

AGEA Board of Directors 2009

Don MacIntyre

Wayne Bokenfohr

Leigh Bond

Chris Lewoniuk

Michael Lindberg

Ken Manweiler

Doug Nelson

Jeff Oliver

Rick Souther

Dean Turgeon

Gary Whitesell

Mike Roppelt

Administrator:
Position Open



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From Our Chairman - *Facing The Challenge*



Regardless of any regulatory vacuums, education limitations or industry shortcomings the renewable techs train, including our GSHP technology is gaining speed.

In view of that reality I think it is universally agreed that all of us in industry and government face a daunting challenge. Namely, to have our GSHP industry grow with enough regulatory framework in place, education in place, monitoring in place, and data collection in place, to shepherd its growth in a responsible and accountable manner; and in the best interests of our families, neighbours and friends who will be facing a very uncertain energy future.

We believe that an all encompassing Alberta Quality Assurance Program (AQAP) is the best mechanism to provide that degree of control that our emerging technology needs in order to safeguard Albertans from needless expense from faulty or environmentally risky and/or inefficient systems.

The forward progress of these initiatives has been substantial already, thanks to the thousands of hours and donated resources from our dedicated AGEA membership, help from our friends at MGEA, and also to a number of key public servants within the Alberta Departments of Environment, and Advanced Education who have extended a refreshing amount of assistance and active participation in the process, these all deserve our gratitude and applause.

This progress has now brought us to a crucial moment. From this point forward these initiatives are going to require funding to see their development and deployment.

This is the moment that requires our provincial leaders to demonstrate their political will to fund mechanisms such as our AQAP ensuring a level of quality assurance that the good people of Alberta deserve and look to government to provide.

I encourage all members to lobby their MLAs and the Ministers of Energy, Environment, and Advanced Education to rise to the challenge. Our environment and our families futures depend on their immediate actions.

I wish you all a very blessed Christmas this holiday season. *-Don MacIntyre*



2009 Committees

Environment Committee:
Chair Gary Whitesell (Crater Lake Drilling)
crater@yourlink.ca

Technical and Education Committee:
Chair Dean Turgeon (Vital Engineering)
dturgeon@vitaleng.ca

Membership & Awards Committee:
Chair Mike Lindberg (Cronkhite Supply)
michael.lindberg@cronkhitesupply.com

Member Programs Committee:
Chair Jeff Oliver (Ambient Technologies)
jeff.oliver@ambientenergyinc.ca

Communications Committee:
Chair Chris Lewoniuk (Geothermal Utilities)
clewoniuk@geoutilites.ca

Industry Relations:
Chair Leigh Bond (Threshold Energies)
leigh.bond@gothreshold.com

Committee looks at MGEA's new online permitting system

The AGEA has entered into an agreement with the Manitoba Geothermal Energy Alliance (MGEA) to acquire their Online Permitting and Data Collection System.

An AGEA committee comprised of Leigh Bond (Threshold Energies), Jeff Oliver (Ambient Technologies) and Dean Turgeon (Vital Engineering) tasked with adopting and implementing a similar system met with MGEA members, staff, system programmer, and ISO 9000 supervisor of the project to learn its various elements.

The Committee reports that, "a side benefit from this kind of system will be the statistical data collected during the permitting and inspection process which will provide government and the public with a substantial body of data including drilling log information, and other energy information which can be used to calculate and forecast economic injection, energy consumption and reduction, and carbon offsets."

The Gov. of MB has given MGEA the responsibility and authority for permitting, inspection, monitoring, and data collection for geothermal installations throughout Manitoba.

Western Diversification provided for the initial costs to deploy this program until it becomes self sufficient through a permitting fee structure. MGEA recently hired their first inspector and have developed a protocol for conducting inspections.

Logo Samples



Welcome To The Board

In keeping with precedent and bylaw guidelines regarding Board vacancies midterm, the AGEA Board of Directors unanimously approves and welcomes the appointment of **Mr. Mike Roppelt** (GSS Geothermal) who was on the last AGM ballot. The vacancy was created by the recent resignation of Hamish Moir.

Mike has already dived right in taking on responsibility for reviewing the existing bylaws and suggesting improvements. He can be contacted at: mroppelt@shaw.ca



Earth Loop Technician Apprenticeship Program

Progress made during recent meetings held this fall and winter with Alberta Government departments has been substantial. AGEA members Gary Whitesell (Crater Lake Drilling), Doug Nelson (EarthNet Geothermal), Leigh Bond (Threshold Energies) and Don MacIntyre (Go Geo Global LLC) participated in the most recent 1/2 day meeting with members from AWWDA, AB Environment, and AB Apprenticeship.

A potential pathway was mapped out that could see GSHP drilling and excavating technicians (now referred to Earth Loop Technicians) included under the existing Water Well Driller apprenticeship program if the Program Advisory Committee (PAC) responsible for that discipline could be convinced to allow some changes.

It was proposed that ELT and Water Well Driller (WWD) training would attend a common First Period (6 weeks) classroom session in year one, followed by a new Second Period branch comprised of curriculum specific to ELT. Current discussions of required field hours hover around 3000 hours. AB Apprenticeship would be the certifying body of a Journeyman ELT.

Meetings between AB Apprenticeship, drillers from AGEA, AWWDA, and members of the PAC responsible for water well drilling are scheduled for mid January 2010 to pursue this road map further.

If successful the Alberta ELT Journeyman program will be the first in Canada and could set an example that other provinces may follow given the recent TILMA accord. It should be noted that BC already trains their water well drillers using Alberta's program at Red Deer College.

NAIT Alternative Energy Technologist Program Advances

AGEA executives participate as members of a larger focus group coordinated by NAIT for the ongoing development of its Alternative Energy Technologist diploma program targeted for intake in September 2011.

This program will go a long way to providing technologist level expertise in a broad range of renewable technologies including GSHP.

The working document has been completed and is on its way to Alberta's Minister of Advanced Education for his consideration. NAIT has allocated \$200,000 for course development and invitations to developers, including three from AGEA have been sent out. At last report this initiative is moving forward on track and on time to meet the September 2011 target.



Next AGM To Include Grouting Seminar

Our next Annual General Meeting, scheduled for the third week in February is going to include a day long seminar on grouting materials sponsored by Performance Industrial Products, suppliers of CETCO grouting products. Exact dates and keynote speaker will be finalized and communicated to all members as soon as our AGM committee receives confirmation from the banquet facility.

Search Begins For New AGEA Administrator



We bid a sad farewell to our administrator Shelley Murray. The work load in her business was increasing such that she could no longer provide AGEA with the time we needed. Shelley's dedication and professionalism was greatly appreciated and will be missed. Thanks Shelley for a job very well done. VC Dean Turgeon (Vital Engineering) is in charge of the search to find her replacement.

GSHP SUCCESS STORIES

Toronto hotelier Tom Rand explains why, how, and \$\$ in choosing GSHP for his Planet Traveler Hotel. Of interest, the City of Toronto permitted him to use a public lane way for his borefield. Watch his 4 minute TEDx presentation here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Udz0IHGNzxc>