



Edmonton Chapter
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Construction Specifications Canada is an organization representing diverse interests in the construction industry and related professions. It is dedicated to improving the quality and flow of information between these interests, whether in the form of specifications, contract administration or marketing.

2013

June 4 – 6
CaGBC National
Conference & Expo
Vancouver, BC

June 6
Golf Tournament
Legends Golf & Country
Club, Sherwood Park, AB



CaGBC National Conference & Expo

Date: June 4 – 6, 2013
Location: Vancouver Convention Centre, Vancouver, BC
Keynote Address: Robert F. Kennedy Jr.



Conference Events

For a listing of conference events, please visit

<http://www.cagbc.org/Content/NavigationMenu/NationalEvents/ConferenceEvents>

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VISIT YOUR WEBSITE AT

<http://edmonton.csc-dcc.ca/>

Help us develop a website that meets your needs. Log into the "Want More Info" link online and let us know.

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Vancouver, BC

The Canadian Construction Documents Committee (CCDC) has developed two new design-build contract forms, which will be released in July 2013: CCDC 14 - Design-Build Stipulated Price Contract, and CCDC 15 - Design Services Contract between Design-Builder and Consultant.

During this seminar, CCDC members will explain to you the key philosophy behind these contract forms and the important changes to CCA-CSC-RAIC Documents 14 and 15 – 2000. There will be a detailed analysis of the roles and risk profiles of the Owner / Design-Builder / Design-Builder's Consultant / Payment Certifier / Other Consultants / Owner's Advisor. Other key topics include the Design-Builder's liability towards Design Service, professional liability insurance requirements, etc.

For dates, location and registration information go to: <http://ccdc.org/events/index.html>

Who Should Attend?

Owners, executives and managers from construction buyers, architects, engineers, contractors, and allied professionals in the construction industry.

Registration Fee

Early Bird special \$340 + taxes* if you register by June 7, 2013.

\$390 + taxes* if you register after June 7, 2013.

*\$190 for additional attendees from the same company. Doesn't include electronic copies of the contracts.

Attendees will receive electronic copies of the new contract forms and the accompanying guides (to be released in December 2013) worth over \$200. To register go to <http://ccdc.org/events/index.html>

Edmonton Chapter Executive

Elected Members

Chairman	Skip Helfrich	780 466-3101
Director	Darlene Helfrich	780 903-0595
Vice-Chairman	Kevin Osborne	780 441-4258
Secretary	Richard Lucid	780 485-7612
Treasurer	Shaune Smith	780 482-4813

Officers

Architect	Linda Lipinski-Olson	780 497-3975
Association Liaison	Jozef Urban	780 408-7149
BIM & Sustainability	David Watson	780 758-4147
Education	Mike Ewaskiw	780 237-7844
Engineer	Geoff Richer	780 486-2828
General Contractor	(Position Available)	[000-0000]
Interior Design	(Position Available)	[000-0000]
Manufacturer/Supplier	Mike Lafontaine	780 447-2122
Marketing, Promotion and Infonet	Jonathan Chinn	780 299-2529
Membership	Donna DeVloo	780 984-5612
Newsletter	Tracey Stawnichy Neil Cochrane	780 994-3699 780 691-6713
Program	Jeff Halashewski	780 429-1580
Specifications	David Watson	780 758-4147
Web Site Administrator	David Watson	780 758-4147
Trade Contractor	Frank Dudley	780 803-2658
Landscape	Rachel Curry	780 901-5353
At Large	See Executive Listing	Pg. 13 - 14

Advertising Rates

SPECIFIER

Footer Business Card: \$50/issue
 Business Card: \$50/yr, random location
 Full Page: \$500 All Issues; \$100 per issue
 ½ Page \$250 All Issues; \$50 per issue
 ¼ Page \$125 All Issues; \$25 per issue

WEBSITE

Rates covers your ad on our website 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Business card on-line: Annual \$100
 Add \$50 to have a link to your company Web Site from the CSC Edmonton Chapter web page.

Chapter Sponsor

Includes Business Card On-Line, 2 Tickets to 6 Dinner Meetings

Annual \$400 if received by May 1;
 \$300 if received by August 1;
 \$200 if received by November 1;
 \$100 if received by February 1

Student Sponsor

CSC Student Sponsorship pays for 1 ticket to 6 Dinner Meetings for a NAIT or University student.
 Annual \$175

Meeting Sponsor

\$50 for Individual (Personal) Sponsor
 \$100 for Corporate Sponsor

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact any member of the Executive Committee, attend one of our chapter meetings or send your name and address to CSC Edmonton Chapter c/o #102, 13025 – St. Albert Trail, Edmonton, Alberta T5L 5G2.

GOALS OF CSC

Construction Specifications Canada is a multi-disciplinary non-profit association dedicated to the improvement of communication, contract documentation, and technical information in the Construction Industry. CSC is a National association with chapters in most major Canadian cities.

To this end, CSC pursues the study of systems and procedures that will improve the coordination and dissemination of information relevant to the construction process.

We seek to enhance the quality of the design and management aspects of the construction activity through programs of publication, education and professional development, believing that by so doing, we can contribute best to the efficiency and effectiveness of the construction industry as a whole.

OBJECTIVES OF CSC

To foster the interest of those who are engaged in or who are affected by the compilation, or use any form of specifications for the construction industry.

To publish literature pertaining to the construction industry.

To engage in activities to improve procedures and techniques related to the construction industry.

The opinions and comments expressed by the authors do not necessarily reflect the official views of Construction Specifications Canada. Also, appearance of advertisements and new product or service information does not constitute an endorsement of those featured products or services.

ABOUT CSC

Our Mission

CSC (Construction Specifications Canada) is a national multi-disciplinary, non-profit association with chapters across Canada. CSC is committed to ongoing development and delivery of quality education programs, publications and services for the betterment of the construction community.

To this end, CSC pursues the study of systems and procedures which will improve the coordination and dissemination of documentation relevant to the construction process.

CSC seeks to enhance the quality of the design and management aspects of construction activity through programs of publication, education, professional development, and certification, believing that in so doing it can best contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of the industry as a whole.

Our Vision

That Construction Specifications Canada is the construction community's first choice for quality documentation, education and networking.

Our Values & Core Beliefs

Quality, Professionalism, Teamwork, Integrity, Openness, & Innovation.

Objectives

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MEMBERSHIP IN CSC

In the construction industry's fast-paced environment, the need for and value of Construction Specifications

Canada is greater than ever. CSC brings together individuals from all segments of the construction industry. All who have a vested interest in Canada's largest industry are invited to join CSC. When you join CSC you become part of the only association that brings together professionals from all aspects of the construction industry.

DESIGN TEAM

CSC offers members of the Design Team the opportunity to meet with other members and exchange information. It also affords you the chance to help improve technology and its management, and the means to improve ways in which your ideals are translated into clear, concise and complete documentation.

BUILDING TEAM

If you are a member of the Building Team, Construction Specifications Canada offers you the opportunity to become involved in formulating specifications. Your valuable input into the programs can help generate time and cost savings as well as improve performance.

SUPPLY TEAM

The multi-disciplinary composition of CSC allows members of the Supply Team to meet with other members of the construction team. CSC programs in data filing and information retrieval are geared to present convenient and concise information on your products for proper evaluation and specification.

THE STUDENT

If you are a student of architecture, engineering or construction technology, CSC will provide you with greater exposure to and a better understanding of the Construction Industry, giving you an excellent opportunity if you plan a career in the construction field.

Contact Donna DeVloo for membership information.

Officer Membership



Donna DeVloo
P: 780-984-5612
E: ddevloo@bibliotecainc.com

CSC FACEBOOK

Visit CSC on Facebook.

Visit: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/CSC-Construction-Specifications-Canada>



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Chair's Message:

Skip Helfrich



Hello, everyone!

It is with great excitement that I write my first message as Chapter Chair. The past year has been very full and quite educational for me.

We have seen an increase in excitement in our chapter, and things bode well for another incredible year. The executive committee members are an exceptional group of people.

To this already great cast we welcome Jonathan Chinn as 'Officer of Marketing', and Geoff Richer as 'Officer of Engineering'. Our existing executive members are getting ready to roll. Kevin Osborne was 'seconded' (our new chapter word for the year) into the position of Vice Chair. Kevin's clarity of vision will help immensely as the chapter moves on. Jeff Halashewski is starting his first full year in programs as well; stay tuned for an exciting launch in September that will take a very collaborative approach!

We were glad to see many Edmonton members representing our city at the National Conference in Calgary, May 23 -26. It is always a great experience to attend.



CSC National Conference Fun Night

Skip Helfrich, IDT, CTR
Chapter Chair
Skip.Helfrich@desco.cc



Neil Cochrane, Newsletter Co-Editor

On Wednesday, April 10, 2013, CSC Edmonton continued its mandate to the improvement of communication, contract documentation, and technical information in the construction industry with its annual event, InfoNet.

This year's event has grown from the previous year, with 23 sponsors and 190 attendees gathering at the Chateau Louis Conference Centre for an evening with Rt. Hon. Joe Clark. In addition to his speaking duties, Mr. Clark also participated in a time honoured tradition of cutting ties, the recipients being John Chomiak and Gino Ferri. This night is always a great networking opportunity, tradeshow, and a fun event as well.

A special thanks to CSC chapter members who worked very hard to make this event a success: Mike Lafontaine (Chair), Kevin Osborne, Skip Helfrich, Jeff Halashewski, Mike Ewaskiw, Frank Dudley, Dave Lawrence, and David Watson.



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And in Other News...

CSC Edmonton Chapter was well represented on May 29th at The Third Annual Joe Thompson Award Luncheon, presented by Cold Climate Construction Conference & Expo. This year's recipient of the award was Gino Ferri (FCSC) of Read Jones Christoffersen Consulting Engineers. CSC Edmonton joined Gino, his family, friends, colleagues, and business associates (approx 160 guest in all) at the Fairmont Hotel Macdonald – Empire Ballroom for the awards presentation and Keynote presentation by Mr. Brad Ferguson of the Edmonton Economic Development Corporation. On behalf of the CSC Edmonton Chapter, congratulations again to Gino on another well deserved award. For a recap of Brad Ferguson's presentation, please click here <http://www.edmonton.com/eedc-corporate/3974.aspx>



CSC Edmonton Executive in attendance (from left to right): Linda Lipinski-Olson, Mike Schneider, Neil Cochrane, Tracey Stawnichy, Keith Robinson, Darlene Helfrich, David Reburn, Bob Murray

I AM CSC

Geoffrey Richer, CSC Edmonton Chapter Officer of Engineering



Present Industry Position:

Building Envelope, Specifications & Contract Administration

Company:

Wade Engineering

Why I Joined CSC:

Coming from a mining engineering background, the construction industry was fairly new to me. After a year in the industry I was told that I would be writing specifications. At that time I knew nothing about Master Format or specifications. My company suggested taking some courses with the CSC. So I initially joined CSC for the educational benefits.

CSC Experience:

I joined CSC in 2010. Since then I have taken the PCD course, Specifier I, Specifier II, and CCCA.

What CSC Has Done For Me:

Since I joined CSC, I have found there is so much more to offer besides the educational benefits. The networking opportunities that present themselves at the breakfasts, luncheons, and other events, such as the golf tourney and Infonet, have helped exponentially in my work. CSC has given me confidence in doing my job, as well as numerous "Mentors" who I can call whenever I have a question about our Industry.

Industry Experience:

Graduated from Cambrian College of Arts and Technology (Sudbury ON) with a 3year Mining Engineering Technology Diploma

Worked for a mining construction company (Atlas Copco) 2003-2008.

Wade Engineering: 2009-present
Inspector, Specification Writer and Contract Administrator

Contact Email:

gricher@wadeengineering.com

STONCOR Group

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CSC EDUCATION

Officer Education



Mike Ewaskiw, CTR
Project Development
StonCor Group
P: 780.237.7844
E: mewaskiw@stoncor.com

[Principles of Construction Documentation](#)

The PCD course is an introductory course that will enable the student to have a better understanding of construction documentation (specifications, drawings and schedules), products, bidding procedures and contracts. **It is also a prerequisite to all the other CSC education courses.**

[Specifier 1](#)

The Specifier 1 course is an intermediate level course that will take the individual beyond the concepts previously introduced in the PCD Course. Although some of the same topics are included in this course, the depth of comprehension and explanation exceed that of the PCD course. The Specifier 1 course is a prerequisite for the [Certified Specification Practitioner \(CSP\)](#) designation from CSC. Successful completion of the course may be credited toward the experience component requirements for the Registered Specification Writer (RSW) designation.

[Technical Representative](#)

The TR course will provide a better understanding of contract documents and bidding procedures, product representation, professionalism, and ethics, and will provide a new depth of understanding and explanation of concepts beyond what was previously introduced in the PCD course. The course is designed for the individual involved in the supply section of the construction industry such as manufacturer representatives, agents or distributors of products. The student will have successfully completed the PCD course.

Contact Mike for all of your education needs.

EDUCATION COURSES

Upcoming Classes: Fall Courses TBD

Upcoming Classes Online:

Principles of Construction Documentation (PCD) – June 3, 2013

Specifier 1 – September, 2013

Technical Representative – January, 2014

CSC COURSE MAINTENANCE

After years of considering how to maintain its educational courses and with this initiative as a catalyst, CSC is pleased to announce that it has introduced a defined process for review and update of all educational course material. Recognizing both the importance and the urgency, the CSC Board of Directors has established the Education Maintenance Task Team (EMTT). The inaugural volunteer members of the EMTT are Mitch Brooks, FCSC; Brian Colgan, FCSC, RSW; Tom Dunbar, FCSC, RSW (Committee – Chair) and David Wilson, FCSC, RSW. An ongoing committee; these members will serve a 3 year term (of which 2 in this group will serve up to 4 to prevent total committee replacement in the same year) providing both consistency as well as strong foundation of knowledge and experience for us to draw upon. The EMTT has been tasked with making the course material more consistent, bringing all of the courses up to the same standard, ensuring consistency of language and terminology, and establishing a regular review, update and maintenance regime.



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PEOPLE AND PLACES

Fresh Faces (New Members)**Mr. Kevin Skogstad**

Sales Manager
 Cascade Aqua-Tech Ltd.
 11616 – 163 Street
 Edmonton, Alberta T5M 3T3
 Tel: 780-453-6682
 Fax: 780-451-9170
 Email: kskogstad@cascadeaqua.com
 *new member sponsor: Mr. Ben Servais

Mr. Larry Laurie

Regional Sales Manager
 Alumicor Ltd.
 82 Fairway Drive
 Spruce Grove, Alberta T7X 4B6
 Tel: 780-962-4075
 Fax: N/A
 Email: l.laurie@alumicor.com
 *new member sponsor: Mr. Ken Rowson

Mr. Kevin Magill

Project Manager
 Aspen CPM
 4308 – 123 Street
 Edmonton, Alberta T6J 1Z8
 Tel: 780-756-8010
 Fax: N/A
 Email: yebokevin@gmail.com

Yes, We've Moved (Contact/Mailing Address Update)**Mrs. Faith Neil**

Procurement Manager
 Alberta Justice & Solicitor General
 Mezzanine Floor, Bowker Bldg, 9833 – 109 Street
 Edmonton, AB T5K 2E8
 Tel: (780) 427-6675
 Fax: (780) 427-9630
 Email: faith.neil@gov.ab.ca

Previous Members Re-Joining

INDUSTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

Dates To Remember

June 4 – 6, 2013

CaGBC National Conference and Expo
 Vancouver, BC

June 5 – 6, 2013

The Festival of Architecture
 Halifax, NS

June 6 – 8, 2013

TTMAC 70th Annual Convention
 Halifax, NS

June 12 - 16, 2013

Save The Date! CSI West by Northwest Region
 Conference
 Spokane, WA

June 15, 2013 (Deadline)

Call for Nominations –
 Prairie Wood Design Awards
 Alberta Wood WORKS!
 Edmonton, AB

June 20 – 22, 2013

AIA 2013 National Convention and Design Expo
 The American Institute of Architects
 Colorado Convention Centre
 Denver, CO

June 20 – 22, 2013

The 4th Annual Canadian Water Summit
 BMO Centre
 Calgary, AB

August 11 – 15, 2013

ISARC 2013
 The 30th International Symposium on Automation and
 Robotics in Construction and Mining
 Montreal, QC

Sustainability Reporting 'Leads to Higher Cash Flows'

May 24, 2013

(Sourced from
<http://www.environmentalleader.com/2013/05/24/sustainability-reporting-lead>)



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More than half of companies say sustainability reporting leads to higher cash flows and helps improve firm reputation, according to a report from the Boston College Center for Corporate Citizenship and Ernst & Young.

Though issuing a sustainability report in accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Framework or another standard requires a lot of work, Value of Sustainability Reporting finds strong evidence that transparency gives companies a number of financial and social advantages that make it more than worth its costs.

Firms have a variety of motivations that change based on company size, industry and ultimate goals of the sustainability report, the report says. However, the top four motivations for reporting for all companies in the survey sample are:

1. Transparency
2. Competitive advantage
3. Risk management
4. Stakeholder pressure

The GRI currently provides the global standard for comparability, according to the Boston College/Ernst & Young. The study found that more than two-thirds of survey respondents say their organization employs the GRI or a GRI-referenced framework in the preparation of their sustainability report.

Additionally, with analysts, investors and other stakeholders paying attention to sustainability reporting, many companies are increasingly assuring their sustainability reports. Among those report-issuing companies in the survey, 35 percent have some level of assurance conducted on their sustainability reports. Of those reporting assurance, 55 percent have their full reports assured and 45 percent have some indicators assured.

Survey respondents disclosed three primary challenges to sustainability reporting and the assurance process:

1. Availability of data
2. Accuracy or completeness of data
3. Internal buy-in

Additionally, for large enterprises, sustainability may not be an entirely internal activity, the report says. Some organizations need to work with subsidiaries and

suppliers, some of whom either may not be large enough to support robust reporting or may not yet have adopted the practice of sustainability reporting.

Another study released this week found global consumers have clear and specific expectations for the role companies should play in addressing social and environmental issues with 93 percent wanting to see more of the products and services they use support corporate social responsibility efforts.

Companies that disregard these demands from consumers risk more than just their reputations. Nine in 10 consumers say they would boycott if they learned of irresponsible behavior, according to the 2013 Cone Communications/Eco Global CSR Study.

GRI released the latest version of its sustainability reporting guidelines, G4, on Wednesday.

What's a Specifier?



David Stutzman

May 20, 2013

(Sourced from <http://www.conspectusinc.com/blog>)

A spec writer? Of course you know what a spec writer is. Spec writers produce the project manual. They create all the project requirements for the materials, products and systems the design team selects. That's right. But do you know what a Specifier is?

I make a distinction between spec writer and specifier. A spec writer turns design team selections into text to describe the project sufficiently to be built meeting the design intent.

A specifier advises the entire project team, not just the design team. Specifiers coach teams about materials and product selections, applications, and integration required to make the project work.

A specifier is a trusted technical adviser and part of the project team - start to finish.

Specifiers Are Proactive

First, I must relay a story of a project kick off meeting with the architect this past week. "I see the interior design chose maple and poplar for interior transparent finished woodwork. The color variation is likely to be pretty extreme. Knowing what interior designers typically

expect, I suggest you check the species selections with the designer."

After making the comment, I explained that poplar usually has both yellow sapwood and green heartwood in the same board. That was all they needed to hear. Now we are looking for a wood species that will provide a uniform ebony stained appearance. We are still waiting to hear what type of surface the designer wants: coarse (open grained) or smooth (closed grain). So far we guessed right and are guiding the final wood selection.

Specifiers make certain that products are used appropriately.

Specifiers are Resources

Because specifiers are generalists, we tend to know a little about a lot. Sometimes we know a lot about a little. We will never admit knowing nothing about anything. We will advise when expert advice is needed, and specifiers will always lend their own opinion.

Though not omnipotent, specifiers will know who to call for advice. We tend to have a large network of technical experts because of our association with manufacturers and product representatives. Specifiers also have a small network of peers that are always willing to share their experience and knowledge.

Specifiers bring expert guidance to solve project design problems.

Specifiers are Curmudgeons

Specifiers are moderately to severely skeptical and cynical, constantly searching for facts. (We didn't earn the curmudgeon label for no reason.)

We ask many pointed questions rather than simply accepting what we see on drawings and in design reports as absolute. Once asked, specifiers become pit bulls - not letting the question go until answered.

We want to know why a decision was made. What was the overriding concern that led to a specific decision? Knowing all the project parameters allows specifiers to examine alternatives for the best solution rather than simply a good solution.

Specifiers challenge the design team to make decisions.

Specifiers Are Reviewers

Specifiers work using a well defined process. It is quite simple really.

- Investigate: Review the drawings, make notes about what is required.
- Research: Verify selected products are appropriate and identify special concerns.
- Question: Interrogate the project team to fill in the missing information.
- Document: Draft the specifications to capture the project qualitative requirements.
- Coordinate: Ensure the drawings and specifications remain consistent.

The specifier's questions reflect the same level of understanding that can be expected of the contractor. Questions should trigger further investigation to explore how to better convey the intent. The questions can be answered during design or later during construction as RFIs. It is much less work and aggravation to answer during design.

Specifiers ensure construction documents are well coordinated.

So What's a Specifier?

Specifiers are technical advisers who challenge project teams to ensure appropriate products are properly integrated into the project through well coordinated construction documents.

A Team of Rivals



Clifford Martin
May 6, 2013

(Sourced from <http://www.conspectusinc.com/blog>)

The Participants

I recently participated in a marketing focus group on the topic of roofing. The participants consisted of a sole proprietor architect, a developer of luxurious facilities and homes, a representative of Con Edison, an architect employed in the public sector, a representative of a telephone company, an architect in a large firm, and yours truly. All of the participants had experience in



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working on projects that involved roofing. The varying perspectives of the group made for an interesting discussion that I trust satisfied the goals intended by the marketing company when they assembled the group. Despite my role as a participant, I couldn't help my instinct to do a little marketing research of my own.

The Architect

The moderator asked who decides what roofing to use on a particular project. The discussion started with the sole proprietor architect, who predictably asserted his right to make that sort of decision. As the discussion moved around the table, though, other participants brought up the issues of cost and budget, and how the owner has a role in the decision making process.

Another factor is the common presence of an outside roofing consultant, who can be hired by either the architect or the owner. The architect working at the large firm said that while her firm creates the overall design, they rely completely on the roofing consultant to make design decisions affecting the roof assembly.

We were also asked where responsibilities lied when it came to the design of a roofing system. The sole proprietor architect talked about how responsibility is assigned to the manufacturer through the warranty provisions. He also acknowledged the responsibility for preparing documents that include all the necessary detailing, particularly at intersections where flashing is required and at the interface between dissimilar materials. The architect from the large firm, expectantly, deferred to the roofing consultant to provide details and recommendations.

The Luxury Facility Developer

I found the perspective of this individual one of the most interesting. He claimed that the budgets on his projects were so high as to make decisions about cost solely reliant on his client's needs and desires. Basically, money is no object on his projects.

The developer's responses often boiled down to what is insurable and what is not. He talked about how his decision to employ a contractor revolved around that contractor's ability to obtain a labor and material bond to ensure their work would be done according to the client's requirements.

He professed to not rely on warranties and agreed with my observation that warranties are often not worth much more than the paper on which they are printed. He seems to rely more on contractors than on architects to

make decisions during the construction phase. He criticized architects for having little knowledge about construction.

Consolidated Edison

The project manager from Con Ed shared his vast experience with working on existing roofs. He did have some experience with new construction but admitted that most of his work was on facilities that have been operated by the power company for many years.

His perception of the periods available for roof warranties was colored by the fact that roofing manufacturer's typically offer reduced periods for covering an existing roof versus a complete tear-off and replacement. He also expressed the common discovery of deteriorated insulation and underlayment when tearing off an old roof, which can result in change orders if not anticipated during design.

The Public Sector

Everyone agreed that maintenance issues are an important factor in deciding what to use on a public facility like a school or library. Also, the standards of the particular agency also govern what type of roof assembly will be selected. In the case of a library, museum or other facility where valuable archives are stored, the issue of consequential damages resulting from a roof failure emerged. In a roof failure on such a facility, who is liable for consequential damages to its possibly priceless contents? It was agreed that the use of the highest quality roofing systems is often justified on such facilities.

Maintenance issues that must be considered include the frequency of roof inspection and the available labor to perform repairs. In my experience with the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Environmental Protection, my observation was that little to no maintenance occurs at public facilities. Public facilities are often used until they become uninhabitable, and are then vacated and shut down for a complete rehabilitation. This typical life cycle of a public building is the result of a tiny operating budget versus a much larger capital budget.

Can you hear me now?

If I remember correctly, one of the participants was an employee of Verizon. Like the Con Ed representative, he talked about the massive infrastructure for which they are responsible and the sometimes critical nature of their facilities, necessitating the installation of "Cadillac" roofs



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and 20-year, no-dollar-limit warranties. He talked about how outages are simply unacceptable and must be avoided at all costs.

Also like the power company, much of their work is on existing roofs where the current warranty must be preserved and extended, if possible.

The Specifying Consultant

I really enjoyed listening to all the different perspectives in the room. As I sat there listening, I noted what each participant brought to the discussion and how it related to their role in the industry. I kept thinking how important it is that everyone understands the role that the others play in the whole process of making a building. Communication is so important throughout the whole process. I think what I was doing was team-building.

When asked what is expected of roofing manufacturing representatives, I shared the principles espoused by Joy Davis in her "Golden Rep" program...honesty and trustworthiness. In the context of CM Project Delivery, I talked about how bringing a Construction Manager into the design process early can improve the constructability of a project and reduce the potential for substitutions and change orders during construction.

The quality of a work of Architecture is a reflection of the level of cooperation achieved between these disparate parties to the construction contract. Every construction project involves a team of rivals with different perspectives and motives. The architect wants to design a building that is aesthetically pleasing and will endure the passage of time. The developer's motives vary but revolve around cost and accountability issues; how much will it cost and who is responsible in the event of failures? The operating manager is concerned about how the building will ultimately perform and how to keep it up and running. As a specifying consultant, one of my tasks is to reconcile these differing motivations through the preparation of specifications that address all of their concerns. Sometimes, that requires a bit of luck.

Canada Home to 1,000 LEED-Certified Projects

(Sourced from <http://www.dcnonl.com/article/id55463>)
May 22, 2013

One thousand Canadian building projects have now been LEED certified, representing the second largest

number of certified buildings in the world after the United States.

"I am very proud of how far we've come; it is a testament to the growth of the Canadian green building industry which has embraced LEED over the past decade," said Thomas Mueller, Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC) president and chief executive officer.

"Canada is now considered one of the global leaders in green building with some of the most innovative and advanced buildings in the world. But we cannot become complacent in the wake of the progress we have made. We need to strive to design buildings that are not only sustainable but regenerative, and make more inroads in the retrofit and operations of existing buildings to counteract the steady decline of ecosystem health worldwide."

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design is a third-party certification program and an internationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. It provides building owners and operators the tools they need to have an immediate and measurable impact on their building's performance. LEED rating systems encourage and accelerate the global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices through the creation and implementation of universally understood and accepted tools and performance criteria.

Canada's certifications include 145 certified, 316 Silver, 447 Gold and 92 Platinum projects in six different rating systems. The certified buildings range from single family homes to condo and office towers; from schools and arenas to retail outlets and industrial complexes.

Since the first Canadian certification in 2005, LEED has saved 1,600,321 eMWh of energy, enough to power 54,307 Canadian homes for a full year. LEED certification has reduced 312,006 CO₂e tonnes of greenhouse gas emission, equivalent to taking 58,980 cars off the roads for a year, and saved over 3.3 billion litres of water, which is 1,336 Olympic sized swimming pools.

LEED projects have recycled over 2 million tonnes of construction/demolition waste and installed 100,239 square metres of green roofs to reduce the urban heat island effect and mitigate storm water flows in urban areas.

For the private sector, LEED has been a concrete way to demonstrate commitment to sustainability. Enermodal



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Engineering has acted as LEED Consultant on 200 LEED certified projects.

"Enermodal began using LEED in 2003 for our building projects. Having seen a variety of energy efficiency and green building programs and ratings come and go, we latched onto LEED right away," said Steve Carpenter, president of Enermodal Engineering. "LEED had a strong technical basis; credibility based on third-party certification; and was not subject to the whims of government funding. It's now 10 years later, and we still believe as strongly in the LEED rating system."

Canadian cities have been some of the most influential drivers of the adaptation of LEED Canada as they recognize the need for green building policies and higher sustainability standards. For example, the cities of Vancouver, Calgary and Montreal have LEED Gold targets for their new building stock. In total there are 29 cities or municipalities that currently have a LEED certification policy.

For post-secondary institutions like Nova Scotia Community College which certified its Waterfront Campus in 2008, LEED is also a great way to teach students about how to be innovative.

"Nova Scotia Community College is committed to providing learning environments that exemplify best practices around environmental stewardship, sustainability and innovation," said NSCC president Don Bureaux. "The LEED designation allows us to achieve our commitment and to have a green influence on our learners and our entire community."

This year's CaGBC National Conference and Expo, Canada's largest green building event, takes place June 4-6 in Vancouver.

Bird Flags Challenges in Canadian Construction

Patricia Williams
(Sourced from <http://www.dcnonl.com/article/id55464>)
May 23, 2013

Uncertain economic conditions combined with shortages of skilled labour are translating into a challenging environment for the Canadian construction industry, says Paul Charette, the current chairman of the board of directors of Bird Construction Inc.

"Looking forward to 2013, our entire industry will be challenged by uncertain economic conditions particularly in the oil and gas market in Alberta and the mining sector across Canada," Charette told the publicly traded construction company's 82nd annual general meeting.

"Spending in the public sector will be constrained both federally and provincially as all levels of government continue to struggle with their growing level of debt."

But Charette said the news "is not all bad." Key resource projects have been ramping up in Saskatchewan and Newfoundland and Labrador, which will peak over the next few years.

Manitoba continues to post steady growth while Ontario, "just because of its sheer size, will likely continue to provide a number of bidding opportunities over the coming years."

Charette, who retired as Bird's chief executive officer in September 2008, told shareholders attending the meeting that if the uncertain economic climate wasn't in itself sufficiently challenging, labour shortages continue to be an issue.

The Construction Sector Council, now BuildForce Canada, has estimated that the construction industry will need to recruit more than 250,000 new workers by 2021 to keep pace with retirements and high demand for construction services.

Charette, a former chair of the Canadian Construction Association, said competition for "an ever-shrinking pool of talent" has implications for contractors across Canada.

He said the two key drivers of Bird's success continue to be its ability to secure large volumes of work "at acceptable margins" and to attract and retain the required number of workers to successfully complete this work.

"These two issues are extremely interdependent," he said, noting that at least 15 other countries have identified shortages of skilled labour as their number one labour issue.

For the fiscal year that ended Dec. 31, 2012, the Toronto Stock Exchange-listed company reported net income of \$58.2 million on record construction revenues of close to \$1.5 billion.

Charette said 2012 was one of the best years in the company's history.



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“Having been in the industry for over 40 years, I recognize how much hard work and dedication it takes to produce the results we achieved in 2012,” Charette said.

As of March 31, 2013, the company carried forward a backlog of more than \$1 billion.

LEGAL MATTERS



Thomas G. Heintzman, O.C., Q.C., FCI Arb

Mr. Heintzman specializes in arbitration, mediation and civil litigation. He has been counsel in actions, arbitrations and appeals in Ontario, Newfoundland, Manitoba, British Columbia and New Brunswick and has made numerous appearances before the Supreme Court of Canada. He has been particularly active in commercial disputes relating to securities law and shareholders rights, government contracts, broadcasting and telecommunications, construction and environmental law.

Mr. Heintzman was the President of the Canadian Bar Association from 1994 to 1995. He served on the National Executive of the Canadian Bar Association between 1991 and 1996, and was president of the Canadian Bar Association-Ontario (now the Ontario Bar Association) from 1989 to 1990.

Mr. Heintzman was a bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada, having been elected in 2003 and re-elected in 2007.

In 1980, Mr. Heintzman was appointed Queen's Counsel, and in 1998, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada. In 2008 Mr. Heintzman received the OBA Award for Excellence in Civil Litigation.

Since 2002, Mr. Heintzman has appeared in both the Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada, published by L'Expert and American Lawyer, and the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory, a guide to the leading law firms and practitioners in Canada. He has been listed in an International Who's Who of Commercial Litigations (Law Business Research) as one of the top 500 commercial litigation counsel in the world. Mr. Heintzman is recognized as a leading lawyer in the areas of corporate commercial litigation, securities litigation, class action

litigation, product liability and professional liability. He is also listed in The World's Leading Lawyers, published by Chambers Global, as a leading lawyer in the area of litigation.

Is There an Intermediate Position Between an Invitation to Tender and a Request for Proposal?

April 29, 2013

(Sourced from <http://www.constructionlawcanada.com/building-contracts/is-there-an-intermediate-position-between-an-invitation-to-tender-and-a-request-for-proposal/>)

Not all requests for bids issued by an owner are the same. A request for bids that will be binding on the chosen bidder is usually referred to as an Invitation to Tender. On the other hand, a request for bids which is not binding on the chosen bidder is usually referred to as a Request for Proposals (or RFP). The RFP results in proposals which can be considered by the owner but are not binding on the bidder.

But how do you really tell an Invitation to Tender from a Request for Proposals? What sort of clause in the owner's request results in a RFP rather than an Invitation to Tender?

And is there an intermediate position in which the owner and bidders do not have an obligation to enter into a contract but only an obligation to negotiate exclusively with each other for a period of time?

This was the issue faced by the Ontario Superior Court in *Everything Kosher Inc. v. Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Jewish Community Centre*.

In 2006, the Campus issued an RFP for food services and the lease of a kitchen at a community centre which the Campus was building in north Toronto. When fully developed the community centre was to include a private high school owned and run by a separate organization (the Academy). When the 2006 RFP was issued, the construction of the community centre had not begun, and the 2006 RFP stated that it was subject to design change.

The 2006 RFP stated that the Campus might reject any proposal or might negotiate with more than one party responding to it. The RFP contained a provision which stated as follows:



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...The submission and acceptance of any proposal does not obligate [the Campus] to enter into a binding legal contract with the successful proponent, nor does acceptance of the proposal imply that a contract has been entered into with [the Campus]. The implementation of the project by the successful proponent is dependent upon entering into a separate legal contract with [the Campus], to be negotiated and signed prior to implementation of the project.

The Plaintiff made a proposal which was favoured by the Campus. The parties entered into an exclusive 90 day negotiation period. A final agreement was never reached, but the parties continued to negotiate until October 2007.

The Plaintiff began providing food services to the Academy which commenced operations in the campus premises in the fall of 2007. The high school submitted a Memorandum of Understanding to the Plaintiff but that MOU was never signed.

By 2011, the Campus' plans had changed and it issued a new RFP for the provision of food services to the community centre. The Plaintiff protested that it already had a contract for those services. However, it did participate in the 2011 RFP, but was not successful. After the issuance of the 2011 RFP, the Plaintiff continued to provide food services to the Academy but those arrangements were terminated in 2012. The Plaintiff then sued the Campus to assert that it held a contract to provide for food services to the community centre.

Decision of the Trial Judge

The trial judge held that the 2006 RFP did not lead to a contract between the parties for the provision of food services. The trial judge said that the 2006 RFP:

“made it clear that it was not an offer that would lead to a firm acceptance. Rather, as the courts have said elsewhere, the 2006 RFP was “a request for proposals and nothing more. The prize at the end of the exercise was...the opportunity to negotiate for a contract”.... While the 2006 RFP created an obligation to negotiate terms over a 90 day period, it presented to the Plaintiff nothing more than an opportunity to attempt to conclude an agreement. It was not itself a binding document.

The trial judge also concluded that the negotiations after the 2006 RFP did not lead to a written agreement for the provision of food services which was a specific requirement of that RFP before any contract could arise.

The final draft agreement which was exchanged in October 2007 was not signed because there were still terms and issues to be concluded.

Discussion

The challenge of this case is to fit it into the Contract A – Contract B analysis under the Ron Engineering decision of the Supreme Court of Canada. Did the trial judge find that a contract arose for the tender process (Contract A in Canadian tender law under the Ron Engineering), but that no Contract B arose from the bidding process? Or did the trial judge find that there was no Contract A because the Contract B that was being offered by the owner was too indefinite for Contract A to arise?

The first sentence of the provision in the request issued by the owner referred to above into bid documents appears to be very similar to a standard privilege clause. A privilege clause is usually inserted by owners to state that the owner has no obligation to accept the lowest or any tender. Such a privilege clause would not normally preclude a Contract A arising in a true tender situation, namely a contract for the purpose of the tender. That contract would normally carry with it the implied terms discussed in many decided cases, including an obligation on the owner to act fairly and not accept non-compliant bids. A privilege clause may allow an owner to accept a bid other than the lowest bid and not to accept any bid if the privilege clause specifically allows that to happen.

Interpreted as a privilege clause, the provision referred to above should have been sufficient for the court to decide the case. Based upon the owner's original request, the owner had no obligation to accept any bid, including the Plaintiff's bid

But the plaintiff had a second agreement. It said that the conduct after the initial request by the owner resulted in, or evidenced, a contract. By selecting the Plaintiff's bid as the preferred bid and by negotiating with the Plaintiff, the owner had moved beyond the privilege clause. It was no longer a question of the owner's right to not enter into any contract. The owner had effectively waived the privilege clause and entered into a contract with the Plaintiff by its conduct

To address this point, the court seems to have adopted a hybrid conclusion. The trial judge seems to have concluded that yes, there was an obligation between the parties. But that obligation was to negotiate with each other exclusively for a period of 90 days, not a final contract for food services. That “exclusive negotiation”



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obligation explained the subsequent conduct of the parties. And when no final contract resulted for those negotiations, then there were no continuing contractual relations between the parties.

There is no question that a contract to negotiate exclusively with one party is a binding contract. The contract is not too indefinite to be enforced because it requires negative conduct, that is, no negotiation with another party, and it sets a specific period for that negative conduct to occur. But what an “exclusive negotiation” contract cannot compel is a specific result, a specific substantive contract at the end of the negotiation period.

In this sense, the trial judge may have been incorrect, and contradictory, to say that “while the 2006 RFP created an obligation to negotiate terms over a 90 day period, it presented to the Plaintiff nothing more than an opportunity to attempt to conclude an agreement. It was not itself a binding document.” The obligation to exclusively negotiate with a party can be a binding contract. But it is only a contract not to negotiate with other parties. It is not a binding contract to conclude an agreement on the substance of the negotiations. In the present case, it was not a binding contract for the food services contract.

The present case creates, therefore, a potential intermediate or hybrid position between the normal Invitation to Tender and RFP, or between Contract A and Contract B. Under this hybrid position, a Contract A does arise for the bidding process. That Contract may well contain the usual implied terms that apply to Contract A. But the Contract B that the owner is offering is not a substantive building or supply contract on specific terms. Rather the owner is offering an “exclusive negotiation” contract for a specific period of time. That sort of Contract B is specific enough to allow Contract A to come into existence. But it does not compel the owner to agree to any specific terms for the final supply or building contract, except to the extent that those terms are stated in the original request.

The advantage to a bidder of this sort of arrangement is that it means that the Contract A-Contract B analysis applies to the original request by the owner. That analysis requires the owner to comply with the implied terms of Contract A, including the obligation to treat the bidders fairly. The disadvantage to a bidder is that, if the bidder is successful, the bidder will only obtain an exclusive right to negotiate with the owner for a specific period of time. But this disadvantage may not be a severe one since that sort of negotiation may be the reality in a tender process involving a privilege clause.

The advantage to the owner of this arrangement is that the result of the process is only an obligation to negotiate with one or a number of preferred bidders for a specific period of time, but not to agree to any specific terms other than those mandated in the original request. This arrangement gives the owner the flexibility to deal with one or a few bidders and arrive at the best arrangement. The disadvantage may be that, during the initial request, the owner will have to abide by the Contract A obligations, including the obligation of fairness and the obligation not to deal with a non-compliant or higher priced bidder unless a privilege clause expressly permits it to do so.

This case demonstrates that the Contract A – Contract B analysis of Ron Engineering is not just a strait jacket as is often assumed. The analysis permits various types of Contract A and Contract B to emerge. And it permits variants between a strict Invitation to Tender and a strict RFP.

The genius behind Ron Engineering is that it separates the bidding contract – Contract A – from the contract emerging from the bidding contract. It enables the court to imply into the bidding contract the necessary elements to allow the bidding process to proceed fairly. But it allows the contract emerging from the bidding process to be whatever contract the bidding process may contemplate.

Mike Holmes and Effect Home Builders Announce the Launch of Holmes Approved Homes in Edmonton

April 23, 2013

(Sourced from <http://www.constructionlinks.ca/story/298428/130>)

The Holmes Group, in partnership with Effect Home Builders, is pleased to announce the launch of the Holmes Approved Homes program in Edmonton. The program, which was introduced by Canada's most trusted contractor and Forbes' Third Most Trustworthy celebrity, Mike Holmes, represents a new standard in home building for the City of Edmonton. Effect Home Builders is the first homebuilder to be granted the authority to build Holmes Approved Homes in Edmonton, Alberta.

The Holmes Approved Homes program emphasizes quality and energy efficiency, incorporating industry-leading products that help protect the home and



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homeowner. This includes features such as fire and sound protection, high indoor air quality, heat recovery systems and durable materials.

'I partnered with Effect Home Builders for two reasons,' stated Mike Holmes, President of The Holmes Group. 'First, when it comes to building green homes in Canada they are leaders. And two,' continued Holmes, 'they share my same values for quality construction. And that's building above industry standards.'

'I have my own fully-trained inspectors inspect every Holmes Approved Home at least six times,' added Holmes. 'Both during and after construction, documenting what they see. They make sure every unit meets what I think will be tomorrow's new standards for homebuilding. No other certification does that.'

Effect Home Builders was recently awarded the 2012 CHBA National Green Home Award for their Belgravia NetZero Energy Home—a home that produces as much energy as it consumes. As the only builder in Canada to receive this award, they are now recognized nationally, provincially and locally as the Canada's Top Green Home Builder. The show home is located at 11536 - 74 Avenue, Edmonton and is open for viewing by appointment only.

'We are very excited to join forces with Mike Holmes - we share the same philosophy of quality and sustainability,' stated Dale Rott, Managing Partner of Effect Homes. 'We are pleased to offer the Holmes Approved Homes package to our clients. Third party verification will add to the peace-of-mind of new homeowners, confirming that their Effect-built home delivers unmatched quality - both now and for the future when they go to resell.'

Every Holmes Approved Homes built by Effect Home Builders will be EnerGuide rated to verify the high level of energy efficiency in each home.

For more information on the Holmes Approved Homes Program, please visit www.holmesapprovedhomes.com.

For additional information on Effect Home Builders or a virtual tour of their NetZero show home, please visit www.effecthomes.ca.

About The Holmes Group

The Holmes Group is an international brand with operations in independent media production, new home building and home inspection, as well as expansion into

product development. The Holmes Group is entirely owned by Mike Holmes and responsible for developing and managing all HOLMES branded entities, including HOLMES Approved Homes, MIKE HOLMES Inspections, HOLMES Workwear, Make It Right Releasing Inc. and The Holmes Foundation.

About Effect Home Builders

Effect Home Builders custom builds refined, energy-efficient homes in Edmonton and surrounding communities.

Alberta's Solar Surge

April 12, 2013

Kristina Ross

(Sourced from <http://thegreenpages.ca/ca/2013/04/12/albertas-solar-surge/>)

Renewable energy isn't a tough sell these days. With the price of sustainable power generation dropping, and the technology behind it becoming more transparent and user-friendly, it's evident that consumers don't have to step too far outside of their comfort zone to incorporate renewable energy into their daily lives.

In Alberta, the society-wide shift to green power is headlined by its solar projects. Alberta's solar potential is measured as high as any other community its size anywhere else in the world.

Admittedly, Albertans have yet to maximize their state's solar potential. Germany, which is little more than half of Alberta's size, has managed to generate over 15,000 times the solar power Alberta has produced up to this point. But it shouldn't be that way for much longer.

Alberta's newfound dedication to solar power is perhaps best identified by the Drake Landing Solar Community. As the first solar powered community to be installed in North America, Drake Landing is a 52-home neighbourhood that's fueled by a central solar heating system. With solar panels on every house, the community is able to run almost all of its daily operations through the energy collected from the sun.

Outside of closed-system communities like Drake Landing, Albertans are involving themselves with residential solar power by taking advantage of programs such as Light Up Alberta, a green initiative put together by a group of Alberta's smaller electricity retailers. The program allows home and business owners to receive a 15-cent/kWh premium for generating solar power and exporting it to the regional grid. In essence, it gives



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consumers incentive to generate, employ and sell solar power through an easy, no-hassle market.

Still, some Albertans don't have access to solar power generation mechanisms. In turn, associations like the Solar Energy Society of Alberta have set up workshops, seminars, and online resources for interested parties to make the leap into solar energy. Whether it's finding a way to donate to local projects or simply raising awareness on a grassroots level, Albertans are now privy to a growing database of information about solar power.

Better yet, Alberta's commitment to renewables extends beyond the realm of solar power. According to a recent tally by Albertaventure.com, Alberta has a total of 37 renewable energy projects on tap, which in culmination could add 4,461 MW of electricity. While many are solar projects, a good deal are associated with wind, biomass and other forms of renewable energy. Provided Alberta continues in this direction, there's no telling what the province can accomplish in terms of solar energy and sustainability as a whole.

ASSOCIATION LINKS

Important URL Links

- **Alberta Construction Safety Association (ACSA)**
www.acsa-safety.org
- **Architecture 2030**
www.architecture2030.org
- **BuildingSMART Alliance** (North American chapter of BuildingSMART):
www.buildingsmartalliance.com
- **Building Information Modeling (BIM) Forum**
www.insightinfo.com/bimforum
- **BuildingSMART International (formerly IAI)**
www.buildingsmart.com
- **Biomimicry Institute**
www.biomimicryinstitute.org
- **Biomimicry Guild**
www.biomimicryguild.com
- **Canada BIM Council**

www.canbim.com

- **Canadian Green Building Council (CaGBC):**
www.cagbc.org
- **Canadian Green Building Council (CaGBC) – Alberta Chapter:**
www.cagbc/chapters/alberta
- **CCDC Documents:**
www.ccdc.org/home.html
- **Construction Specifications Canada (CSC)**
www.csc-dcc.ca
- **Construction Specifications Institute (CSI)**
www.csinet.org
- **IFD Library**
www.ifd-library.org
- **International Construction Information Society (ICIS)**
www.icis.org
- **MasterFormat 2012**
(Free downloadable PDF on Spex.ca Free page)
- **OmniClass**
www.omniclass.ca
www.omniclass.org
- **Spex.ca**
www.spex.ca
- **Uniformat:**
www.csinet.org/uniformat

ASSOCIATION LIAISON

Alberta Association of Architects (AAA)

<http://www.aaa.ab.ca/>

Alberta Painting Contractors Association (APCA)

www.apca.ca

Connie Pruden

pc@apca.ca

Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists, and Geophysicists of Alberta (APEGGA)

<http://www.apegga.org/>

dward@apegga.org



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Alberta Roofing Contractors Association (ARCA)

Web: <http://www.arcaonline.ca>

Email: info@arcaonline.ca

Association of Science and Engineering Technology
Professionals of

Alberta (ASET)

<http://www.aset.ab.ca/>

Russ Medvedev

russm@aset.ab.ca

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-
Conditioning
Engineers (ASHRAE)

<http://www.ashrae.org/> / ashrae@ashrae.org

Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)

<http://www.bomaedmonton.org/> / edmonton@boma.ca

Consulting Engineers of Alberta (CEA)

<http://www.cea.ca/>

info@cea.ca

The Canadian Wood Council (CWC)

<http://www.cwc.ca/>

info@cwc.ca

Edmonton Construction Association

Darlene La Trace

www.edmca.com

contact@edmca.com

Portland Cement Association

ConcreteTechnology@cement.org

Terrazzo, Tile & Marble Association of Canada (TTMAC)

<http://www.ttmac.com/>

association@ttmac.com

Interior Designers of Alberta

www.interiordesignalberta.com



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Free postings for CSC Members
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Edmonton Chapter Golf Tournament
at
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June 6th get in the game!!

Members: \$130.00

Non-Members: \$140.00





















(includes 18 holes of golf, golf cart rental, and dinner)



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