



Atlantic Canada Water Works Association

A section of the American Water Works Association

# Go with the **FLOW**

Atlantic Canada Water Works Association Newsletter [www.acwwa.ca](http://www.acwwa.ca)



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# Board proposing name change for section

**O**VER the past several years, ACWWA has increased our focus on wastewater issues through our education courses, workshops, and the technical papers at our conferences. Another significant step we took to further our involvement in wastewater issues was becoming a Member Association for the Water Environment Federation (WEF) which we did a few years ago. Our partnership with WEF continues to grow and I am confident it will provide our Section and our Members with increased access to information related to wastewater issues.

As we continue to embrace wastewater as a significant focus of our Section, the Board is considering renaming the section to the Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association (ACWWA) to better reflect our association as a whole.

The Board has also spent time looking at our governance model including the structure of the Board and the Association bylaws. A revised Board structure and Bylaw recommended by the Board will be presented to the member-

## Chairman's message

Mark Butler, P.Eng.

ship at our Annual General Meeting in Charlottetown for approval. I encourage anyone interested in these changes to contact myself or any Board member to discuss. Watch for further information in the coming Newsletters.

A reminder to everyone that plans for the Charlottetown conference are well underway, and things are shaping up for another great conference. I encourage you to consider others in your organization (especially junior staff) to attend the conference and consider getting involved with ACWWA.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we are working hard at improving the way we engage our volunteers and hope to be communicating more about this in the next newsletter.

## Young pros ensure ACWWA success

**Y**OUNG Professionals (YPs) are generally considered to be members or prospective members under 35, including but not limited to those working for utilities, regulatory agencies, consulting firms, or academic institutions. YPs represent a dynamic group and the addition and retention of young, energetic members is vital to the continuing success of the ACWWA.

The mission of the committee is to host events and develop programs of interest to young professionals in the water and wastewater industry, to promote the benefits of membership in ACW-

WA by increasing opportunities for participation and career development, and to identify younger industry members who can be encouraged to take an active, leadership role in the association.

Some of the activities can include:

- Forums or social activities at conferences,
- Lunch or dinner seminars,
- Technical tours,
- Social or sporting events,
- Community service activities,
- Career development workshops, and
- Mentoring programs.

If you or someone you know is interested in participating in the ACWWA YP group please contact Stefan Furey at fureysm@gov.ns.ca.



# Webcast reaches big audience at low cost

**A** WEB cast was held this month on Disinfection of Pipelines and Storage Facilities. The participation in this web cast proved a point. The focus was on AWWA standards and practices for system disinfection and the target audience was operations staff at utilities, particularly the distribution system operators. There was lots of interest and interaction by the participants. The attendees sent many questions in advance looking for responses. Was it a success? I would say so. AWWA budgeted revenue of \$17,000 and revenue came in at \$65,000. There were over 1600 attendees versus the typical range of 300 - 500 people. It showed that people want education, particularly the operations folks who need the knowledge the most. The topic was obviously very timely.

## Director's Report

Sandy Robertson



The importance of the role AWWA members play in providing clean safe drinking water has been brought home again with two recent issues in the news. The first is the two back-to-back boil orders in Saint John and the second is the Associated Press raising awareness of pharmaceuticals in drinking water. We should look at boil orders for example as a good thing in that a boil order is a precaution and we are not taking any chances with the public's health.

Unfortunately, public awareness of what we do is mostly leaning toward bad news stories and seldom good ones. Why is this? We have many "good news" stories. It appears we need to be more proactive in getting our messages out. AWWA offers help to you in how to go about doing a press release and they have lots of supporting information for almost any water topic you might think of. Why not try it?

Our new AWWA Executive Director Gary Zimmerman seems to be fitting in and has already made some changes at headquarters. Bruce Buchanan, our incoming AWWA Director, is getting prepared to take over and as anyone who knows Bruce knows, he is very willing and able to represent us well at the AWWA Board table. Thank you Bruce!

## ABEA: providing a strong voice in our industry

**T**HE Atlantic Branch Equipment Association (ABEA) is an organization which represents its membership within the waterworks industry of Atlantic Canada. Membership consists of; manufactures, suppliers, distributors, agents and contractors dedicated to serving the Atlantic Canadian municipal market. Through the direction and strong support of its members the ABEA works closely in conjunction with the Atlantic Canada Water Works Association (ACWWA) to provide technical support, representation, and resources through annual regional conferences. Together, ABEA membership provides a strong voice in our industry.

Thinking about becoming a member? Here are a couple of points to show how the ABEA can help you gain exposure in our market place:

- Advance booking and discounted rates for ACWWA/ ABEA Tradeshow during the 2008 ACWWA Charlottetown Conference.

- Excellent visibility through the ABEA buyer's guide given to all delegates annually.
- The ABEA has an active voice in the ACWWA.
- The ABEA can help your company gain exposure by participating in training programs.
- Participation @ the 1st annual ABEA Common Hospitality Suite during the 2008 ACWWA Charlottetown Conference.

The ABEA board of directors has been working hard and we wish to inform our members to be on the lookout for information regarding membership renewals and events.

Non-Members Feel free to contact any of the ABEA board members for information on how to join:

<b>Ian Paton</b>	President ian.paton@aps.ns.ca	<b>Trevor Power</b>	Junior Director power@natpro.com
<b>Scott Smith</b>	Vice President s.smith@urecon.com	<b>Jeff Jensen</b>	Secretary/Treasurer jjensen@muellercanada.com
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## Back issues

Check the website  
for back issues of  
Go with the Flow from  
December 1999 to  
the present

<http://www.acwwa.ca>



61st Annual ACWWA Conference October 19-21



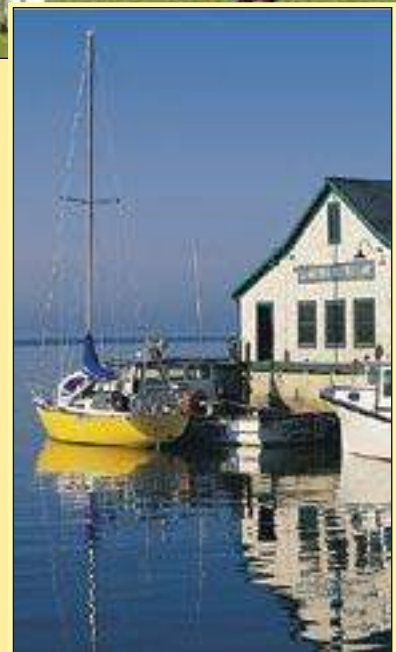
# Swing towards Charlottetown

## 61st Annual ACWWA Conference October 19-21

**W**HAT an exciting year for Prince Edward Island – it is the International Year of the Potato, the 100th Anniversary of Anne of Green Gables, AND the location for the 61st Annual ACWWA Conference (October 19-21).

The ABEA invites you to attend a pre-conference golf game at Fox Meadows Golf Club on Sunday, October 19th. The conference will start with a Meet and Greet on Sunday evening to give delegates and guests an opportunity to meet new people and to get reacquainted with past participants. The Conference and Companion Committees are planning an exciting agenda that will conclude with the popular Down East Night on Tuesday, October 21st. Make sure you mark it on your calendar and watch for the registration form in the next issue of Go With the Flow.

If you prefer to have a package emailed to you when they are available, please contact the Committee at [acwwa2008@city.charlottetown.pe.ca](mailto:acwwa2008@city.charlottetown.pe.ca).



# Names needed for awards to be presented at Charlottetown Conference

**T**HIS notice is to officially request nominations for awards as outlined below:

## Fuller Award.

The George Warren Fuller Award is awarded by the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and may be presented annually to a member of the ACWWA for distinguished service in the water supply field in commemoration of the sound engineering skill, the brilliant diplomatic talent and the constructive leadership that characterized the life of George Warren Fuller. The award was established in 1937 in memory of Mr. Fuller who, besides being identified with several important sanitary engineering advances, is given much of the credit for AWWA's development from a social group to its' present high standing as a technical organization.

## MacNab Award

The Ira P MacNab Award is awarded by ACWWA and may be presented annually to a member of the ACWWA for outstanding service of the water industry in Atlantic Canada. The award was established in 1957 when the ACWWA was called the Maritime Branch of the Canadian Section AWWA. It is in honour of the late Dr. Ira MacNab, P.Eng., the first president of the Maritime Branch, for his untiring efforts and wise council during our formative years and to recognize his outstanding service and interest in the local water utility field.

## Nominees needed for board positions

Nominations are requested for the following positions on the Board of the Atlantic Canada Water Works Association (ACWWA).

1. Second Vice Chair;
2. Technical Papers Chair;
3. Newsletter Chair;
4. Government Affairs Chair;
5. Young Professional Chair

The deadline for nominations is 30 May 2008. Please contact the Section Office for the following:

- Policy on Nominations and Elections to the Board
- Terms of References.
- ACWWA By-laws.

Nominations should be provided in writing to the Section Office, and will be forwarded to the Nominations Committee for consideration.

The Section Office may be contacted as follows:  
Clara Shea, Office Administrator  
Telephone: 902-434-6002  
email: acwwa@hfx.andara.com  
Home page: acwwa.ca

## Operator of the Year (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland):

The Operator of the Year Award is awarded by ACWWA and may be presented annually to recognize outstanding contributions of water and wastewater operators in each of the four Atlantic Canada provinces. The nominees must be a member of ACWWA, employed by a utility member of ACWWA, or a member of the Atlantic Canada MA of WEF.

## Volunteer of the Year

The Volunteer of the Year Award is awarded by ACWWA and may be presented annually to recognize outstanding contributions by an individual or a group of individual volunteers to ACWWA programs and/or the water industry throughout Atlantic Canada. The nominee must be a member of ACWWA, employed by a utility member of ACWWA, or a member of the Atlantic Canada MA of WEF.

## Project of the Year - Engineering Award/ Environmental Award:

The Project of the Year - Engineering Award/Environmental Award is awarded by ACWWA to a Municipality or Utility and their Consultant, one of which is a member of ACWWA, to recognize outstanding projects in Atlantic Canada that demonstrate innovation and state-of-the-art technology in drinking water and Municipal Public Works' areas.

Awards may be presented in each of the following three categories:

- **Small Utility**      less than 5000 customers
- **Medium Utility**    between 5000 and 25,000 customers
- **Large Utility**        more than 25,000 customers

## Nominations Procedure

Awards committees have been established for each of the specific awards. The awards committee shall select the recommended candidate for the award from the nominations received, and shall present the award to the recipients during the ACWWA's annual conference. The recipient of the Fuller Award receives a pin at the ACWWA conference, and the actual Fuller Award is presented at the AWWA Annual Conference and Exhibition.

The deadline for submissions will be July 25, 2008, for Awards to be presented at the Charlottetown Conference on October 19 - 21, 2008.

Individuals wishing to nominate an individual or group for an award should contact the ACWWA office and request the nomination form.

Contact:  
Clara Shea, Office Administrator  
Telephone: 902-434-6002  
email: acwwa@hfx.andara.com  
Home page: www.acwwa.ca

# Nitrate levels in wells unchanged

**T**ESTING of 150 drinking water wells in Annapolis Valley over the past six years shows there has been no significant change in nitrate levels in the groundwater supplying those wells.

The Department of Environment and Labour has monitored groundwater in the area annually since 2002. Water in 22 per cent of the wells tested in 2007 exceeded the federal guideline for nitrate levels, but the levels have not significantly changed since monitoring began.

“The Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act commits the province to developing a strategy to manage water resources,” said Brooke Taylor, acting Minister of Environment and Labour. “That work is underway and will help to address water issues in a comprehensive way. “The testing was done in an area of concentrated agricultural activity where nitrate levels are historically high. These test results would not be typical of many areas of Nova Scotia. Nitrate is a common groundwater contaminant originating primarily from fertilizers, manure, plant residues and sewage. Ingesting water with high levels of nitrate can be harmful to infants. Well owners with high nitrate levels should treat drinking water or use alternative sources. The department informs well owners of test results and steps they can take to ensure clean and safe drinking water.

The Department of Environment and Labour is assessing nitrate levels in groundwater, in consultation with the department of Agriculture, and Health Pro-

tection and Protection. The Department of Agriculture is working with farmers to develop environmental farm plans and nutrient management plans which may reduce nitrate levels in groundwater.

Monitoring of the wells will continue and results will be reviewed. Environmen-

tal protection is one of government’s five immediate priorities and is the focus of the province’s Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act.

For results of the nitrate monitoring, visit [www.gov.ns.ca/enla/water/groundwater/nitrate.asp](http://www.gov.ns.ca/enla/water/groundwater/nitrate.asp) or for general information about drinking water safety, visit [www.gov.ns.ca/enla/water/privatewells.asp](http://www.gov.ns.ca/enla/water/privatewells.asp).

## Nova Scotia provides \$900,000 to upgrade septage handling, protect groundwater

**G**ROUNDWATER will be better protected after 16 septage lagoon operators have been awarded about \$900,000 to upgrade facilities by Nova Scotia’s Septage Treatment Facility Assistance Program.

Pumper truck operators and Nova Scotia homeowners with septic tanks will also benefit from the program, because septage lagoon operators will be able to improve operations and service without passing all costs on to homeowners.

“Pumping home septic tanks regularly is an essential task in maintaining on-site sewage systems, and that material needs to be handled properly to prevent environmental impact,” said Environment and Labour Minister Mark Parent. “Nova Scotia has new guidelines for the proper handling of this material, however we are working with operators to ensure all facilities are up to the task of meeting these goals.”

About 400,000 Nova Scotians rely on 27 facilities to handle material pumped from home septic tanks. Under the assis-

tance program, operators of septage handling facilities are eligible for assistance of up to \$50,000 for upgrades to facilities, or up to \$100,000 for the construction of replacement facilities and new technology to meet new guidelines.”

The Program will be a tremendous benefit to municipal units in the province of Nova Scotia that are required to upgrade septage lagoons and treatment facilities in order to better protect groundwater,” said Mike O’Leary, director of Public Works, Antigonish.

“The Municipality of the County of Antigonish has undertaken a study on how to handle its septage and will be taking advantage of this provincial assistance program.”

To participate in the Septage Treatment Facility Assistance Program, operators should contact the Kentville office of the Department of Environment and Labour at 902-679-6086. For more information on the Nova Scotia Septage Treatment Facility Assistance Program, see the Department of Environment and Labour website at [www.gov.ns.ca/enla](http://www.gov.ns.ca/enla).

# Water Resources Discussion Paper

**N**OVA Scotians, including industries, farmers, municipalities and environment are invited to review and respond to the province's Water Resources Management Strategy discussion paper, released January 30, 2008.

The purpose of the discussion paper is to generate comment to help develop a management strategy for Nova Scotia's water resources such as lakes, rivers, wetlands, and aquifers. Management of waste water is also part of the discussion.

"Creating a strategy to manage our water resources is key to protecting our environment, one of the province's five immediate priorities outlined in the throne speech," said Mark Parent, Minister of Environment and Labour. "The release of this paper moves us well forward in de-

veloping that strategy."

Better management of the province's water resources will contribute to the health of people, ecosystems, and the economy. It will also assist industries, such as tourism and agriculture, and help the province prepare for floods and drought. The Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act commits the province to developing a water resources strategy by 2010.

The province announced the development of the strategy in March 2007. The committee co-ordinating strategy development will continue to work with key partners and public input. The committee includes representatives from the depart-



ments of Environment and Labour, Health Promotion and Protection, Natural Resources, Agriculture, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, Economic Development; Fisheries and Aquaculture; Energy; Aboriginal Affairs; Tourism, Culture, and Heritage and Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. The Utilities and Review Board and Environment Canada are also represented. The committee welcomes written submissions on the discussion paper by June 1st.

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The paper, entitled Towards a Water Resources Management Strategy for Nova Scotia, and a feedback questionnaire are available at [www.gov.ns.ca/enla/water](http://www.gov.ns.ca/enla/water). Copies of the discussion paper and feedback questionnaire are also available at public libraries and regional offices of Nova Scotia Environment and Labour. Public consultation forums will be held in the spring.

## New environmental research centre announced

**A**N environmental engineering research centre that will help Nova Scotia reach its environmental goals and create economic opportunities was announced November 21, 2007 in Halifax.

Mark Parent, Minister of Environment and Labour, made the announcement at a breakfast with members of Nova Scotia's academic community. "Nova Scotia requires a focal point for environmental research," said Mr. Parent.

"The centre will bring together researchers from across the province to conduct en-

vironmental research that will make a difference in Nova Scotia." The research centre is a joint project between the province of Nova Scotia and six academic institutions: Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Dalhousie, Saint Mary's, St. Francis Xavier, Acadia and Cape Breton University.

The centre will help university researchers develop and commercialize environmental engineering projects. Research will be conducted on a variety of projects dealing with climate change, water preservation, waste reduction and renewable energy.

"Not only will the centre provide research to help us meet our environmental goals, it will also help create economic opportunities for Nova Scotians," said Mr. Parent. "Scientists and engineers will conduct research that will allow us to export technology to new markets."

The centre, which received \$66,000 from the Department of Environment and Labour for administration, will help Nova Scotia reach its goal of being internationally recognized as having one of the greenest and most sustainable environments in the world by 2020.

## Customer service improves with Moncton AMR system

**T**HE 70,000 residents of Moncton, N.B. are sometimes amazed at what the city's new automated meter reading (AMR) system can tell them about their water usage and lifestyle. The city's new fixed network AMR is capable of multiple reads per day, which can not only identify leakage through nighttime flow monitoring, but much more.

Mike Richard, Utility Supervisor for the city, has been utilizing the new tool for just over a year now and sights some examples of the improved level of customer service provided by the new AMR system.

"In the past we had a difficult time explaining why specific customers had high water consumption and high bills. Until we could show the customer that water was being consumed in the middle of the night, we had a hard time convincing residents to go find the leak." The AMR's high/low consumption reporting capability now generates a list of exception reports, noting addresses where water consumption is 300 % above or below the norm. This triggers examination of the nighttime flow and, if present, a staff person calls the resident to advise them that they have a leak – most likely with one of the toilets. If the customer cannot detect or solve the leak, the city meter technician will visit and inspect the residence and most times is able to locate the culprit.

Another example of high usage is residential irrigation systems that can use up to 10 times the normal household usage. When this is pointed out to residents, they then understand the reason for the high water consumption, and can act accordingly to reduce the watering duration and/or flow rate.

It's pretty easy for the city to tell which homes have swimming pools. During the fill operation the addresses will appear on the high/low report. Mike can quickly check the city's GIS to see if there is a pool in the backyard to explain the large volume of water use.

Most recently a high consumption report was generated for a commercial building that had recently closed and was vacant. Upon inspection it was realized

that a pipe had froze and ruptured inside the building. The city eventually was able to contact the owner, shut off the water at the curb stop thus minimizing property damage to the building.

Mr. Richard is also using the tool to help commercial, industrial and institutional users reduce water consumption. In 2007 the city analyzed data from schools in a local school district in Moncton. This analysis of flow data was presented to district administrative and maintenance staff who were amazed and enlightened by the great variation in school usage. Although the district staff could explain some of the high usage, some numbers were harder to explain. In the end a number of plumbing issues were discovered relating to leaking toilets, running urinals, etc. Repairs have resulted in reduction in water wastage and lower bills to the district.

Educating customers on their water use is part of the City's strategy. In the future the city hopes to allow customers to view their consumption on-line through the city's enhanced web site.

In late 2007 the City of Moncton used the ARM data to assist with its first time water audit process, designed to benchmark water usage and water losses in Moncton. By comparing water production to metered consumption, the city is able to calculate water loss and work toward further reductions, including leakage in the city's 500 km water distribution system.

The next stage to the city's water reduction strategy is to look at District Meter Areas (DMA's). This process subdivides the city into meter areas, compares water input to consumption in each area and targets efforts for the city's leak detection program.

Mike's goal is to account for 100% of the water produced and delivered from the water treatment plant and, hopefully, through water loss control on both the public and private side, extend the life of the city's water resource well into the future.

"This new technology has helped us immensely in monitoring water usage by our customers. Once customers are aware of high usage they usually will act to correct the problem and in many cases they call back to thank us – something that is quite gratifying for our utility staff."

## Horizontal for Moncton

**Alcide Richard, P.Eng.,**  
City of Moncton

**Bruce Buchanan, P.Eng.,**  
Touchie Engineering

**T**HE older sanitary sewers in downtown Moncton are combined as in many older communities in Canada. With the increased frequency of large rain events and increasing development, the ability of these older sewers to handle the increased flows without surcharging has diminished.

These events and the pressures of climate changes are a few of the reasons that prompted the City of Moncton to upgrade these sewers. Over the past several years, the City has been developing a computer model of their sewer system identifying the sewers requiring upgrades and/or replacement. One of the strategies utilized by the City to contain peak storm flows in the combined system was the installation of the Inlet Control Devices (ICD).

One of the sewers identified in the computer model as needing repair was a 250 meter section of 900 mm oblong double walled brick sewer constructed in the early 1900's on Main Street from Foundry Street running eastward to Westmorland Street. It was determined to be structurally sound but the capacity was limited for the larger precipitation events.

Construction in the summer of 2006 for the City was extremely busy in the general area of these improvements. There were traffic delays and detours all through the downtown area as new sewers, waterlines and streets were constructed to connect to the new bridge over the Petitcodiac River to the neighboring community of Riverview. Therefore, it was important to the City to reduce the traffic disruptions and public inconvenience for this neighboring project.



# directional drilling meets criteria in downtown sewer improvement

**Right:** Polyethylene pipe laid out before being hauled into the tunnel.  
**Below:** New 750mm diameter pipe enters the eye of the tunnel.



Although the main emphasis was the replacement of the sewer on Main Street with a larger size pipe to handle the flows, Touchie Engineering proposed to keep the existing Main Street sewer and install a new sewer on Main Street to reduce the flows in the existing sewer. The life of the existing sewer could also be extended in the future by lining. It was also proposed to install the new sewer by horizontal directional drilling (HDD) while maintaining two lanes of traffic on Main Street. This was critical to the downtown traffic flow as there was as many as three other projects in progress in the downtown core.

The design included reviewing recent reports on the conditions of the sewers and video inspection of the sewers. Along with the Highfield sewer flows, there

were five other streets collected by the Main Street sewer before discharging to the collection sewer system at the bottom of Westmorland Street.

Another major consideration for the design team was the existing web of infrastructure located under Main Street. The existence of these buried infrastructure meant the new sewer would have to be located within a very confined space. The existing infrastructure included a 400mm diameter water line, storm sewer, the existing combined sewer, building services, main communications lines for several phone companies, power ducts and gas lines. Other alternate routes were investigated to take a portion of the sewage flow off the Main Street sewer, but they were eliminated due to a strict timetable and the need for unbudgeted land acquisition.

After considering alternative routes and construction methods, it was determined the best route was on Main Street with a second sewer to handle a major portion of the flows as originally proposed by Touchie Engineering. Computer modeling of the sewer system with the new sewer confirmed this approach.

It was determined the Horizontal Directional Drilling Method (HDD) would meet all objectives; supplement sewer capacity requirements, constructability, reduction of public inconvenience, elimination of street closures and detours, maintain access to businesses and cost control.

The project consisted of 200 meters of 750 mm diameter high density polyethylene pipe at 1% grade on Main Street from Foundry Street to Westmorland Street. The new sewer was reconnected to the existing Main Street sewer at Westmorland Street. The new sewer was installed lower than the existing sewer to prevent breaking and undermining the existing sanitary sewer laterals to the businesses.

The project was a huge success and met all the project objectives with the added benefit of reduced traffic impacts. The City of Moncton will consider this option on future projects as the overall project costs are lowered when you factor in the public inconvenience, cost control, the impact on traffic and the reduction of delays encountered by the motoring public. Directional drilling will now be a tool in the City of Moncton toolbox!

## Coming events

May 1 2008

### Water Quality Sampling & Monitoring

Moncton, NB

See description below.

May 2 2008

### Water Quality Sampling & Monitoring

Halifax, NS

This course will provide participants with an understanding of the basic principles of drinking water sampling and monitoring and will include practical exercises designed to help participants develop their own monitoring and sampling plans.

This course will be delivered by Hany G. Jadaa, C.Chem., M.Sc. Eng.

Hany Jadaa has over 22 years of professional experience in the design and management of various treatment systems for groundwater, wastewater, and drinking water. His experience covers both the municipal and industrial sectors. He has been a Senior Environmental Engineer and Project Manager for the last 15 years and in the last four years has been actively designing, writing and delivering training programs for operators throughout Ontario.

June 8-12 2008

### Annual Convention and Exposition (ACE)

Atlanta, Georgia

[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)

Oct 4, Oct 7

### 13th Canadian National Conference and 4th Policy Forum on Drinking Water Small Systems: Protecting Source Water and Improving Finished Water Quality.

Quebec City, PQ

[www.cwwa.ca](http://www.cwwa.ca)

This biennial conference is sponsored by the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee on Drinking Water which develops most notably the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality and other information and guidance pertinent to those in the drinking water field. The Conference will provide a unique opportunity for all Canadian stakeholders in drinking water to meet and present or exchange views on current and emerging issues in the provision of safe drinking water.

October 19-21 2008

### 61st Annual ACWWA Conference

Charlottetown, PE

Info package: [acwwa2008@city.charlottetown](mailto:acwwa2008@city.charlottetown)



# World Water Day celebrated at Halifax brewery



In recognition of World Water Day, the local committee for Water For People held an evening of entertainment in Halifax on March 28, 2008. The event was held at Garrison Brewing Company in Halifax and featured the high spirited music of Old Man Luedecke.

The event builds on the success of last year's event, helping to bring attention to the world water crisis and raise funds for Water For People international efforts to provide safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and health education in developing countries.

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# MSF

## ACE convention June 8-12

# Countdown to Atlanta

**F**OR the 2008 Annual Conference & Exposition taking place June 8-12, in Atlanta, Georgia, the Canadian Affairs Committee has selected the Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel as the "Canadian Host Hotel".

You can register online beginning January 14 for the Atlanta conference and reserve your hotel room in the Canadian Room Block.

Our suggestion is to reserve your hotel room NOW, before the Canadian Room Block is sold out. You can always modify the name, arrival/departure dates, or cancel the hotel room at a later date, but this will ensure a hotel room at the Canadian Host Hotel.



**Above:** Atlanta by night and, inset, striking architecture of the Marriott Marquis Hotel.

in Atlanta at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel!

Canadian Water Forum

Please join us for the Canadian Water Forum, Monday, June 9, 2008, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Gordon Biersch Brewery, 848 Peachtree Street, NE. Tickets may be purchased in advanced from your local section.



All cancellations must be made by midnight, April 11, 2008, to avoid a \$50 cancellation charge.

We hope you will be able to join us

# Volunteering at ACE 2007 Toronto

By Ben Pitman, P.Eng.

**T**HE future demands that the water profession be more innovative, more efficient, and more prepared than ever before. AWWA has led the way in setting new standards for protecting the public health since 1881. Every year AWWA water professionals and suppliers meet at the Annual Convention and Exposition (ACE). Every tenth year ACE is held in Toronto, and in 2007, ACE 07 was at the Metro Toronto Convention Center in Toronto, Ontario. The Atlantic Canada Water Works Association was offered free conference registrations to five volunteers to attend and work at ACE 07 June 24 – 28th. Karen White, Mark Butler, John Isnor, Mike Chalk and I Ben Pitman were chosen to be volunteers from Atlantic Canada for the event.

The Annual Conference and Exposition attracts huge numbers for registration. In

Toronto the registration for the conference was well over 10,000 water professionals and suppliers. There were hundreds of presentations, educational sessions and new technology review opportunities.

For the volunteers ACE started on Sunday morning with a briefing and training session early in the morning. Volunteers were immediately put to work that afternoon helping with workshops and coordinating the arrival of presenters. The organization of the volunteers was comprehensive and impressive. We as volunteers assisted with monitoring the presentation rooms and helping the presenters and the AWWA staff, and worked in groups of two at each of the presentation rooms ensuring presentations went off smoothly.

There were enough volunteers that there was plenty of time to attend educational sessions and the huge trade show that accompanies ACE. As the sessions ended reasonably early there was plenty

of time to attend evening functions such as the Award Ceremony for Bill Butler, tours and other social functions.

In general ACE 07 was a terrific opportunity for educational, new technology and networking opportunities. Where most conferences tend to be specific in focus, ACE really covers the entire spectrum of the water industry from manufacturers, to consultants, to owners and operators. There was something for everyone. The sheer size of the trade show was impressive, especially the number of brands of different products in the show.

When ACE comes back to Canada I would certainly encourage anyone to submit their name to take advantage of this opportunity. It was a tremendous learning experience for me, and in a small municipality like the one I work for, having the conference registration fee paid for was certainly a contributing factor in getting approval to attend.

# Ultraviolet Disinfection:

## Everything you need to know but were afraid to ask

To assist with planning, please return this form by April 9, 2008

### Workshop description:

In 1998 it was shown that UV could be used to effectively control chlorine-resistant pathogens such as Giardia and Cryptosporidium at relatively low doses. UV has since gained rapid acceptance in North America as a viable alternative disinfectant for drinking water. UV systems can now be operated at competitive costs and installed into treatment facilities with minimal disruption to existing processes, making UV an extremely attractive option for primary disinfection.

However, installation of UV systems without a basic appreciation for critical factors such as hydraulics, water quality, lamp type, lamp fouling, lamp failure and dose monitoring may not only be inefficient and costly, but also potentially ineffective for pathogen control. It is critical that UV be viewed as part of an overall treatment strategy and not a stand-alone technology. UV performance is highly dependent on the operation of upstream processes such as particle and color removal. In addition, the application of a suitable secondary disinfectant downstream must be considered.

This workshop will provide a comprehensive look at UV disinfection with the goal of ensuring attendees gain an appreciation for the underlying scientific principles that are involved in UV disinfection and the crucial issues that must be considered for UV to be implemented and operated such that desired disinfection goals are achieved. Equipment suppliers will be in attendance in the afternoon to provide specific product highlights.

### Who should attend:

This seminar will appeal to water treatment operators, operations engineers, plant managers and utility managers. Municipal and provincial authorities, environmental and health agencies and other industries with an interest in optimizing disinfection for pathogen control should also attend

### Registration Form -- UV Course:

Please print clearly and fax or mail to the address listed on the bottom of this form. Registrations can also be made via the web at <http://acwwa.ns.ca>

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, Province \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Cost:** Payment of \$195.00 (includes taxes and lunch) can be made by cheque and is due prior to the seminar date. Please use this registration form as your invoice.

### Cheques should be made payable to

ACWWA

PO Box 41002

Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4P7

Phone 902 434 6002 Fax 902-435 7796

### Workshop dates (pick one) Locations

#### Fredericton, NB

May 14, 2008

#### Fredericton Inn

1315 Regent Street, Fredericton

506-455-1430

Toll-free: 1-800-561-8777

#### Halifax Nova Scotia

May 15 2008

#### Holiday Inn Express

133 Kearney Lake Road, Halifax

902-445-1100

Toll-free: 1-800-565-3086

Registration will begin at 8:15 a.m. The instructor will begin at 8:45 am. and finish at 12:30 pm. Equipment suppliers will review product specifications and highlights in the afternoon. The workshop fee is \$195.00. This fee includes lunch, refreshment breaks, and applicable taxes.

### Presenters:

Dr. Ron Hoffman is an Assistant Professor with the Drinking Water Research Group at the University of Toronto. He has extensive experience in drinking water disinfection, having worked on numerous optimization projects for utilities in Ontario and abroad. He has studied the use of UV, chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide and ozone from the perspective of both disinfection effectiveness and byproduct formation. He frequently presents the latest developments in disinfection at major conferences and publishes research articles in industry and scientific journals

The following equipment suppliers will be in attendance to review their product specifications:

**Siemens Water Technologies** — distributed by Canada Water Supply Ltd., in New Brunswick and Acrotech Ltd. in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

**Trojan Technologies Ltd.** — Distributed by Atlantic Purification Systems Ltd.

**Wedeco** — distributed by Sansom Equipment Ltd.

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# Water For People increases impact and revenues in 2007

**W**ATER For People had a record year in 2007, significantly increasing its impact in the developing world. The international development organization supported 188 communities, directly benefiting more than 108,000 people with access to safe water and improved sanitation. Thousands more received hygiene education that will ensure improved health for years to come.

Year-end beneficiary reports from each of Water For People's seven active country programs showed dramatic growth in the number of people and communities served over the course of the year. The organization is on target to meet the ambitious goals set forth in its five-year strategic plan (2007-2011) to reach 1,000 new people per day by 2011.

According to Ned Breslin, Director of International Programs at Water For People, much of the growth can be attributed to a strategic regional focus recently adopted in each program country. "Water For People is targeting county-sized regional areas in each country with the goal of 100 percent water and sanitation coverage within each region," he says. "As a result, we have become much more efficient and have been able to dramatically increase our impact."

In 2007, Water For People announced plans to expand into five new countries by 2011, including Ecuador, Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, Rwanda,

Country	Water	Sanitation	Total Beneficiaries
Bolivia	6,741	840	7,581
Guatemala	2,916	2,821	5,737
Honduras	5,138	3,876	9,014
India	41,429	22,788	64,217
Malawi	9,250	11,538	20,788
Nicaragua	143	675	818
Ecuador	300	0	300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>65,917</b>	<b>42,538</b>	<b>108,455</b>

Year	Communities Served
2007	188
2006	75
2005	78
2004	56
2003	51



and Uganda. Programs were successfully launched in Ecuador and Nicaragua in 2007 and the organization will begin work in Rwanda and the Dominican Republic in 2008. Work in Uganda is scheduled to launch in 2009.

The growth in services was matched by an equally impressive increase in donor support in 2007. Water For People 2007 revenues (unaudited) exceeded \$5.2 million against a budget of \$5.1 million, representing more than a 20% increase over 2006. "We are so grateful for the trust and incredible support of our donors who share our vision of a world where no one suffers or dies from a preventable water-related disease," said Colleen Stiles, CEO of Water For Peo-

ple. "Together, we are putting an end to the needless suffering and death that is devastating people in the communities where we are working. We are having a tremendous impact, and we've only just begun."

## About Water For People

Founded in 1991, Water For People is a Denver-based private, non-profit international development organization that supports safe drinking water and sanitation projects in developing countries. Water For People partners with communities and other nongovernmental organizations to help people improve their quality of life by supporting sustainable drinking water, sanitation and health and hygiene projects. Water For People supports projects with professional development advice, financial support and volunteer technical services. Typical projects include protected spring-fed community water systems, gravity-fed systems, wells with hand pumps, latrine construction, operator training, and hygiene education. Water For People is currently working in Latin America, Africa and Asia. In 2007, Water For People supported the provision of safe and sustainable drinking water resources and/or sanitation facilities benefiting more than 108,000 people in the developing world.

More information is available at [www.waterforpeople.org](http://www.waterforpeople.org).



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# Chunking up two projects

By Ernie Lunquist

**S**O the boss walks in and says we're overdue with the new inventory management system he asked for, and now he wants us to build a maintenance schedule for the system. We told him it will be done if it ever stops snowing. That will hold him until he remembers where we live (There's going to be a lot of global warming before it stops snowing in Atlantic Canada); but now we're getting nervous and its time to produce something.

We could tell the new operator to go count spare parts and elbows, but that would be unfair to him, and the boss isn't that dumb. He wants a "system" to manage necessary or emergency spare parts, not a list of stuff that ended up on the shelf for one reason or another! As Peter Drucker said: "There is nothing so useless as doing efficiently that which should not be done at all." Let's try some application of the KISS principal, and see how it works out (That's Keep It Simple, Stupid).

Let's divvy up the equipment manuals with the rest of the operators, and tell them to try to get two pieces of paper filled out on each. On the first one, we want the recommended checks and maintenance and their frequency. On the other page, we want a list of the spare parts the manual recommends, plus any that we know from experience we're going through. For the spare parts page, we can set up the page as a stand-alone form, with a description of the piece of equipment, the date it was installed, and the name of the supplier. The table for the spare parts should include the ordering information for each, which likely includes catalogue parts numbers. We'll also want three empty columns on the right.

Now, let's build an inventory system first. We'll get whoever is not busy to sit down with us and go through the spare parts pages. We call the first free column "Required Spares"; and have a quick debate to determine a consensus regarding how many spares we think we should have. Next step is to assign



Even the most complicated projects can be approached by chunking them up and getting them started

somebody to fill the last two columns: "Stock", and "Location". Believe it or not, we have a "system". We can pretty it up, or if we created a good format before we started, we can just hole punch the pages and put them in alphabetical or geographical order. We won't forget to show the boss how much material his new system says we need to order!

Wait, now... that still seems like too big of a job to start. So let's chunk it up. Let's not do the whole system, let's just do the treatment plant first – or better yet, let's just do one room of the process and see how it looks. We don't have all the manuals? Then let's just work on the consensus of what we need. We don't know all the ordering information? Let's fill it in later. The

biggest thing we can do is start. Once we start, improvements will come with time. We have a "system" to pilot as soon as it works for one room. Growing the system is called a program, and if the pilot of the system looks good, we can work on the program over time. Do we need it in a computer? Good idea, but let's make it a workable system first.

Now it is time for the maintenance schedule. We make a simple list of the dates for Mondays for the next year in a word processing program. That's 52 dates, most years. Next, with some thought, we inject the big items of maintenance and the typical seasonal work. We should stick in mowing and snow removal periods, and anything else that takes up operator time. Consider when we: check the reservoir screens, empty and clean out the reservoirs that are due each year, do the seasonal painting, lose an operator to capital work, carry out operator training, etc. Don't forget all sampling and other regulatory Certificate of Approval requirements. Finally, we grab those other sheets and add the maintenance checks and recommended parts replacement schedule to our calendar. It makes sense to run the result by

the boss, and especially get all the input that any other operator might have. After all, buy-in is important.

Again, we can rewrite, clean up, add introductions and appendixes; but we're essentially done. We can leave some improvements until next year. By then we'll know how it might better suit the way we work here. And look...This one is already in the computer – so it must be good. ;-)

So, we start with the objectives in mind – having parts on-hand for emergency repairs and scheduling maintenance – and we chunk it up so we can get them started. We also start small with a pilot so we don't go overboard in the wrong direction. The only scary thing is that we dared to take on two projects at once.