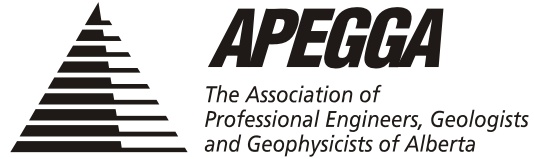


By Robert Arthur, P.Eng, M.Sc
Chair – APEGGA Medicine Hat Branch Executive



Dear Colleagues:

I thought it might be useful and informative to try to put out a short newsletter to keep you informed of

- 1) Why we do what we do,
- 2) What is going on and upcoming in the branch and
- 3) To recognize the significant contributions of local members contributing to our Branch.

In keeping with the first objective I have included on the back of this newsletter APEGGA's mission and vision and a brief statement of our branch's terms of reference. I have also included a copy of our current branch executive list which you can also pull off the APEGGA web site.

The association is working very hard these days to communicate with its members. With over **40,000 members** across the province it is a challenge to keep everyone informed and to keep discussions going and on point as APEGGA works to resolve issues of the day. The APEGGA Web site is an excellent site in this regard and I encourage you to have a look at it. It will certainly help you become very well informed as to what the association is doing to fulfill its mission and vision. One of the more topical issues has been the whole notion of inclusivity. I encourage you to do a search on the site using inclusivity as a key word. You will find yourself well informed on the issue and equipped with a means to 'put in your oar'.

With respect to our own branch's activities, I would like to acknowledge that over the years many of you have worked very hard to make the Medicine Hat Branch the vibrant one it is today in meeting its terms of reference. You of course know who you are and I would like to start by thanking you all for your significant efforts over the years! In particular in this issue, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of **Bob Hawrelak, Mary Ann Byrd, Ken Torrance, John Penrose, Sheldon Dattenberger, Jim Creybohm, Dan Lorden, Vic Janz, Vern Fedor, John John, and Ralf Luthe**, who have served for many years on the Branch executive and who have formed the core of our outreach programs to school students and to members over the years. I also want to acknowledge the current members of our Branch executive, a list of whom is included here for your information; it is an honor and a privilege to work with you all! I would also like to say that the branch has been served over the years by many members dedicated to the outreach mission of the branch and I apologize if I have omitted someone somehow; it certainly is not intentional.

Outreach - Each year **Science and Technology Week, National Engineering and Geosciences Week** and the **Kiwanis Regional Science Fair** focus our outreach activities and these individuals have always been there putting on fun, educational science and engineering activities in local schools, at the Public library and other locations around the city. This year has been no exception. Many of you served as judges and in other capacities in this year's science fair. In February, **Ralf Luthe** and I had a great time working with some young curious minds to figure out how much load an egg can support! In March, Ralf Luthe showed some young students how to construct and test a simple wind mill generator. I enclose here a couple of photographs for your interest.



Throughout the year the branch also hosts several technical/social dinner meetings focusing on local topics of interest. Members of the branch executive work very hard to plan and organize these events. Recently, we held a tour of the **CHAT TV** broadcasting center, listened to **Rob King, P. Eng.**, deliver an informative presentation on GPS and to **Maj. Rodger Sloan** who spoke to us about the new Counter Terrorism Technology Center at DRDC Suffield. Keep **August 6th** pegged on your calendars for our Annual **APEGGA / ASET Golf Tournament at Cottonwood!**

Apegga Mission Statement – To serve society and protect the public by regulating, enhancing and providing leadership in the practice of the professions of engineering, geology and geophysics

Apegga Vision Statement – To be the focal organization which is the recognized leader of the engineering, geology and geophysics professions involved in the application of science and technology for the benefit of society within Alberta

Branch Terms of Reference:

II Specific Goals

Branches, by themselves or in conjunction with other APEGGA groups, focus on two audiences - the public and members. The activities to support these goals will vary by Branch.

Public

1. Promote science and technology in local schools, as part of APEGGA's Outreach Program under the direction of APEGGA's Outreach Coordinators
2. Enhance and promote the image of the professions in their communities, as part of APEGGA's strategic initiative under the direction of APEGGA's Communication & Public Affairs Department.

Members

1. Provide information and mentoring to MITs, as part of APEGGA's Mentoring Program under the direction of the Professional Development Department.
2. Provide opportunities to network with members and the public in order to assist career development, to problem solve and to understand the other professions in the Association.
3. Provide local professional development and other programming needs tailored to the branch members' needs, as part of APEGGA's Professional Development Program under the direction of the Professional Development Department.
4. Provide a conduit or network through which information can flow between the membership and Council and vice versa, under the direction of the Executive Director or designate.
5. Enhance APEGGA's image and value to members and those who should and could be members, as part of APEGGA's strategic initiative to enhance the value and relevance of professional membership under the direction of various departments.
6. Increase member involvement in issues, committees and activities.

III Principal Activities

Public

1. Conducting classroom instruction and experiments, sponsoring and judging science fairs and math competitions, sponsoring events during National Engineering Week.
2. Exhibiting at trade fairs, supporting charitable and other community based events.

Members

1. Recruit, train, connect, record and reward mentors and provide feedback on the Mentoring program.
2. Organize lunch and dinner meetings, PD Days and Evenings, golf tournaments, curling bonspiels, First Year College Transfer events and other social events.
3. Lunches, dinners, PD Days and Evenings.
4. One on one discussions, issue forums

