



An Electronic update of news and events from the  
Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators.

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## 2007 CAMA Calgary Conference

The CAMA Conference will be taking place in Calgary, Alberta, May 28-30, 2007.

For information on the Conference, visit our website:

[http://www.camacam.ca/conference\\_2007.asp](http://www.camacam.ca/conference_2007.asp)

The **Fairmont Palliser** is the official 2007 CAMA conference hotel, located at 133 - 9 Avenue SW, in Calgary. Main guest phone: (403) 262-1234/ Main guest fax: (403) 260-1260

Reservations phone: 1 (800) 231-0644, or locally (403) 260-1230

Reservations fax: (403) 266-1796

Reservations email: [pal.reservations@fairmont.com](mailto:pal.reservations@fairmont.com)

Please refer to the following code **CAMAA** for phone, fax or emails directly to the hotel.

### Special Conference Rates

To receive special conference rates, enter **GRCAM1** in the Promotional Code Field on the reservations website at:

<http://www.fairmont.com/FA/en/CDA/Home/Secure/Reservations/CDRMRsvnMain/?IPropertySeq=100110>



## Board News

- The next Board meetings will be held in Ottawa, from November 23-25, 2006, and then in London, ON, from March 1-3, 2007.

## Member Profile



**G. Barry Weldon**  
**Director General**  
**Town of Kirkland, Quebec**

Barry became Director General of the Town of Kirkland on January 1, 2006 with the demerger of Kirkland and 14 other municipalities from the city of Montreal. He joined the Town in September 2001 as Borough Director with the merger of 29 municipalities to create the new city of Montreal.

The Town of Kirkland has been one of the fastest growing municipalities on the island of Montreal during the past 20 years. With a population of 21,000, Kirkland is a modern community that takes pride in the numerous parks and recreational facilities that it provides for its residents. Kirkland also boasts a solid industrial sector with Pfizer and Merck Frosst among the major industrial clients.

Prior to joining Kirkland, Barry held the positions of Director General of the Town of Montreal West and Assistant Director General of the Town of Hampstead, both on the island of Montreal. He has now completed 14 years in the municipal government sector.

Barry began his career with the Seagram Company, working as a production supervisor at the Waterloo, Ontario distillery. He subsequently held engineering and management positions at Seagram facilities in Quebec until entering the municipal sector in 1992.

He has been a member of CAMA since 1994. He has attended most CAMA annual conferences and was a member of the organizing committee for the 2006 conference in Montreal. He was appointed to the CAMA Board at the 2006 AGM during the Montreal conference.

Born in Montreal, Barry holds a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering degree from McGill University and a Master of Business Administration, also from McGill. He is a member of the *Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec* and serves on the Board of Directors of the Alzheimer Society of Montreal.



Barry and his wife Catherine, an elementary school teacher, live in Montreal. They have two sons, Andrew, a mechanical engineer living in Montreal and Jonathan, a film animation student in Ottawa.

Barry enjoys cycling, hiking, golf and the many cultural amenities and festivals that Montreal has to offer. He and his family also spend as much time as possible at their cottage near Fredericton, New Brunswick.

*\*If you would like to be profiled in this section, or would like to recommend someone to be profiled, please contact Alycia Morehouse at [alycia.morehouse@fredericton.ca](mailto:alycia.morehouse@fredericton.ca), or CAMA Administration at the contact information below.*

## Community Leadership/Literacy Project

This feature will appear again in two weeks.

## CAMA Awards Program

### 2006 CAMA Awards

Congratulations to the City of Medicine Hat, Alberta, on their nomination for the 2006 CAMA Environmental Award, for municipalities with a population over 20,000, for their project entitled, *Alternative Energy Evaluation*

The City of Medicine Hat's (CMH) mission is to be Community of Choice and two of City Council's eight policy objectives are Sustainable Utilities and Environmental Stewardship.

To achieve its objectives, the CMH has chosen to develop an alternative energy evaluation tool that assists Council/ Administration in the evaluation of environmentally friendly local alternative energy initiatives to determine their feasibility and sustainability.

Like the Province of Alberta, Medicine Hat has been blessed with a non-renewable resource (natural gas) that, over the last 100 years, has significantly contributed to the quality of life. One of the City's biggest challenges is how it can sustain that quality of life as the non-renewable resources become depleted.

Medicine Hat is a unique municipality that produces and delivers the energy (both natural gas and electricity) required by its residential, commercial and industrial customers. Over the past 100 years, the City of Medicine Hat has owned and operated natural gas production and electric generation facilities along with the associated transmission and distribution infrastructure required to transport these commodities to its citizens. The intensity and diversity of its utility ownership makes Medicine Hat a municipal anomaly.



The City has reaped huge financial benefits from its utility ownership. Ongoing financial dividends from utility operations has resulted in low property taxes, that combined with the City's low utility rates, has had a positive impact on residential disposable income as well as a tremendous economic development tool. The major downside of the City's utility ownership is that the ongoing benefits are based on the energy and wealth generated by non-renewable resources. Give current rates of consumption, the City will not have enough gas to fully meet the needs of its residential customers within approximately eight years. The current business model is not sustainable.

The energy supplied to the citizens of Medicine Hat consists of natural gas and electricity (which is generated by burning natural gas). An annual utility dividend provides significant support to the municipal operations results from the sales of natural gas. Given the City's declining natural gas reserves, the City needs to explore ways in which it can generate a portion of its energy, financial benefits using renewable resources.

Exploring alternatives to natural gas has been highlighted as a significant issue relating to the sustainability of Medicine Hat as a "Community of Choice". It is critical for the City of find ways to address its significant reliance on non-renewable resources. A successful transition to a more balanced energy portfolio (consisting of both non-renewable/ renewable energy) will go a long way to addressing Medicine Hat City Council's policy objectives of Sustainable Utilities and Environmental Stewardship.

#### Alternative Energy Evaluation Framework:

1. Identify Alternatives – determine what renewable energy alternatives may have some potential by doing research to determine if local resources are significant. Medicine Hat determined that wind, solar and geothermal had some local potential. Wind and solar were identified as possible alternatives reviewing some high level information on the Natural Resources Canada website. Geothermal was identified based on historical ground water and geological information available from other City departments.
2. Technical Feasibility – given the alternatives identified, the next step is to determine, based on local conditions, if that potential application is technically feasible. This will normally involved the installation of a small scale 'field test' to allow for an appropriate assessment of the technical feasibility.
3. Environmental Impact – does the alternative being evaluated have a difference environmental impact (local or global) than the energy system that is currently being employed? This information can normally be gathered and assessed during the evaluation of the technical feasibility.
4. Economic Viability – a key driver in this process is whether the alternative has any potential to be economically viable. It is important to understand the current viability as well as the potential viability as economic conditions change (gas prices, capital costs, efficiencies).



An Alternative Energy Evaluation Framework that allows you to determine which of the community's renewable energy alternatives are technically and environmentally feasible. The economic viability of projects that have cleared the technical/ environmental hurdle are then reviewed periodically using the Economic Evaluation Model and non-renewable energy prices, capital costs and efficiencies of alternative technologies evolve. When an alternative energy project becomes viable, the City is well positioned to act on this opportunity.

For more information on the Alternative Energy Evaluation Framework, contact the Utilities Department at 403-529-8176.

## Membership Notes

- To have a job posting appear in CAMA's job broadcast, and on our website, the cost is \$100 for members, and \$200 for non-members. For more information, or to have your job listed, please email [admin@camacam.ca](mailto:admin@camacam.ca).
- A reminder that members can log on to the members section of the CAMA website, for an up-to-date listing of CAMA members. Instructions for access:
  - Visit <https://members.camacam.ca>
  - Click "Register" in the top navigation,
  - Fill out all required fields and click the submit button,
  - **IMPORTANT** - Send an email to [admin@camacam.ca](mailto:admin@camacam.ca) identifying yourself and the username you signed up under
  - Await a confirmation email verifying that your account has been granted access to the site.

The next CAMA e-Brief will be issued on Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.  
Look for the next Job Broadcast on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.

To have an item included in e-Brief, please contact Alycia Morehouse, at [alycia.morehouse@fredericton.ca](mailto:alycia.morehouse@fredericton.ca).

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