

President's Message:



We are well in to 2012 and there doesn't seem to be any sign of a slow down, at least not for me and not for your IFMA board either. We are busy preparing and organizing for what will be an exciting year for our association. Our variety of luncheons, tours and presentations, annual fundraising events like the golf tournament and the silent auction and of course our professional credential programs are elevating our FM Profession to a new level.

This year we are trying a couple of new ideas that we are excited about. Our April event will be a "mini tradeshow" of sorts. We recognize the value our Associate members bring to our association and it's time we had an event that shows them off! This is a chance for our Associate members to "get in the faces" of the Professional members and guests and tell us about their organizations. For the Professional members and guests, it's a one stop shop! I know a lot of our Professional members (including me) use the IFMA Membership Directory to locate suppliers and vendors who belong to our association. This event is about making face to face connections between the two!!

We are also introducing IFMA's newest credential, the Sustainable Facility Professional (SFP) starting in March. Learn more by clicking the "[Education](#)" button above or by contacting our Education Director, Shauna McIntosh.

*...and the award for Chapter of the Year goes to...*

Yes, that's right! We will be submitting our nomination for this year's IFMA Awards of Excellence – Chapter of the Year – small Chapter (under 200)! That's if our membership stays under 200, if we keep growing this way by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012, we may have to submit our nomination for large chapter!! Either way, we would love to hear from our membership, tell us *How has the IFMA Calgary Chapter impacted your professional career?* We look forward to hearing from you and using your submissions in our application process.

We endeavour to run a transparent association and as always our board meetings are opened to you if you would like to observe. They are on the last Tuesday of every month and can be found on our events calendar.

Before closing off this month's message, I would be remiss if I did not say a special "Thank You" to all our 2012 Sponsors. We are a non profit organization and could not bring quality events and education to our membership if it were not for the kindness of all our sponsors.



Our Gold Sponsors, DIRTT Environmental Solutions (which we will have an opportunity to visit in February – looking forward to it), and ServiceMaster Clean.

Our Silver Sponsors, Element Integrated Workspace Solutions, KBM Commercial Floor Coverings, MartensGROUP LICENSED INTERIOR DESIGN, HBI Freedom to Design, McCrum's Office Furnishings and Cougar Contracting Ltd.

Our Bronze Sponsors, Sizeland Evans Interior Design, CINE-AV and Vibra-Sonic Control, and introducing our newest Corporate Sponsor, Holland Marketing.

There are still plenty of sponsorship opportunities left in all price ranges including the Educational Sponsorship. As you can see by the "DID YOU KNOW" box at the bottom of this letter – our educational program is *kind of a big deal!!* Click on the "[Sponsorship](#)" button above for more information or submit your sponsorship idea to our Sponsorship Director, Ken Rudderham!

If financial sponsorship doesn't quite work for you, no problem – volunteering your time and talents is also welcome. Please contact our Vice President, Janell Schwartz or myself, we'll be happy to give you the information you need to get you better connected in the Chapter.

Thank you for taking the time to read my message, take care of yourself!

Karen L. Voelkel



*Did you know?*

Currently, the Calgary Chapter has 18 CFM members and 20 FMP members, a total growth in our professionally accredited members of 123% since October 2009!