

AACE Aurora Edmonton Section – Fall 2011 Newsletter

To: AACE Aurora Edmonton Section Members

From: Don Mah, Aurora Edmonton Section President

Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays!

As 2011 winds down, I would like to extend my best wishes to you in 2012 on behalf of our executives. As a recap during the fall, our section held three dinner meetings (see summary below) and our 7th Annual Skill and Knowledge Workshop in November. We are planning a slate of monthly dinner meetings presentations from January to May in 2012 (third Wednesday of each month). Please check the website (www.aacedmonton.org) for updates.

Summary of Fall Dinner Meetings:

On **September 21**, the Aurora Edmonton Section held a dinner meeting presentation by guest speaker **Paul Tsounis** at the University of Alberta Faculty Club. Paul Tsounis is the Director of Strategic Business Analysis and Forecasting for Government of Alberta's Energy Ministry. His informative and interactive presentation was entitled "Alberta's Energy Markets; Opportunities and Challenges". Paul provided a governmental perspective of the economic downturn conditions globally and presented insights on what the Government of Alberta is currently doing about it to ensure a prosperous future for Alberta's energy industry and economy for years to come. The presentation was well received and timely in the context of global economic uncertainty and environmental concerns about pipelines construction from Alberta into the USA. There was tremendous dialogue among the attendees as many of them are employed in the oil and gas energy sector.

On **October 19**, the Aurora Edmonton Section held a dinner meeting presentation by guest speaker **Jay Sagoo** at the University of Alberta Faculty Club. Jay Sagoo, Cost Engineer with Alberta Infrastructure, provided an overview of Alberta Infrastructure's Value Management program, and its impact towards finding value towards capital projects. Alberta Infrastructure has endorsed the use of Value Management in its successful practice towards capital projects over many years. Value Management is a powerful analytical tool that will help ensure the success of any project, process or product. The use of VM achieves the essential functions at the lowest total cost over the life of the project without sacrificing utility, function or performance.

On **November 16**, the Aurora Edmonton Section held a dinner meeting presentation by guest speaker **Matthew Schoenhardt** at the University of Alberta Faculty Club. Matthew Schoenhardt is a Senior Consultant with Stantec's Strategic Management and seconded to Enbridge. He provided a presentation on Enbridge's parametric approach to estimate capital cost and schedule contingency.