

Inside Public Works

Summer 2021

President's Message

Hard to believe August is over – How have you been?

This Summer has felt a little out of sorts, which I guess, is par for the course over the past many months. Even the weather started out the same way, but we certainly finished August by experiencing the dog days of Summer. For my family we had a chance to enjoy some limited Summer activities: a couple beach trips, camping, a few backyard bbqs, and many tubs of ice cream...All good say my kids!



At OPWA, things are going as best can be expected since we last spoke via the newsletter. The pain of last year's fiscal year ended on June 30 and a new budget was approved by the Board for 2021/22. It forecasts a reserved approach for this next fiscal year, with aspirations for a version of normalcy pre-pandemic and brighter days ahead.

The biggest news story was the success of OPWA's **National Public Works Week (NPWW 2021)** event that took place May 17-21. The Chapter, along with its **Ottawa Valley Branch** and **West Central Branch**, brought together over 800 attendees – members and non-members. NPWW provided an opportunity to celebrate, educate and recognize public works and the many practitioners across Ontario. There is too much great content from that week to list here, so if you did miss NPWW, I recommend you visit OPWA (<http://ontario.cpwa.net/>) to view the recorded sessions. OPWA would like to thank again NPWW Chair Doug Keenie (R.J. Burnside & Assoc.) and the Committee for organizing the event, including the many who contributed in the week's sessions. We look forward to NPWW 2022.

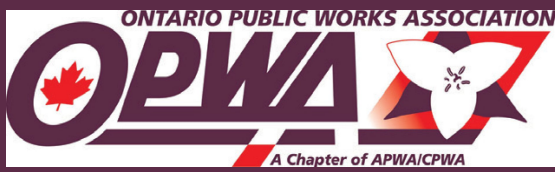
OPWA's Mission Statement is this: **"CONNECTING THE ONTARIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMUNITY"**. No doubt the past few months has made connecting members a challenge. Our in-person events that offer great opportunities for members to network and socialize could not take place. Luckily, the **Ontario Public Works Connects** program has been a successful alternative. Webinars occur every month and endeavor to bring relevant, topical information to membership in one-hour presentations. This is an excellent opportunity for OPWA members (including member organizations) to profile their expertise and share valuable technical information with their peers in the public works community. **Stay connected with OPW Connects!**

Due to the COVID pandemic, OPWA did not have its usual Ontario contingent represented at APWA's PWX 2021 Public Works Expo in St. Louis, MO. We missed the opportunity to connect with fellow APWA colleagues across North America, and more so, to host the very popular Ontario Chapter Dinner. We look forward to the announcement of the location for PWX 2022 to begin making plans for a return.

As a volunteer organization, one measure of its strength is the engagement of its membership. Opportunities to connect and grow as members in public works is directly related to member participation – **It's a continual circle of opportunity**. To maximize the value of your membership, I highly recommend you join a committee. OPWA has several committees, including one very new committee: the **Diversity & Inclusion Committee** which will be chaired by Max Ross. **You will get back twice as much as you give!**

"Thank You" to all the volunteers of OPWA. Stay well. Stay safe.

Enrico P. Stradiotto
2021 OPWA President



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CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS !

Looking for a way to connect with Public Works across Ontario? - **Join one of our Committees.**

- Awards
- Education
- Membership
- & Inclusion
- Communications
- Special Functions
- Young Professionals

If interested, please contact us: info@opwa.ca

New Members

Yanick Beaudin

City of Brockville

Marsilino Bilatos

Geotab Inc.

Bill Brooker

RV Anderson Associates Ltd.

Brock Burrows

Geotab Inc.

Pasquale Costanzo

County of Wellington

Mark Figueroa

Tatham Engineering Ltd.

Kyle Gudgeon

Town of Milton

Chris Jackson

Geotab Inc.

Brad Laking

Tatham Engineering Ltd.

Michael Mavreas

Geotab Inc.

Nick Palomba

RV Anderson Associates Ltd.

Jia Thong

Geotab Inc.

Phil Wood

City of Brockville

OPWA Events for 2021

OPWA continues to monitor the situation of COVID to determine the most safe and suitable experience for our members during these unprecedented times. This has meant OPWA's preferred method of hosting in-person events continues to be on pause. Unfortunately, the "hackers favorite"...our **OPWA Golf Day** has been cancelled. OPWA will continue to monitor and adhere to these important health protocols for the remainder of 2021 and until safer times arise. Please stay posted to our "Events" page and all upcoming OPWA communications for updates. **Fingers crossed we can make up the 2021 letdown in 2022!**

PWX 2021 Events

Visit apwa.net/PWX to see more info on events

Right of Way (ROW) Conference

Every Tuesday & Thursday in Oct. 2021

OPWA Annual Conference & Awards

Jan. 2022

Monthly Webinars

Every Month

Ontario Public Works Connects Webinars

Sep. 27 th	Management Challenges in Implementing Change in Snow and Ice Control
Oct. 13 th	Covid Sampling in Sewage
Oct. 27 th	Social Media in the Winter Control Operations
Nov. 17 th	Ontario's Native Freshwater Mussels
Dec. 1 st	Roundabout Design and Construction

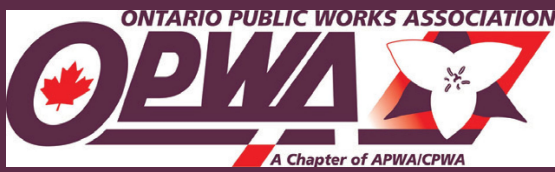
Visit our website for webinar registration details! <http://ontario.cpwa.net/>

BECOME AN OPWA MEMBER!

Know someone who may be interested in joining OPWA?

Please have them contact us: info@opwa.ca

There is a **50% discount** for the initial year membership.



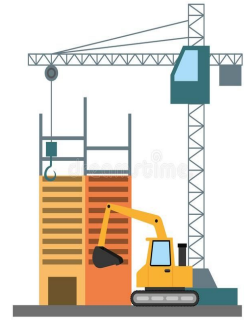
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Get ready...They are coming!



Thinking of a person or project in your organization that should get some recognition? The annual **OPWA Individual Awards** and **OPWA Project of the Year Awards** are awarded at the Annual Conference every January to celebrate public works. Request for Submissions will be solicited soon by the Awards Committee. Start thinking about the successes in your organization throughout 2021. It's okay to be proud of the accomplishments made. **More info to follow soon.**



OPWA Donation

National Public Works Week was a busy week that hosted several speakers, discussion panels, and technical sessions. To say thank you for the contributions by participant speakers, the Chapter gave a lump sum donation 'in kind' to the **Habitat for Humanity**. The donation was directed to the **Tiny Homes Build Program** which has students building tiny homes that are relocated to a First Nations Community for emergency shelter and short term housing. A Facebook post from the **Habitat for Humanity Halton-Mississauga-Dufferin** said this,

“A big shout out to the generous folks at Ontario Public Works Association (OPWA) who donated \$1,000 during their National Public Works Week and Presenters & Panelists to support our 2021 Tiny Home Build Program.” 🏠

The Chapter wants to credit the **Ottawa Valley Branch** for this great idea and initiative of a donation in kind. OVB itself donated \$450 to the Ottawa Food Bank.



APWA Public Works Expo



PWX 2021 was planned as an in-person event, taking place Aug.29 – Sep.1. This year's theme is **“Stronger Together”**. For those who could not attend in-person, new this year is **PWX Plus** – a virtual program to experience an online option of PWX, taking place Oct. 12-14. PWX Plus will include the best of PWX in 88 pre-recorded and bonus live presentations. All content from PWX Plus and the in-person PWX will be available to all PWX Plus attendees at a date following this program. **To register, simply follow the Registration link for PWX and the PWX Plus option should appear.**

<https://www.apwa.net/PWX/Home/PWX/Home.aspx>

The ROW Management Committee Presents



BUILDING BACK STRONGER

2021 ROW CONFERENCE
 OCTOBER VIRTUAL LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

SESSIONS INCLUDE:

Overview of Building Transit Faster Act,
 The Evolution of Communications,
 Accelerated Broadband Program and many more!

REGISTER AT

ROWMANAGEMENT.CA



Premier Ford Calls Public Works, “Champions”

Ontario Premier Doug Ford took a moment to recognize all the public works professionals in our sector. He thanked them for being on the frontlines during the pandemic and recognized their importance in maintaining municipal infrastructure. If you missed to hear the Premier’s short video message, it can be viewed on the OPWA website, <http://ontario.cpwa.net/PageDetails/28100>

Thank you Premier Ford, for the recognition!



Premier Ford Recognizes National Public Works Week

Strategic Partners Upcoming Events

Nov.
 22nd, 24th,
 25th 2021

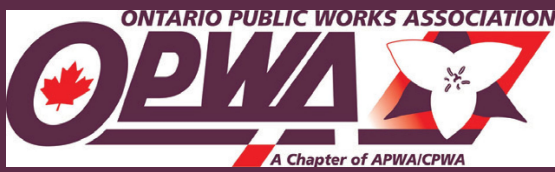
MEA 2021 Conference & AGM/ Awards Presentation

For more information, visit
<https://municipalengineers.on.ca/events/annual-fall-workshop.html>

Oct.
 21st 2021

ORGA – Managing Winter Operations Workshop

For more information, visit
<https://www.ogra.org/courses-and-events/index.html/ogra/event-info/details/id/28449>



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Thank You Sponsors!

To our annual sponsors and their support of OPWA in 2021.

SPONSORSHIP

Want to help support OPWA?
If interested, please reach out to us: info@opwa.ca

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R.V. Anderson Associated
FER-PAL Construction Ltd.
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HATCH

Joe Johnson Equipment
CIMA Canada Inc.
WT Infrastructure Solutions
RJ Burnside
Focus Optimization
HATCH

BRONZE



Chisholm, Fleming & Associates
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Robinson Consultants
GHD
Viking Gives
MTE
GM BluePlan
Chisholm, Fleming & Assoc.