



ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING
ENGINEERING COMPANIES
MANITOBA

Young Professionals Committee

Welcome to the October issue of the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies – Manitoba's (ACEC-MB) Young Professionals Committee (YPC) Newsletter! We are excited to introduce our newly expanded "Board Notes" section. This section, written by the President of ACEC-MB Board, is a venue to let all our members know what the Board is doing on our behalf.

Please join our LinkedIn® group ([tinyurl.com/ACECmbYP](https://www.linkedin.com/company/acec-mb-young-professionals)) to get updates on group events, participate in or start discussions, and connect with other young professionals in consulting engineering. Please continue to forward this to the young professionals in your office!

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What is a Young Professional?

A Young Professional is defined as any employee of an ACEC-MB member firm under the age of 35 or with up to 10 years of experience in his/her field.

Message from the Chair



Another successful YP Gala has come and gone, which means the ACEC-MB YP Committee has officially passed the three-year mark! When I think back on all that the group has accomplished and all the events we've hosted, it's hard to believe it's only been three years! All the members of this committee, past and present, definitely deserve recognition for their time and efforts.

Our current committee is driven by the hard work of Dana Bredin (GENIVAR), Michelle Globush (GENIVAR), Kyla Kirk (CH2M HILL), Amanda LaCoste (MCW/AGE Consulting Professional Engineers), Beth Phillips (Tetra Tech), Dustin Warelis (AMEC Environment & Infrastructure), Mark Warkentin (MMM Group Ltd.), Lin Watt (Dillon Consulting Ltd.) and Kim Yathon (Tetra Tech). I would also like to thank ACEC-Manitoba's Executive Director, Shirley Tillett for all of the time, energy, advice and support that she has given to our group.

Now, I'd like to highlight something that many of you may not know. Two ACEC-MB committees - the Image Committee and the new Professional Development Committee - are now chaired by YPs, both of whom are former YP Committee members (Jomar Manzano and Jeff Short). I'd like to congratulate each of them for the fantastic job they have been doing so far. I also believe this speaks volumes to the effectiveness of ACEC Manitoba and its YP program in promoting and developing YPs for the benefit of the industry. The ACEC Manitoba Board should be commended for their proactive approach to YP development and unwavering support for the YPs who volunteer for them. ACEC Manitoba is benefiting from the investment that they've made, and I hope our member firms are seeing similar benefits as well.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone who has come out to our events over the past year, all the people who have provided us helpful feedback, and everyone who takes a few minutes each month to read our newsletter. Without you, there would be no YP Committee, so thank you for your support. And, as always, if you have any ideas or suggestions for the group, or if you are interested in getting involved with ACEC-Manitoba, please feel free to send us an email at yp@acec-mb.ca. We'd be happy to hear from you!

Owen Van Wallegghem

ACEC-Manitoba Young Professionals Committee Chair

Upcoming Events and Notices

- Building Companies

What:	A Pub Night!
When:	Tuesday, November 20, 2012; 5:30 PM
Where:	Luxalune Gastropub (734 Osborne Street)
Cost:	\$20; GST included (appetizers provided)

Join us for an interactive panel discussion on Building Companies: Establishing a Successful Consulting Office. Panel speakers will include Ron Typliski, P. Eng., Vice President Manitoba, AECOM, Jeff O'Driscoll, P. Eng., Branch Manager, Associated Engineering, and James Blatz, P. Eng., Partner, TREK Geotechnical. The panel session will include the individual accounts of these firm leaders and the challenges they have endured to establish successful consulting companies, through merging offices, opening a new branch and launching a new company.

Please contact Shirley Tillet at cemca@shaw.ca to register.

As ACEC-MB still incurs costs related to no shows, individuals who register but do not attend will be invoiced unless cancellations are received 72 hours prior to the event; however substitutions are permitted.

This event is only open to YP employees of ACEC-MB registered firms.

This event is eligible for two (2) APEGM PDH credits – Informal Activity.

- ACEC Manitoba's YPC Meeting

When:	Tuesday November 06, 2012; 5:30 PM
Where:	MMM Group Ltd (111-93 Lombard Ave)

This event is only open to YP employees of ACEC-MB registered firms.

October Event Recap

- Fourth Annual YP Gala

The fourth annual Young Professionals Gala was held on Monday October 15, 2012 at Bergmann's on Lombard. Over one hundred participants representing 19 different firms and organizations were in attendance.

The night began with cocktails and mingling with old classmates, colleagues, and even senior partners. Owen Van Wallegem, the Young Professionals Chair, opened the formal part of the evening by introducing Ken Drysdale, President of ACEC-Manitoba and Grant Koropatnick, Registrar for APEGM. Ken brought greetings from the Board and recognized the board members that were in attendance at the event to demonstrate the support provided by senior members for young professionals in Manitoba consulting firms.

Andrew Steeves gave a compelling presentation on *Building Lasting Client Relationships* and led a fabulous panel in a discussion on the topic. The panel consisted of James Betke, a Construction Services Engineer from Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation; Angela Driver, Manager of the Civil Engineering Department from Manitoba Hydro; Monique Buckberger, Construction Manager from PCL Constructors Canada Inc.; and Ken Drysdale, President & CEO of Accutech Engineering Inc. The panel brought a diverse perspective on what clients are looking for from their consulting engineers and project managers. At the end of the night, it was evident that communication is key when dealing with any type of client, whether they are contractors, a crown corporation, a department of the government or fellow consulting engineering firms.

Door prizes were awarded at the end of the night to seven lucky winners. The prizes included gift packages from ACEC-Manitoba and gift cards from Moxies, Starbucks and Mountain Equipment Co-op.

The ACEC-Manitoba YPC would like to extend our gratitude to our sponsors and all who were in attendance, and look forward to seeing more young professionals next year at the fifth Annual Young Professionals Gala.



- ACEC Manitoba Professional Development Event

On Tuesday October 16, 2012, ACEC Manitoba hosted their first full-day Professional Development (PD) event at the Fairmont Hotel. The topic was "Risk Minimization for Consulting Engineers" and presented by Mr. Andrew Steeves, P. Eng, MBA., who was also the presenter and moderator at the ACEC YP Gala held the previous evening. Over 40 people attended, representing 20 different ACEC-MB member and non-member organizations.

The objectives of the course were to develop an understanding of risk management, client contracts, potential sources of risk, negotiations, and learn what to do when things go wrong. The wide range of perspectives and experiences of the audience members also added valuable points and discussions that enhanced the already important information and examples presented.

The next ACEC Manitoba PD event is tentatively scheduled for late January/early February, and is expected to be on the topic of conflict resolution. We'll be sure to bring you more details as soon as they're available!

Publication Announcement

ACEC-Manitoba is proud to present the 3rd annual Manitoba Consulting Engineer, the official publication of ACEC-Manitoba. This edition includes all the award winners for this year's Awards of Excellence with the spotlight on the Keystone Award Winner: KGS Group and their emergency engineering work for the 2011 Assiniboine River Flood.

Also included in this year's publication: a message from ACEC-MB President Ken Drysdale, an interview with the Honorable Steve Ashton, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation, a message from ACEC-Canada President John Gamble and much, much more!

Pick up your copy today, or download it for free at <http://www.acec-mb.ca>!



Board Notes



Summer is at an end and everyone at ACEC Manitoba has been working at a fevered pitch toward our goals!

Select members of the Board of Directors met with members of the NDP Caucus to discuss a wide variety of issues that are of interest to our members. The meeting was attended by three ministers and several other MLAs representing the departments that are most involved with engineering in Manitoba. At this meeting, we provided an overview of who ACEC is, and invited them to consult with us on any engineering matters with which they felt additional guidance or direction was required. There was a great deal of discussion and praise from the ministers on the cooperation and level of performance of ACEC members on various assignments.

One major topic covered during the meeting was the new Infrastructure Funding Program to be implemented in 2014. The Manitoba representatives wanted to be sure that the consulting engineering industry in Manitoba had ample time to prepare for the new assignments that would be the result of the program. Additionally, the Minister of Immigration also expressed concern about the proposed Federal changes to the Provincial Nominees program, and asked for an opportunity to speak further to us. We plan to follow up on this opportunity as soon as it can be arranged.

ACEC raised a number of critical issues for discussion at the meeting, which included:

- Limitation of Actions Legislation
- New West Trade Agreement
- Funding for additional students in Engineering
- Quality Based Selection in Consulting Contracts

This meeting was very productive, and I feel that there was a new openness and genuine interest that had not been demonstrated to the same degree in years past.

Several other items of note over the past month include:

- our first PD session on Risk Assessment and Management. The response to the course was fantastic! Thank you to everyone who attended and those who worked so hard to make this a success.
- the YP annual gala. This gala not only provided a great opportunity to meet and greet fellow engineers, but also included a very interesting speaker and discussion panel on project management and client satisfaction.
- the release of the third edition of the ACEC Manitoba magazine. This wonderful tool for the promotion of Manitoba's consulting engineering industry has been distributed to members. Additional copies can be obtained from the ACEC office (cemca@shaw.ca).

The ACEC Manitoba committees have been meeting on a regular basis and the various client events are being planned for the upcoming year, including the 35th Gala and Awards Banquet, which will be held in April.

In the coming months, I will make an effort to keep our membership informed of our current and planned activities, but in the meantime, let me know if you have any suggestions of issues that you want ACEC to address. If you wish to get involved with one of our committees, please send me an email (drysdale@accutecheng.ca), and we will get you involved in your area of interest.

Our association is only as strong as our members, and it is through your continuing support that ACEC is able to promote the interests of Consulting Engineering in Manitoba.

Ken Drysdale

ACEC-Manitoba President

Spotlight on...

- The ACEC Manitoba Institutional Committee

Serious. Intense. Friendly.

We return strategies and recommendations to the Board regarding the Institutional Sector, and field questions and comments from the Sector and determine the appropriate response in a manner consistent with ACEC-Manitoba's objectives and messaging.

Are you currently looking for volunteers?

We are always looking for new volunteers!

Why should Young Professionals be interested in your committee?

The Institutional Committee has, in recent years, spent considerable time discussing contracts and business relationships between consultants and Institutional clients. This is an area of our business that Young Professionals will have had very little contact with (especially in university), and being involved with the Institutional Committee would provide them with an opportunity to explore and discuss this aspect of our business.

Interested in learning more?

Please contact Bob McConomy (bob.mcconomy@genivar.com) or Jeff Horrocks (jhorrocks@smseng.com).

Other Business

- APEGM Events

What: Assessing Vulnerabilities of Infrastructure to the Impacts of Climate Change

When: Wednesday, November 21, 2012; 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Where: Fairmont Hotel (2 Lombard Place)

Cost: \$250 (workshop); \$850 (workshop & conference)

Visit <http://www.apegm.mb.ca/pdf/PDNotices/Quest%20WPG%20Workshop%20Oct%2023%20FINAL.pdf> for more details.

What: Sharpening Your Communication Skills: Two-day Tech Writing Course

When: December 11 & 12, 2012; 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Where: Canad Inn Fort Garry (1824 Pembina Hwy)

Cost: \$545 + GST (lunch included)

Visit <http://www.apegm.mb.ca/pdf/PDNotices/2012-12%20Writing%20Announcement.pdf> for more details.

- Other Events

What: UMES Wine & Cheese

When: Thursday, November 22, 2012; 6:00 PM

Where: EITC Atrium, University of Manitoba

Cost: \$20; GST Included (Appetizers Provided)

The University of Manitoba Engineering Society hosts the annual Leaders of Innovation Wine and Cheese. Come network with students and fellow professionals!

To register, please RSVP to Youssef Aroub at y.aroub@umes.mb.ca.

Contact Information

We thrive on feedback! For newsletter related questions or comments, please email ypnews@acec-mb.ca.

If you'd like more information on the YPC, please contact our Chair, Owen Van Wallegem, at yp@acec-mb.ca.

For additional information on ACEC Manitoba and the ACEC Manitoba YPC, please visit our website at www.acec-mb.ca.

Find old copies of the ACEC-MB YPC Newsletter at www.acec-mb.ca/young-professionals-newsletters.php

Monday, October 29, 2012