



May 2020

# Pile of Bones

Published by the Regina Chapter of ASHRAE

## President's Message

By Pierre Ranger

Hi everyone, I hope you are all keeping safe, healthy and busy. This situation is challenging for everyone and we want you to remind you that if you've been asked for information about infection control in HVAC, ASHRAE has a large amount of information on infection control processes for our industry. Please see the ASHRAE website for this information.

No ASHRAE Events have been scheduled at this time

On a more local note, many of you may have recently needed to renew their ASHRAE membership. If so, you may have found out that there is a chapter membership fee being asked of you from Society as you do your society renewal. Early in 2020, we determined that our current revenue was tracking to less than our budget. We had already a deficit budget but we were tracking to end up with a large deficit. We determined that we needed to ensure that this wouldn't happen next year (we cannot afford multiple large deficit years) so we have taken the decision to keep the annual meeting fee the same but start charging a chapter membership fee. This is typical of what most other chapters do. We are not putting the chapter membership fee very high to try and ensure it is reasonable and fairly covers the costs that we as a chapter have for having a member assigned to our local chapter. Part of our cost issues were related to the chapter operating costs that had nothing to do with putting on our regular meetings and this should more accurately reflect our fees to our membership and that we don't charge meeting attending members increasingly more money to cover the costs of our assigned members who don't attend meetings. We are giving everyone a bit of leeway for the current calendar year as it is very challenging to track when you are required to renew your membership and we don't want to harass people before they are expected to pay. The BOG understands that this constitutes a significant change in how we operate our chapter but we hope that this will improve our financial position going forward without punishing our most active members.

Some of you may be wondering how the current pandemic has affected the finances at the chapter level. We haven't really yet determined the true impacts to the chapter. So far it seems like we will be able to save some considerable costs since the CRC will be held virtually. Brad Lulik (our treasurer) will provide a detailed report of this year's finances at our September meeting (hopefully in person!). If you have further questions, feel free to send me an email and I'll be glad to provide you with further information.

Lastly, if you are interested, you should consider attending the open portion of the CRC. This will allow for good visibility into the inner workings of ASHRAE.

-Pierre Ranger

# Committee Chair Reports

## Student Activities

By Marla Torwalt

For anyone interested, you can register to attend the virtual CRC for this year. See below for information. Make sure to register!

## **ASHRAE Region XI – Chapters Regional Conference – Virtual Business Meeting & Caucus**

Dear valued member of ASHRAE's Region XI –

As our Regional Executive and Society Leadership continues to evaluate the current COVID-19 situation, it has become apparent that in-person events will be postponed for some time and at best limited to very small, socially distanced groups.

Nonetheless, the work of Society, and specifically our region continues, so it is important to maintain the required communication and decision-making forums to allow us to continue that work.

As such, the Region will undertake two virtual meetings on Friday 8 May 2020:

1. **An open meeting of the Regional Executive, Society Leadership, the Regional Chapter Delegates and Alternates, and any regional member or guest who wishes to attend**

The purpose of this meeting is to hear updates from the Society and our Regional Leadership on the business at hand as well as work planned for the upcoming Society year. Motions relating to the operation of the region, such as annual budgets, will also be presented and voted upon to allow for financial transactions in Society Year 2020-2021, beginning 1 July 2020.

This meeting is **open to all members**. If you wish to participate, please advise Tamera Catchings ([tcatchings@ashrae.org](mailto:tcatchings@ashrae.org)) prior to end of day Wednesday 6 May 2020. GotoMeeting login information will be sent to you individually.

2. **An executive session (closed) meeting of the Regional Caucus** will be held later that day, following the Rules of the Nominating Committee, to undertake the normal process of identifying and nominating of leadership roles in our region, and within Society leadership. This is an

annual confidential session where the selection of members for leadership roles are made using the principal of “the position seeks the person”, rather than individuals campaigning for positions.

If you have any questions or require clarification, please feel free to contact me at [russell.lavitt@stantec.com](mailto:russell.lavitt@stantec.com) or by phone at 204.981.7560.

Best wishes to you and your families – be safe and healthy.

Thank you once again for your commitment to ASHRAE.

## **Special Events**

By Josh Thomas

Due to the fact that there are 20 minute tee time intervals and one rider per cart rules in effect, there will not be an ASHRAE golf tournament for the foreseeable future.

## ASHRAE Issues Statements on Relationship Between COVID-19 and HVAC in Buildings

ASHRAE has published two statements to define guidance on managing the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 disease (Coronavirus) with respect to the operation and maintenance of heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems in buildings.

“In light of the current global pandemic, it’s critically important that ASHRAE responds with guidance on mitigating the transmission of the virus, as well as ventilation and filtration recommendations,” said 2019-20 ASHRAE President Darryl K. Boyce, P.Eng. “ASHRAE has a significant role to play in ensuring safe and healthy building environments and these statements offer the expert strategies needed at this time.”

ASHRAE developed the following statements in response to widening false statements surrounding HVAC systems. ASHRAE officially opposes the advice not to run residential or commercial HVAC systems and asserts that keeping air conditioners on during this time can help control the spread of the virus. The official statements are below.

### **ASHRAE’s statement on airborne transmission of SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19**

*Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 through the air is sufficiently likely that airborne exposure to the virus should be controlled. Changes to building operations, including the operation of heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems, can reduce airborne exposures.*

### **ASHRAE’s statement on operation of heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems to reduce SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 transmission**

*Ventilation and filtration provided by heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems can reduce the airborne concentration of SARS-CoV-2 and thus the risk of transmission through the air. Unconditioned spaces can cause thermal stress to people that may be directly life threatening and that may also lower resistance to infection. In general, disabling of heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems is not a recommended measure to reduce the transmission of the virus.*

HVAC filters, along with other strategies, help to reduce virus transmission while removing other air contaminants that may have health effects.

ASHRAE’s Environmental Health Committee also developed an Emerging Issues Brief to support the two above statements:

*There is great concern about the real possibility of transmission through the air of various pathogens, especially SARS-CoV-2, among staff and administration in healthcare facilities, office workers, retail workers and patrons, manufacturing workers, and residents in private and public facilities and the general public in outdoor settings and in public transportation.*

ASHRAE has created the Epidemic Task Force, comprised of leading experts to address the relationship between the spread of disease and HVAC in buildings during of the current pandemic and future epidemics. The ASHRAE Environmental Health Committee's Position Document Committee also updated a Position Document on Infectious Aerosols.

“ASHRAE, working with its industry partners, is uniquely qualified to provide guidance on the design, operation, and maintenance of heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as to prepare for future epidemics,” said ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force chair, ASHRAE Environmental Health Committee voting member and 2013-14 ASHRAE Presidential Member Bill Bahnfleth.

Please visit the newly updated ASHRAE's COVID-19 Resources webpage at [ashrae.org/COVID19](https://ashrae.org/COVID19) for additional details. The page includes frequently asked questions and the latest information on the ETF's guidance for healthcare facilities, residential buildings and other issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## 2019-2020 Meetings and Events

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

## 2019–2020 ASHRAE Regina Chapter Board of Governors

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### *President*

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### *Special Events*

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### *Newsletter*

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## 2019–2020 ASHRAE Society Executive

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### **Executive Committee**

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Calgary, Canada

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Lenexa, Kansas

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Noida Uttar Pradesh, India

## 2019–2020 ASHRAE Regional Executive

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*Director and Regional Chair*

Rusell Lavitt  
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*Representative*

Eileen Jensen  
Vancouver, Washington

*Chapter Technology Transfer RVC*

Heric Holmes  
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*Student Activities RVC*

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*Nominating Committee Member*

Rob Craddock  
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*Nominating Committee Alternate*

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*YEA RVC*

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