



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 19, 2013

8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

**SHAW CONFERENCE CENTRE
EDMONTON, ALBERTA**

MINUTES

ORDER OF BUSINESS A. CALL TO ORDER AND REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT

President Peter Streith called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. and welcomed members to the 107th Annual General Meeting of The Alberta Association of Architects.

B. MINUTE OF SILENCE FOR DECEASED MEMBERS

Peter Streith asked the membership to join together for a Minute of Silence for the following members of the profession who have passed away since the last Annual General Meeting:

Blake Pratt, February 20, 2013, AAA (Life Member)

C. INTRODUCTION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, PAST PRESIDENTS, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND STAFF MEMBERS

Peter Streith introduced the following distinguished guests:

Honourable Wayne Drysdale
Minister of Alberta Infrastructure

Diane Dalglish, Licensed Interior Designer, AAA
Assistant Deputy Minister, Alberta Infrastructure

Adrian Pritchard
Manager, Professions and Occupations

Gilles Saucier
Keynote Speaker, Saucier + Perrotte Architectes

Tom Gee, CA
Auditor, Peterson Walker Chartered Accountants

Artur Zajdler
2013 AAA (Life Member)

Peter Streith then recognized the following Past Presidents that were in attendance:

Scott Pickles, Architect, AAA; **Douglas Ramsey**, Architect, AAA; **Barbara Shipman**, Architect, AAA; **Brian Oakley**, Architect, AAA; **Richard Lindseth**, Architect, AAA; and **Dale Taylor**, Architect, AAA.

Peter Stretih then recognized the following 2012-2013 Council members:

Scott Pickles	Immediate Past President
Mark Chambers	Vice President
Neil Mackenzie	Treasurer
Donald Davidson	Chair, Complaint Review Committee
Stephanie Clancy	Chair, Professional Development
Henry Howard	Chair, Practice Review Board
Beverly Wilson	Vice-Chair Registration Committee and Chair, Intern Licensed Interior Designer Task Force , LID Representative
Patti Swanson	Chair, Communications
Ron Wickman	Vice-Chair, Legislation Committee
Darryl Rawniak	Chair, Practice Support Program
Gregory Sim	Councillor, Public Representative
Tang Lee	Representative, EVDS, U of C
Helen Evans Warren	Representative, Dept's of Interior Design., MRU
Jan Kroman	Intern Representative
Ryan Schwartz	Student Representative – University of Calgary
Alanna Swityk	Student Representative – Mount Royal University
Dianne Johnstone	Executive Director

Peter then recognized the members who have important roles to play as our Registrar, Registration Chair and Practice Advisory Committee as well as the AAA Administration.

ITEM 1 ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

Peter Streith called for a motion adopting the April 19, 2013 AGM Agenda.

MOTION:

Moved by Scott Pickles and seconded by Carol Mannas:

“MOVED THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS APPROVE THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA DATED APRIL 19, 2013 AS PRESENTED.”

CARRIED

ITEM 2 ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Peter Streith called for a motion adopting the April 27, 2012 AGM Minutes.

ACTION:

Moved by Robert Labonte and seconded by Michelle Gunn.

THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS APPROVE THE APRIL 27, 2012 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED.”

CARRIED

ITEM 3 PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Peter Streith presented the President’s report and stated:

“As President of the Alberta Association of Architects, it is my pleasure to present the Annual Report on the activities of the Association for the 2012-2013 Council Year. A full copy of the 2012 Annual Report has been previously posted on the AAA website along with the audited financial statements, in accordance with our bylaws. Members are encouraged to approach Councillors, Committee Chairs, or our Executive Director with any specific questions they may have, after the AGM or after the Member Forum. Speaking to you now, I will present an overview of the Annual Report 2012.

As yet another year draws to a close, Council remains dedicated to strengthening our Association, growing the membership and streamlining our processes to better support our members. Your Council has been focused on reviewing of the *Architects Act and General Regulation*, as well as meeting our obligation as a self-regulating profession.

The Legislation Committee and its various Task Forces have been engaged in discussions with a large number of our members on the future of our profession. It is extremely important that we debate changes to our legislation that were not originally contemplated in the existing *Architects Act and General Regulation*, and to explore ways to expand and improve our profession to meet the ever changing demands of society. Council is fully committed to this endeavor and held a joint meeting with the Legislation Committee last September to discuss the overarching goals and objectives of the various Task Forces, and to ensure the necessary resources would be available to meet these goals. I have personally gained a better understanding of the responsibility of the Association and our collective responsibility to protect the public good. Government will continue to exert pressure to ensure that our profession meets the overarching legislative requirements, so we must never take for granted our self-regulating responsibilities and the benefits of a protected scope of practice.

At our 2012 Think Tank, Council discussed ways of improving our process and further developing our governance structure through leadership training. This will ultimately allow Council to focus on the key issues of our profession. Council identified and prioritized five issues; communication with members, procurement, advocacy, membership growth and leadership, in addition to the legislation review which is already well underway. While these issues are already addressed in our Strategic Plan in some shape or form, they create a priority list where Council can further define goals, outcomes and timelines. I

look forward to working with Mark Chambers as he takes on the President's role, working with the new Council to move these initiatives forward in a more formal way at Think Tank 2013 and understanding that the legislation review is still our first priority.

With the completion of the Duggan House renovations, Council made application to the City of Edmonton for historical status. We received approval and the associated funding support for the completion of the restoration to Duggan House. Our modernized facility now provides barrier free access, while increasing its efficiency and size to meet the needs of the association for years to come.

Council meetings have become more efficient, with more time spent debating the critical issues and allowing time to identify the key issues facing our profession. Items such as competition standards, a policy on the acceptable use of electronic seals/stamps and professional development harmonization have been reviewed and will be highlighted in future Practice Bulletins.

As one of our strategic goals is to increase the membership, Council continues to strengthen its relationship with the University of Calgary's School of Architecture and Mount Royal University's Interior Design Department by holding a meeting at each facility. These meetings allow Council to interface with both institutions and their faculty. We meet with the upcoming graduates to discuss the process of becoming a fully registered Architect and/or Licensed Interior Designer as well as the benefit of being part of a self-regulating profession.

On the national front, our Association has continued to play an important leadership role in strengthening the architectural profession in Canada. I have had the honor of representing the AAA at the Canadian Architecture Licensing Authorities (CALA) meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland, and in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. Meeting topics included harmonization of the continuing education program across the country, the Internship in Architecture Program (IAP) and ways to improve the architectural educational standards in Canada to ensure they meet the needs of today's profession. We welcomed the Architectural Institute of British Columbia (AIBC) into the national fold by utilizing the Examination for Architects in Canada (ExAC), which nationally harmonizes our licensing exams. We also had a fall launch of Broadly Experience Foreign Architects (BEFA) Program by all regulators. We look forward to the National Validation Conference in 2014 to ensure that the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB) and the Canadian schools of architecture are meeting the ever changing needs and competency requirements for architectural education.

Internationally, the Internal Relations Committee (IRC) continued to develop the new Inter-Recognition Agreement (IRA) with National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) which is scheduled to be adopted by January 2014. In addition, the IRC made a funding application to the Government of Canada for support in developing a Mutual Recognition Agreement with Europe and the Asia / Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), as well as support for the APEC Secretariat which will culminate in international conference in Canada in the fall of 2014. These and other international files, when finalized, will increase the opportunities for our membership to practice in multiple jurisdictions around the world.

At this time, on behalf of Council, I would like to take the opportunity to sincerely thank the numerous members of our Association who have dedicated their valuable time in supporting the various Standing Committees, Legislative Committee Task Forces and sub-committees. With the launch of our Volunteer Recruitment program "*The Profession is What you Create*", we have experienced an overall increase in member participation from 7% in 2011 to 12% in 2012. Without the support of these dedicated individuals, our profession would not be as strong and vibrant as it is today.

I would thank all my fellow Council members whose commitment, support and wisdom have been inspirational. We made amazing strides in completing numerous deserving goals set out for us in the Strategic Plan. Council and AAA Administration has continued to strengthen its processes to reduce the tactical workload of our volunteers, allowing members to focus on the truly important role of providing professional insight and vision of what our profession should be in Alberta. A strong Association does not rely on a select group of individuals but encourages all members to become engaged in the aspirations of the profession, further highlighting the fact that our profession is what the membership creates. Council is the voice of the membership in an ever-changing social dynamic that demands the continual advancement of our profession. It is paramount that you, the membership, seize the opportunity to enhance our profession by adding your voice to its evolution."

ITEM 4 REPORT FROM THE REGISTRAR

Robert Bennett presented the Registrar's report and stated "During 2012, the AAA experienced a significant increase of approximately 7% in both the number of Architects and the number of Interns registered with the AAA. The number of Licensed Interior Designers remained substantially unchanged in 2012.

In a reflection of the demographic changes occurring in the working public at large, the number of retired members increased by over 30%. Also of demographic interest, of our 324 Intern Architects, almost 60% are female; and of our 39 Licensed Intern Interior Designers close to 90% are female. When all categories of memberships are considered, the number of those on record with the AAA has grown by over 6% to a total of 1,632 members during 2012.

We continue to review and approve new practices and revisions to existing practices, in an increased effort to maintain both uniformity, and compliance with the *Architects Act and General Regulations*. Our records currently include a total of 656 firms and corporations, 219 of which are located outside of Alberta.

2012 has seen a continuation of efforts to streamline and simplify the registration process for Architects and Licensed Interior Designers and their practices. Conformity with mandatory continuing education requirements has been given attention, to ensure that all members are meeting the established standards.

In September of 2012, the national initiative to develop assessment and processes regarding the registration of BEFA launched. The first BEFA applications were received by the AAA. Following evaluation and interview the

first two BEFA candidates were admitted to AAA membership. Seven BEFA applications are currently in the assessment process.

As Registrar, I have confidence in the careful procedures and record keeping which attends the registration of Architects, Licensed Interior Designers, and their practices at the AAA. I express my gratitude to the Administration at Duggan House who continue to be on top of the considerable administrative challenges posed by the registration process, and who contribute purposefully to the regulation of the practice of architecture and interior design within our mandate to protect the Alberta public.”

ITEM 5 TREASURER’S REPORT

Neil Mackenzie presented the Treasurer’s Report and stated “based on a firm footing from previous years, the Alberta Association of Architects continues its success of strong financial performance for the year 2012. The 2012 Financial Report reflects Council’s focus on maintaining a balanced budget and providing financial security for the future of the Association.

The auditor’s report has given us a clean bill of health and provides the requisite oversights for our internal financial management and for our stakeholders. I would like to extend Council’s thanks to the Administration of Duggan House for their efforts, first, in the careful management of our finances and, second, for their work in the development of the financial statements.

For 2012, the total current asset to total current liabilities ratio is down slightly from the previous year and we are still above the industry standard. We are in a strong financial position in that we are able to more than cover any expenses that may occur.

The most significant changes on the statement of financial position was decrease to the short and long-term investments and the increase to property and equipment. This reflects the money that was spent on the Duggan House renovations which was completed in March of 2012.

There was an operating surplus for the current year mainly due to higher than expected revenue from the operations and program revenue from Banff Session

With regards to the restricted funds, Council has set aside restricted funds for legal, financial stability and the Duggan House maintenance & historical restoration. The unrestricted funds have been set aside to be used in 2013 to fund the legislation review, further website enhancements, leadership training and capital purchases.

The Association’s financial position remains strong and it was a good year operationally. We did not have to borrow for the Duggan House Renovations as there were funds available to cover the renovations. Council has made plans to replace these funds; all budgets for the next several years need to reflect a surplus in order to recover the costs for the renovation.

We start 2013 in a strong financial stance and remain committed to

maintaining this position by adherence to our good management practises and sound investment strategies. Council and the Administration of Duggan House are dedicated to maintaining our goals of ensuring a long-term financial stability for the AAA in the years to come”

Neil then made two motions regarding the 2012 financial statements and the auditors for 2013.

MOTION:

Moved by Neil Mackenzie seconded by Henry Howard:

“AS TREASURER I MOVE THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF 2012 AS PRESENTED.”

CARRIED

MOTION:

Moved by Neil Mackenzie and seconded by Carol Mannas:

“AS TREASURER, I MOVE THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS APPOINT PETERSON WALKER CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AS AUDITOR FOR 2013”

CARRIED

ITEM 6 RATIFICATION OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FOR THE PAST YEAR

Peter Streith called for a motion on the ratification of Council’s actions over the past year.

MOTION:

Moved by Darryl Rewniak and seconded by Henry Howard.

“THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS MOVE TO RATIFY COUNCIL’S ACTIONS FOR THE PAST YEAR.”

CARRIED

ITEM 7 2013 COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

Announcement of Newly-elected Councillors

Peter Streith thanked the 2012 Nominations Committee members: **Scott Pickles**, Architect, AAA; **Donna Assaly**, Licensed Interior Designer, AAA; **Christopher Babits**, Architect, AAA; **James Dykes**, Architect, AAA and **John Harrop**, Architect, AAA.

Peter Streith also thanked **Brian Oakley**, Architect, AAA, **Jason Said**, Architect, AAA and **Tom Titemore**, Architect, AAA, for being scrutineers for the 2013 Council Election.

Peter Streith then announced that the following individuals have been elected to the 2013-2014 Council.

- **Don Davidson, Architect**
- **Peter Osborne, Architect**
- **Darryl Rewniak, Architect**
- **Elizabeth Songer, Architect**
- **Robert Spaetgens, Architect**

And elected by acclamation **Jane Lawson, Licensed Interior Designer** Representative.

Peter Streith welcomed the new members of Council.

Peter Streith then called for a motion for the ballots to be destroyed.

MOTION:

Moved by Neil Mackenzie and seconded by Christopher Babits.

“MOVED THAT THE BALLOTS AND ANY ASSOCIATED ELECTION RECORDS AND MATERIALS FOR THE 2013-2014 COUNCIL ELECTION BE DESTROYED.”

CARRIED

ITEM 8 RETIRING COUNCILLOR’S PRESENTATION

Peter Streith acknowledge that he had the honour of working with a number of highly competent members on Council this year and wanted to take the opportunity to recognize the retiring Councillors from this present Council.

Peter formally recognized Scott Pickles, Neil Mackenzie, Beverly Wilson and Stephanie Clancy. Peter thanked them on behalf of the membership of The Alberta Association of Architects, for their service on Council.

Peter then called upon the Council Ex-officio Representatives that have completed their term this year. Scott thanked Ryan Schwartz and Alanna Swityk.

Peter requested everyone to join him once more in thanking the members for their contribution made on Council.

ITEM 9 PRESENTATION OF THE PRESIDENT’S MEDALLION AND PLAQUE

Peter Streith stated it was his pleasure to announce that Mark Chambers, Vice President, would become the 2013 President and then made a formal introduction of Mark to the members. Peter took off his gold President’s seal and placed it around Mark’s neck. Mark then put a silver medallion around Peter’s neck.

ITEM 10 INCOMING PRESIDENT REMARKS

As incoming President, Mark made the following remarks: “I am honoured to have been elected as Vice-President. Following the competent leadership of our current President, Peter Streith, I have been busy becoming informed of the numerous issues and files our Association is addressing both inside the

province and with respect to the profession nationally and internationally.

The Alberta Government's request that the AAA conducts a rigorous review of the *Architects Act and General Regulation*, and Bylaws has set in motion an intense discussion within the profession and among members. The Legislation Committee and the numerous Task Forces are working diligently to distill the essence of the legislation as it exists so it can be scrutinized and, if required, modified relative to our contemporary context and in anticipation of our future realities. I have been involved with the Practice Entities Task Force over the last year and this has been an educational as well as a challenging experience. We have found that the issues across the breadth of the *Architects Act and General Regulation* are not isolated from one another and must be regarded with due consideration in a holistic manner. I encourage all members to become involved in the discussions and debate as we prepare our position for consideration by the Alberta Legislature in roughly two years time. Working for the public good in all of its facets is a truly lofty goal and our ability to do that will, to a degree, be contingent on the outcome of our legislation review.

We didn't choose the coldest month to travel to Yellowknife, NWT, as November 2012 was still relatively mild at the 62.44 degree north latitude where the CALA's national meeting was held. Our gracious hosts from the NWTAA greeted the Presidents, Executive Directors and representatives from all jurisdictions in Canada. Also present were representatives of the CACB. With the acceptance of ExAC by AIBC all jurisdictions in Canada now offer the Canadian exam as a prerequisite for registration. My involvement in the two days of meetings was to become acquainted with provincial, interprovincial, national, and international issues as I prepare to assume the role of President.

Aside from the very pragmatic and critically important issues of legislation review I would like to maintain balance by engaging in a few words on the poetics of what we do and the profound impact the professions of architecture and interior design have on our built and natural environments and on our culture. Within the legislation task force discussions, the notion of "the public good" unsurprisingly appears and reappears in every discussion. This notion goes beyond the pragmatic requirement of public safety and enters the realm of the potential elevation of the human spirit through the thoughtful, meaningful, and considered creation of spaces, buildings, neighbourhoods, and communities.

As members the AAA we have a tremendous responsibility to nurture the next generations of registered architects and licensed interior designers, which is a sustainable action; and also in nurturing sustainability in the built environment. We, in Alberta, are blessed with abundant natural resources, some of them finite and others infinite. It is axiomatic that a sustainable future requires a transition from the use of finite to infinite or renewable resources and to embrace an approach in our built environment which responds favourably to our natural environment. There are few professions which can positively influence this outcome like the professions of architecture and interior design

It was here in our province, I have been told, that Edward Mazria formalized his ruminations on sustainability which became the Architecture 2030^o Challenge. The International Living Future Institute's Living Building Challenge raises the stakes by adding Beauty and Social Equity to a

foundational framework similar to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). And William McDonough's response when he was asked by former president George W. Bush what he thinks of nuclear energy- "I love it and the source 93,000,000 miles away is the perfect place for it." The models and programs and precedents are out there and many of our members, individuals, and firms are leading the way. It is a matter of engaging ourselves, our clients, and our spirits in this grand and critical pursuit.

In our often frenetic day-to-day lives there seems to be little time for ritual and ceremony. We, in Alberta, have a tremendous opportunity to celebrate the extraordinary power of what we do here in our province and around the world and what others are doing globally. The next Banff Session, in 2014, and the RAIC Festival of Architecture in 2015 are two enormous events in which we can celebrate the spirit of architecture and interior design.

It is with great enthusiasm and humility that I begin the one year term as president of the Alberta Association of Architects following a long list of dedicated members fulfilling this role since our inception in 1906. I wholeheartedly anticipate the opportunity to serve you, the members, and the profession. Thank you."

ITEM 11 CLOSING REMARKS

Peter Streith stated that it was an honour and privilege to serve as elected President. Going forward, the Association is strong and will be in good hands under new President Mark Chambers, and Council. Peter noted he looks forward to working with them as Immediate Past President. Peter offered his sincere thanks to the members, Council and Administration for making his year at the helm such a pleasure.

ITEM 12 DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Peter Streith called for a motion on the time and place of the next Annual General Meeting.

MOTION:

Moved by David Mazurick and seconded by Patti Swanson

"THAT THE NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION BE HELD AT A TIME AND PLACE SELECTED BY COUNCIL".

CARRIED

ITEM 13 ADJOURNMENT

Peter Streith called for a motion of Adjournment.

MOTION:

Moved by Stephanie Clancy and seconded by Doug Ramsey.

"MOVED THAT THE APRIL 19, 2013, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS BE ADJOURNED."

CARRIED

The 2013 AGM was adjourned at 9 a.m.