

SCREENINGS



The Publication of the **BC Stone, Sand & Gravel Association**

FALL 2019

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Aggregates Build BC



BCSSGA Mission Statement

TO ENCOURAGE the formulation of Government policies that support investment in the sustainable development of British Columbia's Aggregate Resource.

TO PROVIDE a network for the effective exchange of information within the Aggregate Industry throughout British Columbia.

TO COMMUNICATE the economic importance and environmentally responsible nature of the Aggregate Industry to the Public and to Government.

TO PROMOTE the exchange of information between the various mining-related associations throughout Canada.

TO PROVIDE cost effective services to a broad range of Industry Members within British Columbia.

Current BCSSGA Committees

COMMITTEE NAME	CHAIR	OTHER MEMBERS
Government Relations	Tyson Craiggs	Dan Allard Barry McLean Dani Miller Barry Chalmers Derek Holmes
Safety Committee	David Rogalsky	Mike Wikdahl Nikki Keith Rick Kovach Nelson Tome
Sustainability Committee	Mike McDonald	Kevin Tokarek Kevin Spent Dan Allard Jeff Adams Keith Meldrum
Membership Committee	Trevor Isaac	Jeff Adams Rick Kovach Todd James Erwin Spletzer Rick Hannah

Summer 2019 Meeting Update

The BCSSGA hosted a meeting open to the members on July 11th, 2019 in Chilliwack, BC featuring presentations by the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, the Industry Training Authority (Mining Sector Advisory Group) and Metro Vancouver. Find out more about the presentations following.

EMPR Update: New Audit Unit Established for Mining

Karina Sangha from the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources presented the Ministry Update on the new Audit Unit. Delivering on the government's promise, EMPR have established an independent oversight unit for mining through the establishment of a Mine Audits and Effectiveness Unit (the Audit Unit).

The Audit Unit is tasked with conducting audits to assess the effectiveness of the Ministry's regulatory regime in ensuring human health and safety and protecting the environment. Each audit will generally focus on assessing the effectiveness of specific requirements outlined in the Ministry's legislation, regulations, policy documents, or permits.

The Audit Unit will seek to understand how the requirements are working in practice, based on multiple information sources, including (but not limited to): compliance data, interviews, and cross-jurisdictional comparisons.

Each audit will culminate in a public report with practical recommendations for the Ministry's continuous improvement in regulatory oversight.

Please note that the Audit Unit's function and procedures are still under development and the Ministry is continuing to welcome questions and comments from BCSSGA members to further shape the Unit.

Mining Sector Advisory Group Presentation by Industry Training Authority

The ITA presentation was delivered by Cara Lenoir. In addition to the highlights below, during the presentation, a summary was provided about how members of the BCSSGA are participating in apprenticeship training.

ITA Overview

- Various programs are available to increase access to trades training for youth, women, and Indigenous peoples.
- 20 Apprenticeship Advisors to support apprentices and employers
- Four Industry Relations Advisors to gather input and feedback from industry about changes to trade programs

Mining Sector Advisory Group — New membership recruitment

ITA manages 9 Sector Advisory Groups, including mining. The purpose of the sector advisory groups is to:

- Identify industry needs for skilled trades in the mining regions
- Provide input on labour market information presented by the province
- Recommend innovative solutions for trades training in the mining sector
- Other initiatives may include increasing the participation of Indigenous peoples and women in trades training within the mining sector
- The BCSSGA and its members are invited to participate

Metro Vancouver's presentation examined how biosolids build healthy soils. To discover more about this topic, read the full article on page 8.



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BCSSGA AGM & Spring Conference

This May the BCSSGA launched its inaugural AGM and Spring Conference at Predator Ridge in beautiful Vernon, BC. Attendees of the AGM and Spring Conference enjoyed a weekend of golfing, networking, activities, a tradeshow, and industry presentations.

Speakers included Brent Morrey from the Global Aggregates Information Network; Norm Cheesman with updates from the Ontario Stone Sand and Gravel Association; updates from the Alberta Sand & Gravel Association President Dale Soetaert; Kevin Poole, Manager of Economic Development and Tourism Vernon; Assistant EMPR Deputy Minister Peter Robb of Mines Competitiveness & Authorization Division; and Assistant Deputy Minister, Compliance Management & Enforcement Nathaniel Amann-Blake presented A Ministry Update with the Mines Competitiveness and Authorizations Division and the Health, Safety and Enforcement Division.



EMPR Deputy Minister Dave Nikolejsin was a key speaker, as well as presenting the first ever EMPR Community Service Award to Sandhill Materials Inc.

Two time Grey Cup Champion BC Lions player Angus Reid closed the festivities as the keynote speaker, delivering a passionate speech on the importance of commitment, durability and dependability.

Save the date for the next BCSSGA AGM and Spring Conference at Predator Ridge, Vernon BC — **May 5th, 2020!**



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Spotlight on EMPR Deputy Minister's Community Service Award Winner: Sandhill Materials

This past May Sandhill Materials won the inaugural Deputy Minister's Community Service Award, presented at the BCSSGA AGM and Spring Conference in Predator Ridge, Vernon BC. Sandhill resource has played an important role in the development of large private sector infrastructure development in Canada.

Currently employing 50 workers directly, with additional technical and administrative support provided by Arthon Industries Ltd, Sandhill has been a proud BCSSGA member since 2005 with a long history in British Columbia's aggregate sector.

The Sandhill aggregate resource is a 267-hectare property in close proximity to port facilities with ice-free, sheltered, deep-water passage. The material is hard with good grading and separation for use as high-quality aggregates for concrete, asphalt, and construction. The Sandhill property has two separate and distinct resources: natural sand and gravel, and quarry rock. The resource holds a confirmed total of 112 million tonnes of in-situ sand and gravel along with an estimated 400 million tonnes of in-situ quarry rock.

The History of Sandhill

Located in Kitimat, BC in the 1950's Sandhill was an integral component of the construction of the Alcan aluminum smelter and townsite development. In 1951, Alcan initiated the \$500 million Alcan aluminum smelter project, the largest public-private partnership in Canada at that time. Alcan's engineer referred to Sandhill as "Alcan's million-dollar baby."

Sixty seven years later, in 2018 with a positive final investment decision, LNG Canada moved forward on the construction of a liquified natural gas export facility in Kitimat to allow the export of Canadian liquified natural gas to the Asian market. At \$40 billion, this is the largest private-sector infrastructure project in the history of Canada. Sandhill provides the general fill, structural fill, bedding material, and various specialized manufactured products for the project.



Q&A with Keith Meldrum, Special Projects Director at Sandhill Materials

Q: What sets the aggregate industry apart from the rest of the province/what are the benefits of running an aggregate business in Kitimat and in British Columbia?

Keith: Aggregates are a critically important part of construction and infrastructure development in British Columbia. The aggregate industry is a highly technical industry and mining and extracting aggregates requires comprehensive health and safety and environmental management programs to ensure the safety of workers and protection of the environment.

Operating an aggregate business in Kitimat offers access to large volumes of extremely high-grade material in support of development projects throughout northwestern British Columbia. Kitimat is also in close proximity to port facilities with ice-free, sheltered, deep-water passage.

Q: Why is contributing to the community around you important to Sandhill Materials?

Keith: Sandhill Materials' corporate philosophy is we are part of our community and feel that a stronger community is a healthier community. The Sandhill resource has been an integral part of economic development to Kitimat and the surrounding area for nearly 70 years.

Sandhill Materials employs a large number of local Kitimat workers, Terrace workers, and workers from the Haisla First Nation. As the Sandhill resource has been a significant part of the local economic community for many years, it is very important to Sandhill Materials to give back to the community.

Q: Why was Sandhill nominated for the Community Service Award?

Keith: Sandhill Materials was nominated for its depth of community support and long-standing relationship with the community. Sandhill Materials has a history of ongoing financial support and in-kind contributions to the local community as well as a strong relationship with members of the Haisla First Nation.

Q: What community-based efforts is your organization most proud of?

Keith: Sandhill Materials has had the honour to be part of a number of community efforts and it is hard to identify a single one. We are pleased to have been part of the construction of the new St. Anthony's School playground. We were also pleased to support the Tamatik Status of Women's Angel Tree program; a wonderful program that provides Christmas gifts for children up to 17 years old from low-income families from Kitimat and the Kitimaat (Haisla First Nation) Village, as well as support the Annual Kitimaat Open Basketball Tournament.

New President Profile Tyson Craiggs

Newly elected President of the BC Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association (BCSSGA), Tyson Craiggs brings a lifetime of experience in aggregates to the role.

When Tyson and his two siblings were just kids, his father started a lesser known but thriving aggregate company and 35 years later, it's a family affair that prides itself on a strong and stable customer base built on the core value of good relationships.

However central to his life aggregates were, Tyson excelled in football as a teenager and took a brief respite from the industry to pursue his academic and athletic goals. He received a football scholarship from the University of Saskatchewan where he played in two Vanier Cups and went on to pursue professional football with the BC Lions.

As a linebacker for four years there, Tyson accomplished the ultimate milestone in the Canadian Football League: winning a Grey Cup in 2006. A couple of years later would mark the end of Tyson's proud football career and his return to aggregates.

His return has shown no less passion and drive. Feeling like the industry was suffering from stagnation and wanting to see a change in how the aggregate industry was considered by government in decision-making, Tyson joined the Board of Directors for the BCSSGA in 2013. He worked his way up through the succession process of the Board to

become third vice-president, second vice-president, first vice-president and, finally, now President.

As President of BCSSGA, Tyson wants to see a doubling of the Association's membership which will lend greater weight to the Association's voice in its advocacy efforts for its membership and provide even more value for sponsorship.

He is actively participating in other Association events to give the BCSSGA a face and a name to those in the industry who may not know about it. He and the Government Relations Committee regularly meet with government officials in Victoria to voice the concerns and recommendations of the Association's membership. He has already made huge strides in advocating for better health and safety practices in the industry; for example, in the last year, the

BCSSGA have worked with the BC Construction Safety Alliance (BCCSA) to develop a handbook version of the Mining Health and Safety Reclamation Code specific to the aggregate industry and endorsed by the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources.

Tyson has a year and a half left in his term as President and his goal for his time at the helm of the Association is to reform the five-year mine pit permit renewal to make it more streamlined and save companies precious resources. His vision is to do justice to the work of the producers and past presidents and make it easier to be an operator in the province. Above all, he wants to continue to support and promote good operators in this industry; after all, this industry is family to him.



Tyson (right), with Alberta Sand and Gravel Association President Dale Soetaert at the BCSSGA 2019 AGM in Vernon, BC

From Gravel Pit to Regional Park: How Metro Vancouver's Biosolids Build Healthy Soils

"The project resulted in the creation of a park which is aesthetically pleasing, provides wildlife habitat and offers recreational opportunities..."

– SYLVIS Environmental

Twenty years ago, a former gravel mine in Aldergrove, British Columbia, sat barren with little hope of ever becoming fertile again. The 12-hectare site was beyond human use and was not a place where plant or animal life could thrive.

That's where Metro Vancouver's biosolids came in.

Biosolids are a slow-release alternative to conventional chemical fertilizer. They are recovered from Metro Vancouver's wastewater treatment plants, and are treated to eliminate harmful bacteria and to reduce odours. The final product is an earth-like material full of nutrients and organic matter that improves soil health and water retention, helping plants grow.

Aldergrove Regional Park

Reclamation of the Aldergrove gravel pit, about 70 kilometres east of Vancouver, began in 1998. In the interest of protecting the environment, including the nearby Abbotsford-Sumas aquifer, Metro Vancouver consulted with the public throughout the project and worked with a qualified professional to ensure the biosolids were being applied appropriately.

Careful research and monitoring before and after the project showed that there were no negative effects on groundwater or surface water after the biosolids application.

Fast forward to today, and that formerly barren pit has been transformed into a beautiful nature park, filled with lush, green vegetation and a wetland area created as part of the reclamation. Aldergrove Regional Park now offers many opportunities for people to connect with nature, through its extensive walking, cycling and equestrian trails, as well as its park programs and special events.

Cont'd on page following

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Metro Vancouver Parks images

Mine Reclamation

Metro Vancouver has been using biosolids as a fertilizer safely and responsibly both within the region and throughout the province for over 25 years. Working with B.C.'s mining community, Metro Vancouver has helped turn more than 800 hectares of disturbed sites into thriving habitats.

Lands impacted by mining often have very little topsoil and insufficient organic matter and nutrients to support vegetation. Biosolids effectively address these challenges and help build healthy soil. The Granby Tailings near Princeton was one of the first projects where Metro Vancouver biosolids were used to create soil to grow plants on mine tailings. This eliminated erosion and blowing dust, which had been chronic problems for nearby residents, and the area has since been reclaimed for recreation, cattle and wildlife use.

Rigorous Quality Control

To protect human health and the environment, biosolids are treated to standards set by the B.C. Organic Matter Recycling Regulation (OMRR), which governs the recycling of organic matter on land, including biosolids and compost.

“We haven’t compromised on anything; why should you?”



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Metro Vancouver follows a rigorous quality control process that focuses on source control, treatment, monitoring and best management practices. Metro Vancouver enforces sewer use bylaws and works closely with the industrial and commercial sectors to control substances entering its five wastewater treatment plants, which prevents contaminants from ending up in biosolids. Biosolids are strictly monitored at every stage of production – Metro Vancouver tests its biosolids more than 9,000 times annually, which is significantly more than required by the OMRR.

Before biosolids are applied for reclamation, Metro Vancouver looks carefully at the individual site and works with experienced, qualified professionals to develop a plan tailored to each project.

Nutrifor

Resource recovery is a cornerstone of Metro Vancouver's management philosophy. The highest and best use of the nutrients in wastewater is to return them safely to the environment. Metro Vancouver's biosolids are available under the brand name Nutrifor. To learn more, visit www.nutrifor.ca or email nutrifor@metrovancover.org.












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Upcoming Events

Members will be notified for sign up and registration dates through our Weekly News and Association Updates, and you can always check out events on our website at www.gravelbc.ca.

Save the Date: Members Meeting

Our next Members Meeting will be held at the Fairmont Empress in Victoria, November 21st, 2020

See you there!

Don't miss our next AGM, which will be held on May 5-7, 2020 at Predator Ridge Resort in beautiful Vernon, BC.



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