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Alberta GFOA Presents  
*ANOTHER*  
**Professional Development Workshop**  
IN ST. PAUL  
**TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (PSAB 3150)**  
&  
**DEMYSTIFYING GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS**

### **Tangible Capital Assets (PSAB 3150) Update**

- Speaker – Harold Johnsrude, Harold Johnsrude Consulting Inc.  
Review Implementation Materials and Process – Asset Classes, Useful Life & Amortization Methods, Capitalization Thresholds and Implementation Plan

### **Federal Infrastructure Grants**

- Speaker - Andrew Cathcart, Director, Program Secretariat Canada Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund  
CAMRIF Program Details, Application Process and Requirements

### **Provincial Infrastructure Grants**

- Speakers - Alberta Transportation and Infrastructure Representatives
  - o AMIP, NDCC, AMWWP, SIP

Workshop Date

*Wednesday, June 20, 2007*



Longview Alberta

## Taking the Long View

The 2007 Conference at Calgary's historic Fairmont Palliser Hotel will include a presentation from the Alberta Auditor General, Fred Dunn as well as an address from Dr. Lyle Oberg, Alberta's Finance Minister. Several excellent sessions on Tangible Capital Assets, Innovative Financing approaches and Long Range Financial Planning will also be featured.

Renew old acquaintances and make new friends at one of the conference social events: on the fairways at the spectacular Spirit River Golf Club; at the Calgary Zoo which is the venue for Beef 'N Boogie to the Jungle Drums; over coffee at the Tradeshow; or during the banquet at the famous Crystal Ballroom at the Palliser. Round out your conference experience with the many attractions Calgary has to offer, and enjoy superlative shopping, gourmet dining, recreational and health facilities, and parks and walking paths. Plan to stay the weekend and take in the sights and sounds and colours of autumn in the Canadian Rockies.



2007 WESTERN CONFERENCE | CALGARY, ALBERTA

GFOA 2007 Western Conference  
 2007 September 12-14  
 Palliser Hotel, Calgary, Alberta Canada  
 The City of Calgary Official Host

***Come early to Calgary in September and bring your partner!***  
*Foothills turning gold against the majestic Rocky Mountains...*

Stay in Calgary's historic Fairmont Palliser hotel...  
 Take-in the Spruce Meadows Masters (*September 5 thru 9*)  
 Enjoy world-class shopping and dining...  
 Step out on the new Calgary Tower observation deck...

Broaden your horizons. Meet with your colleagues. Learn about the latest challenges in finance and government. Come to enjoy some friendly old-fashioned Western hospitality!  
 Delegates will enjoy golf on Tuesday, September 11.

Visit The City of Calgary's webiste: [www.calgary.ca](http://www.calgary.ca)  
 and follow the links City Hall/Business Units/Finance & Supply/GFOA

***DON'T FORGET! The deadline to take advantage of early bird pricing is June 15th! Space is limited.***

# TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS PROJECT

## Upcoming Events

**Did you miss the GFOA Workshops in March and April?**

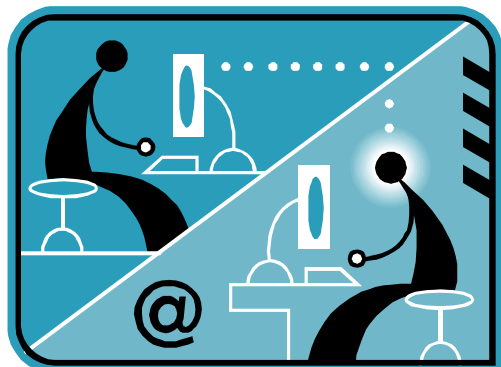
INTERACTIVE WEBCAST

AUMA, AAMD&C and Municipal Affairs have joined forces to present two TCA Webcasts

June 13th and June 21st, 2007, 1:30-3:30pm

Contact: Jill Pelton, [jill@aamdc.com](mailto:jill@aamdc.com), (780)955-4096  
Rose Dacyk, [rdacyk@auma.ca](mailto:rdacyk@auma.ca) (780)431-4542

Deadline: May 28, 2007 if you are interested in taking part.



## GFOA Tidbits

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*George Huybregts, President*

*Lori Craig, Vice President*

*Karen Gibson, Secretary*

*Michael Minchin, Treasurer*

*Barry Sawada, Past President*

### **DIRECTORS AT LARGE**

*Christina Parkins*

*Dean Screpnek*

*Darcy Ferguson*

*Gary Mullin*

Visit [www.gfoa.ab.ca](http://www.gfoa.ab.ca)

for contact information

*We would like to hear from our Membership! If you have any articles, comments or suggestions for our Newsletter . . .*

*Please contact Tracey Burkholder at*

*Phone: (403) 934-4765*

*Email: [bburkholder@shaw.ca](mailto:bburkholder@shaw.ca)*



## **MUNICIPAL EXCELLENCE NETWORK**

The Municipal Excellence Network provides web-based access to information on business/operational practices in the areas of municipal governance, administration, human resources, financial management, infrastructure services, development services, safety services and community services.

**VISIT THE WEBSITE AT**  
**[www.menet.ab.ca](http://www.menet.ab.ca)**

### **Municipal Excellence Most Recent Submissions**

- Amalgamation of Enforcement Services and the RCMP — Garry Roth

This practice involves the amalgamation of distinct departments into one organization; the City's Enforcement Services Dept. was amalgamated into the Grande Prairie RCMP Detachment.

- Information for Potential Candidates Handbook— Kelly Kloss

The Information for Potential Candidates Handbook is a comprehensive, one-stop guide to assist individuals who are considering running for public office. The goal was to compile into one document, valuable information for potential candidates about the offices of Mayor, Councillor, Public, and Catholic School Trustee.

- Sanitary Sewer Rate Model - Joel DeBlock

The Sanitary Sewer Rate Model produces a 100 year forecast of revenues, expenses, and reserve balances based on various demographic, infrastructure, and financial assumptions.

- Learning and Wellness Account—Theresa McKelvie

We adopted a Learning and Wellness Account for all the MD's permanent employees to access each year, which entitles them up to \$500 per year in support of learning and development and personal well-being.

**Message from Your President -  
George Huybregts**

**Message From Your President**

Hello everyone. Since my last message, your Alberta GFOA Board of Directors has met on a couple of occasions (April 12 and May 17, 2007) to attend to business on behalf of the Association. Our next Board meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2007.

The Tangible Capital Asset (TCA) initiative continues to be in the forefront of the Board and Task Force activity priorities. As you are aware, Alberta GFOA is actively involved in the Alberta Municipal Affairs led TCA project. Information bulletins regarding the TCA project that have been previously distributed can be viewed on the Alberta GFOA website [www.gfoa.ab.ca](http://www.gfoa.ab.ca) (click on *Newsletter*).

The professional development workshops hosted by Alberta GFOA throughout the province from March 27 to April 3 to provide information on a *Tangible Capital Assets (PSAB 3150)* and *Government Infrastructure Grants* were well received and highly successful with over 400 people attending the five workshops. I wish to extend my appreciation and thanks to the Training Task Force for the work they did planning and organizing these workshops, and to Harold Johnsrude and the folks from Alberta Infrastructure & Transportation for their excellent presentations. Due to the on-going demand for this information, an additional workshop is planned for June 20, 2007 in St. Paul.

The work being done by the three Task Forces continues to be tremendously important. It remains the Board's strong belief

that vibrant Task Forces are critical to the future growth and success of Alberta GFOA. I encourage all Alberta GFOA members to consider becoming involved in one of the Task Forces. If you are interested in contributing your enthusiasm, energy and talents, please do not hesitate to contact any Board member for further information.

The City of Calgary will be our host for the 2007 Western Canada GFOA Conference September 12-14, 2007. Conference program and registration information can be found at [www.gfoa.ab.ca](http://www.gfoa.ab.ca) (follow the *Conference and Events* link). The Calgary Organizing Committee is doing an outstanding job in planning and organizing an exciting conference experience. Mark your calendars and plan to attend what will be a great conference...I look forward to seeing you in Calgary!

The 2007 Alberta GFOA Annual General Meeting will be held on September 13, 2007 in conjunction with the Calgary Conference. I encourage all of you to attend the AGM and participate in the governance of your association.

This will be my last message before the summer break. I trust everyone will have a great and relaxing summer.

George Huybregts  
May 2007

## **MENet has a NEW LOOK!!**

**Visit the NEW and IMPROVED  
MENet Website at [www.menet.ca](http://www.menet.ca)**

### **WHAT'S NEW??**

#### **MENet Discussion Board Features**

##### **Request A Topic:**

Do you have an idea for a discussion on the MENet Discussion Board?

Fill in the 'Request a Discussion Topic' field located above the list of discussions. Click the Submit button and an email will be sent to the MENet team with your suggestion.



##### **Search the MENet Discussion Board**

Is there something specific you are looking for?

Navigate to the [Discussion Board](#) and enter your search keyword.

Click the search Button

A list of discussions and posts that match your search criteria will be returned.

**TRY!!** If you would like to try out the new Discussion Board, register with the MENet website and check out the current question posted there:

*"Currently our Finance Department uses Diamond/Great Plains, but our Engineering Department uses Cartegraph to track inventory. Does anyone have practical experience integrating the two systems?"*

There are responses to view or you could add your own response.

##### **MENet Tangible Capital Assets Page**

The Tangible Capital Assets page has been created to provide access to all of the latest news and information on the Tangible Capital Assets (TCA) Project. You will find newsletters, guidelines, resource documents and access to a discussion board for questions and answers in fulfilling the requirements for the TCA.

**This website is a great resource for all  
municipal personnel!**

## **GFOA Alberta and Province of Alberta Host Tangible Capital Asset and Grants Regional Workshops Submitted by Michael Minchin**

The GFOA Training Task Force and staff from the Province of Alberta completed five regional workshops throughout the Province in the months of March and April. The workshops, the first for GFOA, provided both GFOA members and other municipal staff and auditors with the latest information on preparing for the implementation of the Tangible Capital Asset accounting recommendations.

Harold Johnsrude of HJC Consulting Inc. led the presentation and focused on the latest guidelines developed by Alberta Municipal Affairs, GFOA and the TCA liaison committee. In addition to providing details on issues such as recommended capitalization thresholds, useful life and asset classifications, Harold also identified the various steps and resources that municipalities will have to consider when developing an implementation plan.



In addition to the latest TCA information, representatives from Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation (AIT) and the Canada-Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (CAMRIF) provided an update on the current funding and deadlines for their respective grant programs. AIT staff also provided a step-by-step explanation on the preparation of the various grant application and reporting documentation for the grant programs administered by AIT.

Over 400 attended the workshops which were hosted in the following communities: Cochrane, Lethbridge, Stettler, Grand Prairie and Morinville. A special thank you to Paige Milner from the Town of Cochrane, Barry Sawada from the City of Lethbridge, Rob Stoutenberg and Greg Switenky and staff from the Town of Stettler, Susan Walker from the City of Grand Prairie and Rick Wojtkiw from Sturgeon County for hosting the workshops.

The GFOA Training Task Force is currently compiling the feedback from participants and will use that information when planning the next series of regional workshops.

***The members of the GFOA Training Task Force are: Paige Milner, Chairperson, Town of Cochrane, Lori Craig, Board Liaison, Town of Cochrane, Wanda Watson-Neufeld, Town of Sundre, Garth Lucas, City of Airdrie, Helene Hesse, MD of Bighorn, Tom Maier, Town of Banff, Kent Robinson, MD of Rockyview #44, and Michael Minchin, Town of Lacombe.***

*The Purpose of the Training Task Force is "to develop training initiatives to support Alberta GFOA members".*