



**MEMBER OF COUNCIL REPORT
ON OUT-OF-PROVINCE CONFERENCE**

(To be circulated to standing committees and posted on the internet)

Councillor Michael Thompson

Name of Member of Council: _____

Name of Conference: Association of Municipal Administrators "It Starts With Us"

Location: Sydney, Nova Scotia

Date(s) Attended: 20/09/2016 to 21/09/2016

I confirm I attended the following sessions (please use additional sheet if required):

DATE	TIME	NAME OF SESSION
21/09/2016	9:00am	Keynote Speaker with Gary Anaka
21/09/2016	11:00am	Provincial Cracker Barrel
21/09/2016	1:00pm	Plenary: Immigration Panel
21/09/2016	2:00pm	Plenary: "Creative Capital Gains" with Councillor Thompson

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Member of Council Signature



Date: 20.5/16

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Association of Municipal Administrators, Nova Scotia

September 21st-23rd, 2016

Sydney Holiday Inn
300 Esplanade, Sydney NS

IT STARTS WITH US!



Hosted by Cape Breton Island Municipalities

2016 AMANS FALL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Municipalities are one of the first points of contact in their communities to promote bold new opportunities for sustainable prosperity, and are finding new and innovative ways to deliver goods and services to the community. Municipalities are not only experts in service delivery such as solid waste, recreation and public safety, their repertoire has increased to immigration, economic development, environment, wellness and attraction of key services such as doctors. The theme for this year's conference is "It Starts With Us!", and will offer sessions to give delegates practical tools, advice, and best practices to take back to their community to support growth from the grass roots!



Accommodations:

AMANS has secured a block of rooms at The Sydney Holiday Inn, at a rate of \$134/night (plus HST). These rooms will be available for booking until 4:00 pm on September 1st. To book your room please call **1-800-565-1001** or local at **1-902-562-7500** and reference the "Association of Municipal Administrators", to secure the appropriate rate. Complementary parking is available to all hotel guests. If you have mobility issues please identify these on your registration and we will work to accommodate your needs.

Registration:

Online registration will be available beginning on Wednesday August 10th 2016. There will be a member rate discount available. The Conference Planning Committee is pleased to be offering delegates a grey, long-sleeve dry fit shirt, sponsored by Grant Thornton. **In order to secure your style and size please ensure you have registered before August 26th 2016.** The option to select your style and size will be available on our online registration form.

Earlier Bird Registration – Prior to August 26th*	Registration – After August 26th*
AMA Member Discount: \$ 395.00	AMA Member Discount: \$ 510.00
Non-AMA Member: \$ 495.00	Non-AMA Member: \$ 610.00

*Prices not including HST

Room cancellation policy:

Room cancellations must be communicated to the Holiday Inn in Sydney September 13th no later than 4pm (AST).

Conference cancellation policy:

Cancellations are not accepted after September 5th at 12:00 Noon; however, substitutions can be arranged. Cancellations prior September 5th at 12:00 Noon will be accepted if received in writing or e-mail.

Contact: Andrea Jeffs – Ajeffs@amans.ca / (902) 423-2215

Conference Registration Hours

7:00pm – 8:30pm **Tuesday September 20th 2016**

8:00am – 10:00 Noon **Wednesday September 21st 2016**

8:00am – 10:00 Noon **Thursday September 22nd 2016**

Pre-Conference Day

Tuesday September 20th 2016

10:00am – 12:00pm **Integrated Property Services Council Strategic Planning Session** hosted by Property Valuation Services Corporation

12:00pm – 4:00pm **Municipal Finance Officer Session**
**Please note this requires prior registration to attend. In addition, from 9-12am there are individual sessions available*

7:00pm – 8:30pm **Registration**

7:00pm – 10:00pm **Opening Reception**

Conference Day One

Wednesday September 21st 2016

8:30am – 9:00am **Opening Ceremonies**
Mariner Ballroom A & B

9:00am – 10:30am **Keynote** with **Gary Anaka**
Mariner Ballroom A & B



Municipalities, today, are tasked with achieving more with less and are increasingly exposed to staff burnout or fatigue. Although we may be familiar with the negative

side effects of burning the candle at both ends, we often do not consider the long term impact on, one of our most precious resources, our brain. This Opening Keynote looks at simple ways you can revitalize your brain to maintain your quality of life. Gary will explore prevention for mental degeneration and dementia. This energetic and lively session will leave you buzzing about how you can best revitalize your own brain and perform at your peak! Gary Anaka is a Special Education Teacher, Author, Brain-Based Learning Facilitator, Advocate for Health and Wellness, and an inspirational Public Speaker. He is the top Brain-Based Learning facilitator in British Columbia today. This talk about the brain will be sure to leave you with a new outlook on your most valuable organ.

10:30am – 11:00am **Refreshment Break**
Lower Lobby

11:00am – 12:00pm **Provincial Cracker Barrel**
Mariner Ballroom A & B

The Cracker Barrel is structured to allow for candid conversations with a number of government departments such as the DMA & Environment. A full list of table topics will be forthcoming.

Wednesday September 21st 2016

12:00pm – 1:00pm **Lunch**
Mariner Ballroom A & B

1:00pm – 2:00pm **Plenary: Immigration Panel**
Mariner Ballroom A & B

Join us for an immigration panel moderated by Rob Calabrese, the creator of the “Cape Breton if Trump Wins” website. We will also be joined by Suzanne Ley, Executive Director of the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration; Damien Barry, an Immigration Lawyer from Sampson McPhee Law Office; and Sohaila Abdo, a Settlement Councillor from New Dawn. The panel will explore the importance of immigration in Nova Scotia with a focus on the importance of economic growth and social good. We are confident this knowledgeable panel will provide you with invaluable insights around Immigration in Nova Scotia, from a wide variety of local angles.

2:00pm – 3:00pm **Plenary “Creative Capital Gains”** with **Michael Thompson**
Mariner Ballroom A & B



Toronto City Councillor Michael Thompson will speak on culture serving as an important driver for local economic growth and development. Michael Thompson is the Chair of Toronto’s Economic Development and Culture

Committee and is currently serving in his fourth term as a City Councillor. Boasting a reputation as one of Toronto’s most dedicated municipal leaders, Michael is well-versed in a number of initiatives that illustrate how culture can drive growth and help build stronger communities. The initiatives have an emphasis on cultural-blend and how young leaders with differing backgrounds are essential to growth. Currently maintaining a network of business relationships that enhance business retention, Michael leverages these relationships in order to develop growth within his city and various sectors of the municipality. This session will leave you thinking differently about the role culture can play in your municipality.

3:00pm – 3:30pm **Refreshment Break**
Lower Lobby

Wednesday September 21st 2016

3:30pm – 4:30pm **Concurrent Session**

A) Records Management Best Practices *Cabot Room A & B*

Management of records presents interesting challenges for many municipalities. By managing information appropriately, work can be completed in a more efficient manner as members will be able to create, locate, understand and retrieve information as it is required. This talk will explore the different topics of responsibility, information security and confidentiality. In this session you will be able to learn about the best practices that are integral for proper records management. These practices are comprehensive and offer a practical in-depth approach to the governance and risk function within the organization. The take away of this session will provide terminology, defensible solutions and classification of your records. It will analyze the current issues many face with records management and opportunities to improve towards the best practices.

B) Respectful Workplace *Jackayzer Room*

A respectful workplace is one where employees are treated fairly and a sense of cooperation and empowerment is a point of pride. The importance of a respectful workplace goes beyond work ethic for employees and into health & wellness. This session will show you the importance of everyone's role in supporting the respectful workplace policy. It will provide resources for your leaders to understand how the value of a respectful workplace is linked to an organization's success. In addition to organizational success, this talk will explore on topics such as: bullying and harassment and how to prevent and cope with complex issues. This talk ensures that a respectful workplace goes beyond meeting requirements of for safety and shows the impact of employee behaviour in and outside the organization.

6:00pm **Beggar's Dinner or Breton Brewery Tour**
Fort Louisburg/364 Keltic Drive

8:00pm **Hospitality Suite**

Conference Day Two

Thursday September 22nd 2016

8:30am – 10:00am **Keynote**
Mariner Ballroom A & B

10:00am – 10:15am **Refreshment Break**
Lower Lobby

10:15am – 11:15am **Concurrent Session**

A) Cloud Services Panel *Cabot Room A & B*

Still not sure what "The Cloud" is? This session is designed to offer different views on implementing the cloud service into your municipality. Cloud services are designed to be easy and scalable to meet the needs of its users. Taking a look into saving time, boosting productivity and promoting innovation, this panel will speak about web-based email services, document collaboration services and backup solutions. We will take a look into the different types of cloud services available and in addition, discuss the popular topic of organizational privacy and "The Cloud."

B) Efficiency Nova Scotia with David Bruschetti *Jackayzer Room*

The Cape Breton Regional Municipality partnered with Efficiency Nova Scotia to hire an energy on-site manager that would be able to identify cost saving initiatives and being able to reinvest into programs, services and equipment. This talk will demonstrate how efficiency is not just about cost savings; it will show how efficiency helps promote a healthy and comfortable work environment. Efficiency Nova Scotia offers services, financial incentives and straightforward advice to help your municipality save in various ways. We will offer success stories with the relationship between David and the CBRM, and the amount they have accomplished together. Get ready to explore the advantages of onsite energy manager program for your municipality.



Thursday September 22nd 2016

11:15am – 12:15pm **AMA Board Updates and AGM**
Mariner Ballroom A & B

12:15pm – 1:15pm **Lunch**
Mariner Ballroom A & B & C

1:15pm – 1:45pm **Presenting Sponsor Telus**
Mariner Ballroom A & B



1:45pm – 2:45pm **Plenary for Big Idea, Big Successes**
Mariner Ballroom A & B

We are joined by Port of Sydney, Cabot Links & Big Spruce Brewing today for their experience on an idea that led to their big success. This panel will explore whether an idea is big or small, the idea that started it all can have rippling effects in your municipality and community. This talk will look at innovative projects that these organizations have undertaken or are currently underway. The panelists will explore the start to finish of the projects that had a greater impact on the municipality and community. The panelists will share the challenges and lessons learned

2:45pm – 3:00pm **Refreshment Break**
Lower Lobby

3:00pm – 4:00pm **Plenary "Fruitilicious" with Gary Standing**
Mariner Ballroom A & B
**Please communicate any food allergies beforehand*

In this healthy living session with Gary Standing, you will be able to explore the wonderful world of exotic fruits and vegetables. This interactive program will explore the nutritional availability within your local stores. Be prepared for a tasteful journey around the world with different foods of nutritional value. This session will allow you to take back healthy alternatives to your municipality and begin exploring the different food cultures right within your reach. Be polite, take a bite and enjoy this interactive "Fruitilicious" discussion.

Thursday September 22nd 2016

6:00pm – 6:30pm **President's Banquet Reception**
Lower Lobby

6:30pm – 9:00pm **Annual Banquet**
Mariner Ballroom A & B & C

9:00pm **Hospitality Suite**

Conference Day Three

Friday September 23rd 2016

8:30am – 9:30am **Concurrent Session**

A) Public Speaking Session
Cabot Room A & B

Looking to improve your public speaking skills? Look no further, this session will offer tips on how to engage your audience, regardless of the situation. Whether you are speaking to council, a small committee or at a public meeting, this workshop will give you the tips to help get your message across effectively. You will learn about the right information to give, your hand gestures and execution of voice. After this session, the tools and resources gained will provide you with the ability to execute your interaction articulately, engaging and confidently.

B) Provincial Procurement Session
Mariner Ballroom A & B

Join us for a presentation on various provincial procurement offers that are accessible to municipalities. This session will provide you with the latest on new and existing standing offers that your municipality can take advantage of, and will offer guidance on different, unique and sustainable solutions for the various business needs of your municipality. Exploring the different tenders and current standing offers, this session will be sure to leave you with an abundance of information to take back to your municipality.

Conference Day Three Continued

Friday September 23rd 2016

9:30am – 9:45am Refreshment Break

Lower Lobby

9:45am – 10:45am Keynote with Bill Carr

Mariner Ballroom A & B

As an award winning humourist and communications expert, Bill Carr has been engaging people for over 30 years with his talks. He will offer insight into the challenges we face on a daily basis with a fresh perspective that will be sure to make you laugh. This talk will make you think about what really counts and how to use your own strengths to achieve the change you are looking for. Bill engages his audience through his delivery on positivity and creativity. A multi-media artist, actor and comedian, Bill is heavily involved in dedicating his free time to volunteer for a number of good causes within the Nova Scotia community. Join us for our closing key note that will leave you reflecting on your own personal well-being, innate human self and allow you to understand who you are in a greater social context.



11:00am Closing Remarks & Grand Prize

Closing Remarks and Grand Prize Raffle
(must be present to win).