



ENFORCEMENT EDITORIAL

The official newsletter of the Alberta Municipal Enforcement Association



President's Message

As expected, this year's conference proved to be a success. Thank you to everyone who attended, as well as all of the course presenters and round table hosts.

The past year has been a little bit of a whirlwind. Once I began my first year on the executive, I had a lot to learn in a short amount of time and I thank my fellow executive members for showing me the ropes!

Although we are all sad to see both Derek Sutherland and Karen Pasay leave the executive this year, I wish them both all the best in their future endeavours. You have both passed on great wisdom and leadership onto the rest of us! In saying that, we are all very excited to welcome the new executive members:

- Vice President, Wes Skakun
- Education Officer, Tim Rochon
- Treasurer, Brad Backstrom.

Being that the conference has just ended, the newly appointed executive has not had a chance to meet to formally discuss our goals for the coming year. I look forward to our first meeting as the new AMEA executive, where we can begin planning our fall training seminar—we will have updates for everyone in the next issue of the newsletter. I can say that from early discussions, we are hoping to bring some training on dealing with unsightly and untidy properties. We welcome any ideas regarding course type, presenters, and locations.

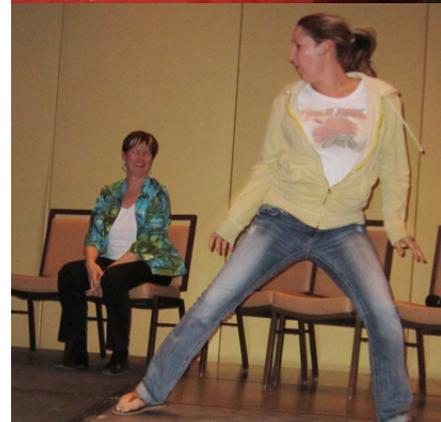
Things to look forward to:

- Information about Fall Training;
- Online clothing store;
- A growing *Preferred Vendors* list;
- Updated website, and much, much more!

And remember to check out the Forum at www.amea.ca, where in the "AMEA Members Only" section you can find such topics as:

- Enforcement Issues (general discussion of sensitive issues);
- Ask The Expert (get answers to your questions from the experts);
- Work Equipment (discussion and questions about equipment and clothing); and
- The Pub (for topics that don't fit into others).

Kaila Tipton
2012 AMEA President



Inside This Issue:

President's Message.....	1
Getting To Know Your Executive.....	2
Safe Roads.....	3
AMEA Recognizes.....	4-7
AMEA Conference Highlights.....	8

©2012 AMEA. Reproduction of any article or image in this newsletter—in whole or in part—requires the express written consent of the author, editor, and designer.

Designed locally by
Zen Garden Graphic Design 403.869.6692
www.zengardengraphicdesign.com

Getting To Know Your Executive...

Wes Skakun

Well, I started my career in 1981 and worked with the City of Edmonton Animal Services. I worked there for 10 years, quit, and travelled the world for 14 months. Upon my return, I was hired by the City of St. Albert as a Special Constable. I worked for the City of St. Albert for 17 years and subsequently became a CPO.

I left for greener pastures in 2008, and apparently more work! I came back to the City of Edmonton as a Municipal Enforcement Officer. I worked on the road for 6 months and was asked to act in a supervisory position.

After a year, the position became open and I was fortunate to be chosen as the most recent supervisor. I was supervising 12 people for 2 years and our focus was our Community Standards Bylaw, Traffic Bylaw, Business License Bylaw, along with another 10 or so additional bylaws.

In June 2011, I was absconded to our Community Standards Peace Officer unit as Coordinator. I worked there for about 8 months and then returned to a new position, of which I work today. I am the Assistant Coordinator for the Public Safety Compliance Team and supervise 8 employees.

The employees I currently supervise include a variety of positions:

There are 3 Community Liaison Officers. This position has an elevated focus on public engagement, education and awareness, problem identification, and problem solving. Officers also spend time working closely with the Edmonton Police Service and other enforcement agencies applying a multi-disciplinary approach to addressing more complex issues. They resolve community concerns along with an educational approach to mitigate citizen complaints regarding Bylaw issues.



There is 1 Officer who primarily deals with the Escort Service, as we allow escorts but they all need licenses. As well, she makes sure that our strip clubs are abiding by all licensing rules with regular inspections, and “no I am not accepting resumés for this position.” LOL.

There are 2 Officers on the Public Safety Compliance Team with me and we deal with all establishments that serve alcohol, with the major enforcement on the minors prohibited establishments. All 3 of us do work evening shifts with a multi-agency group which includes AGLC, Edmonton Fire, and Edmonton Police. Our focus is to ensure a safe environment for the staff and patrons of all licensed events/establishments.

The other 2 Officers deal strictly with business licensing issues, mainly enforcement for lapsed business licenses.

I am happy to be a part of the Association and will contribute in any way I can.

Your 2012 AMEA Executive

Kaila Tipton - President

Wes Skakun - Vice President

Ryan Berezanski - Publicity Officer

Brad Backstrom - Treasurer

Amanda Oling - Secretary

Doug Saunders - Membership
Officer

Tim Rochon - Education Officer

Derek Sutherland - Past President

Special Thanks

Derek Sutherland & Karen Pasay
for all of your dedicated service
to AMEA!

Safe Roads

by **Randy Youngman**, *Regional Traffic Safety Consultant*

Share The Road

Now that spring has sprung, and summer is just on the horizon, pedestrians, bicycles, and skate boarders seem to be everywhere. Our focus on living healthier, fitter lives has placed many more vulnerable road users on and around our streets, sidewalks, and trails.

With increased pedestrian traffic, we as vehicle drivers have increased responsibilities, and to avoid tragedy, we must train ourselves to look for and recognize other human roadway hazards.

Pedestrian Casualties

In 2010 (latest available statistics), there were 27 pedestrian casualties in our area. Pedestrian collisions occur throughout the year and are most likely to occur during afternoons in the more populated areas. One of the pedestrians involved in these casualty collisions had consumed alcohol before the incident. As you can see responsibility for road safety lies not only with vehicle drivers but also with pedestrians.

We must try and avoid collisions with unprotected users of our roadways at all costs. They have no steel or other metal protecting them, as we do in our vehicles. Any collision between a motor vehicle and a pedestrian almost guarantees a serious or life-threatening injury, at minimum.

Responsibility

As responsible parents, grandparents, and caregivers, we must teach children proper ways to cross a street and to obey traffic laws. We must model proper road etiquette for kids. This point is more important than just preaching safety, as our kids watch and emulate the actions they see us performing.

Children watch when we're driving. They learn. They notice if we don't yield to pedestrians. They notice when we handle a traffic situation poorly. We are their role models, so be aware of what and how you're teaching.

Bicyclists Must Be Responsible Too

Bicyclists also have to take a certain amount of responsibility for their own safety. They must ensure they are wearing a properly fitted helmet with the chin strap done up. A helmet does no good if the chin strap is left dangling and not secured.

Bicyclists must obey all road signs and traffic control devices exactly the same as motorized traffic. Please, when biking trails and pathways, do so with concern to all users. Let walkers know when you're approaching from behind. Stop before crossing a roadway and make sure there is no vehicular traffic coming.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Randy Youngman is a Regional Traffic Safety Consultant for Region 2 (south-eastern Alberta) and can be reached by email at randy.youngman@gov.ab.ca. Visit www.saferoads.com to find out who your Regional Traffic Safety Consultant is!

We want to hear from you!

Do you have...

- a story to share?
- an idea for a column?
- some fun facts or interesting tidbits?

Is there something you would like to see in upcoming issues of your AMEA newsletter?

Contact your Publicity Officer, Ryan Berezanski, with your thoughts, ideas, and stories!

rberezanski@amea.ca



Photo courtesy of Thad Zajdowicz (www.sxc.hu)

AMEA Recognizes...

Kendyl Hudson

Excellence In Municipal Enforcement Award

by **Amanda Oling**, *Community Peace Officer, Mountain View County*

Each year, the Executive accepts nominations from the membership for the Excellence in Municipal Enforcement Award. This award is given out to a single officer who, based upon the nominations, the Executive feels has gone above and beyond their daily duties.

This year's award recipient is Kendyl Hudson from Parkland County.

When Kendyl was young, her favorite TV shows were Rescue 911 and Sesame Street. Deciding that she would never be tall enough to be big bird, she set her eye on law enforcement.

Kendyl started her career in law enforcement early, volunteering at the RCMP Detachment and Parkland County Patrol Services every chance she got throughout high school and college. Her volunteer activities included being a D.A.R.E. role model and dressing up as the "safety bear" mascot. Kendyl credits her volunteering with Parkland County Patrol Services for teaching her the importance of being both compassionate and confident when dealing with the public.

After graduating from Grant MacEwan College, Kendyl continued to seek work in Municipal Enforcement by first taking a summer position as a Special Constable with St. Albert Enforcement Services then continuing onto various careers throughout the years including Parking Enforcement Officer with the City of Edmonton, Bylaw Officer for the County and Town of Athabasca and Peace Officer with the MD of Rockyview before moving back to familiar ground at Parkland County where she is now an Animal Control Officer/Peace Officer and commits her time to being the local D.A.R.E. Officer, sometimes even on her days off.

Kendyl's compassion for animals and their owners showed in 2011 during the Slave Lake fire. Wanting to do more than just watch the devastation on TV, Kendyl thought of how her Animal Control skills could possibly be put to use. So she headed for Slave Lake and helped Peace Officer Mark Becker rescue and transport residents' beloved pets to a temporary emergency shelter. When asked about her involvement, Kendyl humbly states that she did what she had to do and that this was truly an eye opening experience.

Congratulations Kendyl on being nominated and selected as the recipient of the 2012 AMEA Excellence in Municipal Enforcement Award!

Sean Bonneteau, Manager–Peace Officer and Security Program, Solicitor General and Public Security, and **Derek Sutherland**, 2011 AMEA President, honour Kendyl Hudson (middle) with the Excellence in Municipal Enforcement Award.



AMEA Recognizes...

Slave Lake Enforcement Services Leadership In Municipal Enforcement Award

by **Amanda Oling**, *Community Peace Officer, Mountain View County*

Each year, the AMEA Executive asks for nominations and selects one agency in Alberta to receive the prestigious Leadership Award. This award, rather than going to a single officer, is given to an Agency the Executive believes has shown great leadership.

The Agency receiving this year's award truly knows what it's like to be versatile, make sacrifices, and work as a team.

This year, the AMEA Executive is honoured to present the 2012 Leadership Award to Slave Lake Enforcement Services.

While the media reported on the fires and everyone nationwide stayed glued to their TV's, Slave Lake Enforcement Services was busy protecting their community. While the media showed other emergency personnel as heroes, Slave Lake Enforcement Services was over looked by both the media and the citizens for the important role they played.

When the fires hit on May 14, 2011, Officer Mark Becker was the only Peace Officer in Slave Lake as Officer Joseph Reid was in the middle of his Peace Officer training at the Solicitor General Staff College in Edmonton. Rather than stay in Edmonton and watch the devastation from afar, Joseph Reid returned every weekend and stayed in Slave Lake until early each Monday morning to allow the greatest number of hours to assist with community needs. Both Officers Becker and Reid worked in an extremely hazardous environment and dedicated a tremendous

amount of hours to assisting emergency services, safe guarding the lives of residents, protecting residents' personal property and pets, safely evacuating the Community of Slave Lake, and several other tasks. (If I was to list them all, we'd run out of room!) Even as their own office burned to the ground, they continued to place the lives and safety of others above their own.

The AMEA Executive is proud and honoured to award Peace Officers Mark Becker and Joseph Reid of Slave Lake with the 2012 Leadership Award for not only their efforts during the Slave Lake fires, but also for going above and beyond the duties expected and required of a Peace Officer and showing everyone what team work and commitment can truly accomplish.

Slave Lake Peace Officers
Joseph Reid and Mark Becker



AMEA Recognizes...

Long Service Medals & Clasp Recipients

20 year Medal

Glen Ewanchuk Edmonton

Glen started in Chancery Hall (City of Edmonton) back in 1990 as a Field Inspector. After a few years, Glen became the Senior Weed Officer for the City of Edmonton. In 2005, when they moved to their current location in HSBC tower, the department was changed to the Complaints and Investigations Section. His legacy includes the hiring of both John Wilson and Ryan Plectaitis, who are both directors with the City of Edmonton.

David Aitken Edmonton

If the quote by British poet, William Cowper "Variety's the very spice of life" rings true, then the last 20 years of Dave Aitken's life in municipal law enforcement has been a rich and spicy one.

David's career started in 1991 as Edmonton's top weed cop, quickly moving through the ranks to Snow Police Chief, Top Dog Catcher, Parking Enforcement Boss, and finally Edmonton's Head Bylaw Honcho!

Some notable career highlights include serving on the AMEA executive for 8 years, sending a 90-year-old lady to jail, and being recognized in Reader's Digest for sending said 90-year-old lady to jail! The most rewarding aspect has been working with a cadre of passionate officers, colleagues, and staff that support the notion of being proud to serve the public and making a difference everyday.

To all of David's AMEA friends, new and old, "thanks for the memories!"



John Kennedy Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

John began his enforcement career with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo in June 1990, as a Bylaw Officer I. Today John continues his career with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo working as a Bylaw Officer.

Lance Kirshner Edmonton

Lance began his enforcement career with the City of Edmonton as a License Inspector in February 1992. He is currently still with the City of Edmonton, working as a Municipal Enforcement Field Officer in the Complaints and Investigations Section.

Sean Bonneteau (Manager-Peace Officer and Security Program, Solicitor General and Public Security) and Derek Sutherland (2011 AMEA President) presenting Glen Ewanchuk of the City of Edmonton with his 20 Year Long Service Medal.

AMEA Recognizes...

Long Service Medals & Clasp Recipients

Continued

25 year clasp

Monty Hillier

Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

Monty began his enforcement career in July 1985 at the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo as a Bylaw Enforcement Officer I. Currently, Monty is still with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, working as the Community Peace Officer I Coordinator in the Bylaw Services Branch.

Doreen Dymont

Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

Doreen started with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo in July 1979 as a mail clerk. In July 1985, she began her role in Bylaw as a Parking Officer and remained in that position until September 1987 when she was promoted up to the role of Bylaw Officer/Animal Control Officer. In September 1991, she was promoted once again, this time to Senior Officer. Today, Doreen continues to work for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo as a Senior Community Peace Officer.

Larry Chzyk

Edmonton

Larry has been in a Municipal Enforcement position with the City of Edmonton since 1986. He originally started as a technologist and primary enforcement officer for the Goldbar Wastewater Treatment Plant. In January 1985, he became the Supervisor of Industrial Source Control with the Regulatory Services Section of the City of Edmonton's Drainage Department where he remains today.



30 year clasp

Nick Stasiuk

Edmonton

Nick started his enforcement career at the City of Edmonton Pound on May 5, 1980. In October 1988, he transferred to the Business License Section and remained there until November 2004, when he was transferred to the Complaints & Investigations Section.

Lori Bonevitch

Edmonton

Lori started her career with the City of Edmonton in 1980 as a Field Inspector. Throughout her 30 years of service with the City of Edmonton, she has held various positions including Senior Weed Officer, Business License Inspector, and General Enforcement until moving back into the position of Business License Inspector.

Patrick Theroux

Edmonton

Pat began his enforcement career in 1977 with the City of Edmonton. Through the years, Pat has held multiple titles, including Field Officer, Animal Control Officer, and his most recent, Taxi License Inspector.

From left, Doreen Dymont, 25 Year Long Service Clasp recipient, Sean Bonneteau, Manager-Peace Officer and Security Program, Solicitor General and Public Security, and 2011 AMEA President, Derek Sutherland.

