



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

In this issue...

January 7, 2008

- CAMA Update
- Board News
- CAMA Awards
- Membership Notes

CAMA Update

CAMA New Year's Resolutions

Making a New Year's resolution is a time-honoured tradition as the calendar flips over from one year to the next. Here are two important resolutions CAMA members may want to make ... and keep ... in 2008.

1. I will attend the CAMA 2008 Conference in Quebec City this May.

The 37th Annual CAMA Conference will be held in Quebec City at the Hilton Quebec from May 26-28, 2008. Details about the conference will be available soon, but as always it is sure to be a great networking and learning opportunity. Since lots of activities are planned in 2008 to celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the founding of Quebec City, CAMA members will want to book their hotel rooms early. Log on to CAMA website http://www.camacam.ca/conference_2008.asp for more information on hotels, etc. Conference sponsorship information has also been added to the site.

2. I will participate in the CAMA Membership Survey when it arrives in my e-mail inbox.

CAMA will soon be carrying out a members' survey via e-mail. The survey responses will be used to finalize the association's new strategic plan, which will be presented at the CAMA national conference in Quebec City in May 2008. Watch for the confidential survey in your e-mail inbox very soon and please take the time to tell CAMA what you think.



Forum for Managers of Large Cities: Register Now

The Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA) and the Local Government Management Association of British Columbia (LGMA) are pleased to announce their collaboration in staging a forum for the Chief Administrative Officers of Canada's largest cities.

The forum, entitled *Canada's Largest Cities: Communities with a Common Interest*, will take place in Victoria, BC at the Delta Ocean Pointe Resort from March 12-14, 2008. The objective of the forum is to facilitate interactive two-way discussion on subjects of common interest to Chief Administrative Officers and/or their deputies and is targeted to cities with a population of 75,000 or greater.

A variety of speakers and panellists will tackle several key issues affecting municipalities. The forum will end with a "nuts and bolts" session, where the floor will be open to questions and discussion. Topics to be tackled include:

- Can the Fiscal Imbalance and Infrastructure Deficit Really Be Managed?
- Are You Asking your Police and Fire Chiefs the Right Questions? Are you getting the right answers?
- Housing the Homeless – A Roundtable Discussion
- Reducing your Carbon Footprint – Community Energy Plans and the Purchase and Sale of Carbon Credits

The cost to attend the forum is \$800, plus GST, and includes all sessions, a welcome reception, meals and refreshment breaks during the forum. To view the forum agenda and to register for the event, visit <http://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/Conference/CAMA-LGMA2008.asp>. The deadline to register is March 4, 2008.

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Delta Ocean Pointe Resort at the conference rate of \$119. To book rooms, log on to www.deltahotels.com or call 1-800-667-4677 and ask for the "CAMA-LGMA Forum" rate. Make your reservations before February 11, 2008 to ensure the group rate. See you in Victoria!

Professional Development Grants Still Available

There are still two CAMA Professional Development Grants available. Valued at \$2,000, and announced after the 2007 annual conference as a pilot project, three of the five grants have been awarded. The grants are intended for member municipalities who take the lead in organizing a professional development event for their staff, and make it available to other municipalities in their region.

To get the application form, and read the professional development policy, log on to the CAMA website at http://www.camacam.ca/about_professional_dev.asp. The deadline for applications for the final two grants has been extended until January 31, 2008 with project completion expected by March 31, 2008. For more information, contact Jeanne Geldart, CAMA executive director at 1-866-771-2262 or send an e-mail to admin@camacam.ca.

GST Change Reminder

CAMA members are reminded that the federal GST dropped from 6% to 5% on January 1, 2008. In addition to the changes you need to make with your own fees, the following table provides an example of your membership renewal fees with the new tax changes incorporated.



Members in NB, NS, and NL		Members in All Other Provinces	
CAMA Member Fee	\$525.00	CAMA Member Fee	\$525.00
13% HST	68.25	5% GST	26.25
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Total CAMA Fee	\$593.25	Total CAMA Fee	\$551.25
ICMA Member Fee (No Tax)	220.00	ICMA (No Tax)	220.00
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Total Member Fee Invoice	\$813.25	Total Member Fee Invoice	\$771.25

Note: CAMA obtained a ruling from CRA regarding the above fees in relation to taxes required to charge.

Board News

Next CAMA Board Meeting in Brandon, MB

The next CAMA board meeting will be held in Brandon, MB from March 5-8, 2008 at the Royal Oak Hotel. One of the key items on the agenda will be the results of the CAMA member survey and their impact on the Strategic Plan. President Barry Carroll urges all CAMA members to complete the survey when they receive it in their inboxes soon.

CAMA Awards Program

2008 CAMA Award Information Almost Ready for Distribution

Starting the week of January 14, 2008, CAMA members will begin to receive information about the 2008 CAMA Awards for Program Excellence in the areas of education, environment and innovation. Open to municipalities with populations under 20,000 and over 20,000 – watch your inbox for the award applications or log on to the CAMA website for complete details. Jim Toye, CAO, City of North Battleford in Saskatchewan is chairing the 2008 Awards Program and will receive all applications in his office no later than March 3, 2008.

Profile of 2007 Award Nominees Continues

As activity gears up for the 2008 award program, CAMA e-Brief is pleased to continue its profile of the nominees for the 2007 CAMA Awards Program. Four awards were given out at the national conference in May 2007. Almost 30 nominations were received in total.

Community Energy Planning

City of Guelph, ON

Nominee: Environmental Award (Population Over 20,000)

In support of Guelph's Strategic Plan, the City of Guelph, along with a consortium of community partners and international energy expert Peter Garforth developed a Community Energy Plan (CEP) for Guelph.



The Plan was developed as a partnership between the City of Guelph, the University of Guelph, Guelph Hydro, Union Gas, the Upper Grand and the Wellington Catholic District School Boards, the Guelph Chamber of Commerce, the Guelph Development Association and Friends of Guelph. Together, this consortium of partners is working to help ensure Guelph has a sustainable and reliable source of energy today, and for years to come.

Rising energy costs, growing challenges in meeting demand, and the depletion of fossil fuels and their impact on climate change are driving our need to plan how we generate, use and manage energy differently. Guelph is one of only a handful of Canadian communities that has committed to sustainable energy management at such a level.

Support for the initiative and participation on the part of so many sectors of the community shows that residents, businesses, institutions, community groups and school boards support strategic planning and responsible management of energy resources. A number of Guelph businesses, for example, are taking steps to incorporate energy-wise features into their facilities.

Guelph Hydro's new addition has been built with sustainability in mind, incorporating conservation management principles through the use of energy efficient design. The office incorporates LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) principles of site construction, use of natural light, geothermal and solar technologies, fresh air quality and many others to make it a truly "green" building so that it makes minimum impact on the environment.

Likewise, the City of Guelph is taking important steps to make its footprint sustainable. The new Civic Administration Centre Complex will be rated at LEED Silver and will incorporate elements like a living wall, a green roof, natural light and free cooling, as well as features to reduce night light pollution and emissions.

Participating in a city-wide blackout challenge, conducting energy audits of its facilities, and giving 10,000 compact fluorescent light bulbs to its residents are some of the ways the City has played a key role in community initiatives that encourage residents to think about their energy use and provide residents with the means to change their energy consumption.

Through its community energy planning process, the City of Guelph has mobilized the community towards action, established key partnerships within the community, identified how and where energy is used, and developed a short-term action plan to begin the path towards a sustainable energy future.

For more information, contact Janet Laird, Guelph's Director of Environmental Services 519-822-1260 ext. 2237 or janet.laird@guelph.ca.

Membership Notes

Organization Review Information Sought

The City of Mount Pearl will be conducting an organizational review during 2008. Information from other municipalities who have recently undertaken such a task is being requested, in particular from those who have prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) for such an initiative. Please forward a copy of your RFP and / or contact Gerard Lewis, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Mount Pearl, 3 Centennial Street, Mount Pearl, NL, A1N 1G4. Telephone: 709-748-1054 / Fax: 709-748-1150 / E-mail: g.lewis@mountpearl.ca.

Wood Buffalo Seeks Governance Review Consultant

In October 2005, the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, AB, conducted an internal Governance Review and introduced a number of changes to the legislative structure. Since that time, the governance model has undergone continuous change.



In August 2007, Council directed the CAO to undertake further governance review utilizing an external consultant. An RFP has been prepared and Wood Buffalo is beginning the process to seek qualified consultants with proven expertise to address the manner in which Council functions and makes decisions.

Interested consultants, or CAMA members with information on such consultants, may contact Kevin Craig, Chief Legislative Officer, Wood Buffalo, AB, 780-743-7041 or kevin.craig@woodbuffalo.ab.ca.

Wood Buffalo is home to the largest oil deposit in the world, and is experiencing explosive population growth, averaging nine per cent per year since 2001, resulting in significant infrastructure demands as one of the fastest growing regions in North America.

- On behalf of the CAMA Board of Directors, we would like to welcome the following new members:
 - W. Dorian Wandzura, General Manager of Utility Services, City of Saskatoon, SK
 - Don Kochan, M.Eng., P.Eng., Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Canmore, AB
 - Bob Ashley, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Berwick, NS
- 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.

CAMA e-Brief is published every two weeks. Watch for the next issue on:

January 21, 2008

Job Broadcast is also distributed every two weeks. The next issue will appear:

January 14, 2007

To have an item included in e-Brief, please contact wayne.knorr@fredericton.ca. / To unsubscribe from this list, simply reply to this email, or send an email to wayne.knorr@fredericton.ca, Subject: UNSUBSCRIBE.



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