

Mayor Naheed Nenshi to present at Calgary Conference

Having the Mayor of the host City speak at our conferences is not unusually a huge deal. However, Mayor Nenshi, is one of the most-sought-after speakers in the country. His office often receives over 100 speaking requests per day. We are excited to have him as one of our keynotes.

Naheed Nenshi is serving his second term as Calgary's 36th mayor. He is a passionate Calgarian, an accomplished business professional, and a community leader. During his first term in office, Mayor Nenshi's leadership has resulted in [many positive changes in Calgary](#) to build better communities, keep Calgarians moving, and [transform government](#) to reinforce a culture of constant citizen-focused improvement at The City of Calgary. Prior to becoming mayor, he ran a large nonprofit, was a trusted advisor to corporate leaders in Canada and the US, and literally wrote the book on Canadian cities.



At our conference he will be speaking about the flood, how the City responded and what lessons they learned. We have no doubt that you will be enthralled, entertained and inspired by this dynamic leader

'From Reactive to Proactive - Strengthening Communities'

This year's conference theme is 'From Reactive to Proactive - Strengthening Communities' which highlights Calgary, the host city, and its resiliency in dealing with the worst flood in their history. The conference program has been developed into four topical streams to entice and enable delegates to choose sessions that cover their particular professional interest.

As always, a big part of every conference is the chance to meet with colleagues from around the country. The Local Organizing Committee is putting together several events where you can relax and chat with old and new friends. The Thursday night banquet will be held at Gasoline Alley in Heritage Park.

Topic highlights include:

- Disaster Planning - 'Behind Come hell or high water - Calgary Stampede's Heroic Response' and 'How much insurance is enough during a disaster'
- Business Leadership - Keynote - General Rick Hillier discussing Leadership and 'Leadership role of the Finance Officer'
- Budgeting - 'Long term implications of cost cutting on Infrastructure' and 'The importance of Strategy in Financial Planning'
- Accounting - Tim Beauchamp's 'Annual PSAB Update' and 'Streamlining vendor payments'

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Contact us:

westan.gfoa@shaw.ca
(250) 598-6871
www.westcangfoa.ca

WESTERN CANADA



Presidents Report

The Government Finance Officers association of Western Canada have taken a big step forward this year by holding a separate conference in Alberta, while the GFOA of Alberta still holds its spring conference. This demonstrates confidence in the strength of both organizations.

I am appointed to the Western Canada board by GFOA of Alberta, in the same way that the other directors are appointed by their provincial associations. This ensures that all GFOA organizations work very closely together to ensure that the educational needs of our joint memberships are being met.

The program in Calgary will complement the programs being offered this week in Red Deer and Nanaimo. I hope you will be able to attend our Conference on October 8th to 10th.

Rick Wojtkiw, CMA
General Manager, Corporate Support
Sturgeon County



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Job Posting Service

Our new job posting service is working well. There is usually 10 to 20 jobs on the site with about 3-7 new ones posted every week. We accept any government finance position in Western Canada where the candidates are required to have a professional accounting designation. Check out: <http://westcangfoa.ca/job-postings/>

Conference Incentive Plan

This year the board has decided to recognize those people that regularly attend our conferences. From 2014 onwards, anyone who attends that conference as a paying delegate four years in a row will get a free registration the next year. According to our records this applies to the following people for the Calgary conference:

ALEKS	NELSON	Alberta Municipal Affairs
Diana	Lokken	Capital Regional District
NETTIE	NEUDORF	City of Portage la Prairie
Rick	Wojtkiw	GFOA Alberta
ALICE	LETTNER	Municipality of Jasper
BRIAN	PARSCHAUER	City of Prince Albert
ELROSE	KLAUSE	Calgary Public Library
Gary	Hiebert	City of Morden
KELLY	GIBSON	Town of Banff
LYNETTE	MCDONALD	Strathcona County
NOREEN	VAVREK	County of Grande Prairie
SAM	WELLER	
Christine	Arnold	RM of Wood Buffalo
Mary	Crombie	North Vancouver, District of
GASTONE	MONAI	Edmonton Public Library
LORRIE	SCHMALENBERG	City of Regina

If you attended the conferences in Winnipeg, Banff Vancouver and Saskatoon as a paying delegate and are not on this list, please contact us. If you attended the last three, make sure you come to Calgary!

WESTERN CANADA



Why we should all care about Long Term Financial Planning *Confessions of a Recovering Planner and Engineer*

We've all heard the demographic story before. The generation after World War II (1947 to 1966) saw the largest growth of natural population in Canadian history (apologies in advance to all the Baby Boomers reading this!). Combine this population surge with cheap energy, government stimulus programs, and the resurgence of the automobile, and the birth of the suburbs began. The planners said to the engineers, "if you build it they will come". So we built it ... and they came.

Some six decades later, we now find ourselves staring at these "assets" and approaching our favorite Finance people asking "how are we going to pay for their refurbishment and replacement?" In addition to Asset Management Plans and 5 Year Financial Plans, some communities across Canada have begun implementing Long Term Financial Plans to align the financial, land use planning, infrastructure and other servicing needs over the lifespan of the asset. A Long Term Financial Plan helps answer questions such as:

- How can we operate within our means and statutory obligations?
- How can we provide fundamental services to our community?
- How can we be resilient and responsive to growth opportunities?
- How can we, at the same time, make adequate provision for funding new assets and the replacement of essential infrastructure in the future?

Key components of a Long Term Financial Plan include: Establish Guiding Principles, Develop Objectives and Key Policies, Prepare an Implementation and Action Plan, and Monitor and Evaluate. In order to achieve buy-in, this is undertaken within a collaborative framework for engagement which includes staff, elected officials, key stakeholders, and the community-at-large. This integrated approach to Long Term Financial Planning ensures that "if you build it sustainably, they will come ... and we can finance it forever".



Dan Huang, MCIP, RPP
John Weninger, P.Eng.
Principals, Urban Systems,

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WESTERN CANADA



Conference in Calgary, October 8th to 10th, 2014

Hotel

Our room block at the Palliser is already full, so we have rooms at the Marriott across the road at the same rate. Please go to . <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/GFOAWestern>

Tradeshow

We are pleased to welcome both returning and new exhibitors!! Please register here for the tradeshow at: <http://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/event/GFOAWCExhibitors.asp>

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P I M C O

Registration

The conference cost is \$600 including meals and social events (\$650 after July 15th) Register on-line at: <http://www.civicinfo.bc.ca/event/GFOAWCDelegates.asp>

