



## Meeting Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting November 10, 2015

Approved on December 8, 2015

The CPWA Board of Directors met by teleconference on November 10, 2015. As CPWA President Kealy Dedman (Ontario) led the discussion. The meeting was attended by Board members Andrew Stevenson (Saskatchewan), Don Morehouse (Atlantic Provinces), Ron Fleming, (Newfoundland/Labrador and Claudine Claessens (Quebec). Steve Blayney (Manitoba), Darwin Durnie and David Sparanese (British Columbia) were unable to attend.

Gail Clark, Canadian Advocacy and Outreach Manager was in attendance. APWA Director/CPWA Liaison Rick Stinson attended. CPWA Advocacy Consultant Alan Young, Tactix, was also in attendance.

### Welcome/Introductions

Ron Fleming was introduced as the new Director representing Newfoundland/Labrador. Ron has been involved with CPWA Newfoundland/Labrador Chapter for over ten years and is currently serving as President of the Chapter. He is Director of Engineering and Public Works for the Town of Paradise, a rapidly growing community near St. Johns. Ron was welcomed to the Board of Directors.

### APWA Update

**Executive Director Search:** Rick Stinson that the Executive Committee met with executive search firm Kushner Co.. The company will be leading the search for the new Executive Director. It is estimated that interviews for the new Executive Director may be completed by March 2016.

**New Offices in KC:** APWA has signed a new space for the offices in a downtown Kansas City location -- One Kansas City Place. The office move will take place in February 2016, one week prior to the combined meetings of the technical committees.

**Combined Technical Committee Meetings:** Rick noted that the combined technical committee meetings have been scheduled for February 17-19 in Kansas City, MO.

**Chapter Visits:** Rick Stinson noted that he was in Newfoundland for their annual Chapter Fall Conference and Trade Show in St. John's (September 29 - October 2) to celebrate their 20<sup>th</sup> year. Rick also attended the Atlantic Provinces Chapter Conference and noted that the Chapter is celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> year.

### Update on Ottawa

Alan Young noted that the mood for change in Canada has unseated the 10 year rule of the Conservative government and secured the Liberal's a majority of 184 seats in Parliament (170 needed for a majority). The victory is Trudeau's and he enters the Prime Minister's role not owing to anyone. He has picked a talented pool (50% male, 50% female) of Ministers, some new to Ottawa, and some more experienced.

Of particular interest to CPWA, the Prime Minister has made a significant commitment to infrastructure with three separate \$20 billion buckets of money earmarked for public transit, social, and green infrastructure. Alan noted that CPWA has sent a letter of congratulations to the new Minister for Infrastructure and Communities. The new government is also of strong will to combat climate change.

Alan suggested that Kealy Dedman should make initial visits in Ottawa in February. Any committee meetings held in Parliament will present another opportunity for CPWA to make a statement.

Ron Fleming noted that Alan's updates are of interest and value to CPWA members at the provincial level and should be shared. Ron also noted that FCM is an important connection for municipalities in providing a voice.

### **Update on the Canadian Infrastructure Report Card (CIRC)**

Steve Wyton, City of Calgary, and CPWA's representative on the CIRC noted that the Steering Committee has decided to postpone the announcement and release of the CIRC until January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The timing is due to a number of competing issues now attracting the attention of the public – including climate change and the Charbonneau Commission's inquiry into systemic wrongdoing in the construction industry in Quebec.

FCM will take the lead in working on key messages and a communication strategy for the CIRC and will circulate the plan. There will be a pre-release to the other stakeholder groups who were involved in the CIRC.

INFC has also requested a pre-release of the CIRC and asked for a meeting prior to its release. While there will not be a formal release press conference, one week prior to the release (approximately January 11), CPWA's spokesperson should be available in Ottawa to strategize. CPWA is also asked to provide a spokesperson for the French language. Claudine Claessens has volunteered to assist in the French language.

### **President's Update**

Kealy Dedman reported that she attended a post-election teleconference of the **Municipal Infrastructure Forum**. A few issues that were discussed:

- There is a shared excitement on the announcement for the new Minister of Infrastructure due to his public transit support background. Engineers Canada is also pleased with the appointment of Catherine McKenna as Minister of Environment and Climate Change.
- The MIF seemed to have a sense of urgency to meet with new MPs/Ministers. And they predicted an early budget next year. The MIF members including FCM are setting up their meetings in Ottawa.
- There is a possibility that the members of the MIF could collaborate to do an education session (on infrastructure) for incoming MPs and others.

Kealy questioned Alan on whether CPWA should move more quickly to set up meetings in Ottawa but Alan assured that February is soon enough.

Kealy Dedman commented on her recent visit to the Atlantic Provinces Chapter for their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and conference. Kealy also noted the good work that that was being done in asset management in the area.

### **Collaboration on the new grading/railway crossing regulations**

Gail Clark reported that she had been contacted by FCM regarding our interest in collaborating with FCM and CAMA on getting the word out on requirements for the new grade crossing regulations. Transport Canada has said that many municipalities are unaware of the upcoming information sharing and crossing upgrade deadlines under their new [Grade Crossing Regulations](#).

As part of the regulations, municipalities must share the following information with railways on public grade crossings in their communities:

- location
- number of road traffic lanes
- average road traffic per day
- road speed
- geometric classification of road and approach

- width of traffic lanes
- design vehicle
- stopping sight distance
- grade of road approach
- longest time required for a vehicle or pedestrian to pass through the crossing
- advance activation time
- pre-emption time
- whether the crossing has a sidewalk, path or trail

This information must be shared with railways by November 27, 2016. To raise awareness of this upcoming deadline, CPWA will collaborate with FCM and CAMA on a joint communique regarding the new regulations for railway crossings.

### **Click Listen and Learn – Canadian Content**

APWA Professional Development is looking for ideas for a topic and speakers for a Canadian Click Listen and Learn.

Previously, the Board has discussed three possible topics:

- Unpaved /Gravel Road Maintenance
- New regulations for rail crossings in Canada (this is a Canada-wide issue)
  - <https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/rafsafety/grade-crossings-standards.htm>
- Asset management

### **National Public Works Week Presentations**

Gail Clark reported the following presentations are being made in November and December:

- County of Newell, AB – Darwin Durnie – Nov. 5 at 1:00 pm (confirmed)
- City of Port Moody, BC – Doug Regehr, BC Chapter – Nov. 10 at 7:00 pm (confirmed)
- City of Kitchener, ON – Kealy Dedman – Nov. 16 at 7:00 pm (confirmed)
- City of Mississauga, ON – Kealy Dedman – Dec. 9 at 9:00 am (confirmed)

### **Quebec Chapter**

Claudine Claessens noted that the Quebec Chapter continues to strive to be the voice of public works in Quebec. The Chapter is also working on their partnerships including CERIU (the Center for Expertise and Research in Urban Infrastructure). More information on the Quebec Chapter's objectives for 2015-2018 and their mission and vision statement can be found on their website:

<http://www.atpa.ca/fr/mission.php>

### **Approval of the CPWA Notes for October 13, 2015**

The Board approved the CPWA Notes for October 13, 2015

### **Adjournment:**

Having concluded their business, the Board adjourned the meeting.

### **Next Meeting:**

The Board of Directors will next meet by phone on December 8th, 2015 at 1:30 pm Eastern Time.

*The minutes were recorded and are respectfully submitted by:*

*Gail Ann Clark*

*CPWA Advocacy and Outreach Manager*