



Alberta Branch Newsletter – April 2018

This newsletter is circulated to keep members informed about activities of the Alberta Branch. We would appreciate your feedback to help us serve you better. In this newsletter, we introduce our Edmonton based director. In subsequent issues, we will introduce other directors of your board.

MEMBER INVOLVEMENT URGENTLY NEEDED:

We would appreciate further involvement of our members in the following area:

- Volunteering on the Board of the Alberta Branch;
- Providing ideas of topics to be presented by speakers at upcoming events; and
- Assisting the Board to find speakers for upcoming events.

INTRODUCING OUR EDMONTON BASED DIRECTOR

As the only Edmonton-based director on the ICSA-Alberta board, Linda would love to connect with other ICSA members in the greater Edmonton area. Our first drop-in session on March 21 brought some people out and we'd like to do it again in May (see below for details). Let's build community and maybe even come up with some continuing professional development ideas for our region. Linda looks forward to meeting you!

Linda Wood Edwards owns LUE-42 Enterprises, a consultancy focused on board governance in the third



sector. She is a Certified Association Executive and a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators. She holds a Bachelor of Administration degree and certificates in human resources management and program evaluation. Linda consults on board governance to organizations across Canada and serves as Corporate Secretary to several of them. Linda is also on the board of Alberta Playwrights' Network and the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (Alberta), and is for the third time serving at the pleasure of the Province of Alberta as a public member on the Council of a regulated profession. She has considerable board experience, including terms as the Chair of the Community Services Advisory Board (City of Edmonton) and Women Building Futures. Linda is the author of two books (board-related), several webinars (board-related), and 8 plays (decidedly not board-related) as well as a popular monthly e-zine with a focus on governance. Linda is also a certified funeral celebrant, a popular speaker/trainer and emcee, and a devoted fan of the Canadian Football League.

UPCOMING EVENTS PLEASE RESERVE THESE DATES:

Alberta Branch Annual General Meeting: The Branch will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at the Bow Valley Club located at suite 370, 250 – 6th Avenue SW, Calgary commencing at 4:30. Michelle Demers, President of ICSA Canada will be in attendance and will speak to the proposed merger of the Canadian Division with the UK Division and the impact such a merger will have on members and membership activities. Hors d'oeuvres will be served with a cash bar. This event is FREE for members and students. Guests will be charged a nominal fee of \$25.00 per person.

Please note that free parking is available in the Bow Valley Square Parkade. Simply bring the parking slip up to the Bow Valley Club and validate it with the receptionist.

For information and to register, please contact:

- Laxmee Cundasawmy
- Email: laxmee.cundasawmy@rbc.com

Edmonton Branch Meeting: You are invited to another get-together of ICSA Alberta Branch members who reside/work in the greater Edmonton area on:

- Wednesday May 30, 2018
- 4:00 – 6:00 pm
- The Brick and Whiskey, 8937 - 82 Avenue NW, Edmonton (free parking)

This get-together is scheduled for after the Alberta Branch AGM (May 17 in Calgary) but before the ICSA Canada Division AGM (June 15 in Toronto). We should have our Canada Division voting packages by then and it's likely some of us will have questions about the proposed merger, at a minimum. We hope to be able to answer some of those questions for you, plus just get to know you. This will be drop-in, pay as you go gathering as we try to build community/connection. If you think you're likely to attend, and in order to reserve a section for us at the Brick and Whiskey, please contact:

- Linda M. Wood Edwards, LUE-42 Enterprises
- Telephone: (780) 918-4200
- Email: LUE42@shaw.ca

Alberta Branch Board Meeting: The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Branch will be held on Friday June 8, 2018. Should you have any items you would like included on the Agenda, please contact:

- Chitrika Weerasekera
- Email: chitrika@shaw.ca.

RECENT EVENTS:

Calgary Christmas Social – November 30, 2017:

- The Calgary Branch held its annual Christmas get together and social on Thursday November 30, 2017 at the Calgary Petroleum Club. A good time was had by all as we had the opportunity to meet in a social setting away from our daily commitments and stresses!

Calgary Branch presentation on Wills – February 28, 2018:

- At a breakfast meeting on February 28, 2018 the Calgary members heard a presentation by Lisa Kayaga, an internationally trained lawyer and a will and estate advisor in Calgary. Her insightful presentation into wills included information on will drafting, powers of attorney and personal directives. Her presentation was well received by eighteen participants. Thank you to Ms. Kayaga for the presentation and to Calgary Board member Laxmee Cundasawmy for arranging the event.

Edmonton Branch – Meet and Greet on March 21, 2018:

- On March 21 at a local watering hole, five Edmonton-based ICSA members gathered for a meet and greet. As being a corporate secretary can be isolated, this was a great opportunity to talk to people with similar experiences and vocabularies. We reviewed ICSA Canada's strategic plan and discussed ways in which we could assist ICSA in achieving its objectives (and in turn achieve some of our own). ICSA Canada Board Chair Michelle Demers also attended and provided an update on what's coming around the corner for ICSA and encouraged us in our desire to assist. Perhaps not surprisingly, recognition of the designations topped the list of concerns, but pride in those designations also ranked highly. If only more people knew, right?! Finding suitable continuing professional development opportunities was another quest we shared. To that end, when you see something suitable for your fellow ICSA members I hope you'll let me know. With enough time, we can try to negotiate with the provider to ensure our members get the credits, and perhaps even preferred rates on registration fees. To those who attended, thank you! It was a great reminder that we are part of a community of proud professionals. For those who couldn't/didn't attend – we missed you! We will have another gathering before summer. Wishing you good governance and a great day.

Submitted by: Linda Wood Edwards, Edmonton based Director, ICSA Alberta Board

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Kumar Mendis, Branch Correspondent, at kmendis@aotenergy.com.