

# Young Professionals Committee

Welcome to the latest issue of the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies – Manitoba's (ACEC Manitoba) Young Professionals Committee (YPC) Newsletter. Whether you've been relaxing on vacation, or working double-time to cover for those who managed to escape, the YPC has been working hard to set up some great events for you. Keep reading to learn more!

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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.

## Upcoming Events and Notices

- ACEC-Manitoba August YPC Meeting

When: Tuesday, August 13, 2013  
Where: Hatch (500 Portage Ave, Suite 600)

*This event is only open to YP employees of ACEC Manitoba registered firms.*

- A Night at the Goldeyes

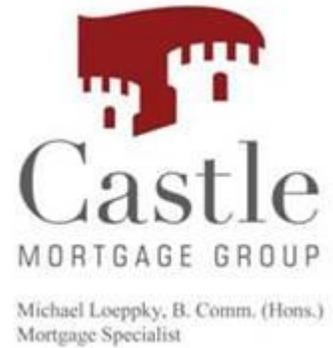
What: Dinner and Goldeyes game  
When: Tuesday, August 27, 2013; Doors open at 6:00 PM, game starts at 7:00 PM  
Where: Clay Oven (Located at Shaw Park, 1 Portage Avenue East, 3rd Floor)  
Cost: \$25 (includes GST), payment due at door

The ACEC Manitoba Young Professionals Committee will be holding a networking event at the new Clay Oven Patio that overlooks right field at Canwest Park. Come relax and enjoy dinner with your fellow YPs while watching the Winnipeg Goldeyes battle the St. Paul Saints, live!

To register, please email Shirley Tillett at [cemca@shaw.ca](mailto:cemca@shaw.ca) by Wednesday, August 14, 2013 with "ACEC-MB YP Goldeyes Night" in the subject line. If you have special dietary requirements, please specify so in your email.

Sponsorship for this event has been generously provided Mr. Mike Loeppky of the Castle Mortgage Group.

*As ACEC Manitoba incurs catering costs related to no shows, members who register but do not attend will be invoiced for the cost of the event plus a \$5 administration fee, unless cancellations are received prior to August 14, 2013.*



- Save the Date! 5<sup>th</sup> Annual YP Gala Dinner

When: Wednesday, October 16, 2013; 6:00 PM  
Where: To Be Determined

Save the Date! The ACEC-MB Young Professionals Annual Gala will be held October 16, 2013. Don't miss this excellent opportunity to build networks with young professionals and possible mentors, as well as learn about an increasingly important topic for the Consulting Engineering Business.

Ross McGowan, President and CEO at CentreVenture Development Corporation, will be our guest speaker on a topic dear to all of our hearts – Winnipeg.

*This event is open to all Young Professionals. Please feel free to invite clients and colleagues.*

*This event is eligible for 3 APEGM PDH credits - Informal Activity*

## Event Recaps

- 2013 ACEC Summit and National Convention Recap



The ACEC-Canada National Summit was held from June 20-22, 2013 in the beautiful (but wet) Lake Louise. This year's theme was *Leading the Way, Shaping our Future*. Todd Smith (ACEC MB's liaison to the ACEC Canada Board), Kim Yathon (ACEC-MB YPC), Shirley Tillett (ACEC MB's Executive Director), Rhys Laffin of Tetra Tech, and Jordan Thompson of AECOM, represented Manitoba at this year's event. The opening of the Summit coincided with the extreme flooding in southern Alberta, which resulted in several road closures. These closures preventing a number of delegates and speakers from attending the conference, however this did not impede the amazing



efforts of the organizing committee. Throughout the conference, this group continuously modified the program to ensure that the content of the plenary sessions was not compromised, and they maintained the many social events and optional activities.

Joint sessions, which included YPs and industry leaders, consisted of a keynote presentation by Warren Everson on tackling the barriers to Canada's competitiveness, a business and markets trends panel, and a roundtable presentation of the reports from the market

sectors (public, private, and global projects and solutions in response to risks to the industry). On June 21, Guy Giono, a legal specialist in ethics and accountability, gave an insightful keynote presentation making a case for corporate responsibility and accountability, and outlined the latest changes to Bill S14 for the Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act. To follow along this theme, a panel session was held on building trust and transparency for making integrity a part of a company's brand. The final session of the Summit was changed to an impromptu plenary session where YPs were given the opportunity to share their career experiences, and to ask questions and advice of the other delegates for the advancement of their careers.

The YP sessions began with a technical presentation and tour of the water treatment facility at the Chateau Lake Louise. A round table YP National Update Forum provided a review of each YP member organization's progress over the past year. Warren Everson, the VP of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, moderated a *YP Leaders of Tomorrow* roundtable, focusing on the top ten barriers to Canada's competitiveness, and what hurdles affect YPs in advancing their own careers. Finally, two CEOs shared their career backgrounds and experiences and provided career advice and strategies for success to YPs.

In addition to the many presentations and discussions, the Summit also played host to a number of social and networking events. These events provided attendees with the opportunity to make connections with industry leaders and YPs from right across the country.

Next year's Summit will be held here in Winnipeg from June 19-21, 2014. On the final night of the Summit, ACEC-MB had an opportunity to advertise the 2014 Summit, to highlight the features of our city, and to encourage attendance of next year's Summit. We are looking forward to some exciting programming for YPs next year!

For more information on the Summit, please visit the ACEC Canada website at:

[http://www.acec.ca/events\\_awards/acec\\_summit\\_and\\_national\\_convention/2013/summit2014.html](http://www.acec.ca/events_awards/acec_summit_and_national_convention/2013/summit2014.html)

## Call for Volunteers

- Energy, Science and Technology Committee

The ACEC Manitoba Energy, Science and Technology (EST) Committee is also looking to add YPs to their committee roster! This is a great opportunity to gain volunteer experience and valuable industry contacts for anyone who works with EST related clients. If you are interested, or if you'd like more information, please contact the EST Committee Chair, Margo Shaw, at [Margo\\_Shaw@golder.com](mailto:Margo_Shaw@golder.com).

## Spotlight on...

- Nikou Snell, EIT



“Do ordinary things in an extraordinary way”

Role: Events Coordinator

Employed by: Hatch

As a: Hydrotechnical Engineer in Training

Studied at: University of Manitoba

And left with a degree in: Civil Engineering

Years in Consulting: Started working for Hatch in the summer of 2008 as a summer student, and joined as a fulltime employee in 2010

Why I love my job: I truly love the work I do and the best part about my job is working as a team on projects, finding practicable solutions for real world problems.

What I do in my free time: I volunteer with various organizations like ACEC. I'm Also the president of Canadian Water Resources Association-MB Branch.

On top of my volunteer work I love to stay active – I'm currently a certified group exercise instructor for GoodLife fitness. I enjoy being part of a team that guides Canadians toward a healthier lifestyle.

Song that best describes my life: I don't think anyone has written a song to describe me but the closest I got was, Greyhound, Swedish House Mafia.

Mac, Windows or Linux? I have Mac at home and Windows at work. Depending on a day my answer changes, but today I'm going to go with Windows.

Given the opportunity, would you rather go back in time 100 years, or 100 years into the future? Why? If I had a choice of going back 100 years or going 100 years in to the future I would just stay at current time. I enjoy my job, my life and everything that I do, so if I go back in time I could change the time space continuum which could alter my current life. I also believe future will come as it supposes to and the only thing I should worry about is to live my life to its fullest.

## Other Business



The Globe and Mail recently published an interview with John Gamble, President of ACEC Canada. This article discusses many of the challenges and opportunities that Canadian consulting engineering companies will likely face in the coming years.

To read a copy of this interview, please visit:

[http://www.acec.ca/source/2013/June/SubPages/image\\_E1.html](http://www.acec.ca/source/2013/June/SubPages/image_E1.html).

## Contact Information

We thrive on feedback! For newsletter related questions or comments, please email [ypnews@acec-mb.ca](mailto:ypnews@acec-mb.ca). If you'd like more information on the YPC, please contact our Chair, Kyla Kirk, at [yp@acec-mb.ca](mailto:yp@acec-mb.ca). For additional information on ACEC Manitoba and the ACEC Manitoba YPC, please visit our website at [www.acec-mb.ca](http://www.acec-mb.ca).

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Find old copies of the ACEC-MB YPC Newsletter at [www.acec-mb.ca/young-professionals-newsletters.php](http://www.acec-mb.ca/young-professionals-newsletters.php)