentage completion vs. completed contract method), new accounting rules for long-term investments and receivables and the special GST/HST timing rules associated with certified progress payments and holdback payments/release.

Board Approves New Gold Seal Code of Ethics

The CCA Board approved the Gold Seal Code of Ethics – a basic guide concerning the professional and personal conduct expected of Gold Seal certificate holders.

New LEED Complete to be Launched in June

CCA has scheduled its summer Board of Directors meetings to coincide with the first ever National Summit of the Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC) called *Shifting Into the Mainstream* to be held in Toronto June 11-12. CaGBC plans to launch the new LEED-Complete rating system at that Summit. This new designation focuses on life-cycle performance of existing

buildings including its on-going energy and water usage. For more information see <http://www.shiftingintothemainstream.ca/>.

NEW Guide to Doing Business in the United States Endorsed

The CCA Board of Directors has approved for publication the new CCA **Guide for the Construction Industry When Doing Business in the United States**. The Guide includes a general section covering such matters as organizational, insurance and bonding issues, and dedicated sections on immigration and customs matters. Throughout the Guide there are case studies, that will feature lessons learned from Canadian firms operating in the U.S. The Guide also provides links to resources.

CCA Provide Financial Support for Development of Deconstruction Standard

The CCA Board of Directors has agreed to provide financial support for the proposed development by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) of a voluntary, national standard for deconstruction that is expected to place a heavy emphasis on the reuse and recycling of construction materials. CCA has appointed a representative to sit on the technical committee that will develop the standard.

New CDBI Teaming Agreement Endorsed

The new Design-Build Teaming Agreement developed by the CDBI has been approved by the CCA Board of Directors and will be published and available for distribution. This Agreement made between the Team Leader (Project Respondent) and the Team Member (a party participating in the preparation of the Proposal) is a model form designed to clearly define each party's rights and responsibilities.

2007 Audited Financial Statements Approved

The CCA Audited Financial Statements for the period ending December 31, 2006 were approved at the CCA Annual General Meeting on March 9.

Appointments to Outside Agencies/Committees

Frank Zechner, Executive Director of the Ontario Sewer and Watermain Construction Association (OSWCA) was appointed CCA's representative to the **Canadian Common Ground Alliance**. The Alliance is a coalition of groups from five Canadian provinces seeking to simplify the process in Canada for identifying locates before digging.

Task Force to Gather Info on P3's

The CCA General Contractors Council has established a Task Force to gather information on contractor experience in each province with the use of P3s. This initiative has been prompted by concerns with procurement and contracting practices.

CCA Contributes to "Own the Podium" Program

As a thank you for the participation of the Vancouver Olympic Organizing Committee during CCA's recent Annual Conference, as well as the participation of Jamie Korab, a member of Canada's gold medal winning curling team from the 2006 Turin Olympics, CCA will be making a cash donation to the "Own the Podium" program. Own the Podium provides assistance to amateur athletes with the goal of putting Canada in top spot at the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics.

CCA Welcomes New Member Associations

The CCA Board of Directors approved the applications for CCA **Affiliate Association Membership** from:

- **Canadian Ready-Mixed Concrete Association (CRMCA)**; and
- **The Electrical & Utilities Safety Association (EUSA)** of Ontario.

Thank-You to Retiring CCA Board Members

The March 5th, 2008 meeting of the CCA Board of Directors was the last of the 2007-08 edition of the CCA Board of Directors and the last for the following retiring CCA Board members:

Brent Anderson	2006-2007	Former New Brunswick Provincial Vice-Chair
Alfonso Argento	1998-2007	CCA Past Board Chair.
Scott Granville	2005-2007	Former Newfoundland/Labrador Provincial Vice-Chair
Malcolm Holbrook	2006-2007	Former Alberta Provincial Vice-Chair
Bob Noseworthy	1995-2007	Former Executive Committee member
Murray Sali	2002-2007	Former Regional Dir.-at-Large (Saskatchewan)
Walter Woloshyn	2006-2007	Former Director-at-Large

Congratulations to CCA Award Winners

CCA Person of the Year Award:

Leo McArthur, President and CEO, Miller Group of Companies, Toronto, ON

CCA General Contractor Award of Excellence:

Alfonso Argento, President and COO, Seven Brothers Construction, Montréal (QC)

CCA Trade Contractor Award of Excellence:

Dave Pelletier, President, D & G Mechanical Ltd., Kelowna, BC

CCA Environmental Achievement Award

Windmill Development Group of Ottawa, ON for their Vento Project, located in Calgary, AB

CCA Roadbuilders Award of Excellence

Doug Woods, President, Cope Construction, Sarnia, ON

CCA National Safety Award

Ledcor Group of Companies headquartered in Edmonton, AB

CCA Member Association Award of Excellence

Association de la construction du Québec – Région de Québec, Québec City (QC)

An honourable mention was also awarded to the **Calgary Construction Association**.

CCA Community Leader Award

Shirley Westeinde, Chair, Westeinde Group of Companies, Ottawa, ON