



WWW.GCAOTTAWA.COM

General Contractors Association of Ottawa Newsletter

Spring 2008 edition

GCAO Annual Golf Day

Our annual Golf Day which always proves to be a popular outing will be held again this year at Fairmont Le Chateau Montebello Golf Club on Friday 30th May. 08:00 T-off with random or group flights of 4 followed by prizes and lunch at 13:00. This enjoyable, social event should prove to be another success, invitations to go out shortly. Mark your calendar!

2008 SAGM

The GCAO is planning to hold the Semi Annual General Meeting on Thursday, June 12th to update the members on the activities of the Association. We are planning to have guest speaker on the subject of Building Information Modelling (BIM).

GCAO Annual Reception

The Association's Annual Reception took place on Wednesday February 6th 2008 from 5.30 to 8.00 pm and was held at the Rideau Club. The guest list included Owners, Architects, Consulting engineers, Government officials and GCAO members. Doug Burnside our current president extended a warm welcome to all attendees.

Mr Frank Ciccolini of Masters Insurance was formally introduced and graciously thanked as the generous sponsor of the Annual reception once again this year. Master's have been in Ottawa for several years providing bonding and insurance to the construction industry. Their office is located in suite 102 of the OCA building.



2007 Integrity & Ethics Award

The GCAO's 2007 Integrity & Ethics Award was presented to Mr. Alex Rankin, Dip Arch., OAA, FRAIC, ARIBA, MRIAI, RCA, MAAO of Griffiths Rankin Cook Architects in recognition of his fair and ethical treatment in dealing with the local construction industry.

Mr. Rankin was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and received his professional degree in London, England. As he came to Canada in 1965, his career developed on both sides of the Atlantic with several firms, and he became a founding partner with Griffiths Rankin Cook Architects in 1985.



His design awards include the Governor General's Medal (1982), the Ontario Association Award of Excellence (1990), and the City of Ottawa Conservation Award (1993).

Mr Rankin's professional Association includes Chairman of the Ottawa Regional Society of Architects (ORSA), Council member and Vice-President of the OAA, and Vice-

President of the RAIC. He also served as Registrar for the RAIC's College of Fellows, was the co founder and chair of the Canadian Design Build Institute.

The documentation and testimonials received supporting Alex Rankin's candidacy all resonate with words such as fair, honest, forthright, care, ethical standards, mentor, integrity, thoughtfulness, professionalism, trust and teamwork, all of which reflect the characteristics truly representative of the essence this award strives to recognize.

CCDC Developments

The long-awaited *CCDC 2 - 2008 Stipulated Price Contract* has finally been launched in February and the GCAO is already working to promote the use of this document by public and private owners and their consultants.

The contract form, along with the accompanying *CCDC 20 - 2008 Guide to the Use of CCDC 2 - 2008 Stipulated Price Contract* and the new *CCDC 41 - 2008 CCDC Insurance Requirements* can be downloaded from www.ccdc.org.

Membership

The GCAO is pleased to announce two new members, Bondfield Construction, and the LA Group, and one new applicant, Vanbots Construction.

The current number of member firms is 61 members representing all of the prominent general contractors in the Ottawa area. The GCAO can speak with authority when addressing tendering practices, and when voicing our concerns with Clients, Designers, and Owners.

This year a number of non-member contractors active in the Ottawa region have been contacted to encourage their joining our association. We continue to urge all member firms to refer competing non-member firms for membership to the membership committee. All members benefit when our industry can speak with a single voice.

Tendering Practices Report

Addressing unfair tendering practices is a key responsibility of the GCAO and it is where your membership provides you the most value. The Tendering Practices Committee's main endeavor is to ensure adherence of the standard and recognized fair tendering practices in the industry. We also strive to enforce the execution of all the other various CCDC documents pertaining to tendering procedures.

Recent Issues:

Johnstown Ethanol Plant

SNC Lavalin: Excessive number of Supplementary General Conditions (SGCs) and unit rate submission requirements in the tender form.

Ottawa Congress Centre

City of Ottawa: requested a letter of credit rather than a bond for its Expansion Project

New Ottawa Rotary Home

MHPM Project Managers Inc.: Skewed (SGCs), low mark-ups.

Stacie Building Super Lab Renovation

Carleton University: 2% deficiency and warranty holdback.

BILDSCO

An important "Objective" in the GCAO's charter is "To liaise with owners, architects and consulting engineers". "BILDSCO" is the acronym for "Building Industry Liaison – Designers, Contractors, and Owners". It is a Joint Committee comprised of representatives of the Ottawa Regional Society of Architects, the

General Contractors Association of Ottawa, the Ottawa Chapters of the Consulting Engineers of Ontario, the Building Owners and Managers Association and the International Facilities Management Association, and Public Works and Government Services Canada. BILDSCO was initiated by GCAO in 1999.

At the fall meeting it was decided that the primary focus of BILDSCO would be on the City of Ottawa's compliance procedures concerning undue delays in the issuance of building permits and site plan approvals and excessive development charges. These are "common denominator" issues of concern to all BILDSCO member organizations. The approach to be taken is that these are mutual problems and that relief will not only benefit Owners and their Design Professionals and Contractors, but also serve to increase the City's tax revenues and economic well-being.

Specific examples of problems encountered in these areas were solicited in November and a draft presentation will be reviewed at the forthcoming BILDSCO meeting. Early action in the form of further in-puts of case examples from GCAO members would be most welcome. Extra copies of the GCAO Members' Bulletin on this subject are available for your ready reference.

Examples of some potential future BILDSCO objectives are:

1. Reducing Unnecessary Costs due to Excessive SGCs.
2. New Construction Dispute Resolution Procedures.
3. "Best Value" Selection of Design Proposals and of Construction Tenders.
4. Timely implementation of the new CCDC 2 Contract.
5. Forums for new construction or design methods such as BIM – Building Information Modeling.

Non Refundable Plan Deposits

The GCAO continues to provide and manage the popular non-refundable deposit fund. Notification from association members was received on a number of projects in recent months. All projects were investigated and responded to as per the guidelines of the GCAO's policy. Although the fund is practical, the GCAO is active in pressing owners of the industry norm to pay for bid documents or use refundable deposits.

The Association's Finances

Francis Pomerleau, returning treasurer, indicated that through 2007 the association's financial position has continued to improve. This is in part due to our strong membership as sponsorship for our social activities. The GCAO's net income for 2007 was \$9,847.82, increasing the member equity to \$30,464.46. It is anticipated that 2008 will achieve similar results.

It was decided that membership fees would not be increased for 2008.

(OVBD) Ottawa Valley Bid Depository

Only a small number of projects are being closed through the OVBD, PWGSC being one of the few owners using the service.

The OVBD continues to review the work-scope definition guidelines for Mechanical and Plumbing trades to establish a clearer local standard for future bid closings in Ottawa.

On the Lighter Side.....

GC 66.6 If the work is done without extra expense to the Contractor, then the work will be taken down and done over again until the extra expense to the Contractor is satisfactory to the Architect.

2008 Board Members and Mandates



Back Row Left to Right: Don Chutter, Paul McDonald, Hubie Splinter, Gary Kozak, Wolf Schlesiger, Sean Lundy, Michael Assal **Front Row Left to Right:** Brian Morley, Doug Burnside
Francis Pomerleau is absent from this photo

1. Tendering Practices

Gary Kozak (chair), Doug Burnside, Brian Morley, Michael Assal, Paul McDonald

2. Membership

Brian Morley

3. Communications

Michael Assal

4. Entertainment

Hubie Splinter, Sean Lundy

5. Nominating Committee

Brian Morley

6. Non-Refundable Deposits

Hubie Splinter

7. Web Site

Paul McDonald

8. BILDCO – Ottawa

Michael Assal, Brian Morley, Doug Burnside, Gary Kozak

9. OVBD Liaison

Wolf Schlesiger, Paul McDonald

Past President, Brian Morley

Morley Hoppner Group Inc.

P 613-831-5490

F 613-831-0067

E bdmorley@morleyhoppner.com

President, Doug Burnside

Dolyn Developments

P 613-224-7268

F 613-224-0579

E doug@dolyn.com

Treasurer & CCA Liaison Director, Francis Pomerleau

Pomerleau Construction

P. 613 244-4323

F. 613 244-4327

E. francis.pomerleau@pomerleau.ca

First Vice President, Gary Kozak

ASCO Construction Ltd.

P 613 224-1381

F 613 224-1849

E gary.kozak@ascoconstruction.com

Second Vice President, Michael Assal

Taplen Construction

P 613 521-2550

F 613 521-8945

E massal@taplenconstruction.com

Secretary, Wolf Schlesiger

Daoust Moore Construction

P 613 733-8227

F 613 733-3766

E wolf@DMConstruction.com

Director, Paul McDonald

McDonald Brothers Construction

P 613 831-6223

F 613 831-5528

E paul@mbconstruction.ca

Director, Hubie Splinter

Fuller Construction

P 613 820-6000

F 613 829-7296

E hsplinter@fuller.ca

Director, Sean Lundy

Lundy Construction

P 613 233-8484

F 613 231-3606

E sean@mplundy.com

Executive Director, Don Chutter

P 613-745-4786

F 613-745-3516

E sdchutter@rogers.com

OCA Liaison Director

Dean Drevniok

Frecon Construction

P 613-445-2944

F 613-445-3652

E dean_drevniok@frecon.ca

General Contractor's Association of Ottawa

196 Bronson Avenue

Ottawa, Ontario

K1R 6H4

P 613 239-4525

F 613 755-0032

E admin@gcaottawa.ca

editor Michael Assal