



*the k***NAC***k*

Summer 2010

The President's Message

I am grateful to each of you for contributing your time and expertise to the Facility Management profession and to IFMA's success in 2010.

The real strength of IFMA, is knowing that you are an integral part of a network of people that openly share and discuss issues, ideas, concerns, and develop opportunities and solutions that benefit your personal and professional development. At a local chapter level we strive to provide opportunities for you the local members to have a chance to network and increase your professional awareness in our local communities through our programs and education session.

The IFMA NAC executive has experienced a very challenging year with a major focus on succession planning. What I have come to appreciate is the diversity and the willingness of our membership to voice their individual opinions on what they believe to be beneficial to our Association. These contributions have created many discussions, which has provided the opportunity for several new members to join our executive.

The planning is already in process for 2010 / 2011 Season and our main goals include: focus on membership, Programs and Education.

I would like to challenge all of us to make that special effort to contribute to our chapter: invite a guest to an event, recruit a new member, volunteer on the board or committee, and help increase our profile in the community as our chapter is only as strong as your input.

On behalf of the NAC Executive, please accept our best wishes for a great summer, if you are able to attend the President's Summer BBQ and Potluck on August 10th in William Hawrelak Park I hope to see you there, my wishes for each member is for a great summer and hope to meet each of you in the fall.

Best Regards
Paul Simons, CFM
NAC President
2010 / 2011

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME!

2008 to 2010

Paul Teterenko	Director, General Services	St. Michael's Health Group
Tammy Murray	Account Executive	Interface Flooring Systems (Canada), Inc
Kenneth Erickson	Process Improvement Manager	Edmonton Public Schools
Zabrina Majumder	Facilities Coordinator	Suncor Energy Inc
Bruce Knisley	Director, Facility & Property Services	City of Leduc
William Cormack	Facilities Manager	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
David Wray	Director, Sales & Marketing	Solutions Workplace Furnishings
Brian Lillie		SNC-Lavalin ProFac, Inc
Katherine Johnston Umbach	Senior Interior Designer	Stantec Consulting Ltd.
Terry Willson	Director Tower Project	EPCOR
David Law	Sales Manager	Allwest Commercial Furnishings
Glenn Matich	Director	Alberta Infrastructure
Aaron Singh	Facilities Project Coordinator	City of Spruce Grove
Andrea Farhall	Interior Designer	Stantec Consulting Ltd
Craig Stewart	Operations Supervisor	Oxford Properties Group
Neil McCrank	Vice President, Asset Management	7-Eleven Inc
Don Ellis	Account Manager	Contemporary Office Interiors Ltd

We have had **32 new members** join since 2002: with ten of those joining in 2009 alone; and two so far in 2010. However, the chapter's average of 50 members in past three years is due to members retiring, moving, and changing careers. To ensure the future of the Northern Alberta Chapter of IFMA, it is important to mentor your colleagues and new staff and demonstrate the value to your employer by encouraging membership with the local chapter of IFMA.

2010 – 2011 BOARD of DIRECTORS

Paul Simons, CFM	-	President
Brian Stephenson	-	Past President
Diehl Townsley, CFM	-	Vice President
Marilyn Graham, CFM	-	Treasurer
William Cormack, CFM	-	Secretary
Doug Berry, CFM	-	Membership
Glenn Matich	-	Director
Brian Lillie	-	Director
Katherine Johnston-Umbach	-	Director
Vicki Hackl	-	Administrator

We encourage you to consider Volunteering to assist with Chapter activities, whether on a specific project or as a member of the Board. Being involved will bring you into a network of Facility professionals from the local area, who are always willing to share knowledge, insight and information. We strive to recognize our volunteers for their contributions at our monthly Events, in the Newsletter and on our Website. Raise your profile in the IFMA-NAC Community..... Get Involved today!!

For more information on our Board Activities, or how you can help please Contact: Paul Simons (780) 962-7595.

PROGRAMS

August 10th plan to attend the **IFMA NAC President's Summer Potluck BBQ** in William Hawrelak Park

Ideas for the 2010-2011 Season:

Project Management Institute – PMP – What it means and How to get the designation
Geothermal
BioEnergy: farm waste and municipal waste
Stories from the Trenches: Disaster Recovery – St. Michael's Health Centre
Three Tours: Members! This is an opportunity for you to showcase your facilities.
CFM Review
Education Sessions: half day

If you have ideas for a program, education session or tour, please contact the office:
ifma-nac@ifma-nac.org 780-435-8716 phone 780-452-7718 fax

Thank you Doug Berry for hosting the Golf Tournament

The golf tournament went on under sunny (hot) skies at the Broadmoor Golf Club in Sherwood Park on June 23, 2010. As it turned out, 2 groups of 4 hit the course right before men's league. Everyone survived and some even smiled when done. Since there were not enough executive at the 'meeting' the AGM was cancelled. Instead we talked a little about the industry and what is happening right now!

Some comments:

- need new young persons to join (think about career fairs and hitting the schools)
- Edmonton area no longer has 'decision' makers for larger property companies (ie SNC Lavalin or Bentall) therefore we do not have 'local' corporate support
- persons get into this field (Facilities) by ACCIDENT as opposed to training for the position.
- very few institutions teach anything about facilities operations/management (university, college, tech schools, etc)
- there is a gap between experienced FMers and those coming into the field
- the Government, especially Provincial, is going to lose MANY of their senior people in the next few years
- the lowest cost bid and lowest price continue to be the main drivers in the industry
- many persons are 'specialists' however to operate at a high level, the FMer needs to be a 'generalist'

Best piece of advice for young up and comers: Pick a company you would like to work for, give them a call and ask them what they need in order to be employed with that company!! (Thanks David)

AGM to be held at future date.

Thank you very much,
Doug Berry

EDUCATION

Certified Facility Manager (CFM) Study Group

IFMA-NAC may possibly be the only Chapter which continues to provide CFM Study sessions at no cost to their Chapter members. This commitment to affordable education and professional development opportunities for our members is instrumental in maintaining one of the highest proportions of CFM's in any Chapter. A vast majority of participants in past Study Groups who have written the comprehensive CFM Exam have passed.

In the past the Course has consisted of a group of 6-10 participants studying and learning the 9 core competencies together. With the assistance of one or two facilitators, the sessions are held at a mutually agreeable location and time over a period of 8-10 weeks. Historically, each session had presentations by the participants on two of the eight Competency Areas such as such FM Finance, Real Estate, Operation and Maintenance, Project Planning etc. which are the basis of the exam. This format will be modified to suit the wishes of the participants. The Study Group also reviews and discusses sample exam questions, is advised on how to approach the exam, and given encouragement and support through the experience of members who have completed the process of CFM certification.

We will be planning a meeting in this Fall to set a schedule, assign competencies to participants, and review the format.

Contact: Contact: Paul Simons (780) 962-7595 or psimons@sprucegrove.org for more information on the CFM Exam, or joining the Study Group.



IFMA NAC is ONLINE !!

www.ifma-nac.org

For the latest on upcoming Program Events
Information and resources on Education, Membership and Sponsorship opportunities.
Links to other Facility Related Sites
News on Facility Management and members
We welcome any suggestions or contributions.

Last summer Vicki Hackl moved to a different office location: #205, 10940 – 166A Street, Edmonton, AB T5P 3V5. 780-435-8716 phone 780-452-7718 fax. She continues to provide an office and business administration management services for the chapter.

As a closing note, I would like to mention that the IFMA – NAC needs your participation in keeping our chapter alive. The new board will endeavor to deliver programs and items in a different way this year to accommodate the busy schedules of members. Without you, we will dwindle in size and eventually disappear so please participate!! If you have any ideas for improving our Chapter, please email them to the IFMA – NAC Office Administrator at ifma-nac@ifma-nac.org

Paul Simons, CFM
IFMA NAC President

IFMA is the Houston, Texas-based professional association for facility management with approximately 19,000 members in 124 chapters and 78 countries. The organization offers networking opportunities through its regional chapters and councils structure, provides certification and educational programs, conducts research, spots trends and assists facility managers in developing skills and strategies to manage the human, structural and real estate assets of an organization. For more information, visit the Association's Web site at www.ifma.org.