



# General Contractors Association of Ottawa Newsletter

## GCAO Calendar:

### Annual General Meeting:

January 26, 2011

taking place at:  
Ottawa Construction Association (OCA)  
196 Bronson Avenue  
Ottawa, Ontario

### Annual Reception:

February 24, 2011

taking place at:  
Rideau Club  
99 Bank Street  
Ottawa, Ontario

### Upcoming Board Meetings:

Friday, December 10

If you have an issue you wish to bring to the Board's attention, please contact the appropriate director - see list of directors and portfolios at the end of this newsletter.

## Inside:

- Tendering Practices – Recent Successes
- Who is Don Chutter?
- Two Vacancies on 2011 Board of Directors
- City of Ottawa Purchasing By-Law Provisions
- Mentors Wanted
- Board Members and Mandates

## Striving for Excellence • Integrity • Ethics

### GCAO Project Awards Program

#### 1st Annual General Contractors Association of Ottawa Awards

Entries are now invited to the 2010 General Contractors Association of Ottawa Awards featuring the **Don Chutter Meritorius Achievement Award**. Up to four Awards of Excellence from Buildings and Infrastructure work will be given.

Winners will be honoured at the GCAO Annual General Meeting with a Presentation Ceremony held in January of 2011. Projects are judged by a panel of eminent professional engineers, architects, and owners representing client groups, professional associations and academia who are not

currently engaged in General Contracting. Entries must be made directly to GCAO.

#### Don Chutter Meritorius Achievement Award\*

The *Don Chutter Meritorius Achievement Award* will be presented to the submission that best demonstrates the contribution of General Contracting to our quality of life in Ottawa. The judging panel will consider that project which excels in all areas of the rated criteria and is also an Ottawa and Surrounding Region Project. The criteria will consider four different but related aspects of the submitting firm's role in the project.

*\*see Page 2 article, "Who is Don Chutter?"*



#### Awards of Excellence

Up to a total of Four Awards of Excellence will be presented from Categories A and B based on project size.

Further details can be found at [www.gcaottawa.com/newsletters](http://www.gcaottawa.com/newsletters).

#### Important Dates:

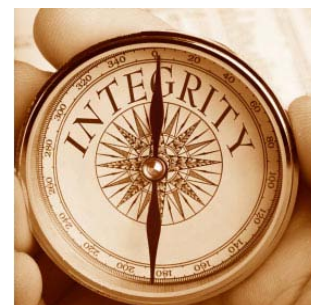
**January 7, 2011** Exhibit Panel and Project Binder due

**January 26, 2011** Awards Presentation at GCAO Annual General Meeting

### Integrity & Ethics Award

Just a reminder to members; please submit your nominations for the annual Integrity & Ethics Award as soon as possible. Submissions should be sent to Michael Assal, at [massal@taplenconstruction.com](mailto:massal@taplenconstruction.com). This award recognizes individuals

who have consistently displayed a high standard of integrity and ethics in dealing with local construction industry participants, including owners, designers, consultants, contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and fellow employees.



## Tendering Practices – Recent Successes

The GCAO continues to provide representation for our members regarding tendering practices particularly dealing with onerous supplementary conditions (SGCs) and tendering practices.

We are delighted to report recent success in dealing with the Renfrew Catholic School Board on a project in Pembroke. The representation by the GCAO together with the full support and cooperation of our

member firms tendering the project managed to get the 40-plus pages of SGC's reduced to just four pages.

Similarly a recent addendum issued for the Ecole Kanata Nord has included the changes and modifications to SGC's as requested by the GCAO.

GCAO's recommendation to Ontario Realty Corporation (ORC) and SNC-Lavalin O&M that construction tenders for

projects located in Ottawa and the surrounding region be closed in Ottawa rather than in Kingston has been agreed upon and will soon be implemented. As well, it has been reiterated to ORC that the GCAO continues to advocate our long-standing recommendation that these tenders be opened publicly, as is the practice by all other public institutions calling construction tenders.

## Who is Don Chutter?



(from front page, "*Don Chutter Meritorious Achievement Award*")

Don Chutter has been a well known and widely regarded member of the Ottawa construction community for many years.

The spirit of excellence characterizing the award itself was in large part the impetus for recognizing Don's contribution to the betterment of the construction industry as a whole and undoubtedly to the individual members and member firms of the GCAO. His degree of continuing commitment to the construction industry

over the years is certainly personified by the level of achievement suggested by the award. A brief synopsis of Don's career is as follows:

Don Chutter's career since the age of 22 has been devoted to promoting the interests of the construction industry. He began with the Canadian Construction Association, where he served as General Manager for 22 years. As Manager of the Ottawa Branch of Revay and Associates, he conducted many studies, surveys and seminars, and was an early apostle of arbitration and value engineering.

For four years he acted as Executive Director of the Construction Industry Development Council. Since 1999, Don has served as a Consultant/ Executive Director of the GCAO and Secretary of BILDCO-Ottawa.

Other positions held along the way included serving as a director of the OCA, President of the Ottawa Chapter of the Project Management Institute, Chair of the Construction Sector Committee of the Metric Commission of Canada, and Employer Co-chair of a 29-nation International Labour Organization Construction Conference in Geneva.

## Two Vacancies on 2011 Board of Directors



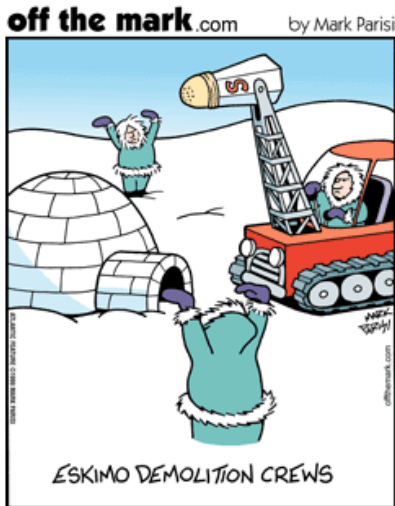
Members interested in serving on the GCAO Board of Directors next year should so advise the Nominating Committee Chairman Gary Kozak at [gkozak@aecon.com](mailto:gkozak@aecon.com). Nominations should be

supported by two voting members and be submitted no later than January 14, 2011.

Serving on the Board is a means of paying back something to the industry.

It involves attending monthly meetings and being responsible for one or more mandates. It also is an educational experience marked by good fellowship.

## City of Ottawa Purchasing By-Law Provisions



Members will recall that the OCA and GCAO opposed the City's blanket exclusion of bidders who were involved in litigation against the City. This exclusion remains but its administration has been effectively reduced so that it is now a "last resort".

On January 19, 2010, the City's Corporate Services Committee adopted a motion that "Staff be directed, prior to implementing a bidding prohibition against suppliers engaged in litigation with the City, to clarify the grounds on which such discretion would be exercised (e.g. when a supplier has committed fraud against

the City or one of its boards or corporations, has a history of failing to perform under the terms of a contract, or has been found to be in breach of health and safety conditions) and to consult with the Business Advisory Committee with respect to same and report back to the Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee".

On July 6, 2010, the committee recommended that City Council approve a limited litigation exclusion amendment to its Purchasing By-Law on a 2-year trial basis. The City Treasurer would report back on the

outcome during the Mid-Year Governance Review of 2012. Further, that the City Clerk and Solicitor would prepare a Preamble that captured the spirit of the Purchasing By-Law prior to the Council meeting.

The Preamble was approved by Council in September.

The Preamble states that "the City enjoys excellent working relationships with the supplier groups: (including the GCAO) and "seeks to maintain (them) as well as to strive to resolve contractual differences in a productive and effective manner."

## Mentors Wanted

Algonquin College is again running the **International Trained Civil Engineering Technologist (ITCET) Mentorship Program**, after a successful first year in 2008/09. Funded by the Ministry of Citizen and Immigration Ontario, this program assists internationally trained civil engineers in filling the knowledge gaps to meet occupational specific language requirements, socio-cultural training, and Canadian work experience, to practice as Civil Engineering

Technologists in Ontario.

**Consider being a mentor, or having a group of your colleagues become mentors!**

The ITCET Mentorship Program recruits volunteer mentors who have Canadian work experience and are interested in introducing an internationally trained individual (ITI) to the Canadian workplace.

The program seeks to match mentees with

mentors who have similar backgrounds in terms of education, experience, and career choice.

Mentors devote a total of 24 hours of their time to mentees over a period of six months – from December 2010 to May 2011.

For more information, contact Ruth Richardson, ITCET Mentorship Coordinator, Algonquin College, at 613-727-4723 ext.7255, or at [richarr@algonquincollege.com](mailto:richarr@algonquincollege.com).

## GCAO Board Members

### President

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### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

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### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

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### Past President

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### Director

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### Director

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### Executive Director

Don Chutter  
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sdchutter@rogers.com



Front row (left to right):  
Sean Lundy, Michael Assal, Michael Nicolini  
Back row (left to right):  
Joshua Laginski, Shawn Argue, Gary Kozak,  
Spencer Hagan, Don Chutter  
(not pictured: Hubie Splinter, Paul McDonald)

## Mandates

### Tendering Practices

Hubie Splinter, Chair  
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### Integrity and Ethics Award

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### BILDCO Ottawa Joint Committee

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### CCA Liaison

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### OCA Standard Practices Committee Liaison

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### Alliance for Building a Better Ottawa

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