

British Columbia
BCCGATM
Common Ground Alliance



REPORT

To the
BC Common Ground Alliance
MEMBERSHIP



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to submit this year's report to our members and partners. This report provides a summary of successes that have been recorded throughout 2014 in relation to our strategic priorities.

2014 has been another extraordinary year of advancement for the Alliance in terms of profile, engagement and service delivery. In addition to our traditional cadre of programs and services, we launched two new committees - a task force to explore One Call legislation and a contractor-focused Excavation Safety Committee. We are more confident than ever that our message of worker and public safety, in connection with underground infrastructure, is being received and understood across BC.

Our relationship with our members and our ability to address the essential needs of our membership are the major factors that have made the **BCCGA** a recognized leader in safety in 2014. I can assure you, the **BCCGA** will continue to evolve throughout 2015, providing a clear provincial voice for improved worker and public safety in connection with underground infrastructure throughout the Province of British Columbia.

Once again, I thank you, our generous and committed members, volunteers and Board members, for your dedication, service and support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dave Baspaly', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dave Baspaly,
Executive Director

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

Minimize member attrition and increase revenue by 2015 by a minimum of 10% through increasing membership and/or project sponsorship, securing a government partner, and/or by securing other long term sustainable forms of revenue. Review possible funding sources on an ongoing basis.

- In 2014, revenues of \$244, 157 are slightly less than the projected budget of \$269, 750¹.
- Overall membership increased marginally. Total membership now stands at over 400 members, with an excavation network of 2,500 ground disturbers. However, these new members are primarily made up of excavators and vendors who pay nominal fees and therefore have little impact on overall revenues.
- Other notable one-time funding sources contained within the 2014 summary include:
 - \$25,000 **BC Gaming Direct Access**
 - \$13,500 Special project funding from **WorkSafe BC**
 - \$6,434 **HRDC Summer Career Placement Grant**
- Member and partner in-kind contributions match all dollars contributed.

¹ All financial information is projected and may be subject to change based on final year-end actuals.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

Increase member and stakeholder engagement to further advance the mission and vision of BCCGA with a focus towards sectors physically engaged in ground disturbance.

- To increase member engagement, the **BCCGA**:
 - Formed a new task force to explore **One Call** legislation.
Supported 9 standing committees, 1 project committees and 2 liaison positions
 - Gained 5 new member companies from a variety of stakeholder groups.
 - Partnered with **BC One Call** to sponsor electronic billboard advertisements at the PNE during the summer dig season.
- Presented the 2014 City of Excellence award to:
 - **The City of Victoria** for the **Gold Standard** award
 - **The City of Burnaby** for the **Education** award
 - **The City of Nanaimo** for the **Innovation** award
- Connected with stakeholder groups on a monthly basis to ensure they are brought up to speed on current events and are engaged in Alliance activities
- Participated in over 30 industry events such as AGMs and award ceremonies to promote safety and generate awareness of the Alliance, including the WorkSafe BC Bridging the Gap Conference, Day of Morning and other safety related events.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

Refine and report quarterly on this Five Year Strategic Plan. Include in the plan: mission statement and goals; revenue stability; achievable priorities and objectives (both financial and operational); projections for growth and identification of target markets.

- The staff, the Board and the greater membership developed strategic priorities (based on the existing long-term Five Year Strategic Plan) through an iterative consultation process.
- The Board approved the updated Five-Year Strategic plan February 5, 2014.
- A corresponding operational plan was developed by staff to interpret the strategic direction determined by the Board.
- Staff report monthly on the status of these priorities.
- The 2014 budget was based on the strategic objectives, the corresponding operational plan, and included financial projections.
- The Board approved the budget on February 5, 2014.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

Produce an Annual 'Report to Sponsors'. This is a document speaking to the success of the BCCGA, showcasing a reduction in overall damage provincially with evidence of how the BCCGA influenced this improvement, as well as a positional statement striving to yield ongoing support from each of these Member organizations.

- To achieve this strategic priority, two separate documents were prepared and circulated to the membership:
 - The 2014 BC Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT) Report was created to quantify levels of damage in the province. To this end, the BCCGA:
 - Created a set of tools to help stakeholders report damage events
 - Increased reporting stakeholders from 2014
 - Publicly released the 2014 DIRT Report in Q3
 - Created a distribution plan to increase circulation and use of the DIRT Report
 - Began planning a project to determine the economic cost to the economy of damages to underground infrastructure in BC.
 - This formal "Report to Members" highlighting achievements made against the strategic priorities was sent to all members of the Alliance in December 2014.
- A periodic e-blast interface was implemented to send out safety updates to members and partners.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5

Expand and deliver the Communication and Education Program. Establish self-sufficiency for the Dig Safe BC Workshop series with the goal to lessen the volunteer time requirements from Board members and/or stakeholders for organizing, promoting and planning the sessions.

- Secured resources from BC Gaming to support the Dig Safe BC Workshop sessions
- Held a large **BCCGA** contractor breakfast in April in Surrey, BC.
- Partnered with **Spectra Energy**, **Kinder Morgan** and **Fortis BC** to deliver smaller targeted contractor breakfasts throughout the province during Safe Digging Month.
- Delivered an ongoing speaker series to industry, community and associations regarding safe dig practice and underground safety.
- Trained a dedicated contractor to lead Dig Safe BC Workshop sessions.
- Held a large Dig Safe BC Workshop session on November 13, 2014 in Victoria, BC.
- Commenced preliminary work to explore the possibility of a Dig Safe BC Workshop session in Dawson Creek in 2015.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5 [CONT'D]

- Commenced preliminary work, under the auspice of the Pipeline Safety Committee, to explore conveying a **BCCGA** certification for third-party Ground Disturbance Level 2 courses.
- Developed, under the auspices of the Communication and Education Committee, collateral materials and strategies to stabilize and sustain the Dig Safe BC Workshop series and to reduce the burden on volunteers.
- Secured Continuing Education Units (CEUs) through the Environmental Operators Certificate Program (EOCP) for the Dig Safe BC Workshop sessions.
- Completed a successful damage prevention month campaign in April, including promotional pieces and proclamations to mayors and councils.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 6

Further enhance the Locator Certification program delivery model to define program responsibilities, annual program frequency and locations, educators, curriculum maintenance, establishing locator certification and long term program sustainability.

- 8 utility locate course sessions were held throughout the year, reaching approximately 60 participants. Three more sessions are already booked for the Winter/Spring period for 2015.
- The Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC (**ASTTBC**) is currently pursuing technical trade status for the course on the Alliance's behalf.
- The **BC Municipal Safety Association** and the **BC Construction Safety Alliance** have actively promoted the course throughout the province.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 7

Create an updated Best Practices version every 3 years, suitable for use by the excavator.

Establish a review panel and facilitate terms of reference for reviewing proposed Best Practice changes and new legislation.

- During Q1, the **BCCGA** Best Practices version 3.0 was promoted through electronic download, hard copy or e-book format.
- The Best Practice Committee contributed to the first ever, national Best Practices - version 1.0 and remains an important contributor at this table.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 8

Work with our members to achieve **One Call** legislation in BC. Develop a comprehensive multi-stakeholder strategy, scope of focus and a dedicated committee to address this priority.

- The **BCCGA** applied for special project funding from **WorkSafe BC** to fund the exploration of **One Call** legislation in BC.
- A task group was established and a consultant was hired to lead the exploration process.
- The **BCCGA** is currently reviewing the effects of legislation change in Ontario, evaluating tactics and practice, with the goal of achieving a similar result in BC.
- The task group's report should be released early next year.



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