



# Alberta Planning Exchange

Community  
Planning  
Association of  
Alberta FALL 2017

## Message from the Chair

By Tom Burton, CPAA Chair

At CPAA organizational meeting the Executive Committee was established. I was appointed as the Chair, with Candace Banack, Vice Chair South, Marty Paradine, Vice Chair North, Edgard Farah, Treasurer and Larry Armfelt, Director at Large.

Welcome to Tom Johnston - University of Lethbridge, Nick Pryce – V3 Companies of Canada Ltd and Ryan Siersma – Dillon Consulting Ltd to the board replacing retiring members of Drew Hyndman, Geneva Chaudhary and Erin O'Neill. And congratulations to Erin O'Neill, who was elected as the president of the Alberta Professional Planners Institute (APPI) in April 2017.

CPAA has been in discussion with APPI Past President Misty Sklar and will look forward to continuing discussions with Erin, on how the two organizations can benefit from joint activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the attendees of our conference this year.

To all the sponsors, thank you, once again remarkable sponsorship. It's with this sponsorship and registration, that CPAA continues to offer a low cost of registration.

Our Vice Chair South, Candace Banack with her team of Crystal Jackson, Garrett Tomlinson, Nick Lapp and Rod McDermand once again provided value for the invested cost of registration, as the post survey showed. Candace will elaborate on the conference survey results on page 4.

With the Municipal Elections on October 16, thank you to councillors who have chosen not to continue their elected roles, and to the rest, happy campaigning and best of luck. Hope to continue our conversations after October.

Regards,

Tom Burton, CPAA Chair

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CPAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



### Chair

**TOM BURTON**

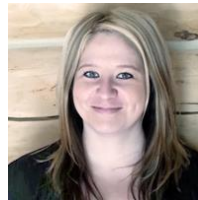
Tom is a fifth term elected official, currently serving as Councilor for the Municipal District of Greenview #16. Tom is also in his third term as the Director of District 4 of the Alberta Association Municipal Districts & Counties. Tom has been a member of the DeBolt Fire & Rescue since 1993 serving as Chief since 1995 and an EMR since 2001.



### Vice Chair (North)

**MARTY PARADINE**

Marty is the CAO and Development Officer for the Town of Valleyview. As a Professional Engineer, he truly appreciates the value in integrating the two disciplines of planning and engineering. Prior to making the move to the public sector, Marty worked in the resource sector as a project manager and operations engineer.



### Vice Chair (South)

**CANDACE BANACK, RPP, MCIP**

Candace Banack is a Senior Policy Planner with the Town of Cochrane. She works on various long range policy and current planning projects within the Town.



### Treasurer

**EDGARD FARAH**

Edgard is an Architect, Urban Designer, and a Planner with both international and local experience in town planning and urban development. Edgard is a planner at the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo working on long range/comprehensive planning projects.



### Director

**LARRY ARMFELT**

Larry is a Councilor of Northwest, Baptiste/Island Lake Area in Athabasca County.



### Director

**GARRETT TOMLINSON**

Garrett began working with the Lubicon Lake Nation in 2004. Garrett studied Political Science and Native American Studies at the University of Lethbridge. He is an EMT, and he and his wife are local business owners.

CPAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Director**

**RYAN SIERSMA**

Ryan is a planner with Dillon Consulting Limited in Calgary. Ryan graduated from the University of Calgary with a Master's degree in Planning and from Queen's University with a Bachelor's Degree in Geography. He has experience in policy planning, land use planning and public consultation.



**Director**

**TOM JOHNSTON, PHD**

Tom is an Associate Professor, Department of Geography with the University of Lethbridge.



**Director**

**JESSI FRY**

Jessi has a Bachelor of Arts and has previously worked in journalism and disability management. She has completed the Master of Planning at the University of Calgary. Jessi enjoys volunteering for affordable housing projects and is interested in healthy and accessible communities. She is currently working as a planner for the City of St. Albert.



**Director**

**NICK LAPP, RPP, MCIP**

Nick is the Director of Planning and Development at County of Grande Prairie No. 1.



**Director**

**NICK PRYCE, RPP, MCIP**

Nick is the Director of V3's Planning Group and has over 20 years of planning experience in New Zealand, Canada and the United Kingdom. He has worked in both the private and public sectors with experiences in public engagement/facilitation, sustainable development, transportation, governance, mixed land use development, climate change and commercial and residential development. Nick specializes in the area of policy and regulatory work.

CPAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONTINUED...



**Student Director**

**JARED CANDLISH**

**MScURP CANDIDATE,**

MScURP Candidate, BCD Urban Design and Sustainability, University of Alberta, Faculty of Science, Urban and Regional Planning.

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD 2017 -2018 &  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<b>Chair</b>	<b>TOM BURTON</b>
<b>Vice-Chair (North)</b>	<b>MARTY PARADINE</b>
<b>Vice-Chair (South)</b>	<b>CANDACE BANACK</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>EDGARD FARAH</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>LARRY ARMFELT</b>

OTHER COMMITTEES 2017 - 2018  
CONFERENCE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Candace Banack (Chair), Larry Armfelt, Garrett Tomlinson, Tom Johnston

NOMINATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Nick Lapp (Chair), Nick Pryce, Marty Paradine, Edgard Farah

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Tom Johnston (Chair), Jessi Fry, Ryan Siersma

OUTREACH/COMMUNICATIONS

Edgard Farah (Chair), Garrett Tomlinson, Marty Paradine, Jessi Fry, Nick Lapp, Nick Pryce, Ryan Siersma

# RE/FRAMING THE FUTURE: How Communities Can Transition Obstacles Into Opportunities Conference Recap 2017

by Candace Banack

Thank you our Sponsors, Speakers, Delegates and Conference Committee for the most engaging and diversified conference yet! Presentations received are now posted on the website. [Click here](#)

We received very positive feedback from the 2017 Conference, and will be looking to build on that, and look at also making some changes for the 2018 Conference!

Attendees felt that the 2017 Conference was framed around useful topics and very good speakers. The Education Session presented by Brownlee Law on the Modernized MGA and the legalization of cannabis was well attended and we received great feedback from attendees.

Some of the more popular sessions according to the feedback received focused around regional collaboration, the role of Municipal Planning Commissions, meeting the transportation needs for seniors and planning for rural areas.

In addition, attendees did provide some great ideas for potential topics for the 2018 Conference as well that you can look forward to.



## We are already looking forward to our 2018 Conference

Is there a topic that you would be interested in hearing about at the 2018 CPAA Conference or is there an item that you or your group may be interested in presenting about?

If so, please let us know!!

Email any topics of interest or ideas for potential speakers to [candace.banack@cochrane.ca](mailto:candace.banack@cochrane.ca) and we will try incorporate your ideas into the 2018 Conference.

## Save the date!

Our 2018 Annual Conference will be held April 30 to May 2, 2018 at the Black Knight Inn in Red Deer.

## CPAA SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

We are pleased to announce 2017 recipient of the CPAA Essay Scholarship. The recipient of this year's award is Jesse Aspinall.

The 2017 recipient of the Tom Baldwin Memorial Award was Lizette Lanthier.

Congratulations Jesse and Lizette.



(L- R) CPAA Directors Crystal Jackson, Tom Burton, award winner Lizette Lanthier and Candace Banack



# Reframing The Future: Winning Student Essay

By Jesse Aspinall 1<sup>st</sup> Year Geography student, University of Lethbridge

Coming into this conference I knew nothing about community planning. As a first year geography student at the University of Lethbridge there is still a lot for me to learn within my program. Attending the CPAA conference has given me a beginners take on what community planning is and what some of the issues are that planners face.

This Conference has showed me the variety of issues that planners face while trying to balance what residents of their communities want with governments at all levels. Planners are not only big contributors behind the scenes but the key to driving progress. Beyond meeting new people and making contacts that could, one day, lead to a career, learning the mindset of planners is my biggest take away from this conference. It is clear that there were a lot of very experienced planners in attendance, this showed in the questioning periods that followed the sessions.

These questioning periods showed clearly what issues were important to each individual at the conference and by extension what issues are important to the residents in their communities. Knowing what is important to the people gave me a better feel for what a career in planning would be like, seeing people passionate about what they do makes planning an attractive career option.

The theme of the conference "Re/Framing the Future: How Communities Can Transition Obstacles to Opportunities", is a great theme not just for the content of the conference but also for the current state of the province. With the new NDP government in power provincially, Liberals federally, a recession and a continued shift to green energy the province is finding itself in a state of change. This change undoubtedly presents numerous obstacles for everyone in the province and already some communities have felt the heavy impacts of the changes.

Changes such as these mean that local governments and community planners must remain adaptive to change. Rural communities have been hit hard by the declining oil market and restrictions on production of coal, it is up to planners and local officials to face these obstacles head on and find a way to create new sustainable platforms to build around. This may mean changing to distributing clean energy, encouraging diversification of agriculture or maybe even changing the industrial focus of your community as a whole.

It is up to planners to recognize what it is that their community has to offer and what they can build on in the future.

Throughout the conference there were many great examples of issues that planners are facing. However, two main issues stood out to me, the legalization of marijuana and rural development as a whole.

Marijuana legalization is unique in that Canada is only the second country in the world to legalize it on the National level after Uruguay did in 2014. This puts Canada at the front of the pack with only a few small scale situations, such as Colorado and Uruguay, to look to for guidance. From what I gathered during the conference there are still a lot of questions lingering over what will and will not be legal, how illegal procession will be enforced and how this will affect the community.

Some of these questions must be answered by the federal government before legalization can occur, other questions will be left to local and provincial governments to sort out. I am personally not a supporter of marijuana usage but I can see some opportunity in legalization. The public sale of marijuana has the potential to bring in a fair amount of money, not only through taxation that could go on to benefit education and healthcare, but also to individuals personally involved.

## SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE



Join the conversation! Follow CPAA on LinkedIn and Twitter



CPAA  
@C\_P\_A\_A



Less than a week until municipal elections! Check out your municipality's webpage for info on voting times and locations

9:04 PM · Oct 9, 2017



CPAA  
@C\_P\_A\_A



Promising market garden project in northern Saskatchewan. Have any AB municipalities attempted a similar model?  
[cbc.ca/amp/1.4293557](http://cbc.ca/amp/1.4293557)

12:55 PM · Sep 19, 2017



CPAA  
@C\_P\_A\_A



Interesting read. Would we spend more time outdoors if docs prescribed us park visits?

**Scientific American** @sciam

A growing trend in medicine has doctors prescribing visits to parks for their patients.  
[bit.ly/2fmHujO](http://bit.ly/2fmHujO)

8:56 AM · Sep 15, 2017



CPAA  
@C\_P\_A\_A



Awesome to see!

**CBC Calgary** @CBCCalgary



There are so many firsts in this #Banff bison video.

# Winning Essay: Continued...

Selling marijuana isn't just selling, it opens a whole new industry; Production, transportation, sales, accessories, quality control and enforcement. Legal sale goes beyond a store owner and could benefit a good number of people. This is the opportunity that stands beyond the obstacles.

If planners and officials can find a way to manage this process in a safe way that brings no new negative impacts to the community, they should do whatever they can to bring the benefits of legalization to their communities.

Rural development was a very clear issue that was brought up in a number of different ways during the conference. Sessions such as "Regional Collaboration", "Legacy Land Trust", and "Planning for rural areas – When you're not under the

influence" all dealt with the developments of rural areas in Alberta. Being raised in Central Alberta, rural areas are a place of importance to me and are, in my opinion, beginning to become an undervalued asset of the province. Mass urbanization that began in the 1950's has left some rural areas at risk of fading into irrelevance. This can be changed through innovative planning.

Planning such as that of Ken Venner and Liisa Tipman of B&A planning group. Ken and Lissa gave a great talk on how to strategically develop rural areas by identifying key industrial trends and focusing in on the industry that draws people to your community. I found this strategy unique because often I would think of development needing to be diverse and focusing on everything together.

This strategy is more honed in on getting people to the area for whatever industry best suits your community, then letting everything else follow. Their approach also encourages you to look at the community not just as the town or village itself but as the whole area that it serves. This greatly expands the number of people you have for both workers and consumers; it also allows diversification to exist over the spread of the whole area rather than trying to force it into a single community.

If a community is able to identify its strength, what draws people to it, then it has the chance to set itself apart from others and flourish into the future.

Legacy Land Trust, presented by Al Kemmere and Kimberly Good, is a topic that brings up mixed emotions in myself and I'm sure others as well. This idea allows land to be conserved the way it is for the foreseeable future, preventing development of subdividing.

I believe in doing our part to conserve out natural areas such as wetlands and I also believe that keeping family farms is important. However, there is risk of hindering development of communities if there is not a balance between growth and conservation. Protecting a segment of land, potentially forever, is not possible if it is on the edge of a developing area, eventually things must change.

I would encourage communities to do something like the legacy land trust to protect certain wetlands, forests and agricultural lands. However, I believe it should be restricted and protection should be handed out only when an area is seen to be of top importance. This allows some protection to occur without putting restraints on communities that want to expand.

I learned a lot at this conference and even though I have only had a very short experience with planning it has been enough to capture my interest. I believe that planning has a very important role to play in the future of Alberta, times may be tough but pulling opportunities from obstacles is what will allow this province to thrive for years to come.

## UPCOMING PLANNING EVENTS

# World Town Planning Day is November 8!

Engaging, Collaborative, Innovative, Creative, Thought-Provoking

Each year planners around the world engage in activities on World Town Planning Day in an effort to raise awareness of the importance of planning in their communities. Planning associations and academic institutions organize special educational sessions on topics relevant to planning in a local and global context. The World Town Planning Day Online Conference provides an opportunity to broadcast those events around the world.

# Alberta Planning Exchange Community Planning Association of Alberta FALL 2017

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## CPAA Mission:

To provide opportunities to share, promote and encourage community planning among a full range of stakeholders.

## Become a CPAA Member

Our membership represents those involved in municipal planning, including Councillors, administrators, development officers, professional planners (both private and public sector), academics, and provincial officials.

Your membership with CPAA will provide networking opportunities, quarterly newsletters to keep you apprised of the latest developments in the planning world, current information on our website, and reduced conference fees to our well-attended annual conference.

We offer three membership types:

- ⇒ Students            \$25/year
- ⇒ Individual           \$100/year
- ⇒ Group                \$250/year

To download our Membership Registration Form, please visit our website: <http://www.cpaabiz.com>

## Write

The Alberta Planning Exchange offers a forum to express your views on community planning and provincial legislation, as well as a means of sharing the innovative planning projects you are involved with. We publish case studies, analyses of trends, profiles of noteworthy planners/policy-makers, summaries of best practices, book reviews, and editorials. Three print issues are published annually. Article submissions are accepted on an on-going basis; if you're interested in submitting an article, please contact us: [cpaa@cpaa.biz](mailto:cpaa@cpaa.biz).

## Volunteer

Volunteering provides members with a unique opportunity to contribute to the CPAA and the profession, while broadening their professional networks.