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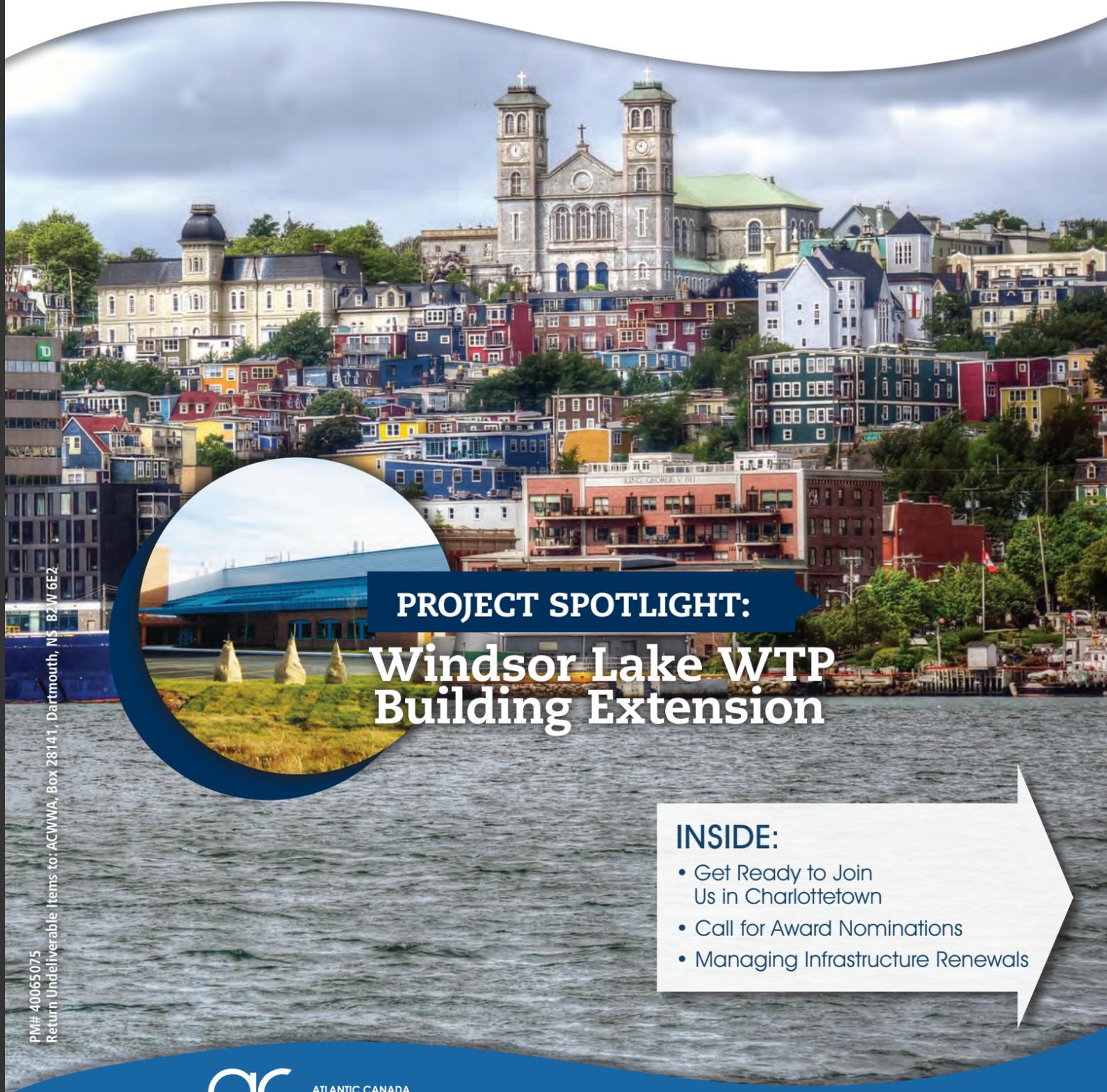
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- INSIDE:**
- Get Ready to Join Us in Charlottetown
  - Call for Award Nominations
  - Managing Infrastructure Renewals



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On the cover: Downtown St. John's featuring the Basilica and a colourful row of houses. | Dreamstime.com

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## Professional development opportunities abound

As we start a new year many of us have set new goals and resolutions; this is also a good time to consider our professional development requirements. Many professions within the water and wastewater industry require continuing education credits to maintain a designation or to achieve our employment responsibilities. Our association can assist you with achieving your goals and through either through our own education offerings or from one of our member organizations – the American Water Works Association or the Water Environment Federation. This is a good time to plan to attend one of the many conferences offered in 2023 – I have highlighted some of the main ones below.

**AWWA ACE** – Toronto, ON. This is the premier event for the AWWA highlighting all components of the

water industry in a single event, offering both technical sessions and a tradeshow. The last time the event was held in Toronto was in 2007; this is a great chance for Canadians to attend this event without having to travel to the United States or worry about foreign currency exchange. This opportunity does not come along very often and will not be held in Toronto again until 2029 so it is definitely worth considering. The event will be held from June 11–14, 2023. More information is available at [www.awwa.org/ace](http://www.awwa.org/ace).

**WEFTEC** – Chicago, IL. Similar to the AWWA, this is the main conference and exhibition for the Water Environment Federation. The event typically rotates between Chicago and New Orleans and the conference and tradeshow focuses on both water and wastewater issues. This is a great opportunity

for attendees that work within both fields to learn about the new trends and technology in a single event. The event will be held from September 30 – October 4, 2023. More information can be found at [www.weftec.org](http://www.weftec.org).

**ACWWA Annual Conference** – Charlottetown, PE. This is our local association's annual conference and tradeshow, which provides the opportunity to learn about the latest technology and developments in the water and wastewater industry within around region. In 2022 the conference returned to an in-person format which was a great success as everyone enjoyed the social interactions with friends and colleagues. Planning is well underway for this year's event, and we are hoping to build upon the success of our last conference. The event will be held October 15–17. More information can be found at [www.acwwa.ca](http://www.acwwa.ca).

In addition to the conferences highlighted above, there are numerous in-person and online training sessions conducted by our organization throughout the year. These sessions range from operator certification exam preparation to water or wastewater operation and maintenance topics. The course offerings are based upon feedback from our members; if you have any requests or ideas for future courses please send us a message at [contact@acwwa.ca](mailto:contact@acwwa.ca).

I encourage all members to consider their individual educational needs and requirements for this year and hopefully one of the conferences or courses offered by ACWWA, AWWA, or WEF will satisfy your requirements. 🌊

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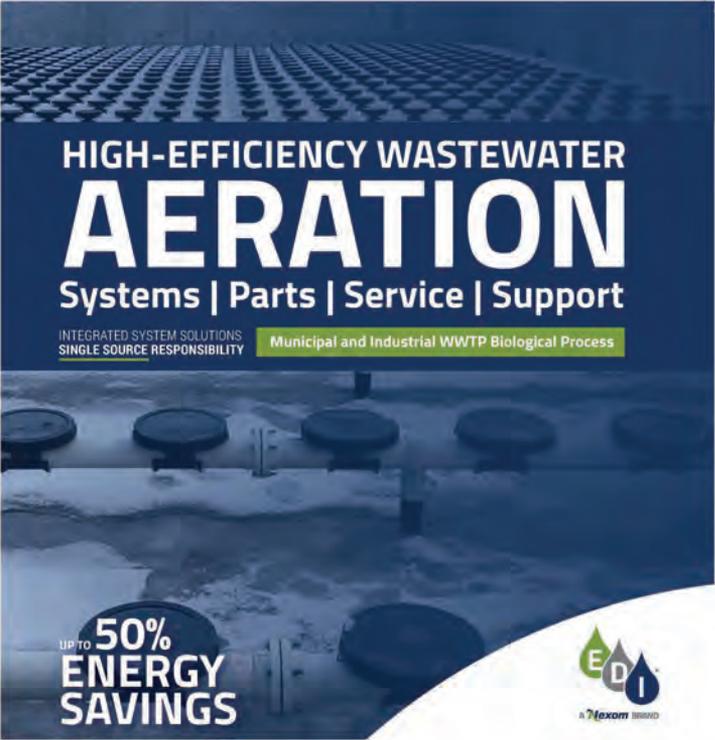
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## See you soon at WEFMAX

Six more weeks of winter they say... bring it on. I'm not sure about your region, but winter has hardly shown up in my neighbourhood for more than a couple days at a time. As I write this article, there is another Nor'easter heading our way with more snow. Perhaps I may finally get to use that secondhand snow blower I picked up a few months ago. Just in time for the Spring issue of this magazine.

My grandkids keep asking if the pond in my front yard is safe to skate on. It is a day-by-day assessment. Luckily, they got out for a couple hours yesterday to burn off some of that extra energy and wore out Grampie. Before we know it, the snow will be melting, and the lawn mower will be busy again.

I have been busy with a few WEF committees; one is the House of Delegates of the Future Working Group where we are looking at revamping the Delegate roles and discussing ways of engaging people to promote more participation from volunteers to get actively involved. Another is the Strategic Advisory Committee whereby I meet monthly via Teams with the President of WEF, the WEF Executive Director, as well as several WEF staff and WEF Board of Trustees. We focus on the direction of WEF and getting the word out to our members. I am the Vice Chair of the WEFMAX Committee and Chair of the ACWWA WEFMAX Event.

The big news that is the upcoming WEFMAX events will again be held in person this spring. The host cities are St. Louis, Missouri April 12-14; Denver, Colorado May 3-5; and Charlottetown, PEI May 24-26. The ACWWA will be



hosting a WEFMAX event at the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel. WEFMAX stands for Water Environment Federation Member Association Exchange. This is a great opportunity to meet and learn from each other in an organized fun setting with water professionals from all over North America sharing their water stories, knowledge, and experience in the water/wastewater industry. We will have a meet and greet Wednesday evening with some locally themed entertainment and food. Thursday will be interactive information sharing sessions followed by a dinner at the New Glasgow Lobster Supper Restaurant. Friday will have a few more sessions in the morning with a local Atlantic Canadian themed topic being presented. All WEF members and ACWWA Board members are invited to attend. Full details are available at the WEFMAX webpage link. We will have a limit as to how many people can attend.

You can register at [www.wef.org/membership/wef-member-associations/wefmax](http://www.wef.org/membership/wef-member-associations/wefmax).

### WEFMAX schedule

May 24 – Plan to arrive late afternoon (4:00 pm). Wednesday offers an evening icebreaker.

May 25 – Early morning 5K Fun Run/Walk before WEFMAX begins Thursday (7:30 am – 5:00 pm). Breakfast and lunch are provided. Thursday evening offers a social event hosted by ACWWA. Guests are invited to both the Wednesday and Thursday socials.

May 26 – WEFMAX begins at 7:30 am and will adjourn at noon. Breakfast is provided.

The Charlottetown theme is focused on *Improving MAs through Leadership and Innovation*. If you would like to learn more about this event or would like to volunteer, please contact me at [dave.galbraith@sansom.ca](mailto:dave.galbraith@sansom.ca) or 902-476-7967.

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## Back to in-person events

During the months since our last issue of this magazine, I participated in a meeting of the Canadian Affairs Committee (CAC) of the AWWA and the CWWA National Water and Wastewater Conference (NWWC). The CAC Committee meeting was first, taking place on November 4, 2022, in Toronto. Similar to the ACWWA Conference held in October, this was the first in-person meeting of the CAC since the fall of 2019. With many members turning over since that time, it was a great opportunity to meet the members from the

other provinces as well as AWWA leadership representatives.

Much of the recent business of the CAC has been centred around the discussion of how AWWA rebates associated with advocacy in Washington are being utilized by the Canadian sections. The importance of Government Affairs Committees at the section level, the connection of the sections with the CWWA, and the liaison and coordination role that the CAC can play between the sections and the parent organization (AWWA) appear to provide a suitable framework for a go-forward position.



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The NWWC conference followed directly after, from November 6–9, 2022, in Halifax. This conference offered a wide-ranging technical program covering almost all aspects of the municipal water sector, as well as a great networking environment for Canada's water leaders. The program focused on water and wastewater management including:

- Utility management
- Wastewater and stormwater management, case studies, and emerging contaminants
- Drinking water management, monitoring, and outreach
- Water efficiency programs, community outreach etc.
- Biosolids management
- Utility security
- Climate change and its impacts on the water and wastewater sector
- Collaborative research between utilities and academic institutions

Although there were some travel complications that impacted attendance, anyone who made it was treated to a top-notch conference. 



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## Membership has its benefits

After three years of the pandemic and not being able to host a live conference, it was nice to see many of you at our past Annual Conference in Saint John.

In 2023, the Membership Committee will continue to expand on member networking opportunities to help with member engagement. We will also continue to reach out to small communities and small systems that could benefit from the Association.



In February, Clara and I had the opportunity to represent ACWWA at the AWWA Membership Summit from Jan. 31 to Feb. 3 in Denver, Colorado.

ACWWA was presented with an award for having achieved retention goals as well as increase in membership. This could not be possible without our members, Executive Director Clara Shea, and our Membership Committee which is comprised of Gabriel Belliveau (City of Dieppe),

Michael Brophy (NS Environment), and Brandon Howard (Sansom Equipment). Thank you!

### Did you know?

ACWWA has over 150 books and videos covering various topics that can be borrowed for a period of three weeks at no additional cost to you as a member. Maybe you need a safety video for a safety talk, are preparing for a certification exam and would like one of the certification study guides, or are re-evaluating your utility rates. Take advantage of this great library and resources provided to you as a benefit of being a member. For the complete list of books and videos, please visit [www.acwwa.ca/resources/section-library](http://www.acwwa.ca/resources/section-library) or contact ACWWA at (902) 434-6002.

Don't forget the "refer a member" contest for a chance to win a \$50 gift card of your choice.

### \$50 gift card winner for this spring

Congratulations to Graham Gagnon from Dalhousie University who was the lucky winner of a \$50 gift card of his choice for recruiting a new member. 

### Welcome to the following new members:

Name	Organization	Membership
Mike Benson		WEF
Megan Pederson		WEF
Jeffrey Campbell	Town of Truro Water Utilities	AWWA
Cameron White	Xylem	AWWA
Nelson Whalen	Town of Paradise	AWWA
Amy Czuczman	Nova Scotia Power Inc.	AWWA
Heba Ahmed	Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.	AWWA
Vinaykrishan Dansinghani		AWWA
Billy Kontuk	Colchester County Wastewater	AWWA
Jacob Steele	Dalhousie University	AWWA
Paul Bjorndahl	Dalhousie University	AWWA/WEF
Parishat Tanakoor	Memorial University	AWWA/WEF
Iker Alvarez	UPEI	AWWA/WEF
Madison Gouthro		AWWA/WEF
Xuedongzi Jiung	Dalhousie University	AWWA/WEF
Patrick Kiely	Sentry Water Tech	AWWA
Matt Mizzi	Drinkable Tech	AWWA
Micah Reid	Atlantic First Nations Water	AWWA
Mark MacDonald	Atlantic First Nations Water	AWWA
Margie Hennigar	Atlantic First Nations Water	AWWA
Dan MacDonald	Atlantic First Nations Water	AWWA
Alex Davis	Atlantic First Nations Water	AWWA

### As of February 14, 2023

Total AWWA active members: **433**

Total AWWA late members: **21**

Total active WEF members: **102**

Total WEF late members: **4**



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## We'll be there

2023 is closing in on the end of Q1 and things are looking good for a strong season ahead.

The ABEA offers four **\$1,000 academic scholarships** annually to deserving individuals who meet the application criteria (visit [www.ABEA.biz](http://www.ABEA.biz)). Graduation is around the corner, so start planning today!

The 2023 ACWWA Conference Planning Committee has begun the process of developing the plan for the Charlottetown event (Oct. 15–18). ABEA members will be there to support the premier education event by offering opportunities to mingle and greet in informal settings – stay tuned as plans unfold.

Education continues to be top of the list as the industry adds new members to the many employment opportunities. This means bringing everyone up to speed. Our members continue to find ways to assist their customers with creative delivery methods to keep them informed of changes in the industry. If you have a need, please feel free to reach out.

ABEA suppliers continue to support the ACWWA and its members. How can they make your process more seamless? Let's chat... 

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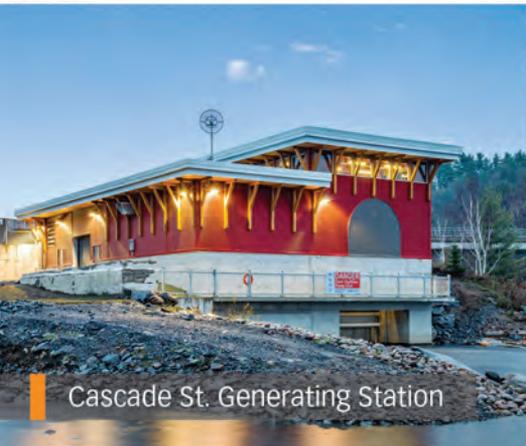


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## Charlottetown, PEI – October 15 to 17, 2023

By Richard MacEwen, 2023 Conference Chair

**P**lease join us in Charlottetown October 15–17, 2023 for the 2023 ACWWA Annual Conference. A conference you want to attend. The conference organizing committee has been working hard at making this a memorable event as PEI celebrates its 150th anniversary of joining Canada.

We are very pleased to be hosting the Annual Conference in Charlottetown at the Prince Edward Island Conference Centre. It is located on Charlottetown Harbour in our beautiful downtown where you can enjoy fine dining experiences, stroll the streets, and enjoy a walk along the boardwalk.

As always, the conference committee has organized a high-quality technical program. The technical sessions will focus on Building Resiliency in our industry. Charlottetown was witness to the importance of resiliency planning during and after Hurricane Fiona. Come and share your experience related to improving resiliency in our industry. The conference program will be filled with all kinds of favourites like golf (Fox Meadow Golf Club), Technical tours, ABEA tradeshow, ABEA Hospitality night (Old Triangle), Emerging Leaders Mixer, Hydrant Hysteria, water tower competition, hands-on technical demonstrations, and our wrap-up event.

The water and wastewater industry has provided critical public services for more than a century. Clean drinking water and effective wastewater treatment will be needed for years to come. The industry must find ways to be adaptable and resilient into the future. Come and share your role in the industry and what you are doing to ensure a resilient sustainable future. What innovations have you used or plan to use in the development of your

water resource? Did you add a new treatment system and consider climate change or increased resiliency in its design? How have you tackled challenges of your distribution or collection systems? How are you recovering resources from previously thought of waste streams? What about staffing recruitment and retention best practices? “Building Resiliency” is your opportunity to showcase projects and solutions on topics ranging from the source of our potable water to the resources recovered at the end of the water journey, and everything in between!

Whether you are a utility executive, supplier, consultant, regulator, operator, or student be sure to attend this year’s ACWWA Annual Conference in Charlottetown. Come reunite with colleagues and friends to share your experiences and expertise, and discuss the many ways that we are making our industry more resilient. 



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# CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

**Y**ou know someone who has made a contribution to the water and/or wastewater industry – don't let their efforts go unnoticed. The following awards are eligible for presentation at the 2023 ACWWA Conference on October 15–17, 2023 in Charlottetown, PEI.

Please note that the deadline for 2023 award nomination submissions is **August 7, 2023**.

Individuals wishing to nominate an individual or group for an award should complete the nomination form available at [www.acwwa.ca/conferences/awards/award-nominations.html](http://www.acwwa.ca/conferences/awards/award-nominations.html) or contact the ACWWA office ([contact@acwwa.ca](mailto:contact@acwwa.ca)) and request the applicable nomination form

Please note: Nominees must be a member of AWWA or WEF.

## Awards include:

### Project of the Year –

#### Engineering Award/Environmental Award

The Project of the Year – Engineering Award/Environmental Award is awarded by ACWWA to a *Municipality or Utility and their Consultant*, one of which is a member of ACWWA, to recognize **outstanding projects in Atlantic Canada that demonstrate innovation and state-of-the-art technology** in water or wastewater projects.

Awards may be presented in each of the following three categories:

- *Small Utility – less than 5,000 customers*
- *Medium Utility – between 5,000 and 25,000 customers*
- *Large Utility – more than 25,000 customers*

### Silent Hero Award

The Silent Hero Award is awarded by ACWWA and may be presented annually to recognize outstanding contributions of *water and wastewater operators*.

### Contribution Award

The Contribution Award is awarded by ACWWA and may be presented annually to recognize outstanding contributions by an *individual or a group of individual volunteers* to ACWWA programs and/or the water industry throughout Atlantic Canada.

### Young Professional Award

The Young Professional Award recognizes a *Young Professional* within the Atlantic Canada Water & Wastewater Association for outstanding contributions to the water and wastewater industry, and to the ACWWA Young Professionals' committee. 🏆



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# EMERGING LEADERS COMMITTEE UPDATE

## Speaker series

On January 12, Dr. Lauren Somers spoke about her experiences studying groundwater resources in the Peruvian Andes under a changing climate to a captive audience as part of the ACWWA Emerging Leaders Speaker Series.

Lauren Somers is an assistant professor in Civil and Resource Engineering at Dalhousie University. Her research focuses on the function of sensitive hydrologic systems and how they are impacted by, and contribute to, climate change and other environmental perturbations. In the talk, she discussed how decreasing water storage in snowpack and glaciers is threatening water resources for downstream populations. She spoke on how tracer experiments and hydrological models could be used to investigate the role of groundwater in sustaining streamflow as the glacier discharge supply diminishes under climate change projections. She highlighted potential adaptation strategies

to increase groundwater recharge, including hillslope trenching.

This was our best turnout yet for the Speaker Series, and we thank the participants and Dr. Somers for taking time from their day to make the event successful. Keep an eye out on the ACWWA Twitter account for an announcement of the next entry in our Speaker Series.

## Save the date

The Charity Softball Tournament in support of Water For People is back, and plans are underway to host the tournament in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia on **Saturday, June 17, 2023** (rain date of June 24). After a pandemic pause, the ACWWA's Water For People committee is excited to bring water resource professionals and their family and friends together again for some competitive fun on the ball fields while raising money for Water For People.

If you are interested in signing up to play (either as a team or an individual to be placed on a team) or in volunteering the day of the event, please reach out to Meghan at [meghan.swanburg@acadiau.ca](mailto:meghan.swanburg@acadiau.ca). 



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# Intergenerational Networking & Student and Young Professional WEF Mentoring Program



## Individual Networking

Research shows that even though workers have more ways to connect than ever, a person's network is usually a group of people very similar to them in terms of race, gender, age, etc. Diversifying your network requires conscious attention.

- ❑ **Make an effort** to reach out to people who are not of your generation—if you don't normally make a phone call, try it; if you don't normally send an email or teams message, try it. Have you used platforms like TikTok, Reddit, Slack, etc.? While you don't need to know them all, it's helpful to seek out new information channels.
- ❑ **Reach across WEF sectors** by joining committees doing work you're interested in knowing more about, not only those where you bring expert knowledge. Adopt a beginner mindset as you engage in topics of interest and meet new people.
- ❑ **Consider the relational power dynamic** in networking and work to level it as much as possible. This can be done by recognizing that, no matter your level of seniority, there's always something new to learn. Ask for and respond to feedback.
- ❑ **Ask authentic questions, give authentic answers.** Jokes or sarcastic comments about age differences or life experiences can backfire. They may shut people down or come across as offensive.
- ❑ **What may have been acceptable in the past is now dated**, for example male colleagues referring to female colleagues as "sweetie" or "honey". The speaker may think they're being kind and familiar, while the receiver may experience this as overly familiar, derogatory or exclusive. Be responsive to feedback on how a person wants to be addressed.

(see [How to Shift My Behaviors as a Leader](#) for more on this topic)

**The workforce of the future does not look or operate like the workforce of the past. How do organizations like WEF use this diversity to its advantage in innovation and problem solving?**

**There are currently 4 to 5 generations of people operating in the workforce together using different approaches to work and collaborate. Research shows that diverse companies and organizations are the most innovative and outperform less diverse organizations.**

**Intergenerational networking is key to developing diverse committees and work groups that can balance historic organizational knowledge and diverse perspectives for innovation.**



## Committee Outreach to Enhance Diversity

**Diverse networks make it more accessible for employees to make connections and referrals that result in diverse teams and committees.** In these arenas, diversity of perspective, experience, and knowledge lead to more innovative solutions and dynamic problem solving. Think about where you can get involved to share your expertise and learn from others.

- **WEF InFLOW program** partners with HBCUs and other organizations of underrepresented groups to bring students and technical professionals from these arenas to WEFTEC and support them in getting a strong start in the water sector.
- **Connect with WEF Member Associations** to look for newer members who want to get involved at the international WEF level.
- **Go outside the "usual water stakeholder"**, as outlined in the WEF strategic plan update, to connect with all water community partners—non-profits, community organizations, environmental advocacy groups, and small systems and companies.
- **SYPC Mentorship Program**, see the next page to find out more.



"It is a seasoned professional's legacy to the water sector to mentor the next generation of leaders."

— **Lou Storino, P.E., Mentor**



## SYPC Mentorship Program Advances the WEF Mission, Supports New Professionals

WEF's **Student and Young Professional Community (SYPC)** offers a structured opportunity to expand your network through their mentoring program. The program features pre-scheduled group networking calls as well as 1:1 time for pairs to connect. Past participants highly recommend the program.

SYPC is actively looking for participants, with particular emphasis on recruiting mentors interested in supported the program. Do you have industry experience to share in the following categories?

- Working with project teams i.e. for design and construction, responsibilities & roles of utility/owner, engineer, contractors
- Understanding technical documents and contracts
- Working through difficult manager and leadership relationships
- Asking for what you want at work, i.e technical opportunities, support, leadership opportunities, salary
- How and where to get involved in WEF



"I would recommend this to anyone who is given the opportunity. It's rewarding seeing your protégé succeed, and helping them avoid the pitfalls that you've experienced in your career can help them get to where they want to be."

— **Brian Persing, Plant Superintendent, Mentor**



"I would recommend this to others! It's a great way to connect a young professional to an industry leader which is very helpful in the early stages of one's career."

— **Blaga Delic, P.E., Protégé**



"I was surprised at my ability to be successful in a virtual mentorship format. As a result of being paired with my mentor, I have an example of someone who has successfully built a thriving career while residing in their hometown. I now feel confident in my decision to live here and still have ample career opportunities. I've gained an increased confidence in my decision-making abilities over the course of this program."

— **Cheyenne Harris, P.E., Protégé**

### Mentorship Best Practices

*Whether you network through the WEF program or on your own, here are tips to get you started.*

#### Positive mentoring relationships are categorized by:

- Mutually beneficial time commitment
- Honest, two-way exchange
- Respectful debate on differing views
- Critical assessment of ideas
- A leveling of the power gradient
- Mutual positive regard and openness
- Respect for limits and boundaries
- Commitment to confidentiality

#### Mentors:

- A desire to support others in their development
- Current and relevant industry knowledge or expertise and skills to share
- A willingness to share failures and personal experiences, both "how I did it right" and "how I did it wrong" stories
- A growth mindset, because the best teachers are those who are continually learning
- Skill in developing others: active listening, asking powerful questions, self-reflection

#### Protégés :

- Own the opportunity by identifying your initial development and career goals
- Be willing to discuss short and long-term career goals, obstacles, & successes
- Seek and be open to feedback
- Be willing to push outside your comfort zone to test/apply mentoring lessons to work in real time



"I have had a few protégés over the years and each experience is different but getting to know the next generation of our industry and helping them is a rewarding experience."

— **Brian Persing, Plant Superintendent, Mentor**

# PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



**WINDSOR LAKE WTP BUILDING EXTENSION FOR LIME SYSTEM UPGRADE – ST. JOHN’S, NL**  
Project Owner: City of St. John’s

## ► PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Windsor Lake WTP is one of three water treatment facilities that services the City of St. John’s. The lake itself is one of the oldest surface water sources for the City, dating back to 1860. Since that time, the water treatment process at Windsor Lake has undergone significant changes and upgrades, with the latest being the construction of a 70 MLD microfiltration membrane facility that was commissioned in 2007. Some of the existing treatment systems at that time, including the hydrated lime delivery system commissioned in the early-1990s, were incorporated into the design of the modern facility and its treatment process.

As the existing lime system was reaching the end of its serviceable life, the City recognized an opportunity to replace and relocate the lime system and its dosing point to a location downstream of the membrane filters. This would help to enhance existing plant effluent alkalinity and corrosion control efforts through the distribution system.

## ► PROJECT SCOPE

With cost-shared funding through Infrastructure Canada’s New Building Canada Fund, the City developed a scope of work that involved engineering and design of a new hydrated lime storage and feed system. The City wanted to select a process system with increased capacity, improved performance, and a capability to achieve desired pH control and alkalinity targets. The City also required a system that would be reliable and flexible in its design, with built-in redundancy to minimize O&M efforts and reduce equipment lifecycle costs.



The final design of the new hydrated lime storage and delivery system required expanding the main treatment building by approximately 390 m<sup>2</sup>. The expansion included space to house the required equipment and add some additional storage space for the site. The required equipment included the following components:

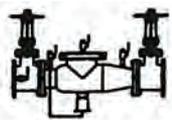
- one 50-ton silo
- two 3,800 L batch mixing tanks (one duty, one standby)
- two 570 L/min lime transfer pumps (one duty, one standby)
- two 5,700 L day tanks (one duty, one standby)
- two 86 L/min lime feed pumps (one duty, one standby)
- injection chamber to allow access to injection points, complete with a 900 mm in-line dynamic mixer to maximize dissolution of hydrated lime

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- ancillary instrumentation used to control the lime system, including flow meters, pH analyzers, and turbidity analyzers

► **PROJECT OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS**

While this project is still under construction with an anticipated completion date in 2023, the project outcome will have a broad public benefit by improving the efficiency and service reliability of the existing Windsor Lake WTP and the City’s water distribution system.

**KEY BENEFITS INCLUDE:**

- *Replacement of assets which have reached the end of their serviceable life* – The existing hydrated lime continuous feed system is outdated and does not have all of the automation and real time monitoring of a new system. It also does not have any built-in redundancy. The new hydrated lime continuous feed system will improve the operations of the treatment process while also reducing unplanned maintenance.
- *Extending the service life of the existing water distribution system* – Raw water from surface water sources in the City of St. John’s typically have low pH and little to no alkalinity. Without sufficient alkalinity enhancement, the City can experience corrosion within the distribution system. Over time, this could be a factor leading to premature failure of the pipes, resulting in water loss and increased operational costs. Improving the hydrated lime delivery system will help to further mitigate the effects of corrosion on linear infrastructure.
- *Improvements to drinking water quality* – A byproduct of distribution system piping corrosion is leaching of metals from the pipe walls, resulting in discoloured water at customer’s taps. Discoloured water is not aesthetically pleasing and can stain plumbing fixtures, laundry, and sometimes can give off a metallic taste. Enhancing the corrosion control system will even further reduce these experiences for residents of the City of St. John’s. 🌊



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Please see below for announcements, upcoming deadlines, and volunteer opportunities. If you have any items you would like to add to the announcement board in an upcoming issue of *Go With the Flow*, please contact ACWWA at: [contact@acwwa.ca](mailto:contact@acwwa.ca).

## Call for abstracts deadline extension!

The ACWWA is inviting abstract submissions for the 2023 Conference in Charlottetown, PE. All topics related to the water and wastewater profession will be considered. Presentations will be 20 or 30 minutes in length with five minutes for questions.

Please submit an abstract (maximum length of 300 words), a presenter biography (maximum length of 200 words), and copyright release form at [www.acwwa.ca](http://www.acwwa.ca) by April 7, 2023.

## ABEA scholarship

The ABEA annually awards up to four scholarships of \$1,000 to a first-year entrant into a college or university program. The application deadline is April 30.

Eligibility applicants shall:

- Be a son/daughter of an ACWWA/ABEA member
- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada
- Be a resident of Atlantic Canada, or whose parent is the Atlantic Canadian supplier representative

- Preference will be given to those intending to pursue a career related to the water/wastewater industry, and those choosing to study in Atlantic Canada
- More information and where to apply is available at <http://abea.biz/scholarship-program>.

## Volunteer positions!

ACWWA is looking for individuals who are interested in becoming more involved on tasks within the organization. Current positions available include:

- Project Highlights Coordinator: Responsible for finding interesting projects and working with project teams to develop the stories to include in *Go With the Flow* and the ACWWA website. This individual would work the Communications Committee to develop and publish the Project Highlights.
- Interviews Coordinator: Responsible for finding and working with Individuals in the water and wastewater industry to highlight in *Go With the Flow* and the ACWWA website. This individual would work the Communications Committee to develop and publish the interviews.

If you are interested in these positions, please provide a maximum 200-word submission expressing your interest and explain what you would like to do in the role. This can be sent to [kmaccaull@dillon.ca](mailto:kmaccaull@dillon.ca).

## Call for award nominations

If you know someone who has made a contribution to the water and/or wastewater industry, don't let their



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efforts go unnoticed. The following awards are eligible for presentation at the **2023 ACWWA Conference** in October.

Note that the **deadline for 2023 Award Nomination submissions is August 7, 2023.**

Individuals wishing to nominate an individual or group for an award should complete the nomination form available at [www.acwwa.ca/conferences/awards/award-nominations.html](http://www.acwwa.ca/conferences/awards/award-nominations.html) or contact the ACWWA office ([contact@acwwa.ca](mailto:contact@acwwa.ca)) and request the applicable nomination form.

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## AWWA Board of Directors selects next President-elect

Source: *AWWA.org*

On January 14, The American Water Works Association's Board of Directors selected Cheryl Porter from Detroit, Michigan as the Association's next president-elect. The Board also selected four vice presidents and two directors-at-large during its annual winter meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Porter will begin her term as president-elect in June at the conclusion of AWWA's Annual Conference & Exposition (ACE23). Her term as president begins in

June 2024 following that of current president-elect Pat Kerr.

Porter is the chief operating officer of water and field services at Great Lakes Water Authority in Detroit. Since joining AWWA in 2005, she has been active with the Michigan Section of AWWA and served as an AWWA vice president. She is currently a member of the AWWA Finance Committee. Porter has a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Michigan, a Juris Doctor from the University of Detroit Law School, and an MBA from Madonna University.

The Board selected the following four vice presidents:

- Marcus Firman is an advisor on water and wastewater for the District of Muskoka in Ontario, Canada. Firman has been active with the Ontario Section since joining AWWA in 2008.
- Mary Gugliuzza is media relations and communications coordinator for the City of Fort Worth. Gugliuzza has been active with the Texas Section since joining AWWA and is the past chair of the AWWA Public Affairs Council.
- Christine Spitzley is a principal at OHM Advisors, where she has worked since 2017. Spitzley has been an active member of the Michigan Section since joining AWWA in 1994.
- Brent Tippey is vice president/water program delivery manager, East Region, for HDR. Tippey has been involved in the Kentucky/Tennessee Section of AWWA for more than 20 years.

The Board also selected Amy Stoffer as a director-at-large and Jeff Zdrojewski as director-at-large representing service providers.

Stoffer is vice president of engineering, production, and water quality for the Northern Kentucky Water District, where she has worked since 2016. She has been actively involved in the Kentucky/Tennessee Section of AWWA since joining in 1989. Zdrojewski is a business development director for Pure Technologies, a Xylem brand, where he has worked since 2016. He has been active with the New York Section since joining AWWA and is former chair of the Manufacturers/Associates Council.

All the new officers will begin their terms in June at the conclusion of ACE23. 

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## AWWA releases insights report from Water 2050 Sustainability Think Tank

Source: [AWWA.org](http://AWWA.org)

A diverse group of influential thinkers from within and outside the water community put forth 10 recommendations for a sustainable water future in the first think tank report of the Water 2050 initiative.

Published in December by AWWA, the Water 2050 Sustainability Think Tank Report is the first in a series of five think tank reports associated with the initiative. Water 2050 seeks to envision the future of water and chart a course for sustainability.

The 24 participants in the Water 2050 Sustainability Think Tank, which took place Sept. 21–23 in Las Vegas, included highly respected voices from the water and wastewater utility and consulting community, agriculture, climate science, academia, environmental advocacy, regulatory agencies,

the beverage industry and innovation incubation, among others. The group engaged in a series of facilitated discussions and developed recommended actions that can be grouped into four broad categories:

- Implement a new water utility paradigm
- Establish a climate resilient water future
- Define the value of water for a new reality
- Achieve circularity of water

"AWWA is uniquely positioned to host these Water 2050 conversations and explore long-term solutions for the water community," said AWWA President Joe Jacangelo. "By bringing together diverse voices and thought leaders from various fields, we will be better prepared to overcome the significant water challenges that lie ahead."

Four other think tanks will be held over the next six months to visualize the future of water through the additional drivers of technology, economics, governance, and social/demographics. High-level recommendations will be reported after each, and after all five are completed, the reports will be combined with additional Water 2050 inputs into a final report. Outcomes will be presented at ACE23 in Toronto to support the water community in realizing the Water 2050 vision.

To learn more and engage in AWWA's Water 2050 initiative, visit [www.awwa.org/Resources-Tools/Water-2050](http://www.awwa.org/Resources-Tools/Water-2050). To access the Water 2050 Sustainability Think Tank report, visit [www.awwa.org/Resources-Tools/Water-2050/Water-2050-Report](http://www.awwa.org/Resources-Tools/Water-2050/Water-2050-Report). 



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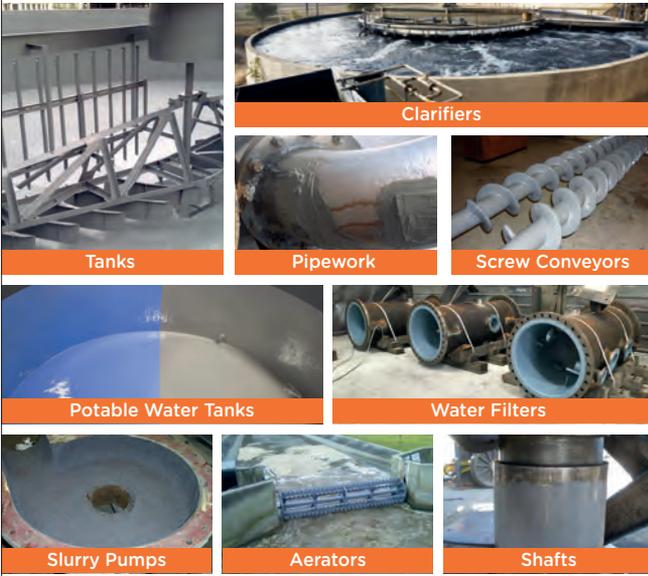
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# GO with THE FLOW

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ATLANTIC CANADA WATER AND WASTEWATER ASSOCIATION

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## Managing infrastructure renewals

By Adam Sketchley, P.Eng., M.A.Sc., DesignPoint Engineering & Surveying Ltd.

All infrastructure has a limited useful life. From the time the infrastructure is installed, it deteriorates until it ultimately fails or is replaced. Acknowledging aging infrastructure requires planning for renewal and/or replacement for all of a utility's assets.

Linear assets typically have an expected useful life of 70–100 years, while non-linear infrastructure is expected to last 50–80 years as estimated in the Canadian Infrastructure Report Card (2019). Individual mechanical and electrical components have an even shorter expected life. Based on these timelines, 1–1.4% of linear infrastructure should be planned or budgeted for replacement each year. Higher percentages of non-linear infrastructure require renewal/replacement as the expected lifespan is typically lower. In reality, existing infrastructure has a range of ages, and older or defective infrastructure is prioritized for replacement. However, having a strategy to renew existing infrastructure prior to its failure is critical to maintaining service, planning design and construction timelines, and setting budgets and rates.

The infrastructure report card is based on the results of Canada's Core Public Infrastructure Survey. Municipalities across the country were surveyed, including several within Atlantic Canada. The report card estimates that up to 10% of water infrastructure, 11% of wastewater infrastructure, and 11% of stormwater infrastructure is in poor or very poor condition. Infrastructure in this condition typically requires replacement or renewal within 5–10 years in order to maintain service. Additionally, 15% of wastewater infrastructure and 20–30% of stormwater infrastructure is in unknown condition. Further, another 12–20% of municipal infrastructure is in fair condition, requiring attention due to deterioration. When the amount of infrastructure in poor or very poor condition is significantly higher than the recommended rate of replacement, this indicates an infrastructure deficit.

In many cases, resources have not been historically available to keep up with aging infrastructure at the necessary rate, leading to infrastructure deficit. In these cases, more replacements or renewals are needed in addition to the annual

rate to reduce the deficit. Addressing an infrastructure deficit while also keeping up with typical annual replacements, renewals, and maintenance can be challenging. However, the alternative of allowing the infrastructure deficit to grow until component failures and patch repairs become overwhelming can lead to significant service disruption and cost overruns.

To address aging infrastructure within a utility requires an inventory of all assets (including approximate age and condition), a high-level estimate of the cost to replace the infrastructure, and a method to prioritize replacements. With this information, a strategy can be developed to determine approximately how much infrastructure should be replaced per year based on expected useful life. Once complete, a true estimate of the required infrastructure investment is available for setting future rates and budgets.

Do you have a topic for a future Back to Fundamentals article? Email [adam.sketchley@designpoint.ca](mailto:adam.sketchley@designpoint.ca) or [contact@acwwa.ca](mailto:contact@acwwa.ca) and we will do our best to cover it! ☺

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