

CPWA at Congress 2015

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C PWA International Infrastructure Round Table

For the ninth consecutive year, CPWA hosted the leaders of international associations attending Congress for a Monday morning breakfast and discussion of public works issues. Attendees included the executive directors and several of the presidents of the following associations: Canadian Public Works Association (CPWA), Finnish Association of Municipal Engineering (FAME), Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Federation of Civil Engineers of Mexico (FEMCIC), Ghana Institute of Engineers, and the Institute of Public Works Engineering

Australasia (IPWEA – both Australia and New Zealand representatives). APWA was represented by two members of the Board of Directors and the International Committee Chair. Discussion was led by Doug Drever, PWLF, City of Saskatoon, who also serves as President of the International Federation of Municipal Engineering (IFME). Discussion topics included issues in public works including sustainability, asset management, and infrastructure funding, as well as a discussion of issues in association management including attracting young members and the use of social media. Several of the international leaders have been attending this



The attendees at the CPWA International Infrastructure Round Table during the 2015 Congress. Front row: Rick Stinson (USA), Oscar Cortez (Mexico), Helena Allison (USA), Ross Goyne (Australia), Chris Champion (Australia), Kealy Dedman (Canada), Kwaku Boampong (Ghana) and Magnus Quarshie (Ghana). Back row: Ville Alatyppo (Finland), Peter Higgs (New Zealand), Doug Drever (Canada), Brock Carlton (Canada), Richard Berning (USA) and Vydas Juskelis (USA)



Brock Carlton, CEO, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, spoke at the annual CPWA Luncheon during the 2015 Congress.

CPWA-hosted discussion forum for several years—including Chris Champion of IPWEA who has been in attendance since this discussion was first launched by CPWA in 2006.

Brock Carlton, CEO, Federation of Canadian Municipalities headlines CPWA Luncheon

More than 160 Canadian, U.S. and international attendees at Congress gathered for the annual CPWA Luncheon and had the opportunity to hear from Brock Carlton, CEO, of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities regarding their approach to building better communities, the importance of infrastructure, and FCM’s federal election platform entitled “A Roadmap for Strong Cities and Communities.” The CPWA audience of municipal public works officials warmed to Mr. Carlton who is strongly committed to strong municipal government and to recognizing and supporting the role municipalities play in the health and prosperity of Canada. Mr. Carlton also spoke of the importance of changing the conversation on infrastructure

investment at the federal level noting that federal investment in Canadian cities and communities are key engines of innovation and growth for the country and should be seen as such. More information is available in “FCM’s 2016 Election Platform: Strengthening Canada’s Hometowns: A Roadmap for Strong Cities and

Communities” (http://www.fcm.ca/Documents/reports/FCM/FCM_Roadmap_EN.pdf).

CPWA 2015 National Public Works Week Awards

During the recent CPWA Luncheon at the Phoenix APWA Congress, CPWA National Public Works Week volunteer

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Paul Smeltzer from Niagara Region, ON had the honor of announcing the 2015 CPWA National Public Works Week (NPWW) award-winning municipalities for 2015.

The CPWA NPWW award is awarded to municipalities that excel in educating and informing the public with the National Public Works Week program. Celebrated annually in May, National Public Works Week is observed in both Canada and the U.S. and is an opportunity for public works to demonstrate and display how their services improve communities and lives. It is also an excellent opportunity to promote public works as a career of choice to students and others entering the workforce. Public works departments also use NPWW as an opportunity for staff recognition and team building.

This year's entries came from towns across Canada and featured creative approaches to public education and events. Cities who participated in the awards program are listed below, with winning municipalities highlighted:

First-Time Entries:

- Town of Drayton Valley, AB (population: 7,000)
- City of Lethbridge, AB (population: 93,000)
- County of Newell, AB (population: 6,500) WINNER

Small Centre Entries:

- Town of Drayton Valley, AB (population: 7,000)
- County of Newell, AB (population 6,500)
- District of Squamish, BC (population: 17,000)
- City of Moncton, NB (population: 69,000)
- Town of Ladysmith, BC (population: 8,000)
- City of Port Moody, BC (population: 34,000) WINNER

Medium Centre Entries:

- City of Lethbridge, AB (population: 93,000)
- Town of Whitby, ON (population: 130,000)
- City of Burlington, ON (population: 175,000)
- City of Kitchener, ON (population: 234,000) WINNER

Large/Metro Centre Entries:

- Brampton, ON (population: 600,000)
- Mississauga, ON (population: 750,000) WINNER

CPWA would like to thank all participating municipalities for their efforts and events held for National Public Works Week program. We feel that the benefits of this program are far reaching and of great value to the profession and the entire community. CPWA will be forwarding each participating municipality a well-deserved certificate of appreciation for their fine efforts for National Public

Works Week. Winning municipalities will have their awards presented before their Councils in the fall.

CPWA also wishes to convey thanks to the volunteers who served as evaluators for the program entries: David Knowles, City of Dieppe, NB; Murray Steer, City of Vancouver, BC; and Paul Smeltzer, Niagara Region, ON.

CPWA Education Session Highlights

Canadians attending CPWA's education session on Monday had the opportunity to hear from CPWA President Kealy Dedman, P.Eng., MPA, City of Guelph, ON, both on ongoing CPWA projects and recent issues and initiatives leading up to the election in October. A major project for CPWA is the 2015 update to the 2012 Canadian Infrastructure Report Card. The 2015 Report will update the water, roads, wastewater, and stormwater assets included in the 2012 Report Card but will also cover additional assets like public transport and parks. The 2015 Canadian Infrastructure Report Card is due to be released in the late October time frame. Kealy also outlined CPWA ongoing priorities which focus on the issues of dependable, flexible funding for infrastructure, capacity building in asset management, and promoting sustainability in infrastructure projects.

CPWA's Ottawa-based government and public relations consultant Alan Young brought the audience up-to-date with the latest on the elections and noted that the race was a "legitimate three-way race." Alan also outlined options on how the government will operate if no single majority party is seated. Investment in infrastructure is playing a big role in the races but Alan noted that there is also a new dynamic at play with the issue of the management of government finances. While Trudeau has said that he would run a deficit by borrowing now while he says that money is cheap, both Harper and Mulcair would keep the budget

balanced. Young noted that 71% of Canadians report being undecided and he believes many will make a decision “around the Thanksgiving table.”

CPWA members honored at APWA Congress Awards Ceremony 2015


Canadian members were pleased to be in the audience as two of their own received the APWA Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year Award.



Paul Smeltzer, Director of Water and Wastewater, Niagara Region, ON, Canada, and Darwin Durnie, Director of Business Development, Stantec Consulting in Alberta, ON, Canada are familiar names in both their provincial chapters and through their work with CPWA and other national organizations. The Top Ten Public Works Leader award, which is one of the most coveted and prestigious awards presented by APWA, formally recognizes them as two of the 550 men and women named (since 1960) from throughout the U.S. and Canada who reflect the highest standards of conduct for public works officials. The Top Ten Leaders award program inspires excellence and dedication in public service by recognizing outstanding career service achievements of individual public works professionals from both the public and private sectors in North America.

CPWA Past President Darwin K. Durnie, PWLF, was also the recipient of APWA's prestigious Presidential Leadership Award. 2014-2015 APWA President Larry Stevens, P.E., PWLF, presented the

Presidential Leadership Award to Darwin K. Durnie, PWLF, citing his impact on the entire association and the public works profession across the U.S. and Canada. Stevens praised his intuitive leadership and management style in working with all levels—local, regional and national. Stevens noted that “Darwin is a person who sees a

challenge as another opportunity, rather than a problem.” APWA’s Presidential Leadership Award is awarded at the discretion of the APWA President and is reserved for a member who has distinguished himself or herself with leadership in the public works profession. 

2016

AWARDS PROGRAM

APWA’s Awards Program recognizes individuals, groups and chapters for their outstanding contributions to the profession of public works. Some of the awards presented include Professional Manager of the Year Awards, Young Leader, Public Works Project of the Year, and Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year, to name just a few.

Each award is listed on the APWA website. Criteria and nomination forms for the 2016 Awards Program are now available online.

NOMINATE YOUR AWARD-WINNER TODAY!

NOMINATIONS ARE DUE MARCH 1, 2016

Visit www.apwa.net/awards

The graphic features a blue and white color scheme with a city skyline at night in the background. The text is large and bold, with a mix of white and orange colors.