



April 2020

Pile of Bones

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President's Message

By Pierre Ranger

Hi everyone, in this trying time that we are all experiencing, it is important to remember that we all need to support one another, even if ironically, that support may be to not go see others. As many of you are likely aware, the Chapters Regional Conference which was to be held in Edmonton this year has been postponed and may end up being cancelled. We have also not had our chapter budget approval meeting for the upcoming year and we have cancelled the remaining chapter meetings for this ASHRAE year. I have discussed with Cailin, next year's president, and our current plan is to have a budget meeting at our September meeting however please understand that is currently just a plan.

No ASHRAE Events have been scheduled at this time

Lastly, I want to mention that if you are an ASHRAE member you may have noticed that ASHRAE society has been pushing out many free resources for skills upgrading, some of them specifically related to infection control practices. Over the next few months, there will be quite a few webinar being put on and resources available to provide you with the information you need to either upgrade your knowledge of HVAC or possibly consult with our partners in the built environment about what they can do about reducing the risk of infection propagation related to their HVAC system. We recently had a presentation in Regina by Dr. Stephanie Taylor, an infection control specialist who relates the built environment to the potential for infection transmission. The link below is a recent conversation she had about our current pandemic outbreak.

<https://www.esmagazine.com/articles/100256-a-coronavirus-conversation-with-dr-stephanie-taylor>

-Pierre Ranger

Committee Chair Reports

Vice President

By Cailin MacPherson

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all future ASHRAE Regina Chapter meetings and seminars have been cancelled until further notice. The annual Region XI CRC that was set to happen April 20th to May 2nd in Edmonton has been postponed to a later date. If any members would find value in the Regina ASHRAE Chapter hosting virtual meetings please let me know.

Stay healthy and stay safe.

All the best,

Cailin MacPherson
Programs, CTTC, Vice President, Alternate

Student Activities

By Marla Torwalt

Student Activities

The Don Bell scholarship received 13 applications this year and I'm happy to announce we awarded the scholarship to Fabian Cabello-Perez. He's a 4th year apprentice attending school for his journeyman insulator ticket. Unfortunately we won't have the opportunity this year to present him with a giant cheque but we wish him the best in his education and look forward to his excellent insulating skills showing up on all our projects!

ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force Established

ASHRAE announced a Society-wide effort to respond to the current global COVID-19 pandemic and provide guidance on how to ensure that buildings are prepared for future epidemics.

The ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force has been established to help deploy ASHRAE's technical resources to address the challenges of the current pandemic and future epidemics as it relates to the effects of heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems on disease transmission in healthcare facilities, the workplace, home, public and recreational environments. The task force will also provide recommendations for setting up temporary field hospitals in convention centers, arenas and indoor stadia to deal with surges.

The primary role of the task force is to maintain communication with members, industry partners, building owners, facility operators, government agencies and the general public. Specific responsibilities of the task force include:

- Serving as a clearinghouse to review all technical questions and requests for technical guidance submitted to ASHRAE
- Coordinating activities of ASHRAE's internal resources
- Partnering with and monitoring the activities of external organizations, including the more than 60 members of the ASHRAE Associate Society Alliance (AASA) of organizations related to the HVAC&R industry around the world
- Reviewing, organizing, consolidating and publishing clear and concise summaries with citations of the most relevant information available to the built environment

2013-14 ASHRAE Presidential Member William Bahnfleth, Ph.D., P.E., will chair the task force.

“We have assembled an outstanding group of experts to serve on the task force,” said Bahnfleth. “They are high-level building professionals with collective experience in design, construction, operations and research, who are well qualified to offer guidance on how to protect building occupants and support healthcare facility needs during the uncertainty of an epidemic.”

Leading experts in medicine and public health will serve as consultants to the task force.

Members of the ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force are as follows:

Voting Members:

William Bahnfleth, Ph.D., P.E., chair, ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force
Max Sherman, Ph.D., ASHRAE Environmental Health Committee
Luke Leung, P.E., ASHRAE Environmental Health Committee
Stephanie Taylor, M.D., ASHRAE Environmental Health Committee
Jason DeGraw, Ph.D., ASHRAE Technical Committee 2.10, *Resilience and Security*
Traci Hanegan, P.E., ASHRAE Technical Committee 9.6, *Healthcare Facilities*
Steve Martin, Ph.D., P.E., National *Institute for Occupational Safety and Health* (NIOSH)
Richard Hermans, P.E., ASHRAE Standing Standard Project Committee 170, *Ventilation of Health Care Facilities*
James Ridenhour, JR P.E. Retired

Corresponding/Nonvoting Members

Walid Chakroun, Ph.D., ASHRAE Government Affairs Committee
Wade Conlan, P.E., ASHRAE Environmental Health Committee
Dennis Knight, P.E., ASHRAE Board of Directors
Jay Kohler, P.E., chair, ASHRAE Technical Activities Committee
Wayne Stoppelmoor, CEM, chair, ASHRAE Standards Committee

“ASHRAE is a global, grassroots organization of more than 57,000 members in 130 countries, so we have boots on the ground around the world. Our members and chapters take the initiative to help wherever they are and are already addressing the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Bahnfleth. “That is also true of our technical and standards committees. When called upon by circumstances to assist in situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic, they act within their spheres of competence to do whatever they can to help.”

Members of ASHRAE’s Healthcare Facilities technical committee (TC 9.6) and ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2017 -- Ventilation of Health Care Facilities committee have been working with members of the American Society for Health Care Engineering (ASHE) to produce guidance that can be implemented immediately to help hospitals and clinics cope with the increasing volume of COVID-19 cases. Standard 170 already has had a beneficial impact by providing guidance for the design of existing infection isolation, intensive care and critical care rooms in countries that have been most severely affected by this virus. An extensive presentation has been prepared and is being presented to various groups and organizations, including ASHRAE chapters. The presentation includes guidance on how to create additional observation/segregation rooms for a small-scale admission surge as well as the establishment of wards/suites for a large-scale surge.

Questions and requests for technical guidance and interpretations should be submitted to the following email address: COVID-19@ashrae.org. For more information on the ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force including resources and updates, visit the ASHRAE COVID-19 Preparedness Resources webpage at ashrae.org/COVID19.

2019- 2020 Meetings and Events

All future ASHRAE events and conferences have been postponed/cancelled.

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