

# ALBERTA PLANNING EXCHANGE

The Newsletter of the  
Community Planning Association of Alberta



February 2011

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Gloria Wilkinson

This is our usual abbreviated version of the Alberta Planning Exchange, coming hard on the heels of the fall version. Of course we want to create excitement for you to register for our annual Education Session and Conference. It will again be held in Red Deer, April 4 – 6, 2011, at the Black Knight Inn.

Our conference theme this year is Water: Our Scarce Resource? We have determined that it does not matter what part of the province you live in you have issues with either quantity or quality (or both) of your water. The conference topics from the last couple of years have set the stage for 2011, for us to provide what help we can to connect the water-drops to all the other considerations you currently include. Our intent, as always, is to help you in your planning decisions.

Of course we also want to continue networking with those we know and look forward to including the new folks, since we had municipal elections last fall.

CPAA has made connections with students at U of A, U of C and now at U of L. Please introduce yourselves and enjoy the student participation throughout the conference. They are our next generation of planners.

I look forward to seeing you all this spring in Red Deer.

## 2011 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Leanne Beaupre

The 2011 Community Planning Association of Alberta Conference is once again taking on a hot topic, **Water Our Scarce Resource?** Each of us in Alberta will have a different opinion of the topic based on the lack of capacity, the lack of opportunity, lack of groundwater recharge or excess of groundwater or standing water and how to manage available water resources.

Our extensive list of speakers and presenters will have something for everyone. We will also be offering a session designed for the Subdivision and Appeal Boards. We have heard from our Members that this type of session is always welcome. Brad Stelfox will kick off our conference, speaking to the economics and ecological impacts of planning with or without water.

The 2 ½ day conference will explore many topics, all related to "planning with water". Take this opportunity to hear from experts and share ideas with colleagues from across Alberta. The CPAA Board of Directors looks forward to seeing all of you. As always, the CPAA is grateful for the contributions of our sponsors. Their generosity helps to ensure that the Alberta Planning Conference continues to be a great success.

### 2011 CPAA Education Session

New municipal councillors, administrators, appeal board members, and those looking for a refresher in understanding municipal land use planning will not want to miss this presentation, put on by Staff of the Oldman River Regional Services Commission. You will be introduced to a wide variety of planning-related subjects, including why municipalities plan, the municipality's role and responsibility in planning, planning documents and regulations, subdivision and development processes, and the Municipal Government Act. Come with your questions to this vital course on planning legislation in Alberta. Be prepared to engage in active discussion.

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## 2011 CPAA CONFERENCE PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

**Opening Address** with Jim Wood, Mayor, Red Deer County

**Keynote Presentation New Way of Planning:** with Dr. Brad Stelfox, ALCES Group. Presenting the economic and ecology impacts of planning decisions.

### Concurrent Sessions

**Session 1A "13 Ways to Kill Your Community":** with Doug Griffiths, Author.

**Session 1B SDAB:** with Joanne Klauer, Brownlee LPP. This session will cover why Councils (decision-makers) need to consider cumulative effects early in an application process; How Council and appeals will be impacted by regional plan conditions:

**Session 2A Capacity Issues:** with Rachel Bocock, Senior Policy Analyst, AUMA

**Session 2B Greywater Strategies:** with Peter Lehner, Plasser Canada Ltd. A strategy to reduce residential water consumption by up to 50% without making compromises. The beginning of a conversation about sustainable water usage.

**Session 3A Utilities and Water Distribution:** with Bernd Manz, Executive Director, Aquatera Corp; Keith Johnston, President, Federation of Water Co-ops, John Van Dusberg, Water Transmission Commissions. Each perspective intended to help us improve future planning.

**Session 3B Inter-Basin Transfers:** with Jason Unger, Environmental Law Centre of Alberta. Pros and cons of inter-basin transfers and the probability of this occurring.

### **Plenary Sessions**

**Tuesday AM: Water is Life:** with Bill Moore-Kilgannon, Executive Director, Public Interest Alberta. Water is essential to the life of agriculture, the environment, our communities and our economy. As many planners will be challenged with decreasing access to water and increasing demand in the future, what type of water allocation system should we be setting up in Alberta?

**Tuesday PM: The Good, The Bad and The Nonexistent:** with Pat Maloney, Pat Maloney & Associates; Jan Simonson, AENV; Jay White, Aquality Environmental Consulting Ltd. Why and how the riparian matrix matters to planning; knowledge of Alberta & BC legislation and the advantage of the MGA; Riparian-Buffer Handbook.

**Q & A Panel Different Perspectives on Sustainability:** with Joe Obad, Water Council, Dean Turgeon, Chair, Alberta Geo-Thermal Energy Association, Jorg Ostrowski, President, Autonomous & Sustainable Housing Inc. Geo thermal points and the ecological footprint.

**Closing Plenary:** with David Hill, Program Director, Alberta Water Research Institute. New results on volumetrics, watershed yield, annual and seasonal flow over 30 years and how this knowledge can allow us to operate cooperatively without violating licenses.

### **Silent Auction 2011**

Donations are respectfully requested for this Community Planning Association of Alberta fundraiser. Funds support our student scholarships. Delegates are asked to bring their items with them but please email Vicki Hackl, Secretary, prior to the conference, with the item information. [cpaa@cpaa.biz](mailto:cpaa@cpaa.biz)

### **Sponsorship and Exhibit Opportunities**

The Sponsorship Program and Form are included with this newsletter as an insert. Your continued support is appreciated.

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## **BITS & PIECES**

The University of Calgary, Faculty of Environmental Design is pleased to announce the new Master of Environmental Design (Planning) program at the University of Calgary. We look forward to continuing to work with CPAA to ensure the delivery of quality planning education in Alberta.

The program is now accepting applications for Fall 2011 admissions. Please help us to get word out about the program. Information about the program and how to apply is available at:

[www.ucalgary.ca/evds/medes/planning](http://www.ucalgary.ca/evds/medes/planning)

**University of Lethbridge**, Department of Geography, Urban and Regional Studies Program Coordinator, Ian MacLachlan requests that if your organization has an opportunity to employ one of their students in an applied study project or semester-long co op placement, to contact him directly and he will work with you to facilitate such an opportunity.

You may reach Mr. MacLachlan, Coordinator of Urban and Regional Studies, Department of Geography, University of Lethbridge at [maclachlan@uleth.ca](mailto:maclachlan@uleth.ca) Phone: 403 329 2076.

## **20th Annual Emerald Awards**

2011 marks the twentieth anniversary of the Alberta Emerald Foundation. We've come a long way, thanks to the dedicated volunteer efforts of hundreds of individuals!

They are planning to launch some special activities this year as part of our Emerald Anniversary...stay tuned for news of these events! In the meantime, please consider nominating yourself or someone you know for an Emerald Award. Nominations are now open for the ten categories. Nominate your Environmental Hero today!

[www.emeraldfoundation.ca](http://www.emeraldfoundation.ca)

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Alberta Rural Development Network**

Rural Development Conference: Creating Rural Connections  
April 12 –14, 2011  
Edmonton, Alberta

ARDN is hosting its second rural development conference at the Mayfield Inn & Suites. Presentations will be about rural projects or programs underway or completed; rural research under development, in progress or completed; or about training / learning opportunities that are available throughout rural Alberta. Groups can showcase existing partnerships between researchers / post-secondary institutions and communities.

[www.ardn.ca](http://www.ardn.ca)

### **Faculty of Law, University of Alberta**

Fifth International Conference: Planning, Law, and Property Rights  
May 25–28, 2011  
Edmonton, Alberta

The conference sessions will provide an exciting opportunity for scholars from around the world to present innovative research and engage in interdisciplinary exchange related to the theme of the Association – the study of the connections, in the broadest sense, between Planning and Law.

Both Law and Planning are social institutions aimed at promoting the public interest while safeguarding individual liberties. Both guide private decision making, but derive strength and authority from citizen participation. The challenges facing policy makers today emphasize the need to study the ways in which the law both enables and restricts planning.

[www.law.ualberta.ca/plpr/2011](http://www.law.ualberta.ca/plpr/2011)