



The Voice



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2009 FALL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



Minister Bond addresses the membership

The BC Road Builders Fall Business Conference took place September 20 - 22 at the Delta Grand Okanagan Resort in Kelowna. The conference was well-attended by over 275 members and 52 representatives from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Draw - congratulations to **Scott Drummond, Mike Hopkins, Nancy Margitan, James Sexton and Les Townsend** who split the \$5,000 grand prize!

- Delicious Partners' Breakfast where BC Road Builders' own board of directors cooked up pancakes for the membership.
- Innovative presentation from **Dr. Janaka Ruwanpura** on tools to increase productivity on work sites.
- Informative association update provided by Chairman **Steve Drummond**.

Event highlights include:

- Issues discussion and updates at Construction/Paving, Maintenance and Service and Supply Sector Meetings.
- Networking, fun and perfect weather at both the Annual Worm Burners Invitational and the BC Road Builders Fall Classic Golf Tournaments.
- Networking with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure staff; including Transportation and Infrastructure Minister **Shirley Bond's** first address to the BC Road Builders' membership and a project highlights presentation from ADM **Mike Proudfoot**.
- Sold out Fall Banquet Dinner and Kal Tire Reverse

The event once again provided excellent learning and networking opportunities. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those companies that supported the event.



Board members cooking delicious pancakes

GOVERNMENTS ANNOUNCE FUNDING FOR 174 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN BC

On September 24, the provincial and federal governments announced 174 new infrastructure projects valued at just under \$719 million to help communities throughout BC meet their pressing needs, help stimulate the economy, create jobs and support continued economic growth.

"We are leveraging every dollar available to create literally thousands of jobs throughout every region of the province and building our communities so they are strong and competitive as we emerge from this economic downturn," said Premier Gordon Campbell. "The investments we've made since launching the Economic Action Plan have already created an estimated 21,600 jobs. Today's announcement will create about 4,600 more jobs and is the next step in our ongoing, three-year job creation strategy to build confidence and keep British Columbians working."

The announcement represents a contribution of \$244 million from the Government of Canada, \$233 million from the Province of British Columbia, and the remainder from local governments. The funding is being delivered through two important programs.

The **Infrastructure Stimulus Fund** was introduced by the Government of Canada in collaboration with all levels of government to unleash infrastructure projects across Canada provided they are completed by March 31, 2011.

The **Communities Component**, under the Building Canada Fund, allows the Government of Canada and provinces and territories to invite communities with populations of less than 100,000 to apply for infrastructure projects.

A complete list of the new projects is available at:

http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2009PREM0038-000403.htm

REMEMBER

to mark your calendars for the upcoming AGM and Seasonal Celebrations taking place November 26 - 28 at the Fairmont Empress in Victoria. Registration information will be available in mid-October.

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TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT UPDATE

Heavy Equipment Operator Apprenticeship Program Applying for Red Seal



The Industry Training Authority (ITA) is moving forward to make the Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) Apprenticeship Program a Red Seal Inter-Provincial Program. Kevin Evans, CEO of the ITA in BC will act as sponsor and champion of the HEO program to the Canadian Council of Directors of

Apprenticeship (CCDA) at their next meeting. Should the CCDA approve this program to move forward, the ITA will hire the Transportation Career Development Association to complete an inter-provincial needs assessment, review and standardize the program inter-provincially and create a new Red Seal Assessment for the program. If accepted this process should be completed in 18-24 months.

Crane Assessments Update

Recently the BC Association for Crane Safety sent a letter to all Crane Operators in the province who had completed the crane assessment application prior to July 1, 2007. The letter stated that they must register for an assessment date by October 31, 2009 or risk losing their incumbent status. Crane operators without incumbent status will be required to write an additional theoretical exam through the Industry Training Authority at an additional cost of \$120 (plus time spent).

Operators working for member companies of the BC Road Builders will receive a rebate on the \$525 crane assessment fee if their application is received before October 31, 2009.

The failure rate for the crane operators is as high as 22% so the BC Road Builders are offering a one-day crane study session prior to the required assessment. The study session will refresh operations on load charts, rigging and crane set-up.

Contact Kent Orrock at the association for details (kent@roadbuilders.bc.ca).



NEW CCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ENDORSEMENTS



**Canadian
Construction
Association**

Member companies of the BC Road Builders are also partner members of the Canadian Construction Association (CCA). This summer the CCA board of directors endorsed two new standard construction documents: **CCA**

19: Stipulated Price Sub-subcontract and CCA 28: A Guide to Improving Cash Flow in the Construction Industry.

CCA 19: Stipulated Price Sub-subcontract

The Stipulated Price Sub-subcontract, a brand new CCA Document, is an agreement between the Subcontractor and Sub-subcontractor. Developed based on CCA 1, the Stipulated Price Sub-subcontract features several important differences, such as notice periods that are extended by two days for the waiver of claims.

CCA 19 combines the "refer-by-reference" and "stand alone" approaches into a single form and users can choose between these two approaches. Broadly, the scope of the Stipulated Price Sub-subcontract encompasses the elements of the agreement between the Subcontractor and the Sub-subcontractors, such as the work to be performed, conflict between the subcontract and sub-subcontract, sub-subcontract documents, schedule, sub-subcontract price, and payment.

Sections relating to the Sub-subcontract conditions include general provisions, administration of the sub-subcontract, execution of the work, allowances, payment, changes in the work, default notice, dispute resolution, protection of persons and property, governing

regulations, insurance and contract security, indemnification, waiver of claims, and warranty.

CCA 28: A Guide to Improving Cash Flow in the Construction Industry

This Guide has been updated, and in comparison to the previous version features greater detail on issues such as impediments to cash flow, important factors to improve cash flow, billing, collection, payment practices, and business management.

The updated guide is particularly timely and relevant in the context of the challenges created by the current uncertain economic climate: in an environment of scarce liquidity characterized by conservative financing practices, due diligence is imperative to managing financial risk. The guide offers practical suggestions to systematically improve cash flow, including the importance of verifying information such as the particulars of an owner's financial state, contract conditions, contract payment terms, payment for delivered materials, and dispute resolution mechanisms.

In terms of billing, collection and payment practices, the Guide sets out the steps that should be followed in pursuing applications for payment, collection, enforcement of lien legislation payment practices, changes in the work, and release of the holdback. The guide also discusses business management, including how to deal with a bank, and the preparation of cash flow statements.

It is anticipated that both **CCA 19: Stipulated Price Sub-subcontract and CCA 28: A Guide to Improving Cash Flow in the Construction Industry** will be published and available for distribution this Fall.

DEVELOP SITE SMARTS TO PREVENT EQUIPMENT THEFT ON YOUR WORKSITES



Keeping your heavy equipment safe from thieves requires a proactive approach. Apply site smarts to safeguard your work site and your equipment.

- Paint, engrave or label all equipment with a clearly visible product identification number and company branding.
- Fence in all your equipment when feasible.
- Park equipment close together and in a circle if feasible with smaller pieces in the centre; chain small equipment to large equipment.

- Remember to document the manufacturer, model number, PIN and date of purchase for each piece of equipment you own.
- Notify local police of work sites and ask for more frequent patrols in the area.
- Install on-site security, especially after-hours; light the jobsite through the night.
- Use immobilizers like wheel locks, fuel shut-offs or ignition locks.

The actions listed above may ward off amateur thieves, but they will not necessarily stop the professionals. For high-risk heavy equipment, consider investing in a recovery system that will help law enforcement track it down and return it to you intact and in a timely fashion. The most effective systems have robust tracking and recovery capabilities and there are a variety of companies that offer this service on the market.

(Courtesy of LoJack Corporation)

H1N1 FLU VIRUS ALERT - WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



The H1N1 flu virus is a new strain of pandemic influenza which is different than the seasonal flu. People have no natural immunity to protect against this virus. The H1N1 flu virus emerged in April 2009 and surveillance of its spread shows that it is affecting more young and healthy people than the regular seasonal flu, which normally affects seniors and young children. People with underlying medical conditions and pregnant women may be at a greater risk for severe illness.

The H1N1 flu virus – also known as human swine influenza – is a respiratory illness that affects the nose, throat, and lungs. This virus usually affects pigs, but has been transferred to humans. Thus far, the H1N1 flu virus has caused primarily mild illness in Canada, however Canadians

need to be prepared to respond to a potentially more severe form of the virus that may emerge this fall.

The H1N1 flu virus is contagious and is spread the same way as regular seasonal influenza. This happens when an infected person coughs or sneezes and their germs enter the nose, eyes, or throat of another person. The germs can also rest on hard surfaces like counters and doorknobs, and can be picked up on hands and transmitted to the respiratory system when someone touches their mouth and/or nose. It is not possible to catch it by eating pork or pork products or through blood transfusions.

Symptoms almost always include:

- Cough and fever

Other common symptoms include:

- Fatigue
- Muscle aches
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Decreased appetite
- Runny nose

In some instances, symptoms may also include:

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

The Public Health Agency advises Canadians to:

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and warm water, or use hand sanitizer
- Cough and sneeze in your arm or sleeve, instead of your hands
- If you are sick, stay home until your symptoms are gone and you feel well enough to participate in all activities
- Check www.fightflu.ca for more information
- Check www.voyage.gc.ca for travel notices and advisories
- Talk to a health professional if you experience severe flu-like symptoms

For more information and resources on prevention and treatment visit the Public Health Agency of Canada website www.phac-aspc.gc.ca.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU BCRB MEMBER PROFILE

The profile shares information about a member company and some of the activities it is currently involved in. If you would like to have your company profiled in a future issue, please contact Parveen (parveen@roadbuilders.bc.ca).

THIS MONTH'S PROFILE:

F.A.S.T. First Aid & Survival Technologies Limited



What are the principle activities of your company?

F.A.S.T. considers itself a "Partner in Safety" in all aspects of business including:

- Safety Management Systems Development
- COR Review
- Health and Safety Training Needs Assessments
- Safety Apparel Conforming to the most up-to-date standards
- Emergency and First Aid Kits for Personal, Vehicle or Office use

What are some of the current projects underway?

F.A.S.T.'s Safety Management division is working with various members of the Association conducting COR audits and training

needs assessments, developing safety manuals and conducting extensive safety training.

F.A.S.T.'s Product Division is working with other member organizations to develop their own emergency preparedness plans to ensure their business continues in the event of an emergency. It also manufactures and assembles, WorkSafeBC First Aid Kits, industry spill kits and customizes other kits used for vehicle or safety use on the job.

What is the size and location of your organization?

F.A.S.T. has a 20,000 square foot facility in Delta, BC which includes industrial-sewn manufacturing, survival food and water manufacturing and assembly facilities.

What is your favorite thing about working there?

The 40+ staff members of F.A.S.T. are creative, talented and hard working. All projects are designed and delivered to perfection because of our employees.

In your opinion, what's the best benefit of being a member of the Association?

This year's Fall Conference proved to have an engaged and enthusiastic group of members that showed great interest in our products and services which we feel will prove to be a long-term benefit of membership.

For more information, contact: Veronica Madore at vmadore@fastlimited.com.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2009 BC ROAD BUILDERS BETTY SPALTON SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Nadine Schneider

Every year, the association's members raise money for the Betty Spalton Scholarship Fund at the Annual BC Road Builders/Ivan Hanchard Charity Golf Tournament.

The fund honours Betty Spalton, an industry and

Association leader who began her career with BC's Ministry of Transportation and Highways and went on to become President and General Manager of the Okanagan South (Penticton) Division of Argo Road Maintenance. As a member of the BC Road Builders Board of Directors, Betty headed the maintenance sector and was an acknowledged expert in maintenance policy, standards, business management and

construction in general. After a brief illness, Betty passed away in 1999.

To honour her legacy, the Betty Spalton Trust Fund was established to provide financial support to individuals interested in obtaining educations in fields associated with the road building and heavy construction industry.

The association is pleased to present \$1,500 scholarships to two worthy recipients.

Nadine Schneider is a 21 year old student enrolled in the Engineering, Design and Drafting Technology diploma program at Thompson Rivers University. Nadine is a Dean's List student who is "interested in the processes of road and civil design, planning, construction and maintenance." Although Nadine's family has long been involved in the maintenance industry, she recognizes the importance of pursuing post-secondary education. "My education will be able to provide me with the tools and skill sets

required to design and plan roads and highways that will be safer and more efficient for future generations in British Columbia," says Nadine.

Nestor Martinez is an engineering student attending the University of British Columbia Okanagan Campus working towards a Bachelor of Applied Science in Civil Engineering. Nestor is also enrolled in UBC's work placement program and has had the opportunity to recently gain some valuable work experience. "My last work terms have consisted of work for Flatiron Constructors Canada Limited in Fort McMurray for the Athabasca River Bridge Project and the Thickwood and Confederation Way grading work. In these projects, I have enjoyed watching the daily operations of a large construction project, and it has only raised my level of interest for this field once I have graduated," explains Nestor.

Congratulations and best of luck to both of this year's winners.