



REINFORCING STEEL INSTITUTE OF CANADA
INSTITUT D'ACIER D'ARMATURE DU CANADA



www.rebar.org

The Wire

The Newsletter of the Reinforcing Steel Industry of Canada

To promote and support REINFORCED CONCRETE as the most effective and efficient CONSTRUCTION METHOD.

What's Inside

From The President	1
Committee News	2
COCA News	3
OCCDC News	3
Labour Relations News	3
Upcoming Events	3

The Wire!

This is the second edition of "The Wire", the newsletter of the Steel Reinforcing Industry of Canada.

To make it really yours and meaningful please feel free to share your local events, concerns, thoughts or suggestions with us. We will read all submissions and try and provide a useful vehicle to provide this information throughout the industry. Editorial copy is great. Pictures even better. Please submit them to Laura at the RSIC office by sending them to administrator@rebar.org

Detailer Certification

In early 2016 the RSIC put out a call for submissions to our Detailer Certification committee. The result was a record number of applications for certification. Our committee has now reviewed all of the submissions and is pleased to announce that each of the 25 individuals that applied have been awarded official certification from the RSIC. Many thanks to our committee members Steve Dietrich, Emin Buzimkic, Peter Spatola and Larry Taylor for all of their time spent in reviewing the applications and congratulations to all of our newly certified detailers!

A request will go out some time in the New Year for 2017 submissions.

From the President



Welcome to the 2016 RSIC Fall newsletter, you will find your association continues to grow to great benefit of the cast in place reinforced concrete industry. Please welcome new members, Sherwood Steel, McNish Steel, Canbar Steel and Mana Steel. We continue to promote the industry throughout Canada connecting with engineers, contractors, architects and students. We've attended multiple shows across the country this year with our next being the Vancouver Buildex in Feb 2017.

A working committee has been formed in BC to promote the reinforcing steel industry and work more closely with the formwork industry, Engineers and Education system. We are endeavouring to do something similar in Alberta-Saskatchewan, and in the Maritimes.

The Board has approved the 2017 AGM and Convention to be held in Banff AB in September. Watch for more information coming soon as the Social Committee promises it to be a great event. Our recent AGM and convention in Muskoka celebrated our Institutes 40 years of continuing to foster growth and promoting rebar and concrete in construction. Several items of industry concern were addressed and are being watched closely. High rise engineered wood structures, the Construction Lien Act – Prompt Payment reform, ultra high strength steel and the new Leed V4 standards are just a few of the issues the Institute and the Board of Directors are dealing with. More information on these issues will be forthcoming.

I would like to thank the many volunteers involved in our 10 working committees, they spend many tireless hours making our industry a safe and vibrant one. All committee's involvement and dedication is greatly appreciated, contributing to promote the Institute and the Reinforced Concrete Industry as the Most Effective Method of Construction. Check out our website, www.rebar.org for more information.

Roger Hubbard

COMMITTEE NEWS

Marketing Committee

The Marketing Committee has had a busy year on many fronts. With a few new volunteers we've been doing our best to promote our industry and association across the country.

This year marked the first year the RSIC participated in the

- Buildex Calgary,
- Buildex Vancouver as well as the
- Construct Canada Toronto.

We also put together a small presentation for the ACI Winnipeg Chapter on high strength rebar. The events we're all very successful and we're going to continue looking for opportunities to promote our Association nationally.

The RSIC placed two advertisements in 2016. The first was placed on the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering Website and focused on promoting the Association and its mandate. The second ad was placed on the Construction Canada Website and focused on promoting our Standards and Placing Manuals. We're continuing to look for the best opportunities to advertise our Association and our products nationally.

In May of this year the Marketing Committee started tracking our website usage. In whole, we found that more people are visiting our website and for longer periods of time than we anticipated. The majority of visitors are from Ontario, but many people are visiting nationally and internationally as well. The most popular page on our site is the Manual of Standard Practice, followed by Fabricators, RSIC Detailers Certification Program and our Placing Manual. The committee intends to use this information to help revamp the website in the coming year in hopes to make it as useful and informative for our visitors as possible.

Any suggestions on how to improve our website, advertise our industry or products or otherwise improve our value to the RSIC membership is appreciated. We look forward to another year of marketing the RSIC.

Technical Committee

The Technical Committee is continuing the process of reviewing The Manual of Standard Practice page by page and word by word. Amongst other things, the forthcoming update will include charts, detail clarities, updated pictures and a more inclusive abbreviation list.

The reviewing committee is comprised of Roger Hubbard, Sam Costa, Peter Spatola, Rick Dozzi, Emin Buzimkic, Sean VanRassel and Maryam Rezaie.

Some errors have been identified by the committee in OPSS 905, specifically with relation to tie wire sizes. The committee has gathered and highlighted some issues for clarifications and a letter was sent to MTO with a meeting request.

Safety Committee

Some of the important initiatives and concerns the Safety Committee is tackling are as follows:

- Safety videos: Housekeeping, Preventing Falls, Working Safely Around Mobile Equipment, Heat Stress
- MOL's updates/issues:
 - * changes to the training for JHSC members,
 - * Worker Health and Safety Awareness Regulation,
 - * MOL bulletin about Vehicle/Mobile Equipment and Visibility Hazards at Industrial Workplaces,
 - * AODA Regulation awareness,
 - * Working From Heights updates,
 - * Discipline policies and why they are important – fines have been given directly to workers.
- On-road interventions with the Ministry of Transportation and the requirements for load security for delivery trucks in our industry.
- New laser safeguarding device on trial for rebar benders and control reliability of safeguards.
- New Global Harmonization System (GHS) which will change some WHMIS requirements.
- Certificate of Recognition (COR)
- Stock pile safety and racking best practices for our industry.
- Preventing falls from trailers – having safeguards in place.

Social Committee

2016 welcomes the newly formed RSIC Social Committee. Thanks to our volunteers Keith Baugaard, Frederic Fafard, Megan Kelleher and Tim McMenamin we're looking forward to some great events and outings in 2017. If anyone has any ideas for events, speakers or otherwise don't hesitate to contact any of our Social Committee volunteers and let them know! See the Upcoming Events section for some of the outings our Social Committee is already organizing.

Upcoming Events

- 2017 RSIC Golf Tournament –Eagles Nest Golf Course in Maple Ontario on May 25, 2017.
- 2107 AGM & Convention – being held for the first time in Banff Alberta at the Moose Hotel and Suites, September 7th – 10th.
- Winter 2017, February Night on the Town – Stay tuned for details and date!

RSIC 2016 Golf Tournament

This year's annual RSIC Golf Tournament was played at the beautiful Peninsula Lake Golf Club in Fenwick Ontario. We had a record number of players at 40, all vying for the coveted and historic trophy. The competition was stiff as always with Steven Costa, Maxime Gendron Jason Joy, John McGuire and others all locked in a heated battle for the low ball. In the end, Steven Costa of AGF C&T finished the back nine incredibly strong to claim his spot as the 2016 Champion. Steven took the title from our 2015 Champ John McGuire of Mansteel Rebar. It was a great event as always and congratulations to Steven for taking home the hardware!



Pat Kilkenny (Left) and Keith Baugaard (Right) presenting the "hardware" to Steven Costa (Center).

RSIC Membership Meeting and Dinner Presentation

In early November the RSIC hosted a dinner presentation and meeting in Toronto. Our guest speaker for the evening was Mr. John Sammut, manager of the IHSA's Certificate of Recognition Program. Mr. Sammut provided us with an excellent summary on the COR program including an overview on becoming certified, where the program is today and where it is heading in the near future. To see the presentation [please click here](#).

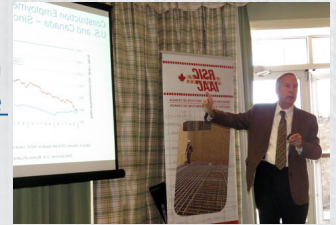
RSIC 2016 AGM and Convention

The 2016 AGM and Convention was once again held at the beautiful JW Marriott in Muskoka, Ontario from September 15th through the 18th. This year saw 91 attendee's from many member companies from all across the country.

Our two guest speakers put on excellent and very relevant presentations which elicited some great questions and discussions throughout the weekend.



Alex Carrick, the Chief Economist with Construct Connect put forth a very interesting presentation on construction prospects. [Click here for Alex's presentation](#).



Jim Lord, an acting board member on the Green Building Council – LEED V4, also provided an excellent presentation.

Jim's presentation was geared towards LEED and the current and prospective future prevalence of it in our industry. [Click here for Jim's presentation](#).



Friday evening proved to be an extraordinarily fun night of dancing and festivities as

the RSIC celebrated its 40th Anniversary with a 70's themed costume party. The band 'Paully and the Goodfella's' lasted until the early hours of the morning as the dance contests and general costume provoked fun ensued.

Saturday morning found those brave enough to endure the rain (and lack of sleep) at a beautiful golf course called The Rock ready to contest the annual RSIC AGM Golf Tournament. Though the round was cut short due to weather, this year's trophy went to John McGuire of Mansteel for a much deserved victory after some great play. Congrats to John on putting together a great round of golf in some exceptionally tough conditions! With many still recovering from the Friday night, Saturday night started off a little more reserved (as usual), however; multi-instrumentalist and incredible entertainer Jamie Williams got the crowd going once again and the night turned out to be excellent as always.

Thanks again to all the organizers and to Ken and Sarah for another great year of support and service!

Having Fun!!! (Left to Right)
Yvan Gravelle, Jane Gravelle, Dana Lingwood, Trevor Rebbe, Liam Kruyssen, Dave Kruyssen



Western Canada Update

As the RSIC continues to grow in western Canada member companies have starting having regular meeting to discuss several topics related to issues in their region.

Some of the topics include:

- Training of foreman as well as field and detailing staff
- Renew relations with structural engineers via presentations from fabricators and industry suppliers
- Co-ordinate a round table discussion with Formwork contractors regarding on-site issues ie. scope of work, scheduling, information sharing
- Safety

OCCDC News

The Ontario Cast in Place Concrete Development Council has been very busy this year producing four new case studies for distribution. One major concern for the OCCDC has been the emergence high-rise wood structures in Canada. The Council has therefore been studying and researching many aspects of the trend including sound transmission issues, carbon sequestration, thermal performance and cost comparisons on building materials. Some of this will take a few years to complete but they have already concluded that insurance rates on wood structure buildings are more expensive than those on concrete ones.

The OCCDC will be attending the May 2017 OAA Conference in Ottawa where they be holding a lunch and learn for participants. There is also a small trade show component that they will be exhibiting at.

The OCCDC also sponsored and attended the first annual Canadian Building Information Modeling (BIM) Awards in October. BIM is a relatively new concept and it is slowing catching on in construction. The application of BIM conforms well in the Reinforcing Steel industry. Lastly, the OCCDC held several meetings with Metrolinx and was successful in converting a number of parking garages slated for precast back to cast in place concrete structures.

COCA News

The Council of Ontario Construction Association (COCA) is the voice of the construction industry at Queen's Park. COCA was instrumental in working with the WSIB in lowering insurance rates by more than 5% for the upcoming year, something we haven't seen in more than ten years. WSIB will have the new rate framework ready for 2018 which should lower rates for most again.

The Ontario government has heard our collective message on Construction Lien Act reform and Prompt Payment and has received the Reynolds Report. Now we will have the Attorney General readying a renewed and modern CLA including Prompt Payment and dispute resolution for a spring legislature presentation.

COCA had the pleasure of Ontario's Attorney General Yasir Naqvi give welcoming remarks at their Construction Season reception at Queen's park in September. Yasir assured us of the commitment the government has to reform.

COCA is also very much involved with the Ministry of Labour, the Ontario College of Trades, Ministry of Infrastructure and Infrastructure Ontario and the Office of the Employer Adviser. For more info, please see www.coca.on.ca