

**The Mixer** 

#### ALBERTA READY-MIXED CONCRETE ASSOCIATION

#### **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

Hello and welcome to the spring edition of "The Mixer". After the winter we all endured, it feels great to have spring finally upon us.

I am honored to be elected as President of ARMCA for the 2014/2015 term. My goal is to continue with the steady progress made by past leaders in executing the strategic plan and providing ARMCA members with maximum value. The challenges for our industry continue to increase and it is the role of our association to provide services, representation, and leadership for the benefit of all members.

ARMCA has a long tradition of supplying education and training to the membership through staff and a large number of excellent volunteers. The Board intends to maintain a strong focus and build on our capacities in this critical area. This will also tie into succession planning for our staff positions. Our industry is increasingly faced with issues that are national in scope. ARMCA will continue to partner closely with other provincial associations, the Canadian Ready Mixed Concrete Association, and the Cement Association of Canada to keep our members well informed and represent our interests. The formation of the Concrete Council of Canada last year is an important milestone on this path.

Thanks to all who attended our 2014 Convention and AGM in beautiful Jasper. Your attendance and support are critical in having a useful and effective association. The event was a wonderful success highlighted by the talent of Brett Kissel and dodging bears on the golf course! Our President's Banquet was highlighted by a roast of Rick Turpin in his retirement year. We all appreciate the work done each year by ARMCA staff and volunteers in planning and delivering such an enjoyable experience for those who attend. I encourage all members to put next year's convention in their calendar.

The Board will miss the leadership and wisdom of Josh Tanasiychuk as he leaves after many years of service to our association. Josh held everyone's respect and confidence with his thoughtful and active participation in all our discussions. I value and will try to emulate the level of professionalism that Josh always displayed.



#### Norm Kuntz - President

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I also wish to thank and am pleased to have Bill Shaw returning to our Board as Past President. Bill is a gentleman and his leadership style promoted a team effort and consensus building. It has been my pleasure to serve with Bill on the Board and on the Executive and I will value his counsel over the coming year.

As we move forward, I encourage the membership to be active in our association. Feel free to bring forward thoughts, ideas, or observations to any Board Director or ARMCA staff. If you are interested in participating on an ARMCA committee, please contact our Executive Director, Laura Reschke, or me.

Wishing everyone a healthy, safe, and prosperous year!

Norm Kuntz **ARMCA** President

#### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Advantage Concrete – Producer
Competition Concrete Inc. – Affiliate
Stahl Peterhilt – Associate

Command Alkon – Associate

**Rulam Contracting Ltd. – Affiliate** 

Terrafirma – Associate

#### **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.

#### **CONCRETE COUNCIL OF CANADA**

In October 2013, the cement and concrete industries announced the formation of the Concrete Council of Canada, a new organization of national and provincial associations bringing together representatives from the full spectrum of concrete and cement manufacturers across Canada, as well as stakeholder representatives from the environmental, architectural, engineering, construction, insurance and academic communities. The creation of the Concrete Council of Canada reflects our industry's determination to ensure that the benefits of concrete are clearly understood, and underscores the commitment to being a proactive partner in addressing society's sustainability challenges.

To celebrate the formation of the Council, a special insert was produced for the current edition of *Sustainable Architecture and Building Magazine*, entitled <u>"Rediscover Concrete -- Essential Solutions for Sustainable Building</u> <u>and Infrastructure"</u>. The insert is our first significant attempt to tell our sustainability story, to share what we know and are learning about concrete's role in a sustainable future as well as our thoughts about the key challenges and opportunities we, collectively, face in trying to secure a prosperous, sustainable and resilient future.

The SAB supplement, the first collaborative communications piece championed by the Concrete Council of Canada, was distributed to all delegates at the Canada Green Building Council conference in Toronto, June 2-4, 2014 and can be found on the ARMCA website. It is a fantastic communications collateral that I encourage you to share. http://www.armca.ca/uploads/files/green%20road/SABMag%20Concrete%20Supplement\_Final.pdf.

Laura Reschke Executive Director – ARMCA





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Calgary, AB T2C 5K3 Phone: (403) 569-4800

#### **ARMCA IS HIRING**

#### Alberta Ready-Mixed Concrete Association (ARMCA) Assistant Director of Technical Services & Training (Permanent, Full-time)

The Assistant Director of Technical Services & Training is a key member of the Association's management team and will report to the Executive Director. He/she shall work closely with the Executive Director and with the Director of Technical Services and Training and will share in the responsibility of facilitating training programs and motivating a team of volunteers. The ideal candidate will be able to lead teams, has excellent verbal and written communication skills, strong organizational skills and is able to meet deadlines. Must be a self-starter and self-motivated. Must be able and willing to travel.

#### PRINCIPLE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

<u>Education</u>: Provides the industry with technology courses and certification programs. Assists with:

- Developing and revising educational programs
- Scheduling training and certification programs
- Arranging for training facilities
- Recruiting instructors
- Ordering workbooks or other required training materials
- Updating course materials and reviewing information being provided by instructors.
- Researching technical information

Conference, Seminar, Trade Show, Workshop, Marketing, Communications Duties:

- Attends conferences and assists with coordination of conferences, meetings, trade shows, social events and other events as required.
- Presents seminars as requested

Committee Activity:

• Is an active participant of ARMCA Committees

General Membership Support:

- Provides membership with technical information and services as required.
- Attends meetings/functions when required
- Remains informed of concrete construction in the Alberta market. Regularly monitors Provincial and National Building Codes, Code of Practice
- Participates in Sustainable Development Programs
- Involved with other industry related associations
- Attends industry related social events
- Identifies potential new ARMCA members

#### Miscellaneous:

Work with the Executive Director on implementation of the strategic plan including:

- 1. Meeting decision makers of member companies on a regular basis
- 2. Meeting elected officials and specifiers on a regular basis
- 3. Participating in trade shows (home shows, trade shows, etc.)
- 4. Assisting with marketing strategies and advertising

#### Skills Required:

- Excellent people and project management skills
- Excellent communication skills in English, both oral and written
- Able to speak in front of a crowd.
- Must have valid and clean Alberta Driver's License and must provide their own transportation.
- Computer proficiency in Word, Excel, Power Point, and Outlook
- Technical knowledge
- Ability to multi-task across several issues as well as managing and prioritizing time.

#### Hours of Work and Compensation:

This is a full time position, Monday through Friday. The Director will be paid a competitive salary plus benefits. Specifics will be discussed in a personal interview.

#### Disclaimer:

The preceding job description has been designed to indicate the general nature and level of work performed. It is not designed to contain or be interpreted as a comprehensive inventory of all duties, responsibilities, and qualifications required. The job description may be augmented by a list of activities, events, publications, and or detailed responsibilities as an attachment.

#### Applications:

Applications (cover letter, resume, and references) should be emailed to the attention of Laura Reschke at <u>laura.reschke@armca.ca</u> with "ARMCA Employment Opportunity" in the subject line. Receipt will be acknowledged. Only those short-listed for interview will be contacted further.



#### 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 <u>www.armca.ca</u>, click on the "Members" tab and select "Tools".



#### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

#### **GOLF TOURNAMENTS**

June 25, 2014	ARMCA Golf Tournament (Texas Scramble), Lacombe Golf and Country Club. Registration forms can be found on the ARMCA website; <u>www.armca.ca</u> .
September 4, 2014	ARMCA Golf Tournament (Two Person Scramble), Lacombe Golf and Country Club.

#### **CLASSES**

Concrete Technology Level 1	Edmonton - November 2014 Calgary – December 2014
Concrete Technology Level 2	Edmonton – January 2015 Calgary – February 2015
ACI Concrete Field Testing	Edmonton – March 2015 Calgary – April 2015

\*\*\*Note: Additional ACI Field Testing & Concrete Technology classes will be held in the event that 16 students are enrolled. 6 – 8 weeks notification is required to book these extra classes \*\*\*

As there are only 16 spots available per class we encourage you to register early in order to secure a spot.



ARMCA also provides training to other provincial ready-mixed associations when requested.

# Alberta's Mixer Specialist













#### On Order and Arriving Soon:

2015 Mack GU714 Tri-Drive with Automatic Transmission 5 on order STK# 35233/7 2015 Mack GU714 Tri-Drive with Manual Transmission 2 on order STK # 35231/2 2015 Mack GU813 Tractor with London Tri-Axle Trailer Mixer STK# 35318



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#### 2014 ARMCA AGM & CONVENTION "GUNSMOKE" RECAP

The ARMCA AGM & Convention was held May 8-10, 2014 at the Jasper Park Lodge in beautiful Jasper, Alberta. There were 147 people in attendance this year, including delegates, guests and children.

The Annual General Meeting had 53 delegates in attendance. The new ARMCA President and Board of Directors were elected. We are pleased to introduce our new president, Norm Kuntz, BURNCO Rock Products Ltd and his Board of Directors, Steve Schimpf, Inland Concrete; Steve Street, D & M Concrete Products Ltd; Mark Langen, Interstar Pigments; Curtis Bouteillier, Proform Concrete Services; Brian Tkachuk, A & T Construction and Transit Mix Ltd; Prashant Vats, Inland Concrete; Kris Lasek, Lafarge Canada Inc.; Kelly Hines, Knelsen Sand & Gravel; Clayton Forth, BASF Admixtures; Len Chinski, Lafarge Canada Inc.; and Justin Arnott, Cement Association of Canada. Bill Shaw, Inland Concrete, completed his year as President and now accepts a new role as Past President which is a vital component in any board to ensure the success in the coming year. It was also a time to say farewell to Josh Tanasiychuk who has completed his role as Past President. The meeting concluded with keynote speaker, Michael McSweeney, from the Cement Association of Canada, followed by a wine and cheese social that gave everyone the chance to mingle with familiar faces and meet new contacts. Thank you to all who give their time and dedication to the association. The minutes from the AGM as well as the 2013 Annual Report can be found on the website www.armca.ca under the members only section.

This year the kids were enrolled in Monster's University and were kept busy with projects, outings and of course play time. A big thank you goes out to the activity director at the Jasper Park Lodge for providing a new and fun program for the kids! This complimentary 2 day children's program saw 22 participants.

The guest program this year was "Dash for Cash" which is really a mini Amazing Race! The ladies who were able to make it in time had a great adventure and were rewarded at the end with Champagne ice cream floats, aperitifs and a prize. We apologize to all of those who were unable to participate because of miscommunications with the start time. The actual event started half an hour earlier than the time indicated in the emailed itinerary and in the future we will make sure that this program starts at a later time to ensure people have enough time to check their kids into the program and/or have time to arrive.

Our theme dinner, Gunsmoke, was a lively evening with great company, great food, and extraordinary entertainment! Alberta can be very proud of the young country star, Brett Kissel, as he is an excellent entertainer! Following the evening of dancing and socializing, everyone was invited over to the hospitality suite to continue the festivities and partake in a few candid photos in the photo booth! Pictures from the photo booth will appear on the website under members only in the near future.

Friday was golf day which in contrast to last year was chilly and raining. The rain did stop early and it turned out to be a fairly good day. There were a couple of momma bears hanging out on the green and if you were one of the lucky ones, you got to see the tiny cubs from a distance. The Momma bears were not leaving so most people didn't get to golf the full 18 as golfers were redirected.

The president's banquet saw everyone in their best dressed attire as Emcee Mark Langen thanked the past president, and welcomed the new president as well as recognizing all of our wonderful sponsors for their generosity. We heard from Bill Shaw as he concluded his term as president and introduced his successor Norm Kuntz. Norm introduced himself, paid tribute and welcomed his new board. Rick Turpin was the recipient of a 'roast' as he will be retiring this year. Rick has been the golf tournament organizer for ARMCA for many, many years and is a valuable volunteer for the association. Many people got behind the podium to poke fun at him, but mostly to thank him and appreciate the work he has done, not only for the association but for the people that have known him. Even in retirement, Rick will still be organizing and helping with the ARMCA golf tournaments.

The silent auction was bigger in its 2nd year with a lot of unique and wonderful items up for bid! Thank you to everyone that contributed!!

The convention concluded with a breakfast Saturday morning in the Beauvert room.

Thank you to those that attended, to our sponsors, to our volunteers, to our Emcee Mark Langen, and to the staff at the Jasper Park Lodge for making this year's convention memorable! We invite you all back next year - same time of year, same place and we encourage you to invite other members who have not attended, to make the time to enjoy a fantastic event. This convention is for the members, by the members so please participate, volunteer and enjoy!

#### **ARMCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2014/2015**

#### **OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT	NORM KUNTZ	BURNCO Rock Products Ltd
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT	KRIS LASEK	Lafarge Canada Inc.
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT	STEVE STREET	D & M Concrete Products Ltd.
SECRETARY / TREASURER	KELLY HINES	Knelsen Sand & Gravel
PAST-PRESIDENT	BILL SHAW	Inland Concrete

#### DIRECTORS

CURTIS BOUTEILLER	Proform Concrete Services
LEN CHINSKI	Lafarge Canada Inc.
CLAYTON FORTH	BASF Admixtures Inc.
STEVE SCHIMPF	Inland Concrete
MARK LANGEN	Interstar Pigments
BRIAN TKACHUK	A & T Construction & Transit Mix Ltd.
PRASHANT VATS	Inland Concrete
JUSTIN ARNOTT	Cement Association of Canada

#### **FUNNIES**



"Caught 'ya red-handed this time, Fennimore!" I came from a real tough neighborhood. I put my hand in some cement and felt another hand.

**Rodney Dangerfield** 



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#### **TECHNICAL BULLETIN**



### **TECHNICAL BULLETIN #1**

## ALKALI AGGREGATE REACTIVITY

Most Alberta concrete producers have known for some time now that the majority of aggregate sources in this province, with the exception of a few developed limestone sources, are potentially reactive in the presence of an alkali source – namely the alkali's from cements and some supplementary cementing materials. The majority of local aggregate sources tested to date have been shown to be at least moderately reactive and as resources are depleted and new ones developed, an increasing number have been found to be highly reactive.

In order for unwanted concrete expansion to occur as a result of Alkali Aggregate Reaction – and more specifically – Alkali Silica Reaction- ASR – there has to be a reactive source of silica in the aggregate; there has to be a source of alkali in the concrete for it to react with; and there has to be a source of moisture present in the concrete. The rate of reaction is also influenced by temperature. In a few instances the reaction is relatively quick (1-5 years). In many instances, the expansion to the point of failure occurs over several decades.

Field evidence of deleterious expansion issues in concrete in Alberta directly attributable to ASR, has been limited for one or more of the following reasons.

1) Alberta concrete producers have been blessed with a number of sources of relatively low to moderate alkali cement.

2) There are a number of local supplementary cementing material (SCM) sources, namely fly ash but also some limited imported sources of GGBFS, silica fume and metakaolin that, when used in the correct proportions, provide sufficient protection from the potential for ASR.

3) Alberta's climate for the most part, is relatively dry when compared with the relatively humid conditions of most of the rest of Canada.

For the most part, documented cases of ASR in Alberta have been associated with concrete subjected to a continuous source of moisture and where inadequate proportions of cement and SCM's were employed to mitigate the potential for the reaction.

As we continue to witness unprecedented demand for cement in concrete construction in Alberta, a few suppliers in the Alberta market are sourcing materials from markets further afield. Some of the cement sources have higher Total Sodium Equivalent Alkali contents (Na2Oeq) than the cements that have been used traditionally in this area. Although these cements meet all of the requirements of the Canadian Standards Association for Portland cement or for Portland Limestone cement, the difference in their Total Alkali contents must be taken into consideration when designing concrete to mitigate the potential for alkali silica reaction.

For further information on proper proportioning of concrete materials when developing mixes to mitigate the potential for ASR, please contact your local concrete design and test firm.

**Respectively Submitted** 

**ARMCA** Technical Committee



Julie Visser 403.717.5547 jvisser@rogersinsurance.ca



GENC

**Brett Bingham** 403.342.5074 bbingham@mooneyinsurance.com





rogersinsurance.ca mooneyinsurance.ca

#### **ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY FOR ARMCA MEMBERS**



Make sure your advertising dollars hit the target. If concrete is your target market, then there isn't a better bang for your advertising buck then to advertise in the Alberta Ready-Mixed Concrete Associations' "The Mixer." In addition to reaching our membership and various stakeholders, the newsletter with your advertisement is accessed by over 1,500 people per month on the website and will remain on-line for at least two years so your advertisement will still be viewed long after the publication has been sent.

Full page	6¼" wide x 8¼" high	\$300 + GST
Half Page	6¼" wide x 4¼" high	\$200 + GST
Quarter Page	3½" wide x 4¼" high	\$150 + GST
Business Card		\$100 + GST

If you would like to place an advertisement in the "The Mixer", please forward your high resolution PDF advertisement to the Alberta Ready-Mixed Concrete Association (ARMCA) Office.

#### Alberta Ready-Mixed Concrete Association 9653 – 45 Avenue Edmonton, AB T6E 528 Phone: 780-436-5645 Fax: 780-436-6503 email: <u>info@armca.ca</u>

## BreakTest 3.0

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#### CHALLENGE

Manual photocopying of signed reports, paper hand-over between data entry staff and engineers, manual sorting and emailing using regular staff e-mail accounts, are some factors that cause distractions and undermine productivity in processing test reports.

#### BENEFIT

Designed specifically for geotechnical materials testing labs, BreakTest can increase your throughput and improve your customer service by automating concrete and field density tests: electronic signing, data analysis, report distribution, and by managing workflow.

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