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**Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association Newsletter** 

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### Canadian Water Forum open letter ...6

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## AWWA's affiliation agreement creates concerns for sections

HIS years annual conference (ACE09) was held in Dan Diego from June 14<sup>th</sup> to June 18<sup>th</sup>. With the downturn in the economy, the Board and Senior staff continually reviews the 2009 budget in relationship to emerging sales trends and preparing projections and budget reductions for 2009. The most recent figures show a decrease in membership, publications sales, education and the annual conference, a few of the largest income generators for the Association. This was further realized with only 11,096 attending ACE09. When comparing full conference registrations to 2008 full conference registration numbers, there is a decrease of 11%.

The Canadian Directors (CAC) continue discussions with AWWA staff to hold the annual conference in Toronto again. CAC feels this is important for the Canadian members as attendance has shown the number of Canadian members attending ACE is significant. As previously mentioned, AWWA went to a six city rotation starting around 2019 with all locations within the United States.

The Board continues work on a new Affiliation Agreement between the Association and the 43 Sections. This Agreement lays down the rules for AWWA and the Sections on how they; (A) conduct their daily operations and relationships with each other that is consistent with AWWA's Strategic Plan, Vision, Guiding Principles and Mission; (B) striving to protect, develop an enhance the reputation and value of the AWWA brand; (C) Maintaining reason-

#### Director's Report

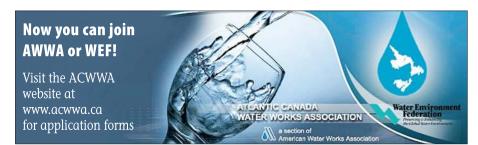
Bruce Buchanan, P.Eng.



able indemnification policies consistent with AWWA's Article of Incorporation, Bylaws and Governing Documents for the benefit of all parties and (D) Cooperatively developing means to maintaining D & O policy coverage for Eligible Persons and to preserve the tax exempt status of the parties including the modification of existing business practice when it is reasonable and advisable to

The main issue with Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association (ACWWA) is in the Fidelity to Mission statement of the Afflation Agreement. A statement in the Affiliation Agreement states "In order to avoid potential conflicts of interest, the Section will not engage in any business or activity; other than acting as a Section of AWWA". Since taking on the Member Association of the Water Environment Federation (WEF), the Section may be in conflict

The Section has been in discussions with AWWA staff and the Sections lawyer to determine an alternative for an acceptable conclusion. Three of the five Canadian Sections and several American Sections have concerns with the Affiliation Agreement. It will be several months before all the issues are satisfactorily resolved.



### Education is one of the challenges faced by AWWA and WEF across North America

Y the time this edition of Go With the Flow lands on desks across the region we will be just a few weeks from the annual conference in Halifax. The conference will mark the end of my term as Chair of this association. The year has sailed by and I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the ACWWA Board, our committee chairs, our staff, Clara Shea and most of all to our members for the effort, support and enthusiasm exhibited over the last year. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve you in this capacity.

If you have not registered for the conference as yet, please take a few minutes to do so. The conference committee has worked hard and I am sure the conference will exceed all expectations. This is the one sure opportunity each year to waterworks professionals to come together to renew acquaintances, make new friends and learn from each other. Marking the end of our first official year as a WEF member association, there will be a full technical track for wastewater professionals for the first time. If you have colleagues who work on the wastewater side who do not typically attend our conference, please do them a favour and forward them the conference brochure and encourage them to attend. For the first time this year we have online registration and payment making registration easier than ever.

Before closing for the last time, I want to share a few thoughts on educa-

#### Chairman's Message

Reid Campbell, P.Eng.



'Education is one of the most visible offerings of our association and one of the most tangible services we provide our members.'

tion. Education is one of the most visible offerings of our association and one of the most tangible services we provide our members. With operator license certification spreading across Canada, the education landscape is changing rapidly. Utilities and operators are demanding a greater volume and variety of courses than ever before. Our challenge as an association is to adapt to rapid evolution taking place in the education field. Across Canada, sophisticated training organizations have developed and some are looking at our marketplace. Our education committee under Ben Pitman are equipping themselves to meet these challenges. Please consider:

• If you are a utility or an operator and we are not meeting your needs, please do not just wait for the next mailing hoping what you want

is offered. Please call Clara, a Board member or an Education Committee member and tells us exactly what courses are required, when they are required, where they are required and how often.

- If you are one of our training providers, Thank You! You are an important part of our success so far. Our customers are demanding more variety and the best quality. We want to keep working with you to meet the needs of members and form partnerships and business arrangements that provide value for all. Please look around and ask your how you can be part of offering training here in Atlantic Canada that competes with that offered anywhere.
- If you are a member and want to get involved, please let us know. Many hands make light work.
- If you have been involved as a volunteer in providing education to members, Thank You as well. You have been part of one of our most important mandates. Please think about the changing landscape. Please be prepared to talk to utilities and see what the needs are and, most of all, please be prepared to change the way we do things. We need to offer more. More variety and more often. We need to form new types of partnerships to get it done.

Thanks once again for your support over the last year and I look forward to seeing you in Halifax.

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### WEFMAX 2009...A Long Step

#### **Bill Bertera, WEF Executive Director**

WEF has just finished the annual round of WEFMAX meetings. Leaders from all but six member associations participated in at least one of the sessions, and sometimes multiple sessions. In all, about 200 WEF leaders gathered to talk and share ideas and experiences about member associations, the water community, how the economy is affecting their organizations and the Water Environment Federation and its role with members and member associations. The sessions were hosted by individual member associations and vice president Jeanette Brown.

All of the sessions were notable and distinctly different from past years. The member association interchanges continue to be a favorite attraction and were characterized, as they always are, by useful tips and innovative programs. There was and is always lots of note taking. But there was something else this year...real discussion and exchangers of ideas about sometimes controversial but important issues all organizations in the water community share...how to reach plant operators with training and education programs, how to attract and keep members, how to maintain income streams in difficult times, how to serve utilities and how to create a consistent and credible public face for the water community when the community is clearly divided on this point.

With real discussion came something else...the beginning of understanding, and that presents the prospect of actually resolving problems that have plagued us all for years and in some cases decades. Nothing better reflects this new willingness to engage than the discussion regarding WEF membership and individual MA only memberships and the disconnects this difference can generate within the larger community, particularly as it relates to serving the plant operator. In this critical area, as in many others, the answer lies in a shared responsibility between the member association and WEF, and

Coming courses							
Sept. 8-11	Water Treatment	Halifax					
Sept. 14	Trenching & Excavating	Halifax					
Sept. 14	Record Keeping	Halifax					
Sept. 15	Chlorine Emergency Repair Kit	Halifax					
Sept. 15	Chlorine Residual Testing	Halifax					
Sept. 16	Trenching & Excavating	Charlottetown					
Sept. 16	Chlorine Residual Testing	Charlottetown					
Sept. 17	Trenching & Excavating	Moncton					
Sept. 17	Record Keeping	Moncton					
Sept. 18	Chlorine Emergency Repair Kit	Moncton					
Sept. r 18	Chlorine Residual Testing	Moncton					
Sept. 28	Hydrants & Valves	Truro					
Oct. 6-9	Wastewater Treatment	Fredericton					
Oct 15	Pumps	Waterville					
Oct 16	Electricity	Sydney					
Oct 21	Chemical Feed Systems	Truro					
Oct 27-30	Water Distribution	Fredericton					
Oct 23	Electricity	Moncton					
Oct 30	Electricity	Truro					
Nov. 16-19	Chlorine Handling & Disinfection	Truro					
Nov. 24-27	Wastewater Treatment	Halifax					

the WEFMAX meetings went a long way down that path.

Equally important in this regard were independent discussions held by the House of Delegates at each of the WE-FMAX sessions. As has been the case in recent gatherings, there was a lot of talk about the Member Association-WEF relationship and how to make it work better in the interests of our shared memberships. Most notable in each session was an interest in looking forward rather than back...recognizing that the water community has responsibilities and obligations to the people we serve and that continuing to dwell on issues of governance was not necessarily the most productive use of the House's time.

There were some emerging themes and realizations that came from the meetings as well. Some of them new and surprising; others simply a clarification of what has seemed obvious all along. But in the context of our history and the current economic climate, this clarity is important for moving forward. Those themes included but are not limited to the recognition that:

- There is wide diversity within the MA community in staffing availability, financial and volunteer resources, size, scope, geographic responsibility, organization and program capability. No two member associations are the same and no single national program is likely to be equally effective or applicable to all.
- Meeting the training needs of utilities and their operators is a key responsibility for both member associations and WEF; each has a role and their roles are different.
- Integrating younger members of the profession into our organizations is a key concern; incremental integration is not working on the scale or with the speed necessary.
- There is a continued need and interest in bringing together the drinking water and wastewater portions of the water community and efforts at the state and regional level are far more successful than is the case at the national level.
- WEF could do a great deal more in helping member associations share information with each other on issues of accreditation, operator training and engagement of students and younger professionals. The popularity of the WEF-MAX meetings strongly suggests this.
- Distance learning technologies are a necessity in a time of constricted travel budgets and WEF could do more to help member associations better meet this need.
- There continues to be a need for training and education on the management of state and regional associations and WEF could do more to help member association leader's better cope with management challenges unique to volunteer organizations.
- WEF needs to take a close look at its data management programs, its pricing policies for training products, and its integration of member association and WEF committees and their activities

There were, or course, lots more to the WEFMAX meetings than these few observations and I am sure I have missed some. Each of us learned something different and each of the WEFMAX's was different. That is what makes them the important event that they are. But meeting is not enough; resolving is the goal. WEF has taken a long step in that direction this year



### Canadian Water Forum

N behalf of the Canadian Affairs Committee, I would like to thank everyone that attended, sponsored or helped in the process of making the Canadian Water Forum at the AWWA Annual Conference and Exhibition a success. I am pleased to announce this year's donation to Water For People Canada is \$4,414.42.

This year, the major sponsors were: Aecom Canada Ltd; Associated Engineering Ltd; Anthratech Western Inc; CH2M Hill Canada; CLOW Canada Ltd; DWG Process Supply Ltd; EPCOR Water Services Inc: Kerr Wood Leidal Associates Ltd; McLennan Sales; Sigma Corporation; Canada Pipeline Accessories Corporation and Stantec Consulting Ltd.

It is safe to say by the large numbers in attendance that it was a huge success. The CAC's goal is for the Canadian Water Forum to provide a venue for the Canadian attendees to revive old friendships and make new ones while raising funds for Water For People – Canada.

As those who attended the San Diego event know, the event promoted networking to a whole new level. This was because there was a change in ownership (resulting in a decrease of the allotted space) which occurred after the location had been chosen. We will be focusing on a return to adequately sized facilities as we arrange the venue for the next Canadian Water Forum, to be held on June 21, 2010 at the next ACE in Chicago. We hope to see you there.

Thanks again for your support.



Bruce Buchanan, P.Eng.

Chair, Canadian Affairs Committee

### CVVIA UPDATE: A digest of

#### By Roland P. Richard, P. Eng.,

CWWA Director

CWWA provides a quarterly activity report to the AWWA and WEF CAC's including updates of these reports to Member Association's. The following provides a brief summary of the most current update of CWWA activities for the first quarter of 2009. CWWA continues its efforts on tracking and commenting on Federal / National legislative initiates. A large number of draft Bills have been presented to Parliament in the first three months of 2009, some of them were simply Bills presented in 2008 but not dealt with due to the political hiatus that occurred. Those relevant to municipal water and wastewater services included:



#### **Parliamentary Bills**

#### 2009 Budget

The Parliament approved the 2009 Budget. Building on previous infrastructure commitments, Budget of 2009 will invest in a more modern and greener infrastructure by:

- Establishing a two-year, \$4-billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund that will provide funding to renew infrastructure,
- Providing \$1 billion over five years for the Green Infrastructure Fund to support projects such as sustainable energy,
- Providing \$500 million over two years to build and renew community recreation facilities across Canada;
- Accelerating up to \$1 billion in payments over two years under the Provincial-Territorial Base Funding Initiative to expedite "ready-to-go" infrastructure projects,
- Providing up to \$500 million over the next two years for infrastructure projects in small communities and investments in First Nations Infrastructure.

CWWA submitted comments to the Ministers of Finance, Environment and Infrastructure ahead of the Budget Bill, providing a list of infrastructure projects that could be readily implemented by a wide range of utilities that would promote sustainable infrastructure and protection of the environment. The Bill has been given Royal Assent.

#### Bill C-6 – Canada Consumer Product Safety Act

CWWA is tracking the progress of this Bill, which has not yet been sent to a Committee for detailed examination. CWWA does not expect to provide comments on it to Parliamentarians.



### Bill C-9 – An Act to Amend the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, 1992

CWWA submitted a Brief pointing out that security elements proposed in respect of chemicals used by the sector (e.g., chlorine) should recognize that the municipal sector is already recognized as a national Critical Infrastructure and the sector has already introduced enhanced security arrangements. This Brief was also provided to the Director-General, Transportation of Dangerous Goods, Transport Canada who will have the responsibility of preparing future regulations. The Bill was amended marginally by the Committee and has completed third reading in the House of Commons. It will be presented to the Senate for review in the near future.



#### Bill C-11 – An Act to Promote Safety and Security with Respect to Human Pathogens and Toxins

CWWA submitted a brief to the parliamentary Committee pointing out that the Risk Group 1 and 2 pathogens and toxins have been typically handled by municipal laboratories for years without any identified releases, that these labs are regulated by the provinces, and that an exemption to municipal labs should be provided in the Act. In concert with other Briefs received (notably from the academic community) the Committee recommended several changes to the Bill reducing impacts on labs handling Risk Group 2 pathogens and toxins. The Bill as amended is back in the House of Commons for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading.

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#### recent activities of the Canadian Water Works Association

#### Bill C-16 – The Environmental Enforcement Act

CWWA has not submitted comments on this Bill, since it is clear that this is considered an administrative amendment Bill bringing the penalty sections of these environment Acts into line with other more recently enacted legislation. In any case, the new maximum levels are still subject to court discretion based on an assessment of the degree of due diligent demonstrated by the offending person or organization. The Bill has not yet been assigned to the Environment Committee for detailed review.

#### Regulations

#### Amendments to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act's Exclusion List Regulations, 2007

Since these Regulations have immediate effect, there was no need or point to submitting comments, which in any case would have been positive.

#### Infrastructure Projects Environmental Assessment Adaptation Regulations

CWWA, who participates as a member of the CEAA Regulatory Advisory Committee has long urged the alignment of the Federal and Provincial processes as an efficiency issue. No comments were required for the Gazette II announcement.



#### Explosives Act – Restricted Components Regulations

CWWA contacted the Chief Inspector of Explosives about this situation. The Department had not realized in drafting the Regulations back in 2008 that a problem would exist for municipal labs. The solution found was to issue to CWWA an official letter that can be attached to any purchase order by a municipal lab for this product pointing out that the Department considers municipal labs to fall under the exemption for government laboratories, and to include in the planned revision of the regulations reference to municipal labs.



### **CCME Municipal Wastewater Strategy**

#### Implementing the Strategy

The Ministers of Environment at their meeting in Whitehouse signed the CCME MW-WE strategy into force on February 17, 2009. Three jurisdictions did not sign the Agreement: Newfoundland and Labrador, Nunavut and Québec. The signing jurisdictions have now committed to introduce provisions in their legislation and programs to increase the minimal level of wastewater treatment performance and consequently protection of receiving waters. The federal government will proceed with regulations under the Fisheries Act to impose the national performance standards on discharges.

#### Sewer-Use Bylaw

As part of the MWWE Strategy, there is a proposed model sewer-use bylaw. The CC-ME is in the final stages of finalizing the document, and expect to post the final model bylaw sometime in the Spring 2009. In the meantime they have removed all drafts of the document.

#### **Federal Fisheries Act Regulation**

Publication of the Fisheries Act Regulation to implement the federal part of the CCME Strategy has not yet been posted in Canada Gazette Part 1. The Hon. Jim Prentice in a letter to CWWA indicates the scheduled time is likely September.

#### **Biosolids**

The CCME Biosolids Task Group had several teleconference and has met. Presentations on the approach will be featured in the 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian Biosolids Conference in Niagara Falls, in September.



#### Health Canada Water Quality Testing Program

#### **Drinking Water Quality**

Health Canada as part of its routine testing and monitoring program will carry on an expanded program of contaminants thought to raise the risk of cancer and other health problems. With the assistance of the members of the FPT Drinking Water Committee, 30 or so water utilities will be selected in each of 2009 and 2010 to determine the achieved levels of about 100 drinking water quality parameters and also to determine levels of personal care product and pharmaceutical residuals. The utilities selected will range from those serving le ss than 5,000 persons, 5,000 to 50,000 persons and those serving more than 50,000 persons. Both raw and finished water will be sampled and tested to determine the efficacy of different treatment technologies. HC staff will take samples, most testing will be done in HC Laboratories, but Mark Servos at the University of Waterloo will do the testing on the PCPPs.

#### 2009 Events

CWWA is developing plans for the:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian National Conference on Wastewater Management will take place from September 10-12, 2009 in Niagara Falls, ON. The Conference will be co-located and immediately precede the 5<sup>th</sup> Biosolids Technical Conference sponsored by WEAO
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian National Conference Water Efficiency and Conservation, will take place from October 13-16, 2009 in Victoria, BC, and the
- 2009 Window on Ottawa, will take place in Ottawa December 1-5, 2009.

#### Other Activities

- FOG Management
- Water Efficiency and Conservation Performance Indicators
- National Round Table on Sustainable (Municipal) Infrastructure (NRTSI)
- ISO Performance Indicators for Water and Wastewater Utilities

If you have any questions or require further information regarding CWWA, please contact Roland Richard, P. Enq., rrichard@gmsc.nb.ca.

### **ACWWA 2009**

#### A Water and Wastewater Event!

October 18 - 20, 2009 Halifax Marriott Harbourfront



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- See the registation brochure for details on how to enter a team for Top Ops.
- A busy schedule is planned for the companion's program and the social program will include local entertainment, golf, a fun run and silent auction.
- Steeped in history and culture, Halifax, Nova Scotia offers bustling city streets, leisurely strolls along Halifax harbour, fine dining, great shopping and lively music – there are so many things to do!

### Don't miss this year's ACWWA Conference

The ACWWA conference continues to be the leading water and wastewater event in Atlantic Canada

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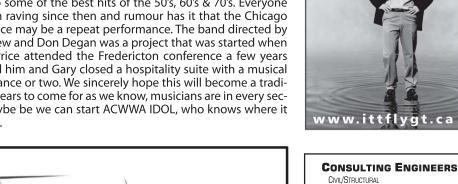
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#### **ACWWA Idol?**

At ACE 2009 the first ever AWWA band performed at Craig Woodlands gavel ceremony/party. The band comprised of Gary Chew, Laurel Martell, Marley Price, Don Degan, Jack Mantua, Ralph Gross, Don Brousard, and Ed Means treated the very appreciative crowd to some of the best hits of the 50's, 60's & 70's. Everyone has been raving since then and rumour has it that the Chicago conference may be a repeat performance. The band directed by Gary Chew and Don Degan was a project that was started when Marley Price attended the Fredericton conference a few years back and him and Gary closed a hospitality suite with a musical performance or two. We sincerely hope this will become a tradition for years to come for as we know, musicians are in every section. Maybe be we can start ACWWA IDOL, who knows where it could go.



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#### **ACWWA Awards**

#### Gary Chew gets WEF's Bedell Award

HE Arthur Sidney Bedell Award was established to acknowledge extraordinary personal service to a Member Association. The award is named for Arthur Sidney Bedell, the second president of the Water Environment Federation, who exemplified its purpose by his long devotion and service to the New York Sewage and Industrial Wastes Association, now the New York Environment Association. He was Chief of the Bureau of Sewage and Waste Disposal of the New York State Department of Health.

The Arthur Sidney Bedell Award is presented to a member of the Water Environment Federation for their organizational leadership, administrative service, membership activity and distinguished service to Member Association.

Gary Chew, this year's recipient of the Arthur Sidney Bedell Award exemplifies these qualities. Gary was ACWWA's first WEF Delegate and was instrumental in leading the way to making ACWWA a combined wastewater and water association. To anyone who would listen, Gary expressed the importance and the value of being a WEF member. He also saw the necessity of growing the WEF membership in Atlantic Canada.

Gary Chew has been working in the wastewater industry for over 20 years and has always been willing and able to help treatment plant operators and everyone involved in the industry throughout this time. He is a past chair of the Atlantic Canada Waterworks Association, past president of the Atlantic Branch Equipment Association, past Delegate of the Water Environment Federation and past chair of the Canadian Stockholm Jr Water Prize Committee for Canada.

He is a recipient of AWWA's Ira P. McNab Award and the George Warren Fuller Award.

Working with Sansom Equipment, Gary has been recognized by his peers with the award for sales excellence for Canada from Prominent Fluid Controls in 2006. He has participated in the Small Systems Committee, and on several training courses in both chemical feed and pumping systems for ACWWA over the years.

#### **ACWWA Award recipients**

	NL	NB	NS	PEI					
2003	David Lewis Exploits Regional Water Supply	Dan Lanteign Fredericton	e - Peter Flyi HRWC	nn - N/A					
2004	N/A	Sean Sullivan Richibucto	- Charles N HRWC	1uise Alan Greene					
2005	Pat King- Springdale	Dave MacInto Fred. Area Poll Control		mare - Sterling MacDon- ald- Souris					
2006	N/A	Reggie LeBlar Dieppe	ic - Allan You CBRM	ng - Billy Ramsay - Stratford					
2007	David Moulton - Gander	Heather Cail - Riverside - Alb	Tim Hiltz ert Bridgewa						
2008	N/A	Regis Caron - Ville de St Que	Mervin Sentin New Glas						
	Volunteer of the Year								
2003	Sansom Equipment								
2004	McLennan Sales								
2005	HRWC								
2006	N/A								
2007	Debbie Smith - St. John's								
2008	Jamie Hannam - HRWC								
	Project of the Year								
2003		HRWC - ISO 14001 Certification							
2004	CBRM-Glace Bay Water T								
2005	HRWC-District Metered								
2006	Fredericton - Successful field, Fredericton Aquifer	, Fredericton NE	3	l Wells, Wilmot Park Well-					
2007	Less than 5000 Custome	rc	000-25000 ustomers	25000 + Customers					
	Village of Memramcook- Village Drinking Water S		CBRM - Louisbou Water Treatment Plant	5 ,					
2008			Town of Summerside Wastewater Treatment Plant	City of Moncton - AMR					

#### Carl Yates gets Fuller Award

Carl D. Yates, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.

T is with great pleasure that Gary Chew, last years Fuller Recipient and chair of the 2010 Fuller award committee announces the 2010 Fuller winner is Carl Yates of the Halifax water Commission. Carl's years of dedication to the water industry, ACWWA and Halifax Regional Water Commission make him an excellent choice for this award. Here's a little info on Carl:

Carl Yates obtained his Bachelor of Engineering from Memorial University of Newfoundland in 1984 and subsequently moved to Nova Scotia and joined the firm, Jacques Whitford and Associates as a geotechnical engineer.

#### Life member awards

Life Member Awards will also be given to the following:

- Brian J. Cunningham, QM Construction Ltd. Saint John, NB.
- A. Robert Funke, Town of New Glasgow, NS.
- Jacques J. Picard, ADI Limited, Edmundston, NB.

He joined the Halifax Water Commission in 1988 as Project Engineer and obtained his Masters of Applied Science from the Technical University of Nova Scotia in 1992. In October 1993, he was appointed Chief Engineer of the Halifax Water Commission and held that position until October 1994 when he was appointed General Manager. In February 1996, Mr. Yates was appointed General Manager of the Halifax Regional Water Commission which came about as a result of municipal amalgamation within the metro Halifax area. On August 1, 2007, Mr. Yates became the General Manager of Halifax Water, the first regulated water, wastewater and stormwater utility in Canada with the transfer of wastewater/stormwater assets from the Halifax Regional Municipality. Halifax Water is a body corporate utility, generating approximately 100 million dollars in annual revenue with assets in the order of \$2

Mr. Yates is Past Chair of the Potable Water Committee for the National Research Council InfraGuide project, Chair of the Security Committee of the Canadian Water and Wastewater Association, a member of the National Association of Corrosion Engineers, American Backflow Prevention Association, the American Water Works Association, the International Water Association, a member of the Board of Directors of Special Olympics Nova Scotia, and a trustee of the Water Research Foundation.

### Graham Gagnon gets MacNab Award

HE 2009 Ira P. MacNab Award will be awarded to Dr. Graham Gagnon of Dalhousie University. Since he moved to Halifax in 1998, Dr. Gagnon has contributed greatly to ACWWA and the water supply industry in Atlantic Canada and is a deserving recipient of the MacNab award.

Graham is a Professor in the department of Civil and Resource Engineering at Dalhousie University. Graham is a na-

See page 12





#### **Call For AWARD NOMINEES**

ACWWA established awards for Volunteer of the Year, Project of the Year, and Operator of the Year in 2003. Last year, the Service Award was added. These awards will be presented at the 2009 Conference Awards Breakfast in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Your active participation is required to maintain the awards by recognizing key people in our industry that are or have worked successfully to better the local water and wastewater services in Atlantic Canada. Please take this opportunity to consider an Individual (perhaps one of your colleagues or another individual in the industry) that you feel should be recognized for their considerable efforts by submitting a nomination below.

We would also like to recognize Projects throughout Atlantic Canada that have improved the water and wastewater industry.

Following are descriptions of the awards, followed by a list of previous recipients.

#### Volunteer of the Year

To honour outstanding contributions by an individual or group that has worked hard to promote, improve or to provide any one of the many ACWWA activities held throughout Atlantic Canada.

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

To honour outstanding projects in Atlantic Canada that have demonstrated imagination, innovation, and/or state-of-the-art technology in any aspect of Municipal or Industrial drinking water or wastewater applications. The projects can range from source protection to water treatment to distribution to collection to wastewater treatment to biosolids management to effluent discharge to changes in billing or customer service.

#### **Operator of the Year**

To honour outstanding contributions of water utility or wastewater operators throughout Atlantic Canada.

#### **Service Award**

To recognize those organization members who have provided valuable support for AWWA programs and goals through their long-standing Association membership over their career.



Nominee's Full Na	ame:
Nominee's Title	
Award:	
Mailing Address:	
Submitted by:	
Phone: ()	
Fax: ( )	
Email:	

#### Gagnon gets MacNab Award

#### From page 11

tive of Guelph, Ontario and obtained his undergraduate degree at the University of Guelph. After obtaining his PhD at the University of Waterloo, Graham joined the faculty of Dalhousie and quickly made his mark in both the academic and water supply communities.

Graham has been a major contributor to ACWWA. He has served as Young Professionals Chair, prior to becoming Chair of ACWWA in 2006. While Chair of the Association, Graham initiated the process which resulted in our revised Board governance structure which was adopted in 2008. He has also been responsible for initiating and organizing the University Forum portion of our Annual Conference technical program. This popular event at each conference has allowed young professionals the opportunity to present their research to industry professionals and in some cases to make their first presentation in a professional setting. Graham and his graduate students are regular presenters on our main conference program.

While at Waterloo, Graham had the opportunity to study under Dr. Peter Huck. Dr. Huck was the 2008 recipient from AW-WA of the AP Black Research award and is one of Canada'a greatest contributor to scientific advancement in our industry. The AP Black Award is the highest award given by AWWA for research accomplishments in the water supply field. Graham is well on the way to establishing his own track record of equal stature to his mentor, Dr. Huck. He is the NSERC-Halifax Regional Water Commission Chair in Water Quality and Treatment, a Canada Research Chair at Dalhousie University, In-

frastructure program Leader for the Canadian Water Network and Editor for the Journal of Water Research and Technology, AQUA which is IWA's water supply journal. Since joining Dalhousie he has supervised over 30 graduate students, many of whom are active in our industry and our association in Atlantic Canada and across North America. He has published 48 articles in refereed scientific journals and presented at numerous technical conferences both in our region and nationally.

Graham has been involved in numerous projects for the Water Research foundation and frequently collaborates with some of the leading researchers and companies in North America, exposing Dalhousie graduate students to the highest level of research found anywhere. He is involved in several AWWA Water Quality committees at the national level and is currently Vice-Chair of the Distribution Research Committee.

Graham is also sought after by leaders in government and industry and also in the media as an authority on drinking water issues and is frequently nominated by Dalhousie University leadership to represent the university and the region at various symposia.

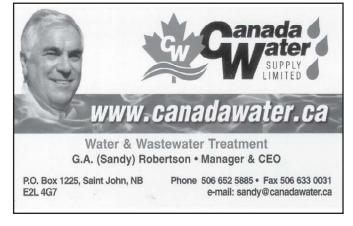
Outside of these professional pursuits, Graham is an avid runner and also enjoys golf and curling. Graham and his wife, Andrea live in Halifax with their children Jane (11) and David (9).

As a leader of our association and for his contribution to the scientific advancement of the water industry both locally and across North America, Dr. Graham Gagnon is an excellent choice as the Ira P. McNab Award winner.









### Newfoundland and Labrador Water Resources GeoConnections web portal

By Paula Dawe, P.Eng.

NL Department of Environment and Conservation

HE Water Resources Management Division of the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Environment and Conservation (EN-VC) is committed to making water resources information available to the public. To aid in this effort, ENVC is about to release a Water Resources GIS based Web Portal which will make available to users several previously unavailable datasets. Datasets that will be available through the Water Resources Portal include: drinking water quality data, source water protection areas, boil water advisories, ambient water quality data, watershed profiles, real time water quality data, streamflow data, dam locations, sewage outfall locations, ecozones and topographic maps. The Portal is based on a GIS or computerized mapping structure as all water resources data for the province has a location that can be indicated on a map. Future data sets to be made available include flood risk mapping, environmental permits, and drinking water



and wastewater infrastructure information. The Portal is very user friendly and offers a variety of tools for the access, display, selection, visualization and production of data. Stakeholders expected to make use of the Portal include industry, municipalities, federal agencies, academia, recreational users and special interest groups. Federal GeoConnections funding was obtained in order to take the Water Resources Portal public.

The Portal is expected to be available online by June 2009 through the Water Resources Management Division web site: http://www.env.gov. nl.ca/env/Env/water\_resources.asp.





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#### **Stockholm Water Competiltion**

### Stop science students to represe

#### **Brian Station**

Co-Chair, 2009 CSJWP Committee

HE purpose of the Canadian Stockholm Junior Water Prize (CSJWP) competition is to select a candidate student or group to represent Canada at the International Stockholm Junior Water Prize (SJWP) competition.

The SJWP is the world's most prestigious youth award for a water related science project. It attracts thousands of competitors from 30 countires. This competition was held in conjunction with World Water Week in Stockholm Sweden August 16-22.

Both competitions are open to young people between the age of 15 and 20 who have conducted water-related projects or global topics of environmental, scientific, social or technological importance. The international winner receives a \$5,000 U.S. dollar reward and a crystal sculpture. Event planning and judging at the national level, plus travel and accommodations for the winning student(s) for the international competition in Sweden are sponsored by the five Canadian Water Environment Federation (WEF) Member Associations (MAs) including Atlantic Canada Water Works Association, RÉSEAU environnement, Water Environment association of Ontario, Western Canada Water Environment Association, and British Columbia Water and Wastewater Association) as well as the Canadian Water and Wastewater Association, and ITT Water and Wastewater, Canada.

#### STEP 1 – The Canada-wide Science Fair

The CSJWP is one many special competitions held in conjunction with the annual Canada-Wide Science Fair (CWSF). The 2009 CWSF was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba during the week of May 9-17 at the University of Manitoba.

The CSJWP invites students from Grades 11 and 12 to submit projects related to one or more of: water and wastewater quality, water resource management, water projection, water treatment or wastewater treatment. Up to three projects selected at the CWSF are invited to submit a summary of their projects. One

winner is then chosen to represent Canada at the SJWP competition. The runner-up projects will each receive a \$300 cash prize. The winner will receive one all expense-paid trip to Stockholm, Sweden to represent Canada.

There were 13 projects for the competition. Judging was conducted by Dr. Nazim Cicek (University of Manitoba, Biosystems Engineering), Brian Station (City of Winnipeg, Water and Waste Department) and a few judges supplied by the CWSF host committee. Three finalists were selected for further competition.

Interesting facts about the 2009 CWSF:

- Of the almost half a million young Canadians from Grade 7 to 12 who prepare science fair projects each year, 25,000 participate in the 100 regional science fairs across Canada and about 470 finalists are selected to compete at the national championships.
- The CWSF takes place in May in a different Canadian city each year, and was last held in Winnipeg in 1988.
- CWSF/ESPC 2009 was the largest Canadian fair to date, with finalists from all 10 provinces and three territories.
- This year there were 476 finalists who exhibited a total of 388 projects. Of those, 59 finalists with a total of 46 projects were francophone. About 40% of the finalists were in the Grade 7/8 category, while 34% were in Grade 9/10 and 26% were in Grade 11/12.
- Projects were judged in nine scientific and engineering divisions: Automotive (29 projects); Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Sciences (36 projects); Computer and Information Technology (16 projects); Earth & Environmental Sciences (76 projects); Engineering (76 projects); Environmental Innovation (133 projects); Health Sciences (95 projects); Life Sciences (42 projects); and Physical & Mathematical Sciences (45 projects).
- Each project was evaluated by five judges, and the top projects in each division and category were awarded Gold, Silver, Bronze and Honourable Mentions.
- There were 770 entries for the 20 dif-

- ferent awards with a total value of more than \$300,000 in awards and scholarships.
- Almost 6,000 interviews occured during the span of 9.5 hours of judging!

#### **STEP 2 -**

#### **The National Competition continues**

The three finalists were requested to prepare a project report.

All submissions were judged by a three person committee made up of Dr. Nazim Cicek (University of Manitoba, Biosystems Engineering), Dr. Jan Oleszkiewicz (University of Manitoba, Civil Engineering) and Brian Station (City of Winnipeg, Water and Waste Department).

The project details for the winner and the runners up are as follows:

#### 2009 CSJWP Winner

#### Mary Zhao Project Title: Grasping Water -

Grasping Water -Exploring a Novel Method of Inducing Precipitation using the Ice Nucleating Protein

**Abstract:** This project explores a novel weather modification method: replacing the current



Mary Zhao

ice nucleator AgI with the Ice Nucleating Protein (INP) of P. syringae in cloud seeding. Replacing AgI is crucial because silver ions inhibit microorganisms' growth. AgI and INP's effects on the nitrogen intake of ryegrass and catalyzing of ice nucleation were examined. Results indicate that INP is an environmentally-friendly and commercially-viable alternative for AgI.

Biography: I am a Grade 11 student in the International Baccalaureate program at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School. I love the sciences, especially biology, because I am intrigued by the fascinating array of possibilities that science offers. I hope to enter the biomedical field. In school, I am in a variety of clubs. I am a columnist, secretary, and senior editor of the school science journal Big Bang and a member

### ent Canada in water competition

of the peer tutor club. I was a member of the Model UN club and the school orchestra. I have participated in a variety of contests, including placing 5th in Canada for the North American Computational and Linguistics Olympiad and ranking in the top quarter for the Pascal and Cayley math contests. I was selected to write the DNA Day essay and the National Council of Teachers of English essay contests. I enjoy studying different languages and have obtained Diploma of Studies in French. I am currently working towards my Teacher's diploma with the Royal Conservatory of Music.

#### 2009 CSJWP Runner Up

Bindu Kovvuru Project Title: Phytoremediation: using Geraniums as hyperaccumulators in phytoextracting lead

**Abstract:** Traditional methods of removing lead from soil and water are expensive, laborious and environmentally disruptive. As an alterna-

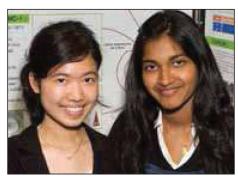


Bindu Kovvuru

tive method, this projected investigated if Scented Geranium could be used in phytoextracting lead. To address this question, I tested Scented Geranium in three substrates with lead nitrate and compared its growth to Coleus and Petunia. Additional tests were conducted to confirm the uptake of lead.

**Biography:** I am a grade 12 student at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School in St. Catharines, ON. I focus on science and mathematics academically, and I participate in a wide range of extracurricular activities. Some of my after school activities include peer tutoring, playing in the school's orchestra, and being involved with recycling. I am also an editor for my school's yearbook and volunteer at the Niagara General Hospital and the Niagara Children's Centre. I have also taken piano and Kumon lessons, which recently earned me a job. I have been involved with the Science Fair, researching at the University of

Guelph for the past three years. In addition to my involvement with the University of Guelph, I also participate in Math Contests and challenges held by the University of Waterloo. I want to pursue a career in the field of Science and continue research.



Tevy Chan, left, and Abitamy Yogeswaran

#### 2009 CSJWP Runners Up

Tevy Chan & Abitamy Yogeswaran Project Title: *Magnetotactic bacteria* Abstract: Our project uses bioremediation to decontaminate iron-polluted water by harnessing the ability of magnetotactic bacteria to assimilate iron ions.

Biography *Tevy Chan*: I am a secondary 5 (Grade 11) student at école secondaire Saint-Laurent. I consider my studies very important and also participate in many student life activities. To name a few, I am responsible for the graduating class yearbook, a member of my school's environment committee and a homework tutor for the past two years. I am a volunteer at a homeless shelter and at various special events. As a result of my community and scholastic activities, I received a Millenium Excellence Award. This is my second year competing at the Quebec final, but this year, my partner and I were chosen to compete at the Canada-Wide Science Fair. We took home a bronze medal for our project, as well as a \$10,000 scholarship to the University of Ottawa, and were invited to go to the international fair (MILSET ESI) in Tunisia.

**Biography** *Abitamy Yogeswaran:* I am 17 years old. I was born in Sri Lanka and arrived in Montreal in 2000. I went to école primaire Bois-Franc and then to école Enfant-Soleil, which made a lasting

impression on me. During that time I discovered my first passion: the arts. (I've always loved to paint, draw and play piano) Then I chose école Saint-Laurent for my secondary studies and it was wonderful! I met great people who always encouraged me to go further and overcome my limitations. I also discovered my second passion: science! I really like to sculpt with modeling dough. I am crazy about gardening. I sow all kinds of flower seeds that I grow all summer. I want to go to university and have a career in a field related to biology or chemistry, which are my favourite subjects (not counting French, of course!)

#### STEP 3 – The International Stockholm Junior Water Prize during World Water Week

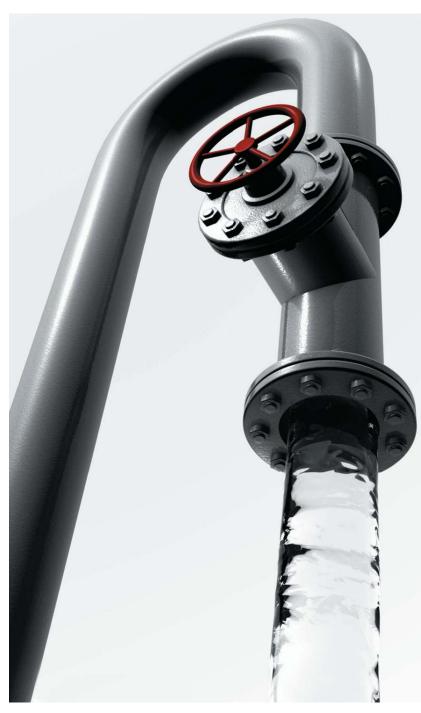
The international SJWP competition brings together the world's brightest young scientists to encourage their continued interest in water and the environment.

Thecompetition is hosted by the Stockholm International Water Institute, a policy institute whose diverse Stockholm-based, internationally-oriented programmes and activities contribute to finding sustainable solutions to the world's escalating water crisis. ITT Corporation is the global sponsor for the international SJWP competition.

The 2009 CSJWP Planning Committee includes Robert Gillis (ACWWA), Diana Qing (RÉSEAU), Cindy Toth (WEAO), Brian Station (WCWEA), Chris Johnston (BCWWA), Duncan Ellison (CWWA) and Audrey Arisman (Executive Director, WCW). The Committee wishes Mary every success at what we hope will be one of her most memorable science competitions.

By the time you read this article, World Water Week events in Stockholm Sweden will have concluded. Look for an update on Mary's experience at the international competition in the Winter (Post-Conference) issue of Western Canada Water later this year.

More information on how students can participate in the CSJWP as well as a list of past winners, please visit http://www.sjwp.ca/.More information on the International Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition can be found at http://www.siwi.org/stockholmjuniorwaterprize.Learn more about the ITT Corporation at http://www.itt.com



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