

# CPANS Newsletter

DECEMBER 2024

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Canadian Prairies and Northern Section  
AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION



## Message from the CPANS Chair

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Hello CPANS Members,

My name is Wade Gieni, and I have been involved in CPANS for several years first as a member then becoming the Membership Director in 2015. As our previous Vice Chair took a job out of Canada, I was asked by Rashmi Pathak if I would be interested in becoming the Chair for this year and I accepted. I still hold my Membership Director position with the help from Mina Ghorbani who joined the board this year and is filling the Vice Membership Director position.

Over the years I have seen the membership ebb and flow with the largest drop occurring during the COVID Pandemic. However, thanks to our successful hosting of the 2024 Annual Conference and Exhibition led by Travis Tokarek our membership increased to pre-pandemic levels. Travis is continuing organizing technical programs this year and is busy organizing a return of our in-person Annual Conference in June 2025. Madhan Selvaraj, Fatemeh Keramat, and Tania Guha are organizing in-person Luncheons in Edmonton and Calgary which can still be attended virtually if that is your preference. We are also working on re-connecting with our Student Members and Student Chapters through Sina Esfandiar Pour our Student Affairs Director and Yoojin Choi our Award and Education Director. Ann Teng is hard at work with Nadine de Bruyn, Travis, and Marc Polivka to promote CPANS on social media and on our website as well as exploring sponsorship opportunities to support our technical programs, luncheons, and the annual conference.

To round out the team we have our Executive of Rashmi as the Past Chair, Trevor Newton as Secretary, Emily Darragh as Treasurer. Cecilia Quintana Baez has joined the Executive team as the Vice Chair. Together we are working to provide you the members value for your continued support of CPANS. We have four of the CPANS board members that are involved in A&WMA. Rashmi has become a Director on the Board of the association, Travis has become the Vice-Chair on the Section and Chapters Council, Nadine will be the Young Professionals Advisory Council (YPAC) Chair starting in 2025, and Sina Esfandiar Pour is the YPAC Publications Committee Vice-Chair. We have vacancies in our Board and the A&WMA has vacancies in the Technical Council as well.

However, we still need your help through providing feedback to our Luncheon Directors and Technical Programs Directors on what you would be interested in seeing at these events or even volunteering to present at an upcoming luncheon or at the annual conference. We also have a few vacancies on our board for those that may be interested in learning more about A&WMA and CPANS while helping us develop luncheons, technical programs, and conferences where we can continue to discuss air and waste management in an open and neutral forum.

Wade B. Gieni, B.Sc., QEP

Chair, Canadian Prairies and Northern Section

A&WMA

## Events



Since September 2024 CPANS hosted four luncheons between Calgary and Edmonton, with more luncheons and workshops to come! Follow us on our [LinkedIn](#) page and sign up for emails on the CPANS [website](#) to stay up to date on the latest events.

### Want to Volunteer?

CPANS is looking for a Calgary Luncheons Vice-Chair, Website/Editorial Vice-Chair, and Social Media Committee members. If you are interested in helping with luncheon registrations or CPANS communications, please contact the respective board members or email us through the website at <http://cpans.org/#contact>.



## Upcoming Luncheons

### Alberta and Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)

**Date:** January 23, 2025 (11:30 – 13:00)  
**Speaker:** Duane Bratt, PhD  
 Professor (Political Science)  
 Department of Economics, Justice, and Policy Studies  
 Mount Royal University  
**Location:** Ramada Plaza, Downtown Calgary  
 708 8 Ave SW, Calgary, AB T2P 1H2

Join us for the first Calgary Luncheon of the New Year! Duane Bratt will be presenting on Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) and its outlook for future use as an alternative energy source. SMRs are being explored throughout Canada, including Alberta. What is the current status and prospects for SMR development in Alberta? Take this opportunity to ask questions on the technology and where it will take us, and network with fellow CPANS members.

**Registration Date TBD**

## Upcoming Workshops and Conference

### Introduction to Air Quality Modelling

**Date:** February 11th, 2025  
**Instructor:** Piotr Staniaszek  
Sr. Air Quality Scientist, AECOM

This one-day introductory course is designed for permitting staff, regulators, consultants, engineers, and managers with ambient air quality management responsibilities. The course will consist of technical lectures with relevant examples. Topics include air quality issues, fundamentals of meteorology, air quality model types and selection, and emission estimates. There will be no hands-on training.

[Click Here for more Information](#)

### 2025 Annual CPANS Conference

**Date:** Wednesday, May 21, 2025  
**Location:** Edmonton, AB. Lister Center

Mark your calendars! The 2025 Annual CPANS Conference planning is underway! If you are interested in Sponsoring, please contact Travis Tokarek at [Travis.Tokarek@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Travis.Tokarek@gov.ab.ca). Sponsorship opportunities are detailed within this Newsletter. Volunteer opportunities range from organizing committee positions to conference day positions.

**Registration Date TBD**

## Thank You Platinum Sponsors!

CPANS would like to thank our Platinum Sponsors **AECOM** and **CD Nova** for helping make these luncheons and events possible.

The logo for AECOM, featuring the word "AECOM" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.The logo for CD NOVA AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES. It features the word "NOVA" in a bold, black, sans-serif font with a red play button icon to its left. Below "NOVA" is the text "AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. A red maple leaf is positioned to the right of the word "NOVA".

## Annual Sponsorships Opportunities

We're excited to offer CPANS Annual Sponsorship Opportunities—a unique chance for businesses and organizations to gain visibility, connect with industry professionals, and support professional development in our community. As a sponsor, your organization will be prominently featured at all CPANS luncheons and related events throughout the year, positioning your brand at the forefront of thought leadership and networking in the region.

All sponsors will receive verbal recognition at all conferences, luncheons, and workshops and a season pass to the luncheons.

Sponsorship Level	Contribution	Social Media Shoutout	Complimentary Registrations
Platinum	\$ 2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three specific shoutouts annually</li> <li>• Quarterly general thank you posts</li> <li>• Logo on website homepage and in printed local conference program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two complimentary local conference registrations</li> <li>• One exhibitor booth* <b>OR</b> one additional complimentary registration</li> </ul>
Gold	\$ 2,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two specific shoutouts annually</li> <li>• Quarterly general thank you posts</li> <li>• Logo on website homepage and in printed local conference program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One complimentary local conference registrations</li> <li>• One exhibitor booth* <b>OR</b> one additional complimentary registration</li> </ul>
Silver	\$ 1,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One specific shoutout annually</li> <li>• Quarterly general thank you posts</li> <li>• Logo on website homepage and in printed local conference program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One complimentary local conference registrations</li> </ul>
Bronze	\$ 750	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarterly general thank you posts</li> <li>• Logo on website homepage and in printed local conference program</li> </ul>	-

\*exhibitor booth: eligible sponsors will have one 8'x10' exhibit space (6' long table + extension power cord) at the local conference and one additional free registration for the operator of the booth.

\*\*If you'd like to contribute differently, feel free to reach out for a customized sponsorship plan!

## Student Chapters News

The A&WMA website now has a [Student page](#)! The web page includes information on registration, student chapters, student conference events, awards and scholarships, and a free one-year membership gift upon graduation!

Check out our local [CPANS Student page](#) for up-to-date information on student opportunities and events at our local secondary institutions.

If you would like to join or collaborate with our current student chapters, please contact them at [ualbertacpans@gmail.com](mailto:ualbertacpans@gmail.com) or [uccpans@gmail.com](mailto:uccpans@gmail.com).

### Annual Scholarship

The CPANS Annual Scholarship applications open on **December 15th, 2024** and close on **March 30th, 2025**. The scholarships are typically awarded during the annual conference and AGM. View the application forms and submission instructions in the links below. Visit the [CPANS Student page](#) to download the application forms and instructions.



Get **STARTED**, Get **INVOLVED**, and Get **AHEAD**



# CPANS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP 2025

Are you a passionate graduate student dedicated to leadership, community service, or groundbreaking research in air and waste management? The CPANS Annual Scholarships are here to support your journey!

Application opens December 15th, 2024

Application closes March 30th, 2025

### Available Scholarships

#### 1. Leadership and Community Involvement

- Awards: \$1,000 (PhD) | \$500 (Master's)
- Recognizes outstanding leadership and community service efforts that enhance lives and create meaningful change.

#### 2. Research Excellence

- Awards: \$1,000 (PhD) | \$500 (Master's)
- Rewards academic excellence and impactful research progress in air and waste management.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[A&WMA  
MEMBERSHIP](#)

[QUESTIONS?](#)

<http://cpans.org/students/>

<https://www.awma.org/join>

[cpans.scholarship@gmail.com](mailto:cpans.scholarship@gmail.com)

## Young Professionals News

Our local CPANS Board Member Nadine de Bruyn will become the A&WMA YPAC Chair for 2025-2027! The Young Professional Advisory Council (YPAC) is looking for more volunteers to join various committees. If you are interested in getting involved as a student or young professional, please reach out to Nadine or one of the YPAC Committee Chairs. See the [YPAC webpage](#) and [Young Professionals webpage](#) for more information on committees and contacts.



## CPANS Board Members

The CPANS Board Members are comprised of volunteers dedicating time to serving all CPANS members. The Board meets on a monthly basis to coordinate goals, assign tasks, and reflect on results. If you are interested in volunteering or becoming a board member, feel free to contact us through the website email portal at <http://cpans.org/#contact>.

Position	Name	Affiliation
Past-Chair	Rashmi Pathak	Suez
Chair	Wade Gieni	Stantec Consulting Ltd.
Vice-Chair	Cecilia Quintana Baez	Barr Engineering Co.
Treasurer	Emily Darragh	Global Analyzer Systems Ltd.
Secretary	Trevor Newton	Environment and Climate Change Canada
Director Membership	Wade Gieni	Stantec Consulting Ltd.
Vice-Director Membership	Mina Ghorbani	SLR Consulting
Director Edmonton Luncheons	Madhan Selvaraj	Alberta Environment and Protected Areas
Vice-Director Edmonton Luncheons	Fatemeh Keramet	University of Alberta
Director Calgary Luncheons	Tania Guha	SLR Consulting
Vice-Director Calgary Luncheons	<i>vacant</i>	
Director Saskatchewan Luncheons	<i>vacant</i>	
Vice-Director Saskatchewan Luncheons	Sina Esfandiar Pour	AECOM
Director Promotions & Marketing	Ann Teng	Alberta Energy Regulator
Director Website Editorial Newsletter	Nadine de Bruyn	SLR Consulting
Vice-Director of Website/Editorial	<i>vacant</i>	
Director Communications	Marc Polivka	Integrated Modelling Inc.
Director Student Affairs	Sina Esfandiar Pour	AECOM
Vice-Director of Student Affairs	<i>vacant</i>	
Director Technical Programs	Travis Tokarek	Alberta Environment and Protected Areas
Director Awards & Education	Yoojin Choi	Wood Buffalo Environmental Association