

Full Steam Ahead in 2014

BY [CRPADMIN](#) • JANUARY 27, 2014 • [CALGARY METROPOLITAN PLAN](#), [ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT](#), [GIS](#), [PARTNERSHIP/PLAN](#), [PROJECTS](#), [REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION](#), [TEAM](#)



Collaboration, regional growth and water in the Calgary Region were the themes at the 2014 budget and strategy retreat for the CRP's [Board of Directors](#) in the Kananaskis last week.

New and returning Board members used the retreat as an opportunity to discuss the steps to building a successful region as described by the new Chair of the Calgary Regional Partnership, Barry Williamson: <https://api.soundcloud.com/tracks/130671992>

The two-day retreat was spent discussing the CRP 2014/15 [budget and work plans](#), current events, opportunities and projects. Guest speaker [Alan Wallis](#), an associate professor at the University of Denver and specialist on emerging forms of metropolitan regional governance, facilitated discussions on strategy and growth.

The retreat started with a bus ride from Cochrane to the Kananaskis. The Board and staff took a double decker bus provided by [Alexander Dennis Inc.](#) The bus was one of several options the CRP is considering for its regional transportation network.



A major outcome of the retreat was the Board approval of the 2014/15 [CRP Budget and work plans](#). The approval meant positive benefit to the Calgary Region with projects moving forward such as regional open data, transit oriented development toolbox, regional transit advocacy and regional marketing.

Calgary Councillor Gian-Carlo Carra shared his thoughts on why the budget was widely accepted.

<https://api.soundcloud.com/tracks/130674052>

Another focus of the retreat was strengthening the CRP's collaborations with other Metropolitan Regions with a Board-approved metro region work plan. The Calgary Region will work with North American metro regions to build and enhance economic competitiveness.

The responses to the outcomes of the retreat were overwhelmingly positive from all members and staff. Highlights included approval of the budget and work plans, strengthening the relationships between Board members, and gaining fresh ideas and perspective thanks to the case studies and discussions brought by Alan Wallis.

<https://api.soundcloud.com/tracks/130672172>

2014 is poised to be a prosperous and exciting year for the Calgary Region. The Board retreat was one step in making that happen.