

THE**VEGETATION MANAGER**
*magazine***WHAT DOES THE
PVMA DO FOR YOU?****2018****BENEFITS OF SERVING ON THE PVMA****HISTORY OF THE PVMA**

The Professional Vegetation Managers Association (PVMA) formerly called The Industrial Vegetation Management Association of Alberta (IVMAA), has a long and rich history of serving its members and a record of many accomplishments.

WHY SIT ON A PVMA COMMITTEE?

The PVMA has many committees. The committees are made up of people from the vegetation industry and industry partners. Being on a committee you get to see the starting point of some of the best practice and standards that you see in the industry, as well as have input to them.

PVMA

- Providing You With Vegetation Management Expertise,
Environmental Advocacy, Utility Training and Certification -

www.pvma.ca

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



- BRANDON TUPPER, President PVMA



The pace has not really slowed down. The challenges our industry faces are continuous and fluid. The PVMA has been up to the challenge to bring its membership some of the best offerings (IMHO) to date. I'd really like to focus on these benefits, not only what the

PVMA does for the industry but what it can do for the individual member.

One of the outstanding issues over the last couple years has been – how to use the proceeds of the casino money. It was not until recently that the AGLC relaxed the wording on how organizations can apply for use of the funds that our ideas were able to take flight. The committee really wanted to find a way to educate the public about our association and marry this with member benefits. With the rise in popularity of digital advertising we thought this would be a wonderful way to make it happen. In January a e-Newsletter went out to all membership regarding this benefit. I hope you took advantage of putting your job posting on the website and took out a banner ad. At the time of writing the job board was on pace to have over 1000 visits in February.

We also saw an opportunity to help the public out with one of our old manuals. The PVMA office would get phone calls or even general inquires about reclaiming Residual Herbicide in Soils. Back in - I believe – 1994 we had a manual developed that answered this question. However, after 25 years things have changed. We decided to hire a consultant to investigate this manual and bring it current. We should have our first look in the Spring of 2018.

If you have a chance to visit the PVMA booth you will notice the swag has been continuing to increase. We offered clothing options in the Fall of 2017 and now in 2018 have introduced some additional promotional material. We have one item that we picked out that might not be put out on the desk – this is a pressurized pen. This pen will work in the harshest conditions and even upside down. I think it would be a terrific addition to your field truck. If you want one of these pens just ask Val she will know what you are talking about!

As an volunteer organization we can get involved with the direction the PVMA goes. Volunteering has many benefits and volunteering in your industry has even more. I encourage you to get involved. We really need champions right now on some initiatives and it might be a wonderful time to jump on board. Nearly all committee's make use of GoToMeetings where they can meet virtually and save on valuable time and resources. The association has a paid-for account and Val can help set up the meetings for everyone and give some training and support for those that have never used it. You can also reference a three-part series I wrote on the virtual workspace and volunteering for additional tips on how to make it work even better.

As part of the volunteer tasks assigned to me I frequently get invited to attend events. One event that I really enjoy going to is the IVMA Man Sask. They have a hard-working team and put on a great conference this last fall. If you need SK, AB, BC credits they offered them all at the conference. A good mix of speakers and lots of sponsors. I was invited to attend their board meeting where we spent some time discussing what synergies between the two association would look like. We tossed some ideas around – but like everything we do its volunteer based and lots of us have full plates. If your interested in meeting with like minded people from other associations to work on initiatives that serve both let me know!

At the end of January, I attended the Alberta Environment update along with our Chair Michael

Badger and PVMA member Keith Sanftleben. Devon Smiegielski with AB Environment and Parks set up a zoom meeting saving lots of people travel time! It was a very positive meeting and the "industrial" group of applicators continues to grow while our incidents drops – excellent job. Rather than go into all the details Devon and Viviane will be providing us with an update at the conference.

The PVMA Facebook page is a wonderful way to get up-to-date information about the association. You can find us by searching Facebook or simply following the links on the website. Make sure you like our page and then go and find the "Invite a friend" button inviting all your "Vegetation" friends. The Twitter handle @ABPVMA is gaining more followers.

Since our break-in at the PVMA office in early summer everything is pretty much back to normal. There has been no update on the thieves who did it.

The upcoming year looks busy as well. Now that we have ways of spending the Casino money, with great benefit for members and public alike, we have accepted another Casino fundraiser to do. You can contact Laura Hammer if your interested in volunteering for this event held in Q3 of 2018. Not only do you get a night out (expenses paid) we will send you a Facebook thank you!

The 2019 Conference committee has been working away at getting our event dates and location booked. Look for the update by Candice Manshreck for additional details about this conference. 2018 looks busy already. New awards coming out, new membership initiatives, new manuals, new safety resources and updating our social media presence are on the horizon for another big year.

As always, we are very fortunate to have the support of companies and we couldn't do it without them. If you see one of our event sponsors, make sure you let them how they are appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns about the PVMA feel free to reach out.



2019 PVMA SPRING CONFERENCE
Tuesday February 26 - 28, 2019
Edmonton Marriott at River Cree Resort, Enoch, Alberta

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



THE LONG & SUCCESSFUL HISTORY OF THE PVMA

- NEIL THIESSEN, Founding Member

1978-2017

The Professional Vegetation Managers Association (PVMA) formerly called The Industrial Vegetation Management Association of Alberta (IVMAA), has a long and rich history of serving its members and a record of many accomplishments. To really appreciate it, sometimes you have to look at the origins, personalities' and external factors that drove the organization from humble beginnings to an industry leader.

While time marches on, there are a number of members still active today within the organization that helped shape and mold the PVMA into its current configuration. Some retired, some soon to be retired, still remain active contributors. Many of the Past Presidents are still helping and supporting the organization as are so many others who have served on the numerous committees.

In 1973, there was an Industrial Vegetation Management Committee formed to respond to a provincial government request for input to public hearings on the non-agricultural use of pesticides. An adhoc committee was formed. Chaired by Fred McComb (Molsberry) and other representatives from the industry, the task of preparing this report began. Names like Larry Beaton (Calgary Power), Neil Thiessen (Allied Vegetation Control), Bill Grierson (Molsberry), Bob Younger (CPR), Gordon Bullymore (AGTL), Stan Powers (Alberta Agriculture), Russ Popel (Alberta Power) and Vern Toblin (Fisons) all got busy with meetings trying to respond to this request.

Dr. Vanden Born, a respected scientist of the time was engaged to help us put the report together so it would stand the scrutiny of our opponents. After two years of work the final report was presented to the hearings. A few of these original documents still exist today! All done up nicely with a "professional" typewriter!

Once the report had been presented to the government hearings, the chairman held a meeting to celebrate the completion and dissolve the committee.

During the "celebration" at the Edmonton Petroleum Club, Stan Powers and Neil Thiessen were in deep conversation, and with the assistance of a few celebratory libations, decided to lobby the group to continue the committee and possibly form an official association to represent the concerns of the non-agricultural use of particular herbicides.

Sure enough there were continuing issues that needed to be addressed and finally in 1978 The Industrial Vegetation Management Association of Alberta was registered. Ed Kelly, Ron Standish and others became "charter" members of the IVMAA that first year. By year end we had 44 members, \$1,250 income and formed 7 committees (many exist today). That same era 2,4,5 – T was banned and Ed Kelly became the Editor of the REPORTER.

Neil Thiessen (had hair then!) and Ron Standish were getting settled into the industry. Over the years the IVMAA conducted many successful conferences that drew participants from many jurisdictions and related industries. There was and continues to be a lot of people doing a lot of work and a few occasions where we had fun too!

Yes we had fun, but a lot of good work was being done. The UTW-UTT program was approved by the industry and Provincial Government. Thousands' of volunteer hours have gone into the many committees that the IVMAA has had over the years. As the industry matured, so did the professionalism within the industry.

Operating Protocol Manuals have provided guidance for countless organizations across the country. The many revisions have kept it up to date and useful to industry stakeholders. Codes of Conduct were introduced to the industry which assisted in raising the bar for operational excellence.

That brings us to the IVMAA in the 2000's. While many organizations struggle and some fail, the IVMAA has always embraced the philosophy of continuous improvement and that has kept the IVMAA relevant to the members and the industry. 2014 saw another major step in the transitioning of the IVMAA to remain strong and relevant for many stakeholders when the membership approved the new objectives, bylaws and name change to Professional Vegetation Managers Association (PVMA).

There was also the formation of the UTT/UTW Board of Governance and many new committees. In the fall of 2015 the now PVMA secured its own office space and hired a part time Administrative Assistant. Just over a year later they moved into a larger space and added another staff member. These changes will open the doors for continued success. As author of this article and a founding member it is humbling to watch the younger generation take on new and exciting challenges.

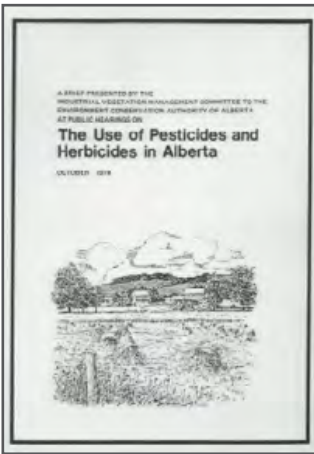


They say pictures are worth more than 1000 words, so as poor as the quality is there are a few that depict the state of the **industry in the late 1970's.**



COMMITTEE REPORT 1974

Outlined vegetation management needs by industry segment. Cost benefits | Safety Rules of Procedure (Pre-cursor to the standards of good practice)



THE REPORTER 1986 | Editor Ed Kelly

During the 1980's Budgets grew to \$50,000 Operating Protocol took on a formal role for the industry Other provincial organizations modelling after the IVMAA grew across Canada Membership was over 100



PROTOCOL MANUALS - 2016

As the industry matured, so did the professionalism within the industry.

Operating Protocol Manuals have provided guidance for countless organizations across the country. The many revisions have kept it up to date and useful to industry stakeholders. Codes of Conduct were introduced to the industry which assisted in raising the bar for operational excellence.



LORNA & ROSS WILLIAMSON



SOMEONE SET RON KING UP??



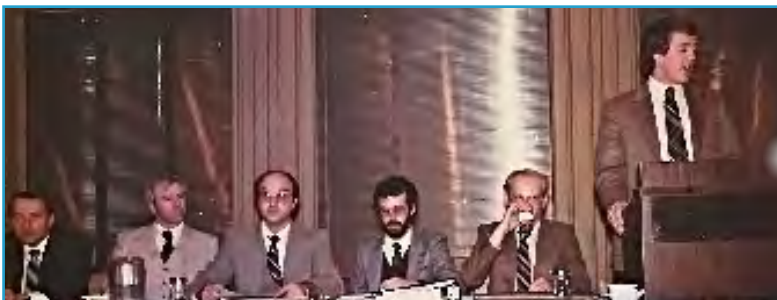
JOHN MOIR - IMPRISONED FOR SOMETHING??



L TO R ; RON KING, LARRY BEATON, RON ROWE, PAUL COLEMAN, NEIL THIESSEN, RON STANDISH

Neil Thiessen (had hair then!) and Ron Standish were getting settled into the industry. Over the years the IVMAA conducted many successful conferences that drew participants from many jurisdictions and related industries.

There was and continues to be a lot of people doing a lot of work and a few occasions where we had fun too!



BENEFITS OF SERVING ON A PVMA COMMITTEE

- MEGHAN BAUMAN, ACE Vegetation



WHY SIT ON A PVMA COMMITTEE?

Well for starters you could be featured in this amazing magazine. But the other benefits that I think are the most important well outweigh that.

The PVMA has many committees. The committees are made up of people from the vegetation industry and industry partners. Individuals from many companies and backgrounds. The committee talk about many topics and challenges to the Vegetation Industry. Being on a committee you get to see the starting point of some of the best practice and standards that you see in the industry, as well as have input to them.

Another benefit is personal/career growth, you will definitely learn and meet a ton of people that are in this vast industry. Many of the people whom have 20+ years of experience. They have knowledge and they want to share it to grow the industry. With that experience comes situations that are shared, Lessons Learned and how we would change the situation to have a better outcome.

With all the knowledge and experience we also talk about training/ safety in the industry and create the best practice and standards. The PVMA has created a standard for the certifications that they provide. This has all come through input from committee members, both industry and industry partners.

These committees are all about growth. Personal growth, Industry growth, and being at the forefront of best practice and standard setting. By sitting on one of the many PVMA committees you will be able to experience all of these benefits and add to them with your experience.

■ — **BEST PRACTICE & STANDARDS**

■ — **PERSONAL/ CAREER GROWTH**

■ — **COLLABORATION**

■ — **INDUSTRY KNOWLEDGE**

■ — **LESSONS LEARNED**

■ — **SAFETY AND & TRAINING**



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TAKE **ADVANTAGE** OF YOUR **PVMA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

- **BRANDON TUPPER, President**

Over the last couple of years, I have had the opportunity to work alongside some great staff and volunteers of the association. Your Board of Directors meet monthly to discuss the affairs of the association and to ensure the direction the PVMA is going stays on course. There are over 10 active committees in the association and many members dedicate precious volunteer hours to pursue the individual goals of each committee. Together they all move our association towards a more professional future.

With our Casino funds there has been a push to include more public awareness of the association. If you have attended the past few meetings you will know that there has been a struggle on how to best use the funds, while meeting the objectives of the association. In preparing for the use of the funds we developed a website that is more public friendly. The Board of Directors has determined that the best way to give back to the public is to create an awareness campaign that drives the public to our website. We have set up several strategies to do this.

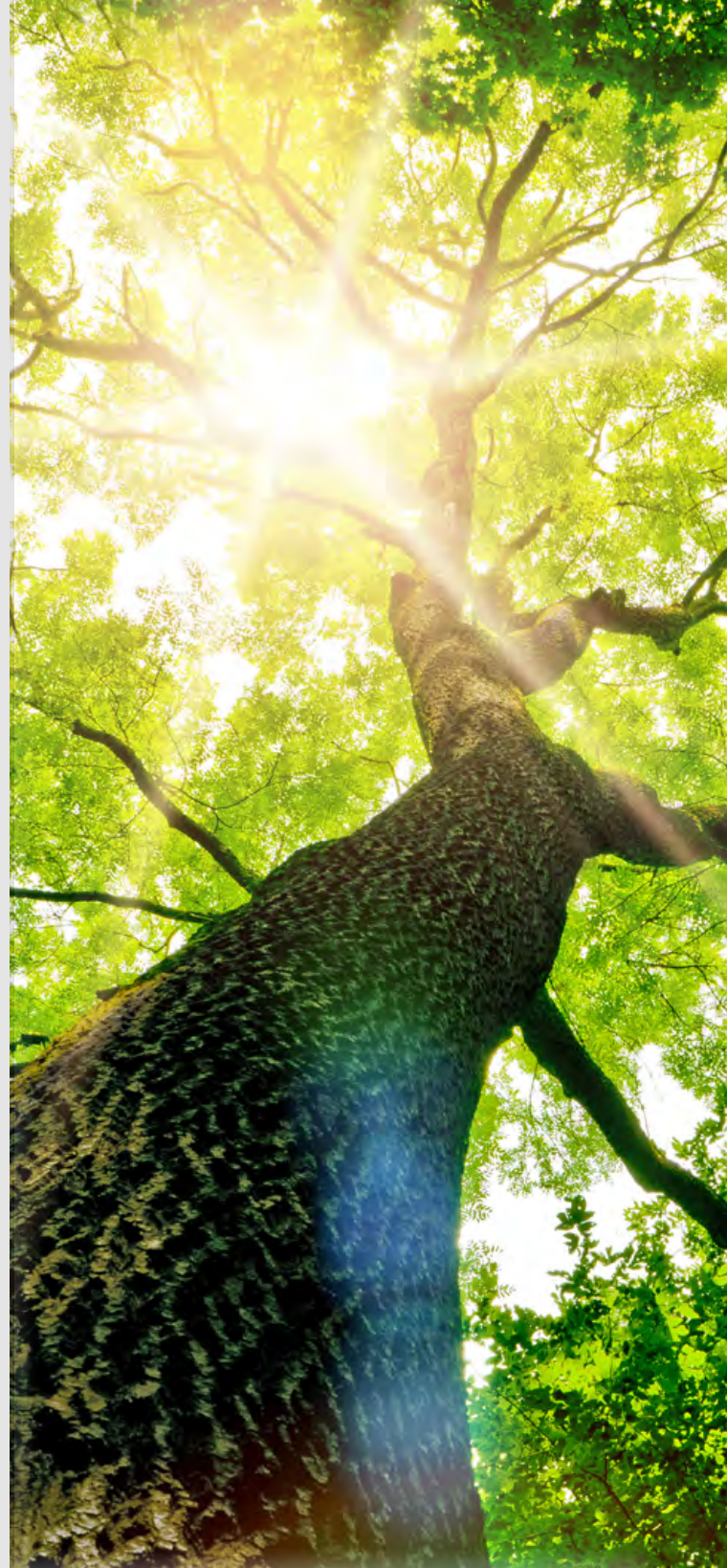
- 1. PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL** – We have ordered several promotional items that can be distributed away from our booth and at tradeshows that would help the public understand who the PVMA is.
- 2. ONLINE ADVERTISING** – Another opportunity that has been mentioned before is to get the PVMA brand out to the public. Really let people know what we do. So, we did our homework and have outlined a simple yet efficient strategy to do this. We have an excellent job board and we want to make it even better. Over the course of the next couple of months (January – April) we will be driving job seekers and the public to our website.
- 3. MANUALS** – We have spent considerable time developing manuals and guides for industry members. There has been considerable interest in the Rehabilitation of Soil Affected by Herbicides manual over the last couple years and we have committed to bring this manual into a current edition.

There are some dots that need to be connected here. I want to get this message out to the PVMA members – “the opportunity to advertise your company on the website and take advantage of the PVMA Job Board has never been better”. We will report on the analytics as we go along. My experience and knowledge of online marketing is limited however I feel confident that you will see a great return on this initiative - if you chose to take advantage of it.

In the upcoming series of Membership Benefit articles, I will be looking at initiatives the PVMA has been involved in and what it has done for the industry.



**KNOWING GREEN.
IT'S OUR NATURE.**



PVMA INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Complete the following and return by email / fax / mail

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

Name* _____ * Refers to main contact. Individuals names must be used for voting.

Company Name _____ Email _____

Mailing Address _____

City / Town _____ Postal Code _____

Interest - Please check one from each category, 1= less interest, 5= most interest.

Oil and Gas 1 2 3 4 5 Utility 1 2 3 4 5

Railway 1 2 3 4 5 Partner 1 2 3 4 5

Roadside 1 2 3 4 5

2 MEMBERSHIP TYPE

New Membership Renew Membership



Membership Type	Quantity	Amount / Per person	Sub Total
Individual*		\$125.00	
			GST
			Total

* See Website for more benefits www.pvma.ca

3 PAYMENT OPTION

Please send invoice to: Same address above Other address below

Invoice Address _____

Payment Type   **CHEQUE**
* Payable to "PVMA"

Card Number Secure Code

Name _____ Expiry Date _____ MM / _____ YR

Signature _____



PVMA INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

How to Plan and Conduct a Vegetation Management Plan

UTW - UTT Certification Discount

Seminar and Tradeshow

Sponsorship's

Advertizing

Workshops

1000's of website visitors

CEC & CEU Administration

Industry voice to sustain VM

Industry related associations

Collabrative input to regulators

Professional recognition through UTW-UTT

Socail Media

Feature Company Listing
Vegetation Manager - 4 issues

Electronic Registration and Payments

Unique PVMA Membership #

Industry Updates Newsletter

Individual Member Registry

Job Board Listing

Event Announcements

Bursury Opportunity

Publications

Scholarship

Meta-Networking

Nominate for BOD

Two meetings per year

Committee participation

1 vote at general meeting

Conference every two years

Network with other industry professionals



PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS:



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROFILE

JASON MCROBERT



- BY VAL EICHEL, PVMA



I know from personal experience that when one person in your family is involved in something, the whole family ends up helping. That is true in the McRobert household. Jason McRobert is a Girl Guide volunteer. Now I know what you are thinking - a guy - Girl Guides - something doesn't add up. Well it's not quite what you might think.

Jason is a behind the scene's kind of guy, working diligently in the background to support others. Did you think all those Girl Guide cookies sold themselves? Unless you are Chris Rock at the Oscars, most of the other dads are working behind the

scenes helping their daughters and their units sell all those cookies. Jason is one of those dedicated dads. And its not just cookies, there are the Valentine's Day cake pop bouquets and the Easter candy bouquets that need assembling. He is now a hot glue expert, marketer, sales rep and delivery driver. Thanks to his volunteer efforts a group of Girl Guides in his daughter's unit were able to travel to Ottawa and take in the 150th Canada Day celebrations.

On two occasions, Jason also helped his wife's team raise enough funds to participate in the Bust a Move for Breast Health™. While his wife was at the University of Alberta's Butterdome busting out some exercise moves with the likes of Richard Simmons, Jason was getting his exercise by running around soliciting donations for this very important cause.

I won't say Jason is a fundraising expert, but he certainly has the experience as he spent 6 years volunteering with the Vermillion Parks and Recreation Department as well. He helped with Canada Day celebrations and other events and, you guessed it, fundraising. Jason was the Chair of the fundraising board for the new spray park where they needed to

raise between \$100,000-\$150,000. The whole Town is now enjoying the results of Jason's successful efforts.

The PVMA welcomed Jason to our Board of Directors a year ago. He has been overseeing the Editorial Committee and has a willingness to help wherever he is needed. We are glad to have him on board and look forward to working with him going forward.

Like our other community volunteers Jason was very reluctant to talk about his volunteer efforts. Most people who volunteer are not looking for recognition, they just help where needed. Thanks Jason for helping!

Bust a Move for Breast Health™
is a community fundraiser celebrating positive advancements for breast health.

Participants sign up as singles or with a team, commit to raising funds and celebrate their accomplishments on event day with six exercise sessions.

While event day is a challenge, it is truly a celebration of the community coming together for a life-saving cause.

<http://bustamove.ca/>

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Earn important CEUs with the industry's best training — online and in person. Choose from technical, business, safety, and supplier courses.



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WHEN YOUR BUSINESS DEPENDS ON IT.™

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2017: FALL WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS

What a successful Fall workshop we had. The response was bigger than we anticipated which resulted in a last-minute change of venue and an opportunity for some tradeshow booths to be set up. We ended up at the Balzac Community Hall with just over 80 in attendance.

Our first speaker of the day was Connor Wollis who is a Wildfire and Land Management Specialist with Agriculture and Forestry. He gave us an Overview of the Industrial FireSmart Program and related Vegetation Management Options for reducing wildfire risk in the Wildland Industrial Interface.

During the breaks attendees were able to visit some tradeshow booths, purchase Protocol Manuals and PVMA swag and everyone enjoyed a catered lunch. Following the lunch, we heard from our second speaker Dan Stickney. Mr. Stickney is a Forest Operations Senior Planner with ATCO Electric and his topic was Managing Vegetation for Wildfire Risk on Utility RoWs.

The PVMA Board of Directors provided a brief update followed by an abundance of door prizes being given out. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes, we appreciate the support.

We also want to thank our Tradeshow Exhibitors: Advantage VM, Dow AgroSciences, CPP Environmental, IVT Systems, Univar, and the UVMA.

A big thank you as well to **ArborCare Tree Service** for sponsoring the coffee time.



The PVMA is here to serve its members. Let us know how we are doing when it comes to speakers and topics. If there is a topic you would like to see covered, or if you have a suggestion for a speaker, please let someone on the seminar committee know or the PVMA office.



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MEMBER PROFILE: ANGUS HILL

- BY BOB GORDON

I am not a writer, but when asked to put some words together about a friend who I have known since the late eighties, it doesn't take a lot of work. Angus' commitment and dedication over the years to the Industry through his work as an instructor, his committee work and his current work on the Board of Directors for the IVMAA, which is now the PVMA, has made him a driving force in our industry and someone who I look to as one of our industry leaders.

I first met Angus Hill while at a service station in Red Deer filling up my crew truck. I worked for Asplundh and he pulled in with his High Tree trim truck. He walked over and introduced himself and that introduction started a friendship that has gone on for about thirty years.

Angus started in the industry September 1985 working in the Red Deer area with High Tree. He worked for a few months as a Groundman, and then he was sent to Old's College to attend the UTT/UTW course. The UTT/UTW Certification course was still new, and Angus attended the second intake to be conducted.

After becoming certified Angus became a Foreman of a pre-mow crew prepping right of ways for mowing and removing hazard trees, working in the Red Deer area for the next two years.

In 1988 Angus began his trimming career, he was moved over onto a trim truck and began running a trim crew in the Red Deer area. In 1992 Angus was moved to Calgary to work with ENMAX in developing their brushing program for the city. Angus continued to work on this project until 1994. He then became a General Foreman looking after the crews and operations in the Calgary area.

It was during this time that Angus became involved as an instructor with Old's College for the Utility Tree Trimmer Course. He worked as a climbing instructor and then moved into instructing the aerial trimming portion of the course.

In 2000 Angus took on a position patrolling the powerlines in Southern Alberta identifying the work load for the utility, to help them develop their brushing programs.

Angus was recognized for his leadership skills and was promoted to Operations Supervisor for the Province of Alberta in 2001. He worked at this position for the next nine years continuing to build his reputation as a leader and someone who could be counted on.

In 2010 Angus became the area Manager for the Fortis North West Area, throughout this time Angus continued to instruct at Old's College and his involvement with committees working on the UTT/UTW program continued to grow.

Angus was recognized once again for his leadership and was promoted to Account Manager for all Fortis Operations in 2013. It was also at this time that Angus was recognized by his peers for all the instructional work and committee work that he had been involved with over the previous years with the UTT/UTW program. He was elected to the Board of Directors for the Industrial Vegetation

Management Association of Alberta (IVMAA), this board is the governing body for the UTT/UTW course.

In 2014 Angus was promoted to Regional Manager for all of Davey Trees Alberta Operations, he continued in this role until he retired in late 2017.

Angus continues his involvement with the PVMA Board of Directors while residing at his farm in the Drayton Valley area with his family.

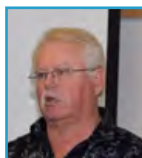
“ ANGUS' COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION TO THE INDUSTRY THROUGH THE YEARS WORKING WITH THE IVMAA AND NOW THE PVMA HAS MADE HIM ONE OF THE DRIVING FORCES OF OUR INDUSTRY.



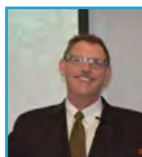
THE FIRST UVM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRADUATING CLASS OF NINE CELEBRATES



Back left to right: Shane Faechner - Fortis, Adam Warf - ECI, Daniel Drewes - Davey Tree, Andrew Hordyk - Arborwood Tree Service, Brian Sprinkle - CNUC, Darrell Gaudet - AltaLink, Steve Kerr - Battle River Power Coop Centre: Travis Spolestra - Arborwood Tree Service, Darren Dellezay - Arboreal Tree Services/SAIT Facilitator, Steve Quinlan - ENMAX Front: Neil Thiessen - Executive Director UVMA, Russel Wright - Academic Chair - SAIT, Phil Charlton - Executive Director, UAA



Nelsen Money, Randy Miller and Phil Charlton made several presentations to the UVM students and served as Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) in assessing the student presentations. Each student presented a 15 minute executive summary PowerPoint, using the numerous processes they learned over the 6 courses. The students received feedback from their peers, UVM program facilitator and SMEs in attendance.



From all indications from the students, subject matter experts, industry management in attendance and the SAIT academic chairpersons, the new UVM Professional Development training program was very successful. Graduating students that receive their Certificate of Achievement from this program may apply to the Utility Arborist Association (UAA-International) for an industry recognized credential "Certified in Utility Vegetation Management" (CUVM).



Darren Dellezay receiving an award for excellence in facilitating the first ever UVM professional development program from Neil Thiessen and Phil Charlton



Cindy Winkler of Positive Choices Training and Education, receiving an award for excellence in curriculum development of the first ever UVM professional development program from Neil Thiessen

UTILITY VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

IS A TWO YEAR ONLINE PROGRAM THROUGH SAIT (6 - 10 WEEK SESSIONS).

GRADUATES WITH 70% OR BETTER GRADE MAY APPLY TO THE UTILITY ARBORIST ASSOCIATION (UAA) FOR AN INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL "

CERTIFIED IN UTILITY VEGETATION MANAGEMENT" - CUVM

INQUIRIES MAY BE MADE BY CONTACTING NEIL THIESSEN NEIL@UVMA.CA.

PVMA PRESENTS:

UTW/UTT TREE WORKER SAFETY TRAINING

Employing safe practises is vital to your job as a Utility Tree Worker. To create a culture of safety for UTTs, the PVMA has developed a curriculum to educate those who maintain trees near electrical utility installations. The Association has also contracted with a well-respected educational facility, Olds College, to teach this curriculum to our members who are interested in this important discipline.

Register in this two week course today if you work in the vegetation management industry and are involved with the removal or trimming of trees near energized powerlines and wish to upgrade your safety knowledge.

Recognized by organizations and companies in your profession, this course gives you the safety skills necessary to remove or trim trees near energized powerlines. Delivered one week in-class and the second week off-site (training mostly outdoors in the field), this course is one of the components you must complete to apply for certification as a Utility Tree Worker or Utility Tree Trimmer in Alberta.

All courses take place at: Olds College Campus

Utility Tree Worker and Utility Tree Trimmer Safety Training Certification Course

To become a certified Utility Tree Worker or Utility Tree Trimmer, you must successfully complete this PVMA sanctioned safety course. In this course you will be educated regarding best safety practises and hazard awareness while trimming trees and ground cover closed to energized utility infrastructure.

Spring (Recertification Courses offered during this time as well)

Intake #1: April 9-20, 2018

Intake #2: April 16-27, 2018

Visit www.pvma.ca/course-offerings for more details.



Industrial Vegetation Management

- Reducing fire hazards and protecting agriculture crops
- Protecting the security and integrity of assets such as pipelines, power lines, facilities and other infrastructures.
- Reducing the impact of invasive plant species
- First Nations partnerships



PVMA GUIDE FOR VIRTUAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS – PART III

- BY BRANDON TUPPER, President

If you are the host or coordinator for a meeting, ensure that you are well prepared and can facilitate and manage meetings online. The host should try to meet with individuals beforehand who have never attended a meeting and run through some of the features available on the system you are using. Also, arriving early will give you the opportunity to troubleshoot small technical issues that other participants are having.

The following is a summary from Chapter 9 - Manager's Guide to Virtual Teams by Fisher (2011) outlining a guide for attending video conferences. It would be expected that all committee members try their best to follow the etiquette outlined below:

DISCLOSURE RULE: Remember that you are on camera. Don't do anything that you would be uncomfortable seeing on YouTube or Facebook. You must behave and talk respectfully as the potential is always there that you are being recorded – just ask Donald Trump.

TECHNOLOGY AMPLIFIES – Some of the behaviours that are acceptable in a boardroom, when amplified by technology, are very distracting. Refrain from such distracting behaviours. These include but are not limited to: keyboard typing, shuffling papers, texting, tapping your pen, chewing on your pen, using toothpicks, unnecessary mouse clicking, gulping your drink, eating, moving extensively, having a distracting background. Technology amplifies all these behaviours, and some may be tolerable in a face to face meeting, but they are not tolerable in a video conference meeting. If you are the host and someone is being distracting, you must contact them and let them know or turn them off. If you don't find yourself talking very frequently then I recommend you turn your microphone to mute, to prevent any feedback or background noise from distracting everyone.

POSITION OF THE CAMERA – If the software allows you to turn on your web camera on your own screen then do so. Are there any distracting features around you? Adjust the light and make sure there are no reflective glares coming off your camera. Your head should take up most of the camera. Keep the camera close to where the other members web camera feeds are – position it as close to where you are looking – try to consider the camera as often as possible when you are talking. This might take some getting used to but try a few different camera angles to find your most comfortable position.

RECORD THE MEETING – When there are many decisions being made it is possible to record the meeting to refer to later on if things go sideways. Also, if some committee members are unable to attend the meeting, they can quickly get caught up to speed and ensure they have not missed any important details left out in the briefing emails.

Use the technology – There are many other features that the software can use. From power points, to white-boards, to moving your camera outside to show everyone something. Try to avoid an entire meeting of just headshots.

LIMIT VIDEO CONFERENCES – A video conference over two hours long will start to lose its effectiveness. It takes more energy to participate in these types of meetings and new members will find themselves losing the ability to keep focused on the agenda.

By implementing the points above committee members and organizers will have a more productive meeting and can focus more on attaining the goals of the organization versus being distracted by someone on the phone the whole meeting!

Reference: Fisher, K., & Fisher, M. D. (2011). *Manager's guide to virtual teams*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

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THE VEGETATION MANAGER *magazine*

- ADVERTISING RATE SHEET

2018 RATE SHEET

AD SIZE SPECS:	SINGLE ISSUE RATE (MEMBER)	ANNUAL RATE (MEMBER) * Four Issues - 2 printed, 2 electronic (printable)
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HALF-PAGE ADVERTISEMENT	\$550	\$1540
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NOTE:

Keep live matter 1/4" from trim on each side. For ad spread units, please supply 1/16" duplicated image on both sides of the centerline.

- PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Deadline for submission

February 8, 2018

April 12, 2018

August 9, 2018

September 13, 2018

Distribution Date

March 7, 2018 (Print)

May 1, 2018 (Electronic)

Sept 6, 2018 (Electronic)

October 25, 2018 (Print)

FULL PAGE

HALF PAGE

**QUARTER
PAGE**

**BUSINESS
CARD**

PVMA: MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTS STUDENTS

As a PVMA member you have a hand in shaping the future. Through your support we have had been able to financially assist many students over the years.

The PVMA/IVMAA has a long history of supporting post-secondary students through bursaries and scholarships. Our first scholarships were given away in 2003-2004. **Damian Kirchner and Cody Botwell** were the first recipients of an IVMAA Scholarship Award.

We did some hunting and located one of those scholarship recipients. Where is he now you ask? Well I asked that question for you.

Damian Kirchner. At the time that he received his scholarship Damian was from Sherwood Park and was attending the University of Alberta enrolled in Engineering, working towards a BSc in Engineering. I had a chance to speak to Damian recently and he tells me he graduated with a Chemical Engineering degree in 2007. He spent 5 years working for Suncor in Fort McMurray in the upgrading facility. He then worked for Dow Chemical in Fort Saskatchewan for 2 years and is now back in Sherwood Park working as an Operations Support Engineer for Shell. He is married with 2 children.

It is rewarding to know that the IVMAA/PVMA, with the support of its members, had a hand in assisting Damian as well many others achieve their goal of obtaining a post-secondary degree.

The PVMA currently offers a \$1,000.00 Scholarship each year, giving priority to students who are in a Vegetation Management related program. Recipients also receive a complementary admission and paid accommodations to PVMA's Annual Spring Conference. It's just one of the ways we are helping to advance the Industry, by helping to fund the education of those who will be the future vegetation managers. You can read about our most recent recipient in this issue of The Vegetation Manager Magazine.


We also have a Bursary program designed specifically to benefit members. Children of PVMA members in good standing are eligible

to apply for a cash bursary to assist them with their post-secondary education. There is no requirement for them to be registered in a specific program. Be sure to take advantage of this member benefit by letting your kids know to apply.

The PVMA likes to give recognition where recognition is due with other awards such as **The Larry Beaton Memorial Award, Honorary Membership Award and Past President Award.**

The Larry Beaton Memorial Award is presented to individuals or companies in recognition of outstanding service to the association. Honorary Memberships are awarded to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to a science or practice related to industrial vegetation management, or to the association.

First Scholarship Winners, 2003-2004



Damian Kirchner and Cody Botwell are the first recipients of the IVMAA Scholarship Award.

Congratulations, Damian Kirchner!


Damian is from Sherwood Park, is attending the University of Alberta and is enrolled in Engineering. He is working towards a BSc in Engineering.

Congratulations, Cody Botwell!

Cody is from Calgary and is attending the University of Saskatchewan in the College of Denistry.

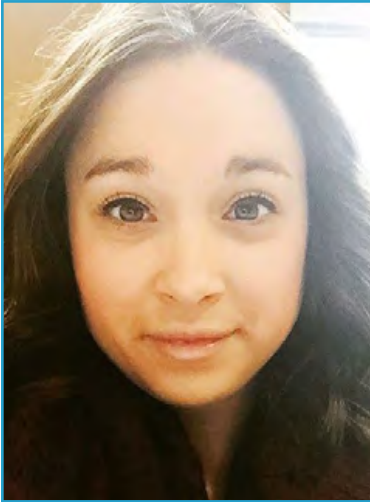
TOP PHOTO: Damian Kirchner
BOTTOM PHOTO: Cody Botwell

FOR BURSARY APPLICATION INFORMATION SEE PAGE 23.

SPRING 04 Page 9 

SHAPING THE FUTURE

2017 SCHOLARSHIP/BURSARY RECIPEINTS



BURSARY RECIPIENT

We congratulate **Julia Plain** who was the PVMA 2017 Bursary recipient. Julia is the daughter of PVMA member Kevin Plain from Renu-L-Tech Environmental Ltd.

Julia is currently attending Red Deer College in the Practical Nursing Program. She is a busy student that also works part-time as a gymnastics coach and enjoys photography.

Julia greatly appreciates the bursary and says it will help to reduce the cost of books and lab kits that she requires for her program.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPEINT

I would like to introduce you to **Keana Boere**. Keana is the PVMA's 2017 Scholarship recipient. She is enrolled in her second year of an Environment Sciences: Conservation and Restoration Ecology program at Lakeland College. Her resume and transcript reveal a strong student who has earned many scholastic achievements, including the President's Honour Roll and Dean's List in the first year of her program. She also has work experience in the vegetation management field.

Keana says vegetation management has become more important to her as her education has advanced and she has had new job opportunities. She has always like plants and the environment, but it wasn't until pursuing her post-secondary education at Lakeland College that she seriously began to understand and appreciate vegetation.

Her true experience in vegetation management came this past summer, when she worked for a county in central Alberta. Her main job was to manage vegetation (Exactly what she had sat through lectures of!). She got to apply what she had learned in the classroom to real-life, important situations. She is looking forward to gaining more knowledge in school and getting field experience in the coming years.

Congratulations Keana, you are very deserving of this Scholarship award.



- MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE -

The membership Committee met in January and has set some goals to achieve over the course of 2018 including cost structure, communication and definition of membership benefits, new areas of membership to explore and the new initiative for utilization of Univar points to purchase memberships.

Jennifer Edwards – Director in Charge

DID YOU KNOW?



**We now accept
Univar points as a
form of payment for
membership!**

- AWARDS COMMITTEE -

We were busy giving away money this winter. We had several Scholarship applicants to choose from and were encouraged by the quality of young people who are pursuing education in the vegetation management industry.

After reviewing all the Resumes and Essays, Keana Boere was chosen as our 2017 winner. Julia Plain was also selected to receive a 2017 Bursary. You can read more about these individuals in this issue of The Vegetation Manager.

Keith Sanftleben – Director in Charge

- PVMA UTT/UTW Board of Governors

The Board of Governors would like to thank Barry Rothel of Arbor-Tech Services for his valuable contributions over the last few years. Barry will be missed by all of us.

To maintain a balance of utility and contractor representation on the board of governors, we have selected a short list of individuals from utilities we feel may be interested in participating as a board member. When all candidates have been interviewed a selection will be made by the Board of Governors. The successful candidate's name will be brought to the Board of Directors for approval.

Meanwhile our important work continues with a review of documentation and procedures. When complete, many will be posted on the PVMA website. We hope this may help all parties with any questions about certification and/or code of ethics.

Angus Hill - Director in Charge

- SAFETY COMMITTEE -

We have made a lot of progress on many fronts, the committee is strong with a wide range of experience. We have many ideas that will be coming your way.

One project the “Hazard Identification for Utility Tree Trimmers” is now ready for critique. We want to make it into a pocket size flip chart for the UTT and UTW members. It helps the worker identify and make correct decisions for managing hazardous trees. What are they looking at? How should they deal with it?

This would include using mechanical solutions as well as manual solutions. Worker exposure and safety is paramount to making the correct decision. When to use ropes, how to use ropes and which knots to use. Which are the recommended industry standard.

Most important is that the worker must be able to identify when they are working out-side of their level of experience. Knowing the information provided in the manual helps the worker.

Other projects we have in mind could standardize some of our pesticide procedures in a booklet. We have an opportunity to work together to create Safe Work Practices and Safe Work Procedures as an industry standard.

This could work for both the pesticide and mechanical operations.

If you have any ideas or if you want to join our committee please contact:

Meghan Bauman: safety@acevegetation.com

Bob Gordon: bgordon@asplundh.com

Wade Smith - Director in Charge

- CASINO COMMITTEE -

I have taken on the role of Casino Chair and I am looking for volunteers to help with our next casino. We have received our casino dates however, we are in the process of trying to change to more suitable dates, that will better accommodate our volunteer base. It will be sometime in the 3rd quarter. We are looking for help with organizing the volunteers leading up to the event as well as volunteers to work the casino. If you can help, please contact either myself or the PVMA office.

Laura Hammer – Casino Chair

- EDITORIAL COMMITTEE -

Those working in the PVMA office have been asked Why should I join the PVMA? Or what does the PVMA do for me? As an Editorial Committee we decided to take this issue of The Vegetation Manager and focus on the PVMA, its history, its programs and awards, its volunteers, its workshops and seminars, and its current and future vision. There is more to the PVMA than you will see here, but here is a brief overview:

- Education and CEU & CEC credit opportunities all through workshops and conferences as well as through serving together on the Board of Directors or Committee.
- UTW/UTT course management and certification/re-certification.
- Post-Secondary Scholarship and Bursaries
- Information sharing through The Vegetation Manager magazine.
- Advertising opportunities – Job Board, Banner Ads, sponsorships, tradeshow booths & Vegetation Manager Ads.
- Staying informed on government regulations and changes at all levels and being the voice on behalf of the Industry through our Government Liaison
- Producing manuals and updates like the Alberta Industrial Vegetation Management Manual that was released last year and the Reclaiming Residual Herbicide in Soils that we will be updating next.
- Promotion of Safety through education, near miss incident reporting and the “Hazard Identification for Utility Tree Trimmers” that our safety committee has been working on.
- Information sharing, networking, and co-oping information.

You can read Meghan’s article on the benefits of serving on a committee in this issue. Become involved, volunteer, join a committee or serve as a director.

The Editorial Committee would like to thank all our Vegetation Manager annual advertisers. As our membership, conference attendance and readership continue to grow we have been able to place The Vegetation Manager magazine into the hands of almost 300 individuals, many of which are the decision makers or their companies. Thank you for your continued support!

Jason McRobert - Director in Charge

- MARKETING COMMITTEE -

This winter has provided some exciting opportunities for marketing activities. The Board of Directors has approved numerous marketing improvements for the association.

These improvements include an expanded online marketing initiative which aims to drive traffic to our website and more specifically the PVMA Job Board.

In addition to this, the Board has also approved expenditures to revamp PVMA promotional materials to be used in various industry tradeshows and events.

2018 is certainly off to a great start and we hope to keep the momentum going as we move through the year. As always, be sure to like and follow the PVMA twitter and Facebook pages to stay up to date with the PVMA and various industry matters.

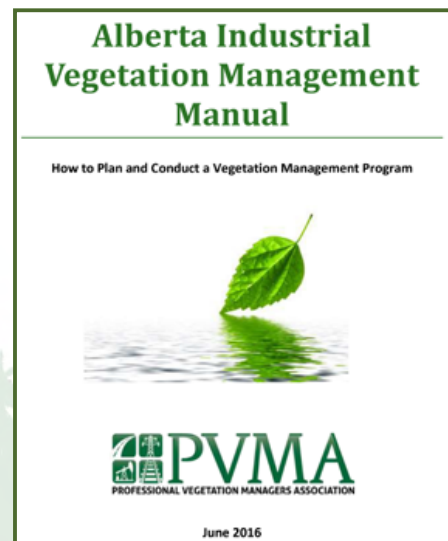
Mike Bates - Director in Charge

- PROTOCOL COMMITTEE

INDUSTRIAL VEGETATION MANAGEMENT MANUAL

Purchase one print copy at regular price and receive up to 4 electronic copies at a **15%** discount. A **20%** applies to copies of 5 or more. You can get your digital or printed copy from the PVMA store at www.pvma.ca.

Cost: Print - \$310 (incl. gst & shipping) Digital - \$235 (incl. gst)
Save \$20 on the print copy by picking up at one of our workshops or conferences.





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