Planning vs Economic Growth: How do we bridge the gap?
## MONDAY, APRIL 13

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>8 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration Desk Open</td>
<td>Mainstage</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 a.m.</td>
<td>Hot Buffet Breakfast for Education Session Delegates Only</td>
<td>Mainstage</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 a.m. - 12 p.m.</td>
<td>2015 CPAA Education Session – Working with the Media</td>
<td>Mainstage</td>
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<td>12:15 - 1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Buffet Lunch for Education Session Delegates Only</td>
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<td>(Conference Delegates who are not participating in the Education Sessions are on their own for lunch)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Conference Opening</td>
<td>Salon ABC</td>
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<td>1:30 - 1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Opening Address</td>
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<td>1:45 - 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Presentation – Alberta Economy 2015: Who should worry…and who shouldn’t?</td>
<td>Salon ABC</td>
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<td>3 - 3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Refreshment Break</td>
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<td>3:15 - 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Welcome Reception</td>
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<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Stay and Join Us!</td>
<td>Salon ABC</td>
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**Session 1A – Achieving Regional Planning Outcomes: What does this mean to your Municipality?**

*Speaker*: Eleanor Mohammed, Government of Alberta & Joannes Wong, Government of Alberta  
*Location*: Mainstage

**Session 1B – Planning = Economic Growth**

*Speaker*: Larry Horncastle, Keystone Strategies Inc. & Ben Petch, Scheffer Andrew Ltd.  
*Location*: Salon ABC

**Welcome Reception**

*Location*: Salon ABC (cash bar and light appetizers will be served)

**Stay and Join Us!**

Join your fellow conference attendees for an evening of networking and reconnecting with friends from the regions and industry or simply wind down from a busy day at the conference. CPAA Directors will be on hand to encourage Nominations for the 2015 Board of Directors. This is your opportunity to tell them, your expectations of the association and share ideas for the future of the association.  
*Location*: Salon ABC
TUESDAY, APRIL 14

7:30 a.m.  Registration Desk Open  
Location: Salon D

7:30 a.m.  Hot Breakfast Buffet & Exhibits  
Location: Salon D

8:30 - 10 a.m.  Plenary - Maximizing Development while Minimizing Costs: Strategies for Effective Capital Cost Recovery and Maintenance  
Speaker: Lorne Randa, Brownlee LLP  
Location: Salon ABC

10 - 10:15 a.m.  Refreshment Break  
Location: Salon D

10:15 - 11:30 a.m.  Concurrent Sessions

   Session 2A – Functional Architecture - Planning Community Development  
   Speaker: Mitch Thomson, Olds Institute for Community & Regional Development & Norm McInnis, Town of Olds  
   Location: Mainstage

   Session 2B – The Challenges and Opportunities of Land Development and Implementing the Vision  
   Speakers: Jason Maurer, Scheffer Andrew Ltd. & Jordan Davis, G3 Development Services Inc.  
   Location: Salon ABC

12:15 - 1:15 p.m.  Plated Lunch and CPAA 2015 AGM  
Location: Salon ABC

1:30 - 3 p.m.  Concurrent Sessions

   Session 3A – Don't Touch It! Challenges with Public Redevelopment Projects – 2 Case Studies  
   Speaker: Jonathan Schmidt, McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd.  
   Location: Mainstage

   Session 3B – Economic Planning in Alberta’s Newest City, The City of Chestermere  
   Speaker: Deputy Mayor Chris Steeves, John Popoff, Chen Peng, Jean-Marc Lacasse and Heather Kauer  
   Location: Salon ABC

3 - 3:15 p.m.  Refreshment Break  
Location: Salon D

3:15 - 4:30 p.m.  Plenary – New Home Buyer Protection one year later  
Speakers: Allison Scott, Alberta Municipal Affairs  
Location: Mainstage

6 - 10 p.m.  CPAA Conference Banquet  
Silent Auction - Thank you the MLAs and our delegates for their generous contributions of unique items to our silent auction.  
6 - 6:30 p.m. - Reception Appetizers  
6:30 p.m. - Banquet  
8 - 9:15 p.m. - Entertainer Richard Popovich, Cowboy Comedy and 50’s, 60’s Rock and Roll Show  
Location: Salon ABC
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15**

8 a.m.  
**Hot Buffet Breakfast**  
*Location: Salon ABC*

9 - 10 a.m.  
**Session 4A – Managing Growth in One of the Fastest Growing Cities in Canada: Calgary**  
*Speakers: Kathy Dietrich, City of Calgary*  
*Location: Mainstage*

**Session 4B – Municipal Infrastructure Asset Management Pilot Project**  
*Speakers: Golnaz Azimi, Urban Systems*  
*Location: Salon ABC*

10 - 10:15 a.m.  
**Refreshment Break**  
*Location: Salon D*

10:15 - 11:30 a.m.  
**Closing Plenary – Help! What does this engineering report mean? And when should I ask for it?**  
*Speaker: Jonathan Schmidt, McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd. & Troy McNeil*  
*Location: Salon ABC*

11:30 - 11:45 a.m.  
**Closing Remarks and Grand-prize draw (must be present) and announce Community Project!**  
Delegates are asked to fill out and submit the Conference Questionnaire to qualify for the Grand Prize Draw. You must be present to receive the prize.  
*Location: Salon ABC*

noon  
**Conference Ends**

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**CONFERENCE SITE MAP**

[Lobby](#)  
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[Salon E](#)  
[Boardroom 1](#)  
[Boardroom 2](#)  
[Mainstage](#)
GREETINGS FROM THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Welcome to the 2015 Community Planning Association of Alberta Annual Conference! The CPAA Board of Directors is once again excited about this year’s theme: Planning vs. Economic Growth: How do we bridge the gap? Given the current economic climate it is a perfect time to hear case studies about how we make good plans financially feasible and hear from other communities on their creative ways to fund growth. Join us to debate and learn about how we bridge the gap!

The conference provides a great opportunity to hear from experts and share ideas with colleagues from across the province.

The CPAA Conference will allow you plenty of time to network, as well as to learn.

CPAA is grateful for the contributions of our sustaining sponsors. Their generosity helps to ensure that the Alberta Community Planning Conference continues to be a great success

We look forward to seeing you at the 2015 CPAA Alberta Planning Conference!

Sincerely,

Your Conference Committee

Erin O’Neill, Rod McDermand and Luis Esteves

2014 – 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We encourage you, as a member of the Community Planning Association of Alberta to consider to stand for nomination for a position of Director, of the Community Planning Association of Alberta. Nomination forms are at the Registration Desk and must be signed and handed in by 11 a.m., Tuesday, April 14 to the CPAA Secretary at the Registration Desk.

Board of Directors
Gloria Wilkinson, Chair, Rocky View County
Tom Burton, Vice Chair North, MD of Greenview
Drew Hyndman, Vice Chair South, Town of Cochrane
Sylvain Losier, Treasurer, City of Leduc
Garrett Tomlinson, Northern Sunrise County
Erin O’Neill, Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo
Rod McDermand, Lacombe County

Larry Armfelt, Athabasca County
Candace Banack, Town of Cochrane
Luis Esteves, Scheffer Andrew Ltd.
Daryl Beeston, County Grande Prairie

Student Directors
Edgard Farah, University of Calgary
Geneva Chaudhary, University of Calgary

CPAA Secretary
Vicki Hackl

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration
Full registration includes concurrent sessions, keynote speakers, plenaries, annual general meeting, question-&-answer panel, welcome reception, luncheon, banquet and refreshment breaks.

Registration Desk Hours
Monday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Ticket Sales
Additional tickets for the luncheon and banquet may be purchased at the registration desk if available.
**2015 EDUCATION SESSION**

**Working with the Media**

**Monday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Mainstage**

Ever wonder why the story you see, read or hear is different than what you thought the story should be? Come and have Daryl Zerr of Daryl Zerr Communications Inc. let you in on why and how the media do the things they do. Plus learn the techniques that will have you communicating effectively with media and getting your story out with much more success. His training has been called entertaining, informative, fun, non-threatening and innovative. This is time well spent.

**SPONSOR:**

Zerr Communications Inc. is led by **Daryl Zerr** who has spent the last 16 years providing profiling, media opportunities and various forms of media and communications training to a wide variety of clients ranging from provincial, municipal and civic governments, hotel, energy companies, travel, technology firms, sport and leisure organizations and non-profit agencies. Daryl’s Background includes over 15 years of experience as both a broadcaster and producer with private radio and television and with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation where he also hosted his own daily radio show. Daryl is also the former Director of Media Relations for GPC Communications in Calgary. Daryl has provided training and strategic direction for many major corporations and has worked with the Calgary Police Service on the World Petroleum Congress and the G-8 Summit. Daryl has trained over 5,000 people in various aspects of effective communications and has taught Journalism at Mount Royal College in Calgary.

**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

**Monday from 1:45 to 3 p.m. in Salon ABC**

**Alberta Economy 2015: Who should worry…and who shouldn’t?**

After riding high for more than four years, Alberta’s economy is set to slow down in 2015. Oil prices remain low and volatile, brought on by OPEC supply and softer global demand. But is the case for worrying about Alberta overdone? What’s likely to happen in the global, national and provincial economies in 2015? Are interest rates on the rise, or the Canadian dollar on the decline? Who should worry… and who shouldn’t?

**SPONSOR:**

**Todd Hirsch** joined ATB Financial in May 2007 as its Chief Economist. As the bank’s top economic expert, he tracks and analyzes developments in Alberta’s and North America’s economy. Todd spends most of his time crisscrossing the province, sharing these economic insights at over 150 presentations a year.

Todd provides economic commentary for CBC, CTV, The Globe and Mail, The Business News Network and the BBC and other local, national and international news outlets. In 2011, he was recognized as one of Alberta’s 50 Most Influential People by Alberta Venture magazine.

He received his BA Honours in Economics from the University of Alberta and an MA in Economics from the University of Calgary. Since completing his education in 1993, he has held a series of economist positions at a variety of for-profit and public sector organizations, including the Canada West Foundation, the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Bank of Canada. For almost a decade, Todd taught economics at the U of C.

Todd’s been recognized as one of Alberta’s 50 Most Influential People by Alberta Venture magazine, and was recently honoured by the federal government with the Diamond Jubilee Medal. In 2014 he was appointed to the Alberta Economic Development Authority, and to the Board of Governors of the University of Calgary.

In February 2012, Todd released his first book, *The Boiling Frog Dilemma: Saving Canada from Economic Decline.*

**CONCURRENT SESSION 1A**

**Monday from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. in Mainstage**

**Achieving Regional Planning Outcomes: What does this mean to your Municipality?**

The Land-use Framework provided a blueprint for the creation of a new formal regional planning system in Alberta, allowing for effective implementation of provincial policy, growth management, and accountability measures. The purpose of this regional planning system is to manage large-scale land-use and natural resources to achieve long-term economic growth, social, and environmental goals. The integrity of this system relies on the successful creation and implementation of the regional plans. A large part
of implementation involves alignment of municipal regulatory instruments and decision-making with the regional plans. Municipalities have a unique opportunity and responsibility to help achieve regional planning and economic growth outcomes through their regulatory instruments and decision-making. Regional Planning is essentially planning that supports economic growth; it presents a balanced approach to growth, it doesn’t stop it. This presentation focuses on how municipalities can implement the regional plans, while utilizing efficient use of land principals.

**SPONSOR:**

Eleanor Mohammed, MTCP, HBA Env. Mgmt, RPP, MCIP, EP, Land Use Secretariat, Government of Alberta is the President of the Alberta Professional Planners Institute and a Land Stewardship Officer for the Government of Alberta, Land Use Secretariat. With over 10 years of public sector experience, she has worked on a variety of provincial and municipal projects including the preparation of statutory documents, policy and guideline development, stakeholder engagement, subdivision management, and environmental planning. Eleanor joined the Government of Alberta team in early 2014 after working for Stantec Consulting Ltd. for two years. Prior to Stantec, Eleanor worked several years at Leduc County. She holds a Masters with distinction in Town and Country Planning from the University of the West of England, Bristol, U.K. and has an Honours Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto with a specialization in Environmental Management.

Joannes Wong, MBA, MCP, RPP, MCIP, PMP, Municipal Affairs, Government of Alberta started his career as Community Development Manager with Winnipeg River Brokenhead Community Futures in Manitoba. After 12 years working in the City of Edmonton as Planner/Project Manager, in 2008 he joined Alberta Municipal Affairs supporting the provincial regional planning process and providing advisory support to municipalities and general public. Joannes has a Bachelor of Arts, a Master of City Planning and a Master of Business Administration. He is a full member of the Canadian Institute of Planners, a Registered Professional Planner in Alberta, and a certified Project Management Professional with the Project Management Institute.

**CONCURRENT SESSION 1B**

**Monday from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. in Salon ABC**

**Planning = Economic Growth**

Presenting an engaging proposal on the benefits for Municipal government in coordinated land use planning and economic development activities. What is Economic Development? What is land use planning? Drawing from their professional experiences Larry and Ben start off by identifying the common ground between the two often segregated professions, before they work their way through the value in looking at these two activities through the same lens. They finish by delving into the financial necessity, political savviness, and tools of the trade related to this undertaking.

**SPONSOR:**

Ben Petch, Planning Manager, Southern Region, Scheffer Andrew Ltd. is a planning and engineering company serving Western Canada for land use planning, municipal engineering, transportation planning and design, and site servicing.

In his role as Planning Manager – Southern Region, Ben works with communities to define and deliver their vision for development in a practical manner that builds upon the characteristics that make each one unique. For land developers, he advises on project feasibility, produces designs and initiates development approvals.

Ben provides an ability to consider a diversity of perspectives in his work and tries to bring together seemingly disparate ideas to a single end. Prior to joining Scheffer Andrew Ltd., he worked on projects in Canada (west, north, and east), New Zealand, Australia, and to a lesser extent Samoa. Areas of work have included spatial land use planning, development approvals, urban design and transportation planning. His project experience ranges through planning for industrial development, town centre design, community planning, transit oriented development, strategic land use plans, regulatory land use planning, parking management plans, bus network design, and research on urban design.

Ben has worked both sides of the professional fence, having begun his career at the City of Yellowknife and continued on as a consultant. He is a LEED Green Associate, Certified Advanced CPTED practitioner, and is a full member of the Canadian Institute of Planners and the Alberta
Chapter. He holds a Master in Urban Design from the University of Auckland and a Bachelor of Environmental Studies in Planning from the University of Waterloo. Topics of previous presentations have included parking management and place making, parking management and healthy communities, and aligning planning and economic development to promote industrial development.

Larry Horncastle, Ec.D. (HLM), Certified Economic Developer, Honourary Lifetime Member, EDAC, Partner, Keystone Strategies Inc.

Larry has over 30 years’ experience in the economic development profession, both in rural regional projects and small to mid-size urban municipalities throughout Saskatchewan and Alberta. He has also garnered experience from serving on volunteer economic development committees and on boards for Community Futures and Regional Economic Development Authorities.

Dedicated to professional development, Larry was one of the lead contributors to the establishment and delivery of the Introduction to Economic Development for Saskatchewan Communities through the Saskatchewan Economic Developers Association (SEDA) and the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST). He also served on a panel to develop the Essentials of Economic Development: Practices, Principles and Planning developed by the Economic Developers Association of Canada (EDAC) to assist practitioners’ understanding of the core competencies required in the economic development accreditation process. The University of Waterloo has used Larry’s expertise as a lead instructor, guest lecturer and case study host since 1990.

Throughout his career, Larry has won numerous awards including the Economic Developer of the Year from the Saskatchewan Economic Developers Association, and has twice been awarded the President’s Award from Economic Developers Association of Canada for his contributions to the economic development profession. He is also the recipient of numerous provincial, national and international marketing awards.

During his time on the national board for EDAC, two of Larry’s accomplishments stand out – the implementation of the EDAC Code of Ethics and the creation of the MOU for the International Network of Economic Development (INED) which originated the collaboration between United States, Australia, Europe and Canada for professional development in the economic development field. In December 2012, the EDAC Board of Directors unanimously voted to provide Larry with EDAC’s top honour – Honorary Life Membership (HLM). This honour is bestowed on EDAC members that have contributed extensively to both EDAC and the Profession.

In his spare time, Larry loves to golf, fish and curl, although he admits he is not proficient at any of these hobbies, at least not yet. Spending time with his two grandsons is his passion these days.

Keystone Strategies Inc. is a nimble, upstart economic development consultancy based on the premise that all our strategies are built on one keystone – delivering the results that clients need to be successful. Larry and Richard bring a unique approach to serving their clients, based on years of experience in a variety of economic development settings. From a municipal perspective to regional collaborative development, Keystone’s principals bring a diverse wealth of experience to bear on delivering strategies that clients can use rather than just read.

PLENARY SESSION
Tuesday from 8:30 to 10 a.m. in Salon ABC
Maximizing Development while Minimizing Costs: Strategies for Effective Capital Cost Recovery and Maintenance

Development and growth requires new or expanded/upgraded municipal infrastructure. The initial costs of such infrastructure – let alone the ongoing maintenance costs – can be very daunting for a municipality financially. However, a municipality has a number of tools and strategies available to it that can minimize such costs and boost its own budget. This session will explore available capital cost recovery tools, from off-site levies to development agreements, provide practical advice on how to ensure optimal capital cost recovery and minimize risk, and discuss some outside the box solutions (such as home owners’ associations) to reduce long-term infrastructure operating costs.

SPONSOR:

Lorne Randa is a Partner with Brownlee LLP. He graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Arts (with distinction) in 2000, and with a Bachelor of Law (with distinction) in 2005. Lorne articled with Brownlee LLP and was called to the Law Society of Alberta in 2006. His preferred areas of practice include Municipal Law, Privacy and Access to Information Law, and Administrative Law, specifically: planning and development,
development agreements and other infrastructure and utility cost recovery mechanisms (including offsite levies and local improvements), privacy and access to information, telecommunications, and general municipal contracting.

Lorne has appeared before the Alberta Provincial Court, the Alberta Court of Queen’s Bench, the Alberta Court of Appeal, the Federal Court of Appeal, and administrative tribunals, including the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Alberta, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, and the Municipal Government Board. Lorne is a member of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), the Treasurer of the Privacy and Access Law Section (CBA Alberta), a member of the Municipal Law Section (CBA Alberta), and an Executive Member of the National Privacy and Access Law Section (CBA). In addition, Lorne is a former Editor-in-Chief of the Alberta Law Review, a Past Senator of the University of Alberta, a former football and soccer coach, and a Leader with his sons’ local Beavers Scouts group.

**CONCURRENT SESSION 2A**
**Tuesday from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. in Mainstage**
**Functional Architecture - Planning Community Development**

The community of Olds exists an hour North of Calgary and 45 minutes South of Red Deer and is modestly visible from passers on the QE2 Highway. It is a small rural town blessed with agricultural strengths and home to Olds College and the Olds Regional Exhibition. It has a pioneering history that is not uncommon on the Western prairies. 2/3 of Olds resident families have lived in the community for three generations, many have some connection to agriculture or oil and gas service industries. Like the rest of Alberta the community of Olds has felt the impacts from swings in the global economy and provincial resource revenues. 10 years ago Olds residents decided to do something about that. They planned to opt out of the cycle sustainably.

Today, Olds is a bustling community leading by example. It is vibrant and entrepreneurial. Its success is not by chance but rather by design. Community leaders have not always taken the path of least resistance and the community is more resilient as result. The Olds community collaborates well and has a strong can-do attitude that is engrained in their culture. As a community, they have a vision for their future and are the architects for that reality.

From a planning perspective Olds is currently exploring how the built environment supports and enhances our community economic development vision. We are currently re-writing our Municipal Development Plan to reflect our sustainability work, asset management strategy and management of our rights of way.

**SPONSOR:**

**Mitch Thomson, CFSP, Executive Director, Olds Institute for Community and Regional Development**

Mitch has spent most of his life in community service. He has served in many leadership roles within chambers of commerce, service organizations and trade associations. He owned and operated a cluster of funeral homes in Central Alberta for about 15 years before selling his interests and pursuing other passions in the voluntary sector. Mitch is the Executive Director of the Olds Institute a community and economic development organization focused on sustainable community building. The organization was created out of a partnership with the Town of Olds, Olds College, Olds Regional Exhibition and the Olds and District Chamber of Commerce. OI has 150 volunteers, serving on 10 committees and operates two business models. One of them, O-NET, offers internet speeds in Olds that are 100 times faster than that found in most Canadian Cities.

**Norm McInnis, CAO, Town of Olds**

After attending the University of Calgary, Norm spent 13 years in the not for profit sector working with community associations in Calgary. The last 13 years he has spent as senior administrator in local government, including the last 7 in his hometown of Olds. Norm holds the designation of Certified Local Government Manager (CLGM) and has a Master of Arts in Leadership degree from Royal Roads University. In 2014 Norm received the Award of Excellence from the Society of Local Government Managers of Alberta for his commitment to continuous education, exemplary service and dedication in the field of local government, and his impact on the profession of local government management.
CONCURRENT SESSION 2B  
Tuesday from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. in Salon ABC  
The Challenges and Opportunities of Land Development and Implementing the Vision  

Based on their experiences, Jason Maurer and Jordan Davis will present an overview of the land development process from the developer’s perspective. They will review the process from project initiation to completion and identify the factors that impact project performance along the way.

SPONSOR: 

Jordan Davis, P.Eng. Vice President, G3 Development Services Inc.  
Jordon has over 18 years of experience in land development Engineering, planning and development. He began his career as a consulting engineer with IBI Group in Edmonton after graduating from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. Jordan then spent ten years at Melcor Developments, one of Alberta’s largest land development companies where he became a Vice President. He is currently the Chair of the Edmonton Chapter of the Urban Development Institute (UDI) and is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA).

Jason Maurer, P.Eng. Vice President of Operations, Scheffer Andrew Ltd.  
Mr. Maurer has over 19 years of experience working in the municipal engineering and land development industry. Jason attended the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) and received a Diploma in Civil Engineering Technology and then attended Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, where he received his Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering. His work experience includes consulting engineering and land development management, he is currently Vice President of Operations for Scheffer Andrew Ltd. with offices in Edmonton, Calgary, Medicine Hat and Cold Lake. Jason is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA).

SESSION 3A  
Tuesday from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in Mainstage  
Don’t Touch It! Challenges with Public Redevelopment Projects – 2 Case Studies  

Communities across Alberta and Canada are seeing a growing need to better utilize existing public lands within their borders. However, changing public land can be met with strong local opposition. Parks and other places form the heart of a community and any proposed changes can bring fear that historic meeting places or sense of place will be lost. How can change occur without losing that special sense of place developed over the years? Two case studies, one in the Town of Canmore and the other in the City of Cold Lake, both public redevelopment projects with strong local opposition, will be presented and discussed.

SPONSOR: 

Jonathan Schmidt is a Community Planner and Project Manager with McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd. Jonathan has extensive public engagement and land use planning experience, with the majority of experience working with small urban and rural municipalities across Alberta. Jonathan believes community engagement and education is the foundation of good planning. He has led numerous public consultation processes and conducted training on land use planning topics for municipal Councils, development officers, local appeal boards and members of municipal planning commissions. Jonathan has also presented at national and provincial conferences. He is presently the project manager for a wide range of public and private planning and development projects across the province, including area structure plans, redevelopment plans and subdivision and development applications.

SESSION 3B  
Tuesday from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in Salon ABC  
Economic Planning in Alberta’s Newest City, The City of Chestermere  

A panel discussion on how the City of Chestermere is integrating economic development into its planning processes. This session will begin with an overview by the Facilitator, John Popoff, of the Chestermere context including its origin’s, phenomenal growth and proximity to Calgary. John will then ask the panel participants questions from
a political, economic development and planning perspective.

**Heather Kauer** is a Senior Planner who has worn many planning hats in her career - planning department manager, environmental compliance “officer”, ordinance and bylaw developer, Planning and Design Commission staffer. She’s taken a raw piece of forest land from high level planning to medical facility building permit and is spearheading Alberta’s first wetland bylaw for the City of Chestermere. Heather is currently the project manager of Chestermere’s Municipal Development Plan update.

**Jean-Marc Lacasse** is originally from Montreal, he graduated in forestry (Laval University) and holds a MBA from Montreal University (HEC). In Quebec, he gained experience with the farming community (Union des producteurs agricoles du Québec) helping woodlot owners with their logging operations and contract management. Jean-Marc moved to Northern BC in the mid 1990’s to work as a forestry planning officer, and then to Alberta in 2003.

Passionate about economic development, Jean-Marc left his forestry career in 1999 to hold several positions in Economic Development (in B.C., Grande Prairie and Calgary), Community Futures as General Manager (in Vernon, BC, and Drumheller, AB) and for the Chamber of Commerce in Drumheller.

From 2009 to 2014, Jean-Marc was a consultant working with mainly with the Calgary Regional Partnership and the Van Horne Institute.

He is currently the Enterprise Facilitator for the City of Chestermere.

**John Popoff, RPP, MCIP** is a Community Planner and Project Manager with a keen interest in leadership, negotiation and communication skills. John believes Municipal Staff need to be proactive in developing their enabling soft skills to be more effective at delivering meaningful and relevant planning for their communities. John is passionate about exploring new approaches to improve planning processes and is committed to sharing his hard earned knowledge, positive and negative, with colleagues in Municipal Government. John has over 20 years experience working for the Public and Private sectors in Alberta and British Columbia. John’s experience includes rural, resort and urban communities including Christina Lake, Big White Ski Resort and the City of Kamloops. John is currently employed as the Director of Development and Infrastructure Services for Chestermere, Alberta.

**Chen Peng** has been working at Chestermere leading the Planning and Development function for 8 years. Her new position starting in 2015 is the Senior Facilitator of Corporate Projects, which includes economic development projects. She has Masters Degrees in both Urban Planning and Real Estate Development, and an Economic Development Certificate as well. Her multidisciplinary background and experiences give her a comprehensive understanding of urban growth, particularly, from planning and economic perspectives.

**Christopher Steeves** is in his third term on council in Chestermere, Alberta’s newest City. He is passionate about Chestermere and serves on several committees to ensure its betterment. He looks forward to continued diversification of our retail, commercial, and light industrial businesses as well as other amenities and services that our growing community needs.

Christopher holds a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) from Acadia University.

Outside of council, he works as an Account Manager.

In his free time, Christopher enjoys spending time with his wife and his two daughters. He also enjoys playing hockey, hiking, and camping with his family and friends. Christopher and his family have lived in Chestermere since 2004.

**PLENARY**

**Tuesday from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. in Mainstage**

**New Home Buyer Protection one year later**

Allison will focus the presentation to provide the background and basics regarding the regulatory framework and provide some detail on where things are at after a year of the Act being in force, along with what is coming up.

**SPONSOR:**

**Allison Scott,** New Home Buyer Protection, Public Safety Division, Alberta Municipal Affairs began her
career with the Government of Alberta in 2000 with Alberta Economic Development. She has been with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs since 2006. She has been working on issues related to residential construction practices for several years, including the development of the policy and legislation for the New Home Buyer Protection Act. As the Manager for New Home Buyer Protection she works with a team to guide the ongoing implementation of this new legislation.

SESSION 4A
Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. in Mainstage
Managing Growth in One of the Fastest Growing Cities in Canada: Calgary

The City of Calgary is one of the fastest growing municipalities in North America. It has also been recognized for being one of the best cities in Canada, and even around the world, to live in and to do business in. In the past three years Calgary experienced its fastest growth in history. The population grew by 100,000 people during that time.

Growth brings lots of benefits such as driving a strong economy but with it also comes challenges such as keeping up with the significant cost of growth related infrastructure, and the demand for additional services.

This presentation will provide an overview of the growth management tools used by the City to be ready for continued growth while also balancing this growth with the need to maximize limited financial resources, and achieving the municipality’s vision for fostering intensification and redevelopment.

Kathy Dietrich, RPP, MCIP is the Manager of Growth Management for the City of Calgary. She is a registered professional planner with over 30 years of experience in a variety of roles that cross both private sector and local government.

Kathy furthered her knowledge of finance by returning to school, completing a Masters in Business Administration three years ago. In her current role she is leading the development of a new offsite levy bylaw and land supply strategy.

SESSION 4B
Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. in Salon ABC
Municipal Infrastructure Asset Management Pilot Project

There is a growing awareness that as Canadians, we collectively face increasing risks of our infrastructure failing to provide the services we’ve come to rely on. Combining the risk of failure with inconsistency in grants from senior levels of government and the increasing cost of infrastructure replacement, many local governments across Canada are grappling with the question of how they will maintain service delivery over the long term. Alberta’s small, rural, and remote municipalities are no different in facing these challenges, but in addition they will have their own unique constraints and opportunities. There are ways of addressing some of these barriers through tools and resources, but so far none have been developed with a specific emphasis on Alberta’s smaller, rural, or remote communities. Asset management is a process to enable sustainable service delivery through pro-active planning, realistic budgeting and implementation.

The Town of Elk Point and the Village of Boyle with assistance from Consulting Engineers of Alberta are in the process of developing an approach to Asset Management Planning that can address the infrastructure issues that these municipalities are facing. The project will provide these communities with an approach to decision making and infrastructure planning, and pro-active investment in their communities. It will also include the development of an Asset Management Toolkit that can be used by Alberta municipalities as a framework for defining the scope and process of developing asset management plans.

Golnaz Azimi, MSc, Urban Systems
Golnaz is passionate about setting the foundations for successful systems through clear strategies and solid business planning. She is a principal and a community infrastructure consultant with Urban Systems, with a B.SC. in Civil Engineering and M.Sc. in Water Resources Management. She has over 14 years of experience working with municipalities, consulting them on projects related to a wide array of infrastructure planning and financing issues, including: infrastructure master plans, capital planning for local governments,
financial and business analysis with focus on development of regional servicing strategies and providing strategic and policy support in governance, municipal infrastructure planning and utility corporation matters. Through her work with multiple municipalities in Alberta, she has acquired a deep understanding of local government challenges and issues with regards to infrastructure planning, funding and operations.

**CLOSING PLENARY**

Wednesday from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. in Salon ABC

**Help! What does this engineering report mean? And when should I ask for it?**

Community Planner Jonathan Schmidt and Senior Engineer Troy McNeill will shed light on the when, what, where and why of technical reports that support land use and planning applications. When is the most appropriate time in the planning process to require these reports? When should a geotechnical report be required? What is the difference between a Biophysical Report and an Environmental Site Assessment? And most of all, what should I (as a Council, CAO, or planner) look for in these reports?

**SPONSOR:**

Jonathan Schmidt is a Community Planner and Project Manager with McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd. Jonathan has extensive public engagement and land use planning experience, with the majority of experience working with small urban and rural municipalities across Alberta.

Jonathan believes community engagement and education is the foundation of good planning. He has led numerous public consultation processes and conducted training on land use planning topics for municipal Councils, development officers, local appeal boards and members of municipal planning commissions. Jonathan has also presented at national and provincial conferences. He is presently the project manager for a wide range of public and private planning and development projects across the province, including area structure plans, redevelopment plans and subdivision and development applications.

Troy McNeill is a Senior Municipal Engineer with over 20 years of professional Civil Engineering experience. Troy has been working in the Civil Municipal Engineering industry since 1994 gaining experience in municipal/subdivision projects for both local government and private industry clients in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Troy is a detail-oriented leader with proven success leading diverse project teams to ensure client satisfaction. His knowledge of project management, project optimization, planning, detailed design, and project delivery ensures the successful delivery of quality projects.

Mr. McNeill’s experience and expertise encompasses municipal capital works programs, master servicing studies, water network modeling, storm water management, land development, site services, client liaison, design, utility servicing, roadwork, design, drafting, and project management. Troy is the municipal manager for the Alberta and Saskatchewan region.
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