

ALBERTA READY-MIXED CONCRETE ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the summer addition of the Mixer; I trust everyone had a wonderful summer with family and friends. Our board members will be connecting again at the end of this month for our first meeting following the 2015 summer construction season.

The economy in many parts of Alberta has continued to be challenging with the volatility in oil prices which continues to affect many building segments. However, it has stimulated infrastructure spending in many centres across the province. The warm, dry climate across Alberta has been favorable for our industry. I am optimistic that this will continue into the fourth quarter and first half of 2016.

As an industry we need to be accountable and defend our industry from competitive building materials, considering the current market conditions across the province. In addition to increasing our advocacy efforts, we will continue to align with other association across Canada to promote unity in the concrete industry, while ensuring our message is clear.

We have defined an eighteen month action document to complement our Strategic Plan and expectations defined at our 2015 Annual General Meeting. Our progress will be shared with the membership monthly. I have been consistent in this message; however I encourage all members to be clear in their expectations with the association as we continue to be more relevant and vocal throughout the concrete industry.



Kris Lasek - President

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Robin as our new Executive Director has demonstrated positive actions; we have connected with the Minister of Environment and Minister of Municipal Affairs to educate them on issues related to our industry. This will be the first of many face to face interactions as we increase our advocacy efforts in the political community. We have identified and prospected a number of industry stakeholders.

Organizations such as the Canadian Home Builders Association and Alberta New Home Warranty will allow us to establish the level of awareness and priorities that affect our industry and have begun to develop solutions to benefit the membership. We will be able to report back on tangible results in the spring of 2016.

I would like to personally wish everyone a safe completion of the 2015 construction season. Don't forget to visit our ARMCA website to find more information on Concrete Technology Level 1 & 2 courses and the 2016 Annual General Meeting.

Regards,

Kris Lasek
ARMCA President

ARMCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2015/2016

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I hope that you've all had a great construction season so far. The long term weather forecast points to a relatively warm fall, so hopefully that extends things for you to have an even longer season after such a great summer of warm temperatures.

I've had a busy summer that has been filled with me getting more comfortable in my role and getting to know ARMCA and the membership even better. Among the things that I've been working on includes developing a longer-term operational plan that is aligned with the strategic plan that the board approved earlier in the year. This plan will see us get more engaged with the membership and more active in promoting the ready-mixed concrete industry in Alberta, and across the country. As part of our operational plan, I have been working on a government relations/advocacy plan that we will use to educate and inform government decision makers from all levels of government on why concrete should be considered as the primary construction material for their infrastructure projects, big or small.

As I've said that I would do, I've spent time this summer on the road. I wanted to meet as many of you as possible over the summer...and I'm not done yet. I've been lucky to have met members throughout northern Alberta, as well as some in both Edmonton and Calgary. I have learned from them, heard their concerns, and worked with them to address a variety of issues that they had. Though I'm not even close to being done, and as I begin my swing through southern Alberta, I am learning one thing is common to all of our members and that is pride in what they do. Each and every one of the members that I've had contact with this summer have an overwhelming sense of pride and commitment to ensuring that they deliver superior product with superior service. This is a trait that I am proud to represent as I meet with government and industry stakeholders from across the province, so I thank you for that.

Your technical team, Ed Kalis and Paul Masson have been busy over the summer answering questions from you and from homeowners about the proper use and application of concrete, and I want to thank them for that, as it's a time consuming, but valuable service that they provide. In addition to this, they have been preparing materials and organizing for the upcoming training sessions that begin again this fall. I hope that as many of you as possible are going to register for as many of these training opportunities as possible so that we can ensure that we have the best trained industry out there!

As summer comes to a close, Cheryl Grisé our Office Administrator, will be getting busier as we begin our budget planning for next year, and as she works with our AGM Planning Committee to ensure that the 2016 AGM and Convention is successful as it always has been.

So, as we enter into the fall season, ARMCA will continue to work on your behalf with a variety of stakeholders including government, the Canadian Home Builders' Association, and Alberta New Home Warranty providers on a variety of issues that we hope will make your jobs safer and easier all while providing you with new opportunities to be successful.

Robin Bobocel
Executive Director



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TOOLS AVAILABLE ON THE ARMCA WEBSITE

MEMBERS, ARE YOU AWARE OF THE TOOLS AVAILABLE ON THE ARMCA WEBSITE?

Concrete Calculator:	Access an online calculator to determine approximate volume needed.
Evaporation Loss Table:	Avoid plastic shrinkage cracking
CANPav Application:	Cost Comparison Tool; understand your projects real cost of ownership. You can quickly conduct numerous “what if” scenarios comparing the initial constructions costs of both concrete and asphalt paving materials and save on projects.
Impact Estimator:	Buildings Lifecycle Assessment software is now available and free of charge. Includes the ability to import a bill of materials from CAD or other sources, enhanced extra materials input form, new assemblies, new materials and more!
Weather Table:	Access the Government of Canada Weather Office

These tools can all be accessed from your smart phone. Go to www.armca.ca, click on the “Members” tab and select “Tools”.

JOB POSTINGS

Working within the concrete industry provides a vast range of occupations. From the inception of the mix to the final stage of the product, there are many opportunities for employment. **MEMBERS; advertise your job postings on the ARMCA website.** Send your postings to info@armca.ca.

EDUCATION

As the construction season starts to wind down, our educational courses begin. Educating the people that work for you will give them the tools to not only perform their job better but will enable them to be better employees who can succeed in a dynamic environment.

The Concrete Technology 1 & 2 courses will be scheduled throughout the winter as we try to ensure everyone has the opportunity to attend. Please check our website regularly for the dates of upcoming courses being offered. As the dates are confirmed, they will be posted.

The first round of Concrete Technology Level 1 courses are scheduled for November 24 & 25, 2015 in Edmonton and December 1 & 2, 2015 in Calgary. These classes are beginning to fill up already. Send in your registration forms if you would like to attend.

We would like to emphatically thank our instructors, and their respective companies, for their time and commitment in the education process of the concrete industry.

Please check the website, www.armca.ca , for more information.

CHANGE OF SEASONS

Municipal Season Concrete Standards Kick In Soon!

Just a quick reminder to all producer members that winter concrete requirements or cold weather requirements will be coming into play. Some Municipalities and Counties do have seasonal concrete performance requirements. Please take the time to review the requirements as some Engineering Services departments may have had occasion recently, to review and revise their specifications with respect to strength performance.

As producers we are considered the experts when it comes to supplying concrete, and as such, we must keep on our toes at all times when it comes to variations in seasonal compliance requirements. Municipalities are enforcing full compliance and the penalties for failing to do so can be substantial. Be sure to take time to review your concrete requirements in your area.

2014 Alberta Building Code Requirements For Concrete Effective December 1, 2015

Part 9 Housing and Small Buildings Alberta Building Code

- 9.3.1.1 General
- Except as provided in Sentence (2), nominally unreinforced concrete shall be designed, mixed, placed, cured, and tested in accordance with the requirements for “R” class concrete stated in Clause 8.13 of CSA A23.1-09 addition.

Compressive Strength 9.3.1.6 Alberta Building Code

- Except as provided elsewhere in this Part, the compressive strength of unreinforced concrete after 28 days shall be not less than
- **15 MPa** for walls, columns, fireplaces and chimneys, footings, foundation walls, grade beams and piers **CSA A23.1-14 recommends 25 MPa**
- **20 MPa** for floors other than those in garages and carports
- **CSA A23.1-14 recommends 25 MPa**
- For garage and carports floors, and exterior steps, 32 MPa, or 30 MPa where indigenous aggregates do not achieve 32MPa with a .45 w/cm ratio **ARMCA recommends Duramix®**
- Concrete used for garage and carport floors and exterior steps shall have air entrainment of 5 to 8%. (see appendix A)
- **Air-entrained concrete should not be steel or hard trowelled. A light broom or a float finish should be applied.**

Sulphate Concrete Requirements

- Concrete in contact with sulphate soil which is deleterious to normal cement shall conform to the requirements in Clause 4.1.1.6 of CSA A23.1
- S1 35Mpa@ 56 days .40 w/cm ratio air 4-7% curing is 7days at 10°C
- S2 32Mpa@ 56 days .45 w/cm ratio air 4-7% curing is 7 days at 10°C
- S3 30Mpa@ 56 days .50 w/cm ratio air 4-7% curing is 3 days at 10°C

Driveway concrete

- Driveway concrete is covered under CSA 23.1 Table 2 under C-2 exposure Non-structurally reinforced i.e., any concrete exposed to chlorides and freezing and thawing. Examples: garage floors, steps, driveway pavements, and sidewalks.
- Minimum: 32 MPa, or 30 MPa where indigenous aggregates do not achieve 32MPa with a .45 w/cm ratio
- **ARMCA recommends Duramix®**

Alberta Building Code A-9.3.1.6.(2)

- Compressive Strength: Air entrained concrete **should not** be steel or hard trowelled. A light broom or a float finish should be applied.

Concrete Mixes A-9.3.1.7

- The slump of concrete mixes should be the following:
- (a) 80mm ± 30mm for footing , walls, fireplaces, chimneys, foundation walls, grade beams and piers. A high range water reducing admixture (superplasticizer) may be used to further increase the workability to 140mm ± 40mm.
- 80mm ± 30mm for slab on grade.

Backfilling Procedures

The concrete shall be cured until it has attained a minimum of 75% of the specified 28 d strength before backfilling. If the wall is designed to have lateral support, the top of the foundation wall shall be provided with adequate lateral support before backfilling.

CURING in Cold Weather 9.3.1.9

- When the air temperature is below 5°C concrete shall be (a) kept at a temperature of not less than 10°C or more than 25°C while being mixed and placed, and maintained at a temperature of not less than 10°C for 72 h after placing.
- Additional Curing for concrete exposed to freeze-thaw and deicing chemicals CSA A23.1 table 20
“The required curing for garage floors and all concrete flatwork exposed to chlorides, freezing and thawing shall be 7days total at ≥ 10°C and the time necessary to attain 70% of the specified 28d compressive strength.

Reference Materials:

Alberta Building Code 2014

CSA A23.1.-09 Concrete Materials and Methods of Concrete Construction

CSA A23.1.-14 Concrete Materials and Methods of Concrete Construction

Minimum Requirements for Residential Concrete effective December 2015						
Exposure class		Maximum water/ cementing materials (w/cm) ratio	Minimum 28 d compressive strength MPa	Air content maximum coarse aggregate of 14-20mm		Curing type as per Table 20
R1 & R2 footings, walls, grade beams, columns, chimneys, piers		0.7	15	4-7%		1†
CSA A23.1.2-14 recommends minimum 25 Mpa						
R3 Interior slabs on ground not exposed to freeze - thaw		0.7	15	non air		1†
CSA A23.1.2-14 recommends minimum 25 MPa						
C2 Garage floors and all concrete exposed to Chlorides in freeze-thaw garage floors driveways		0.45	32*	5-8%		2†
ARMCA recommends a 30 MPa Duramix®						
•	*Both the Alberta Building Code (ABC) and Canadian Standards Association (CSA) state that 30 Mpa is acceptable where indigenous aggregates do not achieve 32 Mpa with a 0.45 w/cm ratio					
•	†Basic curing (1) 3 d at ≥ 10°C or for the time necessary to attain 40% of the specified strength.					
•	†Additional curing (2) 7 d at ≥ 10°C and for the time necessary to attain 70% of the specified strength.					
•	ABC (A-9.3.1.6) states that air entrained concrete should not be steel or hard trowelled.					
	A light broom or a float finish should be applied.					
Additional requirements for concrete subjected to sulphate attack			Cement			
S-1 very Severe	0.4		35 MPa at 56 d	4-7%		HS or HSb
S-2 Severe	0.45		32 MPa at 56 d	4-7%		HS or HSb
S-3 Moderate	0.5		30 MPa at 56 d	4-7%		MS, MSb, HS or HSb
Curing requirements for all sulphate exposures is 7 days at 10°C or time to attain 70% of the specified strength.						
Referenced Materials:						
Alberta Building Code (ABC) 2014						
CSA A23.1.2-09 Concrete Materials and methods of concrete construction/Test methods and standard practices for concrete.						
CSA A23.1.2-14						

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FALL SEASON SAFETY TIPS

With fall quickly approaching, we must remind ourselves to modify our approach to safety accordingly. Fall presents several new hazards to be aware of.

Be aware of the daylight changes!

As the sun begins to rise later, drivers are faced with the increased challenge of driving into bright sunlight or dealing with glare. Keep a pair of sunglasses close by.

On the flip side, it is also getting dark earlier, making it harder to see hazards on the road. It is important to stay diligent on the road and be constantly aware of what is around you.

School is back in!

The kids are back to the books come September, meaning there will be both children and busses sharing the roads. Be sure to slow down and be alert in school zones and around bus stops.

It's cooling down!

With the approach of fall, comes the decline in temperature. Be sure to dress for the weather, using layers so that you may adjust to the change throughout the day.

As the temperatures drop at night, we will see more of the frost and ice. You may need to spend some extra time scraping frost off your vehicle. Also, ice on the road will start to become an issue. Slow down and give yourself the time to operate in a safe manner. Be aware of the slipping hazards presented by ice accumulating in wash out areas and use extra care when dismounting vehicles, equipment and platforms. On site, be sure footed. Taking a few extra moments could prevent an injury.

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JUNE GOLF TOURNAMENT RECAP

There was a good turnout for the annual tournament with 24 teams. The weather was beautiful and the comradery was even better. This is a fun tournament with lots of chances to win prizes and a relaxed atmosphere to get to know like-minded people. We encourage everyone, no matter your skill level, to join us for these events. Life is too short so enjoy every opportunity you have to meet new people and socialize.

The winning teams this year are:

Flight 1:

1st place	John Andersen, Colin Campbel, Alison Dowling, Rafe Thomas
2nd place	Sean Tymkow, Piero Nanfara, Dan O'Farrell, Ian Clements
3rd place	Dale Eaid, Terry Underhill, Devin Clark, Dan Thilman
4th place	Bill Shaw, MacKenzie Caron, Peter Bouteiller, Curtis Bouteiller
5th place	Kevin Kuklisin, Jamie Kowalski, Dave Kuntz, Warren Duncan

Flight 2:

1st place	Dan Hansen, John Grabow, John Shannon, Duane McNirney
2nd place	Charlie Bush, Quentin Connolly, Connor Currah, Scott Mitchell
3rd place	Tony Lidstone, Bryan Hutchinson, Gina Finstad, Scott Donnelly
4th place	Bozena Czarnecki, Ward Johnston, Martin Darby, Manuel Garcia
5th place	Derrick Dion, Mike Allen, Len Chinski, Zack Dittrick

Flight 3

1st place	Derek Brown, Jason Jessome, Robin Bobocel, Mark Langen
2nd place	Ryan Bisson, Jason Lewis, Bill Jensen, Todd Hansen
3rd place	John Stearns, Pat Degenhardt, Marco DiStefano, Eugen Berg
4th place	Aaron Gross, Matt Stibbons, Ivan Moreno, Laura Thomas
5th place	Rick Turpin, Ian Paine, Rick Claffey

The individual hole prize winners are:

GOLF PRIZES

WINNERS

Hole #1 - Longest Drive sponsored by Ashcor Technologies Ltd.	Jim Montgomery
Hole #1 - Longest Putt sponsored by DY Concrete Pumps	Ward Johnston
Hole #2 - Closest to the Pin in 2 sponsored by Lafarge Canada Inc.	Rafe Thomas
Hole #2 - Longest Putt sponsored by Edmonton Transit Mix	Todd Hanson
Hole #3 - Closest to the Pin sponsored by Interstar Pigments	Dave Kuntz
Hole #3 - Longest Putt sponsored by National Concrete Accessories	Bill Jensen
Hole #4 – Longest Putt sponsored by Holcim (Canada) Inc.	Scott Donnelly
Hole #4 – Closest to the Pin in 2 sponsored by Tri-Line Carriers LP	Greg Lunn
Hole #5 - Longest Drive sponsored by D & R Companies	MacKenzie Caron

Hole #5 - Closest to the Pin in 2	sponsored by Kryton International Inc.	Rick Turpin
Hole #6 - Longest Putt	sponsored by Caron Transportation Systems	Jason Jessome
Hole #7 - Closest to the Pin	sponsored by McIntosh Lalani Engineering	Mike Schiber
Hole #7 - Longest Putt	sponsored by Inland Concrete – Edmonton	Barry Martin
Hole #8 - Closest to the Pin in 2	sponsored by Sika Canada Inc.	Steve Street
Hole #9 – Closest to the Pin in 3	sponsored by GRACE Canada, Inc	Wil Fedirko
Hole #10 - Longest Putt	sponsored by DY Concrete Pumps	Mike Allen
Hole #11 - Longest Drive	sponsored by Tetra Tech EBA Inc.	Trevor Jensen
Hole #12 - Closest to the Pin in 3	sponsored by BURNCO Rock Products Ltd	Robin Bobocel
Hole #12 – Closest to the Pin in 2	sponsored by Euclid Chemical	Sean Tymkow
Hole #13 - Longest Drive	sponsored by Lehigh Cement	Connor Currah
Hole #14 - Closest to the Pin in 2	sponsored by Almor Testing Services Ltd.	Les Wilson
Hole #15 – Closest to the Pin	sponsored by Finning (Canada)	Bruce McNabb
Hole #16 – Longest Putt	sponsored by Cascade Carriers L.P.	Terry Underhill
Hole #17 - Longest Putt	sponsored by Knelsen Sand & Gravel Ltd.	Colin Campbell
Hole #17 – Longest Drive	sponsored by SMS Equipment	Jarret Hager
Hole #18 - Longest Drive	sponsored by Calgary Peterbilt	Trevor Mooney
Hole #18 – Longest Putt	sponsored by BASF Admixtures	Nino Paolucci

HOLE IN ONE

Hole #6	sponsored by Nortrux Inc.	No Winner
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50/50 Draw

A new format was introduced which saw 2 winners, each receiving 25 % of the pot. The lucky winners are Jason Lewis and Jason Jessome.

Early Bird Winner :

Jason Lewis

Winner of the Driver:

Martin Darby

We would like to recognize and extend a very special “thank you” to our generous sponsors.

2ND ANNUAL ARMCA ROAD TRIP RECAP



Road Trip 2015

It's safe to declare ARMCA's 2nd Annual Road Trip, which ran from August 20th through to the 23rd, a successful follow up to last year's inaugural run. This year, there were over 23 bikes and two support vehicles that participated in the ride that took the group into the Kootenay Region in the British Columbia interior.

The ride began in Calgary on Thursday morning with a warm breakfast and an overview of the day's ride by Ride Organizer, Mark Langen, before hopping on the bikes and heading to the first stop in Nanton. Due to the large size of the group, and the fact that Mark didn't want to have a bunch of concrete guys (and girls) scaring the general public, the group rode in two smaller groups; one led by Mark, and the other by Errol Berg of Calgary Peterbilt. Both group leaders did a great job of keeping the groups together and keeping everyone safe all day long!

From Nanton, we stopped in Blairmore to shed the morning layers of clothes and to eat most of Richard Reschke's weekend's stash of amazing beef jerky! From Blairmore, the group kept heading west through the smoke making stops in Fernie, Cranbrook and Creston, before our final stop for the day at the beautiful Kokanee Springs Golf Resort where one of our BCMCA brethren, Mark Leslie, was waiting to join up with us. The highlight of the ride that day was easily the last leg of the ride along beautiful Kootenay Lake from Creston to Kokanee Springs due to the amazing landscapes and the never-ending winding road. We ended off a perfect day of riding by having dinner before taking over the parking lot of the hotel, setting up lawn chairs, and sharing stories long into the night while making a considerable dent in the refreshment budget.

Day two was to be a split day between riding and golf, but the weather intervened and prevented the group from enjoying the beautiful course at Kokanee Springs. We split up into a few smaller groups that day as we all did our

best to (unsuccessfully) dodge the raindrops while we rode around Kootenay Lake; making several stops along the way including New Denver, Kaslo and Balfour. Some of the group were able to find refuge in the historic Hume Hotel in Nelson and the Ainsworth Hot Springs to warm up from the cold day.

All the while, a brave group of dedicated members (Lee Mildenberger and his dad Dennis, Dan McDonald, Stephen and Shona Jacobs, and Todd Hanson) were riding to catch up to us, travelling straight through from Calgary. The “BURNCO Crew” rode through rain, wind, sleet (snow?) and smoke...they may have even fought off some wild animals along the way, but made it safe and sound in time for dinner on Friday night with the rest of us.

Friday night, with the group finally all together, we enjoyed a great BBQ at Kokanee Springs, listened to some great live music, before convening court once more in the parking lot of the hotel. This night was significantly more tame than the first night, with the exception of a few resilient riders who powered through the night, motivated by the rallying cry of, “Just one more!” which was repeated more than a few times.

Saturday morning, with the entire group finally together, we started the day with a beautiful ferry ride (first of two for the day) across Kootenay Lake before roaring north to Golden with scenic stops in Kaslo, Nakusp (before our second ferry ride) and Revelstoke. I’d like to report that there were no major mishaps during any of the Road Trip, however that doesn’t mean that we didn’t need to use the truck and trailer (graciously provided by Mark Southcote) this year...you’ll have to ask around to find out more about this...

Our fantastic Saturday ended with a delicious dinner at the Island Restaurant in Golden before setting up shop, yet again in our hotel parking lot, for a nice relaxing debriefing session about the day’s events. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the late night crew saw its numbers dwindle yet again on Saturday night...but I’m sure that it was related to the brisk mountain air, right?

Having emptied the cooler from three nights of dedicated camaraderie, we packed up on Sunday morning for the ride back to reality. It was a cold morning, but the ride east from Golden is always beautiful on a bike. We rode through to Lake Louise, where the northern Alberta and southern Alberta group split up to head home from a great weekend of riding.

The ARMCA Road Trip is a great way to connect with members from across the province in a relaxed setting, anchored by their love for riding. It’s not only a great example of how our industry works hard and plays hard, but also how supportive that we are to each other, regardless of which company we work for, or where we are on the value chain.

Many thanks to Mark Langen for all of his efforts in organizing this year’s Road Trip, yet again. Thanks also to Mark Southcote for his logistical support and to Richard Reschke and Sheri Langen for driving the truck and trailer throughout the weekend.

The Road Trip is primarily funded by those who attended, but additional financial support was provided by Interstar and Park Paving, so thank you to those member companies for that. We’re already planning next year’s Road Trip, so please be sure to watch your email inbox for those details so that we can make it an even bigger event in ARMCA’s calendar.

Written by:
Robin Bobocel

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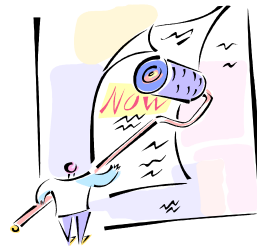
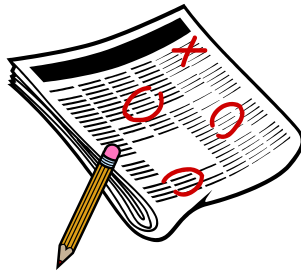
Calgary, Alberta – November 25, 2015

Online registration will be opened at the end of September.

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