

# CANB - Newsletter

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## Presidents Message, John McDonald, GSC



**Overview**

CANB saw another year of decreased major projects, decreased government spending and continued record out migration of workers in 2014. The financial crisis that has plagued the previous government has now simply shifted to the new government elected in the fall. A very bleak economic situation for the entire province highlighted much of the year as capital spending was reduced in all departments. By the last quarter of 2014, it was apparent to all industry partners that the provincial government’s financial woes would have an impact on private spending as well. Minimal private sector announcements of any good size projects as well as the completion of some lingering projects were the order of the day. Small to mid-size commercial private sector construction experienced minimal growth in the three larger cities of Saint John, Moncton and Fredericton, however for most member firms there was enough to stay positive. The city of Saint John and Moncton both announced fairly large projects for a new downtown Moncton Entertainment complex and a large P3 for upgrades to the Saint John drinking water system. Both projects are in the initial stages.

The forecast for 2015 predictably is for the status quo for the Provincial Government capital spending program. Health care and education will highlight the large project category while numerous smaller projects were announced in January 2015. Defence Canada spending has been steady and more projects have been announced at CFB Gagetown. A significant portion of this goes to benefit the small to mid-size firms that work on the Residential Housing projects on base. The Irving Group has announced continued spending on projects related to its forestry operation at mills around the province. No significant project announcements in the oil and gas sector as Irving Oil continues dialogue on the West to East pipeline project. The ability of private sector gas exploration companies to continue to explore additional fracking sites was put on hold as the new Provincial Government boasted of a moratorium during the election campaign. Most industry partner associations agree that without a significant investment in our resource development sector including oil and gas in 2015, there will be no mega projects in New Brunswick for the foreseeable future.

**We're on the Web!**  
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### Accomplishments

We have made great strides with the Build for the Future campaign and received strong support from members with donations of dollars or tools to help with the High School shop programs. Our new Youth Coordinator has settled in nicely throughout the year hosting a successful career expo with very good attendance. Several volunteers are helping to make this a success by donating time, materials and expertise so that kids can actually have physical interaction and exposure to a certain trade or task within the trade. We hope that we can announce the continued funding from the Province of this valuable position targeting youth in schools that are interested in a trade and/or the industry in general.

Our two Joint Industry Government (JIG) sessions were very well attended with members from all of the large buying groups in the Province represented for open forum round table discussions. With fiscally restrained times at present, these events have raised awareness of all parties as to how important it is to

continue to build on our open and sometimes frank communication to foster a solid working relationship for the future. While our December meeting was very well attended during the day, we were disappointed with the lack of attendance of government leaders at the early evening social which is strategically staged when the Legislature is just clearing out.

We continue to have a solid relationship with some senior staff within the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Buildings group. We have many common issues and enjoy frequent sharing of ideas or feedback on changes within the procurement process or general changes to design and construction services of capital projects in NB.

CANB has a much improved communication link with NB Power and had 2 very positive meetings in late 2013 and early 2014. Several CANB members were very vocal about some of the procurement processes and policies in place and we had very open and encouraging dialogue with senior level staff including the President of the crown utility.

*“Joint Industry Government (JIG) sessions were very well attended.”*

## Save The Date! CANB Annual General Meeting

**Wednesday, March 11, 2015** - Crowne Plaza (Petitcodiac room)  
Fredericton

11:00 a.m. Board Meeting  
1:00 p.m. AGM



## New Brunswick Contractor Leads One of Canada's Largest Trade Associations



Gaëtan Beaulieu, President of Beaulieu Plumbing & Mechanical of Edmundston recently began his second year of his two-year term as President of the Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada. First elected in September 2013 leads Mr. Beaulieu leads one of Canada's oldest national construction related associations which traces its roots back to 1895. He is the first from New Brunswick in this position in almost 25 years and only the fourth to do so in MCA Canada's history. The Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada (MCAC) is Federation of provincial autonomous associations, all working for the betterment and advancement of the trade and mechanical contracting industry in Canada. With offices in each province and 15 regional offices in Ontario, the Mechanical Contractors Association is Canada's largest trade contractor Association.

Mr. Beaulieu has long been active in the construction industry serving for many years on the Boards of both the Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada and the Mechanical Contractors Association of New Brunswick. He previously served several terms as Chair of MCA New Brunswick.

Beaulieu Plumbing and Mechanical is one of the Province's largest mechanical contracting firms offering construction and service in plumbing, heating, refrigeration and sheet metal. It is also a family business as Gaëtan is joined by his wife Carol and son Justin in the running of the family business.

## CANB- Moncton Northeast Has A Busy Training Season

As the construction season winds down in October and November, the training season at CANB – Moncton Northeast ramps up.

For the third season Moncton Northeast is offering its popular *Essential Skills for Key Site Supervisors*. This 8-session series of workshops is designed to prepare site supervisors to complete successful projects for their employers. Subjects covered include the Role of the Site Supervisor in the Construction Process, Site Supervisor and Personal Performance Management, Communication and Information Management, Jobsite Productivity, Planning and Scheduling, Contract Administration and Site Operations Management, Safety and Environmental

Management and Construction Law. Over 40 site supervisors have completed this program including several who benefitted from on-site mentoring, which also saw training plans prepared for their employer. This Program has been accredited by the Canadian Construction Association Gold Seal Program and completion of the program provides participants with 10 credits towards gold seal certification.

This year will see the unveiling of a new program for *Construction Project Managers*. This Program has been a natural progression from the Site Supervisor Program and part of the program leads the Project Managers through aspects of concepts learned by their subordinate site supervisors. In this 3-session workshop series Project Managers will also be instructed in personal performance management and project planning, scheduling and successful execution. As an add-on to this Program participants will also be offered a mentoring opportunity to help them implement concepts

learned in the classroom on the job site. As this was a pilot of a new program, registrations were limited to eight, but with still over two weeks before the start of the sessions 16 had registered. This would confirm early that this program will become a yearly offering of CANB – Moncton Northeast. The first session will begin on January 21 with 10 participants, and surely more programs to follow with the need already identified.

Also being offered for the first time this year will be *Plans and Specification Reading – Advanced*. For several years Moncton Northeast offered a *Plans & Specification Reading 101*. While the original program was designed for new entrants to the industry and as a refresher to others there was a demand for a program that went beyond the basics. This advanced program is designed for individuals, particularly those on site, whose job requires them to have a more in-depth knowledge of the project's plans and specifications. This 5-session program will be run over two weeks in mid to late March.



*“This year will see the unveiling of a new program for Construction Project Managers.”*

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Finally this training season we will be offering a one-day *Basics of Concrete* for a second time. This program will be conducted in mid April and will provide participants with knowledge on the principles, concepts and properties of concrete and to enhance their understanding of how the long term performance of concrete is affected by the placement operation and the various materials and admixtures that make up concrete and their individual proportions within the concrete mix. Topics covered include estimating quantities, mixtures, weather variations, testing and troubleshooting to name a few. Participants of this workshop will have a better understanding of how concrete construction practices, weather, quality control testing, etc. can affect the strength, durability and life of the concrete structure. This will help to eliminate unwanted results and should lead to greater on-site efficiencies of the process. The workshop will be of interest to any site personnel, both working for general contractors or sub-contractors, whose responsibilities include the placement and curing of concrete.

It should be noted that these programs are offered by CANB – Moncton Northeast and are available to all members of CANB member associations. As well any Association wanting to deliver them to their own members are encourage to contact Bill Dixon.

*“Essential Skills for  
Key Site  
Supervisors”*

## CANB-SJ Members Partner for P3 Project

The City of Saint John has shortlisted the proposals of consortiums to bid on the P3 project to overhaul the city's drinking water system.

This project, estimated at a cost of \$250 million, is expected to see a finalized project agreement in the fall of 2015. Six partnerships have entered submissions for this project, with three being chosen to move forward.

The three partnerships that have been selected

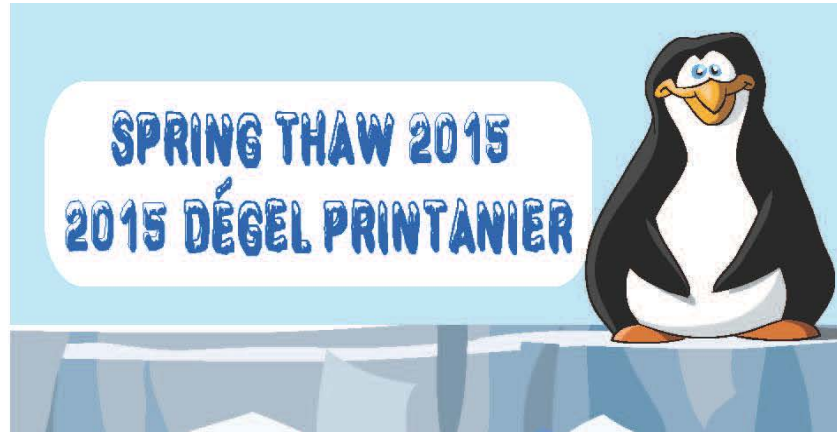
to offer formal technical bids to build and operate the new system are Port City Water Solutions, Port City Water Partners and Port City Water Partnership.

The lead construction company for the Port City Water Solutions partnership is CANB-SJ member company Bird Construction, who has a long history with waste and wastewater projects. Also active in this partnership are local member companies Master Mechanical,

Galbraith Construction and QM Construction.

We are enthusiastic to see a partnership of powerhouse member companies working together for the common good and sustainable growth of the local construction industry, and we encourage all members to work together to continue this trend.

*“Bird Construction,  
Master Mechanical,  
Galbraith Construction  
and QM Construction”*



Hello Everyone,

CANB – Moncton Northeast is busy planning for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Spring Thaw** industry networking event being held on May 1, 2015. We have designed specific sponsorship levels for this event that include special incentives that will give your company both generous recognition and great marketing exposure directed at the construction industry. These outlined recognition components are a suggested starting point and we remain open to customizing recognition packages to meet your company’s unique marketing ideas and requirements. We trust the attached information package will pique your company’s interest to be a part of this exciting industry event.



Event sponsor packages for **Spring Thaw** range from \$ 500 to \$ 1,500. Limited sponsorship opportunities are available so early commitment is recommended.

2015 confirmed sponsors to date include:

- Platinum** RCS Construction, Dobbelsteyn Service & Maintenance Ltd.
- Gold** Fero Waste & Recycling, Bird Stairs, United Rentals
- Silver** BSM Services, Eastern Fence, Cansel, Kent Homes

**Event Overview** The **Spring Thaw** industry networking and social event will be the place to be on May 1, 2015. Hosted by the CANB-Moncton Northeast the event is open to all industry companies and related services from across New Brunswick and the Maritimes. Last year we welcomed more than 275 participants to the event. **Spring Thaw** is quickly becoming a “must attend event” for the industry, and we are expecting strong attendance growth for 2015.



**Tickets**

Buying tickets to this event is a great opportunity to thank your staff and clients, and they are reasonably priced at just \$49 (tax included) each.

## Outlook on 2015 Major Projects

CANB-SJ will be hosting a membership dinner meeting on Tuesday, March 17th in Saint John at the Lily Lake Pavilion (located at the entrance to Rockwood Park). The purpose of this meeting is to provide member companies with an outlook of what provincial projects are forecasted for 2015 / 2016 and an update of where these projects are in their budgeting and planning stages.

Slated to speak at this event are Mr. Gaetan Thomas, President of NB Power, Mr. Jim Quinn, President and CEO of Port Saint John and will also see a presentation from Kevin Maloney, Project Manager for the TransCanada Corporation for the East to West pipeline.

This networking mixer is being hosted by CANB-SJ, but is open to all CANB members to attend. For more information, sponsorship opportunities or for ticket purchase, please contact our office at (506) 633-1101 or sjcic@nb.aibn.com.

*“CANB-SJ  
Mixer”*

“CANB-SJ has taken a public stand to support shale gas in the province of NB.”

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## Full Support for Shale Gas & Pipeline

CANB-SJ has made public our membership full support for both the Shale Gas Initiatives and the proposed TransCanada East to West Pipeline Project.

In a letter written on behalf of the membership, CANB-SJ has taken a public stand to support for the safe, economical and environmentally responsible exploration and development of shale gas in the province of New Brunswick. In addition, a second letter has been issued extending our full support to the TransCanada project entitled the Energy East Pipeline.

We feel that the proposed work in in both shale gas development and pipeline construction is highly relevant to our local industry, and well in line with the ideals and objectives of this association. We feel that the impact of these projects to the construction sector will move New Brunswick in the right direction by creating jobs and driving the economy forward.

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## NS to use Fracking Waste at Lafarge Plant

(Submitted by CANB-SJ member company Lafarge)

Nova Scotia has given the go-ahead for 5Ml of hydraulic fracturing wastewater to be disposed at the Lafarge Brookfield plant following a successful pilot project earlier in spring 2014. The province's Environment Minister, Randy Delorey, said in a statement he's approved a request from Atlantic Industrial Services to use the waste water at the Brookfield plant. The leftover waste water from drilling that took place seven years ago, estimated in 10 million liters, are currently in two ponds at the Atlantic Industrial Services site. It is estimated that about 167 truckloads of water will be needed to complete the transfer. The water will be used as a coolant in the Lafarge kiln and evaporated at 700°C

## 2015 Board of Directors - New Brunswick Road Builders & Heavy Construction



Standing - Willy Morrison, JP Levesque, Randy Chase, Andy Savoy, Jamie Weatherbee, Chris Thomson, Terry Keiver

Sitting - Etienne Cormier, Roger Leger, Charlie Wilson, Paul DeMerchant, Luc Beaulieu, Tom McGinn

Absent - Yann Savoie and Honourary President Lloyd Giggie

2015  
Board of Directors



## FNWCA Expresses Full Support for Shale Gas and Pipeline Projects to Premier Gallant

In December 2014, FNWCA President Brian Dingle, wrote New Brunswick Premier Brian Gallant to state our association's full support for the west to east pipeline project and the development of the shale gas industry in New Brunswick. Below is an excerpt from his letter.

The members of our association are entirely dependent on the health of the provincial economy. As you are aware our economic growth has been slow. We continue to lose skilled trades people to other faster growing provinces. This impacts our members and their ability to retain good people and grow their businesses. We really need economic development and now.

We see two significant opportunities that would bring large benefits to our province: the extension of the west to east pipeline to Saint John and the development of a shale gas industry in New Brunswick. We believe that these two development opportunities would provide long term economic benefits to the province and a much needed boost to the local construction industry during the construction phase.

We urge you and your government to move forward on these two initiatives as quickly as possible.





## BUILD FOR THE FUTURE.....MAKING A DIFFERENCE

*Building for the Future and the allocation of equipment is being recognized. Thanks to everyone that is making this project a success...and for your continued support; it is making a difference!*



The Fredericton Northwest Construction Association working with the Construction Association of New Brunswick have successfully sponsored fifteen schools throughout the Fredericton Northwest Region. Donations, to name a few were made to the Hartland Community School, Nackawic Middle School and Fredericton High School for the purchase of tools and materials for their shop classes, as part of the "Build for the Future" program. Shown in the top left photo is Hartland Community School teacher, Craig Young with students Craig Brown and Austin McNally. The lower photo is Darren Webber of FNWCA with students of Nackawic Middle School.



Fredericton Northwest Construction presents Fredericton High School with materials from their wish list for their shop class.  
(Left Photo, Thomas Goodine)



## Annual General Meeting

The Fredericton Northwest Construction will be holding their Annual General Meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015. There will be a presentation from Gaetan Thomas of NB Power. The presentation is intended to help bridge the gap between the Owner, General Contractors, Sub Contractors and NB Power on information missing on work orders. There will also be a presentation on ASmart Energy.®

## CANB - Fredericton Northwest Recognizes Past Presidents

The Fredericton Northwest Construction Association recently made a concerted effort to include all of the Past Presidents of the Association from 1950 to 2014. Our boardroom holds plaques of some of the Past Presidents, but not all of them. In order to recognize everyone's participation in the Association and to have some recorded historic history, two plaques have been made for the main lobby that show the Name, Company and the Year that the person worked for at the time.

*"Special Presentation"*

## CC Kirby Award

ENGINEERS  
GEOSCIENTISTS  
*New Brunswick*



INGÉNIEURS  
GÉOSCIENTIFIQUES  
*Nouveau-Brunswick*

### Michael Whitford, PEng

*The C.C. Kirby Award is given in recognition of outstanding service or contribution to both the engineering profession and the province of New Brunswick. Named in honour of Charles C. Kirby, a distinguished engineer who was the founder of the Association and co-founder and first President of Engineers Canada, the C.C. Kirby Award is the most prestigious award a professional engineer can receive from the Association.*

As a top student in high school, Michael Whitford, PEng, liked challenges. He had heard that engineering was supposed to be the hardest program in university so he decided to channel his efforts toward becoming a civil engineer. When he graduated from the University of New Brunswick with his degree in 1970, he admits that he was more interested in business but due to circumstances at the time, he decided to embark on his engineering career and today, he is glad he did. "I can honestly say that civil engineering was the right career for me," says Mr. Whitford. "I love seeing things built and I especially like providing top level service to clients."

Shortly after graduation, in 1972, Mr. Whitford and **Hector Jacques** co-founded Jacques Whitford Limited and Associates. His mission was to understand his client's business better than anyone else in the industry, and deliver customized, value-added solutions that met their individual needs.

Within the week the fledgling firm turned profitable, landing its first major project, the Micmac Mall in Dartmouth. It was to become Atlantic Canada's largest shopping centre. In the first week, the firm also signed 10 clients, and within a month it signed a second major contract, the Mabou Bridge in Cape Breton. In the first eight months, Jacques Whitford recorded revenues of \$89,000.

By 1975, Mr. Whitford initiated the company's first office expansion to Saint John, NB and played a pivotal role in establishing the firm as one of Canada's leading providers of engineering services.

When the firm signed a contract with Mobil Oil in 1980, they were able to branch out into the lucrative oil and gas sector. According to *U.S. Business Review*, "The Mobil contract gave Jacques Whitford the leverage and name recognition to expand its services to oil and gas projects first throughout Canada and ultimately around the world. The business also gained ground thanks to the increasing environmental awareness of the late 1970s and early 1980s."

Under Mr. Whitford's supervision, Jacques Whitford grew to employ more than 1,600 engineers, scientists, and technical support staff in more than 45 offices—including eight offices in Western Canada and outposts in the United Arab Emirates and Qatar. When the company acquired AXYS Environmental Consulting Ltd. in 2005, Jacques Whitford became one of Canada's largest environmental and engineering consulting firms with sales topping \$100 million annually.

Although the commercial success of Jacques Whitford is certainly a source of pride for Mr. Whitford, he is equally proud of the three accolades the company garnered in 2006. It was named among the top 100 employers by *Maclean's*, as one of the *Financial Post's* Ten Best Companies to Work For, and as one of the top-10 family-friendly employers by *Today's Parent* magazine.

During his career, Mr. Whitford found time to serve as president of the Consulting Engineers of New Brunswick and was a member of the national ACEC Board.

Mr. Whitford has also contributed to his profession by providing significant financial support through his company to engineering and geoscience programs.

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Starting in 2000, his company, Jacques Whitford, began a continuing relationship with the **Canadian Foundation for Geotechnique** by sponsoring the **CGS Cross Canada Lecture Tours**. He says, "Striving for excellence and continuing education keep our industry dynamic."

His company, Jacques Whitford Ltd, made a **\$200,000 donation** to the University of New Brunswick's *Forging Our Futures Campaign* in support of science and engineering scholarships.

Under his direction, Jacques Whitford Limited also established a scholarship which is awarded to two UNB students enrolled in the bachelor of science or bachelor of engineering degree programs.

In between running a company and raising a family, Mr. Whitford has found time to give back to his community. He has:

- Served on the Board of the Saint John YM-YWCA
- Coached minor baseball, high school baseball and intermediate level baseball.
- Coached several years of middle school girls basketball and also coached age class girls basketball.

He currently serves on the Huntsman Marine advisory committee and was the financial warden for Trinity Anglican Church in St Stephen, NB.

In 2009, Edmonton-based engineering firm, Stantec, acquired Jacques Whitford for \$145 million.

Today, Mr. Whitford serves as vice-president of Stantec's geotechnical engineering business in Canada and has been an integral figure in the success of numerous projects that were built on a wide variety of challenging terrain. He cites the following geotechnical work as being among his most memorable and challenging work-related achievements:

#### **Brunswick Square**, Saint John, NB

Designing the tallest building in Saint John faced number of geotechnical-related issues. The proposed building design meant there would be a high load on a foundation of only moderate-strength rock. The calculations provided by Mr. Whitford's testing and analysis gave designers the exact highest-bearing pressure load recommended for rock on the Saint John peninsula.

#### **Harbour Station**, Saint John, NB

Mr. Whitford also developed a foundation concept that would allow the city's major events arena to be constructed within budget on a reclaimed land site.

#### **Potash Co of America**, Penobsquis, NB

With Mr. Whitford's expertise and creativity, the Potash Co. mine in Penobsquis was able to use large-diameter caissons for surface structures and head frame foundations—even though nothing like that had ever been done before in New Brunswick sandstone and mudstone.

In 2013 the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies of New Brunswick (ACEC-NB) presented him with a President's Award.

This year, it gives APEGNB great pride in presenting **Michael Whitford**, PEng, with its highest honour, the C.C. Kirby Award in recognition of his significant contributions to the regional economy, his profession and community.

*"The C.C. Kirby  
Award Recipient*

*Michael Whitford"*

## Building for the Future Trades Career Expos

We would like to personally thank all exhibitors of the Building for the Future Trades Career Expo Moncton 2014 event for their exceptional work. The Anglophone and Francophone school districts were amazed at your expertise and your ability to mentor Youth.

If ANY construction trades companies are interested in participating in the **Saint John Building for the Future Trades Career Expo**, please contact the Youth Coordinator at:

Dany.losier@constructnb.ca or (506) 227-7141

This event will take place at the Saint John Trade and Convention Centre on May 12, 13<sup>th</sup> and a half day on the 14<sup>th</sup> for grade nine students of the Saint John school districts and the south region of NB.

It is a great way to market your company, attract new apprentices and invest in the new generations and because we value your human resources, we cover the charges of the booths!



Construction Association  
Of New Brunswick

## CANB Youth Coordinator New Contract

Your CANB Youth Coordinator has been involved in promoting the trades in the schools across NB. The great news in regards to our Youth Coordinator contract with Post-Secondary Education Training and Labour is that we will be continuing this very important work in the schools. Watch for more details in the next edition about the new contract, new name of position and the additional services to Members of CANB.

## Employers/Youth Job Seekers

**Employers:** If you are looking for new apprentices or have summer employments for Youth, we are able to help you connect with some potential candidates.

**Youth:** If you are between the ages of 15-29 years old and seeking employment in the construction industry, please feel free to contact the Youth Coordinator for some great labour market information, information on the hidden job market and other employment services:

Dany Losier

Dany.losier@constructnb.ca

506 227 7141



**BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE**

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