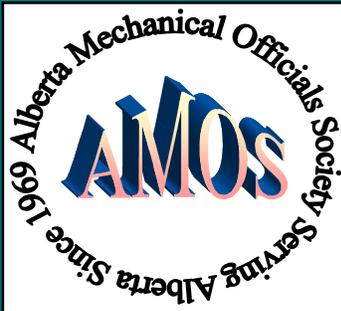


ALBERTA
MECHANICAL
OFFICIALS
SOCIETY



FALL NEWSLETTER - 2010

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Members:

Welcome back after summer 2010. I hope you all had a summer break in some form or another. We all need some time for rest and relaxation before we head into the fall rush. You know the one where everyone wants to get everything done before freeze up. I am sure this fall will be no different than past ones.

Finding new Safety Codes Officers in all disciplines remains a daunting task. With all the education, training and continuous upgrading, young trades people are reluctant to jump in. The costs are significant and with no guarantee of a full time position at the end. The skill level of a Safety Codes Officer exceeds that of a journeyman tradesman, but salaries do not reflect this. These professional skills should be recognized and compensated accordingly. As our membership matures, it will be interesting to see how the inspection process will proceed and what happens with this could take a number of directions. It definitely will be interesting for all of us in the years to come.

The B149.1-10 Gas Code was

adopted on Sep 1, 2010. A number of you could be attending the update course before the fall conference. Course dates and locations will be emailed out when they become available to the executive. Alberta Municipal Affairs has been putting on some additional training sessions for Level 2 Plumbing SCO's and installers. These having been taking place in various locations throughout the province.

I hope to see you at the AMOS Fall 2010 Conference.

Ray Veldhoen





“Feedback regarding these or other issues is always appreciated.”

“It Could Always Be Worse”



“ FROM THE DESK OF YOUR ADMINISTRATOR ”

Good Day AMOS Members,

The executive of AMOS have been gracious, by continuing to grant me with support from the membership, this forum so that we may extend an opportunity to support consistent inspections and interpretations throughout the province. AMOS has throughout its 40 plus years of history been the voice for education and information for mechanical regulators. From time to time as opportunities arise and issues become apparent I will submit comments and information to help support that consistency. Any feedback regarding these or other issues is always appreciated.

Fall 2010 reflects the end of our 40th year as a professional organization. It would be just as easy to say that fall 2010 begins our fifth decade as a consistent beacon for safety in the mechanical construction industry. This statement regarding the race towards 50 years has a component of pride, a mark of success, and an allowance for optimism.

The 2010 edition B149 gas codes have been adopted by regulation in Alberta for enforcement on September 1, 2010. This regulation is the culmination of another five-year cycle towards advancement and elevation of safety in addressing the issues of Alberta. The new code requirement for protection of adjoining property is still an issue of much discussion in the industry. The STANDATA put out by the gas technical council and municipal affairs will be additional support for the challenge of protecting adjoining property.

Indirect vs. direct connections: the national plumbing code 2005, division B., section 2.4, lists the requirement that every fixture shall be directly connected to a sanitary

drainage system. This is followed by exceptions where fixtures may/shall be indirectly connected to a sanitary drainage system or a storm drainage system and provisions. There are a number of international codes and standards that address appliances and applications that fall outside of identifiable applications for the national plumbing code of Canada. There are also opportunities for blueprints and specifications that are used in Alberta specific projects that may have an international flair due to the size of the company or number of facilities that they develop. This does not absolve the requirement to comply with the authority having jurisdiction, local regulations and codes. The challenge may involve something as simple as the application of a term such as “floor sink”. A floor sink is a floor drain, may look like a large floor drain, and may be able to be compared to a trench drain. A floor sink does not eliminate requirements for other fixtures that are required to be directly connected to a sanitary drainage system. A fixture that is required to be directly connected shall be directly connected and meet all of the appropriate requirements of the plumbing code regarding drainage and venting.

Certification of appliances in Alberta is a challenge across all disciplines. The examples of fraudulent labeling and unapproved equipment are typically the most obvious. This is often challenged by the addition of partially approved equipment and other relative inconsistencies across labeling processes and compliance with standards in relation to the “CB” or “certification body” compliance monitoring. In the gas discipline, high-altitude issues are often easy to identify where standards and compliance monitoring for appliance manufacturers is closely adhered to. These standards typically all have an exhibit that addresses items unique to Canada. Most

of these exhibits or appendixes have a clear compliance requirement for appliances to conform to 2.17, gas-fired appliances for use at high altitude standard. There are ongoing challenges of requirements for compliance with this standard, marking and identification. This will be a topic that is going to come up again and again. I will take this and other times to remind everyone of the requirement in Canada of the standard for high altitude ratings.

This column and the topic of certification is an opportunity to discuss partial approvals. This issue has been raised at the national committee level with the challenge to the certification bodies to fix the labeling process. The certification process is required to provide labels that clearly identify which standards/disciplines are addressed in a limited capacity label or a label shall encompass all disciplines applied to the appliance or fixture that bears the label. The challenge to regulatory agencies is unreasonable if certification labels only address a limited or partial number of disciplines addressed in the process and result in an appliance being sold and distributed in the market without approvals for a discipline in which it supplied. An example may be a jetted tub, with labeling that identifies requirements of the standard for electrical components and yet has no certification for plumbing fixtures as required in Can/CSA B45. Differences in labeling processes add to the challenge of ensuring that appliance is properly certified. There may be times when the labeling may need to be supported with a certificate of compliance or other documentation from the manufacturer or certification body identifying the certification for installation in Canada of the specific discipline.

Continued on Page 3

“ FROM THE DESK OF YOUR ADMINISTRATOR ”

Continued From Page 2

The national committees would like to see a movement within labeling and certification bodies to more clearly identify compliance.

The spring newsletter contained comments on the issues regarding permits and licenses for Class “A” and Class “B” Gasfitters. This column brings the topic closer to the heart as the issue for entry qualifications for safety codes officers has come up. The safety codes Council through the gas sub Council has been petitioned to review entry qualifications. The subsequent working group and gas technical council are developing proposals that may include entry qualifications that contain

probationary periods as well as mentorship programs. If any SCO, municipality, accredited Corporation or agency has questions, comments or concerns regarding potential implications of a mentoring program or additional probationary requirements, I would appreciate the input.

Decisions of councils are often made with the best intentions of respecting the entire industry, and end up with portions of that same industry feeling as though they were not consulted or that a generic burden has been placed upon them that is not within their ability to manage. This newsletter and this column is an opportunity to respond to these types of issues.

- Every member of Amos should

be receiving the newsletter and giving it a once over.

- Every safety codes officer in Alberta should be on the mailing list.
- Please contact the AMOS executive as identified in the newsletter if you are aware of any safety codes officers in your agency or municipality who are not on the AMOS mailing list so that they can be properly invited to conferences as well as to ensure that all are included in the by annual newsletter circulation.

Have a great fall and see you at the conference in October.

Sidney

“Every Safety Codes Officer in Alberta should be on the mailing list”

LIFE SKILLS—Bill Gates

We can all learn from this—as parents or within our job criteria.

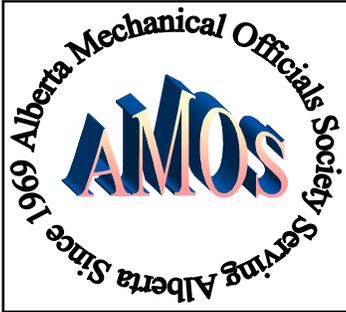
Bill Gates recently gave a speech at a High School & gave the students 11 pieces of advice (he calls them “RULES” in his speech). He observed that—we have a generation of kids that have no concept of reality and this concept; is setting these kids up for **failure** in the real world. The following are rules—pieces of advice—that he passed on to these kids. Some of you may think this is “harsh tough love” but it’s probably the most valuable advice that these kids could receive:

- 1) Life is not fair—get used to it!
- 2) The world doesn’t care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something **BEFORE** you feel good about yourself.
- 3) You will **NOT** make \$60,000 a year right out of high school. You won’t be a vice-president with a car phone until you **earn** both.

- 4) If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss.
- 5) Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your parents & Grandparents had a different word for burger flipping: they called it opportunity.
- 6) If you mess up, **it’s not your parents fault**, so don’t whine about your mistakes, learn from them.
- 7) Before you were born, your parents weren’t as boring as they are now. They got that way from paying your bills, cleaning your clothes & listening to you talk about how cool you thought you were. So before you save the rain forest from the parasites of your parents generation, try delousing the closet in your own room.
- 8) Your School may have done away with winners & losers, but life **HAS NOT**. In some schools, they

- have abolished failing grades & they’ll give you as **MANY TIMES** as you want to get the right answer. This doesn’t bear the slightest resemblance to **ANYTHING** in real life.
- 9) Life is not divided into semesters. You don’t get summers off & very few employers are interested in helping you **FIND YOURSELF**. Do that on your own time.
- 10) Television is **NOT** real life. In real life people actually have to leave the coffee shop & go to jobs.
- 11) Be nice to **NERDS**. Chances are you’ll end up working for one.

Hmm.... After reading this—there are some adults who could really use this advice as well! And if you can read this ... **thank a teacher!**



AMOS EXECUTIVE:

- Ray Velhoen - President
- Larry Robinson -1st Vice President
- Second Vice President - Vacant
- Sid Manning - Past President
- Randy Croft - Secretary
- Reg Adair - Treasurer
- Stonewall Burk—Director
- Glenn Costello - Director
- Murray Vine - Director
- Mike Turek - Director / Editor
- Richard Burk - Education Director
- Wayne McCaffrey - AMA Liaison

2010 Fall Conference Fees:
 Mail payment by cheque or money
 order to:

**AMOS c/o Reg Adair
 221 Beaton Place,
 Fort McMurray ,AB T9K 2B1**

**Fall Conference Fees \$95.00
 Membership Dues \$30.00**

A block of rooms have been set aside at the Black Knight Inn for a corporate rate.
 For information or queries on the rooms please contact the Black Knight Inn directly
 Mention Alberta Mechanical Officials Society in full when booking your room.

REMEMBER: Red Deer is usually booked up on weekends!

AMOS Annual Fall Conference will be held on Friday, October 15th and Saturday, October 16th, 2010
 Black Knight Inn
 2929—50th Avenue
 Red Deer, Alberta, T4R 1H1
 Phone: 1-403-343-6666 Toll Free: 1-800-661-8793



Education Corner

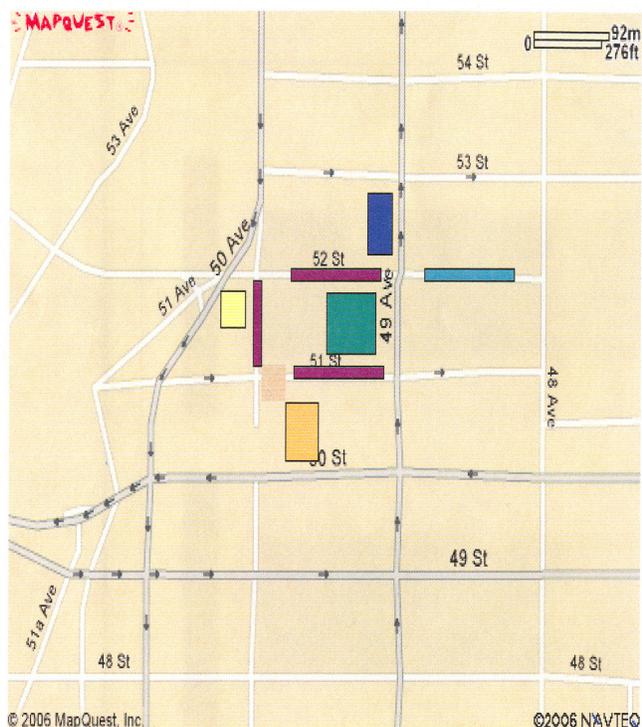
Location: Red Deer Provincial Building, 4920-51 Street.

- 1) Plumbing Group B (Private Sewage) Update—Tentative
Mandatory for Group B SCO's to be completed by October 2010.

- 2) Information on the 2010 B149.1-10 update course will be forwarded to the AMOS Membership once CSA and The Safety Council have informed the AMOS Executive of the details.

All registrations through the Safety Codes Council contact Lisa Lough [lough@safetycodes.ab.ca]
or call 1-888-413-0099

Red Deer Provincial Building – Visitor Parking Options



- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
|  | Provincial Bldg |  | Public pay parking, 50¢/ hour, \$4.00 all day
– next to Prairie Office Products |
|  | Parking Lot- 13 stalls of guest parking, maximum
Stay of 2 hours |  | 2 hour meter parking on the street |
|  | Canada-Alberta visitor/staff parking - \$1.00/hour |  | 8 hour meter parking on the street |



AMOS -Alberta Mechanical Officials Society

2010 FALL CONFERENCE Registration and Membership Update Form

Friday, October 15th, 6:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. & Saturday, October 16th, 8:00 a.m.- 3:15 p.m.

Black Knight Inn 2929 - 50 Avenue

Red Deer, Alberta, Canada T4R 1H1

Phone: 1 (403) 343-6666 Toll Free : 1 (800) 661-8793

Name: _____ Email Address _____

Address: _____ Postal Code _____

Representing _____ Bus. Phone _____

Please check the appropriate Box('s) below.

_____ I am an AMOS Member, and will forward my Fall Conference Registration Fee of: \$95.00

_____ I am an AMOS Member, and will forward my 2010 AMOS Membership Dues of: \$30.00

_____ My employer has paid my: AMOS Membership Dues / AMOS Fall Conference Fee.

TOTAL AMOUNT FORWARDED TO AMOS: \$ _____

Mail payment by cheque or money order to:

AMOS c/o Reg Adair

221 Beaton Place, Fort McMurray T9K 2B1

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Black Knight Inn for a corporate rate.
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Mention **Alberta Mechanical Officials Society** in full when booking your room.

REMEMBER: Red Deer is usually booked up on weekends!



Alberta Mechanical Officials Society

2010 Fall Conference Agenda

Black Knight Inn
2929—50th Avenue
Red Deer, Alberta.
Canada, T4R 1H1

Phone: 403-343-6666, Toll Free: 1-800-661-8793

Friday, October 15, 2010

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Registration

7:30 PM - 9:15 PM Business Meeting

9:30 PM- 11:30 PM Wine & Cheese / Sponsored by Rinnai - Carter Marketing

Saturday, October 16, 2010

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM: Registration

8:30 AM – 10:30 AM: Don Carter(Carter Marketing) and Don Lewandoski (Canadian Rinnai Sales Manager)

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM: Pro Press / Viega

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: Lunch

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM: Alberta Municipal Affairs (current issues and concerns)

3:00 PM: 50/50 Draw

3:15 PM - Adjourned

Display Tables:

- Canadian Copper and Brass Development Association (John Semeniuk)
- Mainline Backflow Products Inc. (Tom Crerar)

AND EVERYONE WONDERS WHY INSPECTIONS ARE NEEDED!
YOU JUST GOTTA SCRATCH YOUR HEAD WITH THESE PICTURES

