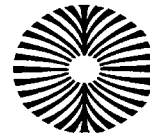


ON TRAC

Transportation, Regulatory Affairs and Communication



THE VAN HORNE INSTITUTE

Issue 29, Winter 2004

In this Issue:

Bob Brawn Becomes Chairman, Art Smith Becomes Chairman Emeritus

At the Annual General Meeting of the Institute, held on June 1, 2004, the membership welcomed Bob Brawn as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Van Horne Institute.

Bob Brawn brings forward a wealth of experience in the transportation industry, including his current role as Chairman Emeritus and Director of the Board of Acclaim Energy Trust. In addition, he serves on the Board of Directors of the Calgary Airport Authority, the Grande Cache Coal Corporation and chairs the Transportation Committee of the Alberta Economic Development Authority. As one of his first duties, Mr. Brawn commented on the contribution that Art Smith has made to the Institute over his term as Chairman. Art Smith received a plaque with a bronze relief of Van Horne in recognition of the membership's appreciation for his inspirational guidance as Chair. It was recognized that Mr. Smith will have a continuing role at the Institute as Chairman Emeritus, and he will continue to oversee the development of the pre-feasibility study on the institution of a high-speed rail link between Calgary, Red Deer and Edmonton (see further article).

Arthur Smith took the vision of the Van Horne Institute and delivered the message that there is a need for education and public policy research in transportation in this country. Arthur has also agreed to continue to work towards the development of funding for public policy research in transportation and regulated industries.

Skills Development in the Transportation Sector

On November 10th, the Van Horne participated in a round table discussion hosted by Transport Canada. The discussion focused on skills development issues affecting the transportation sector. Participants from industry associations, academic institutions, transportation sector councils, and other key stakeholder groups discussed outreach initiatives, demand for skilled labour, recruitment, training and education, and challenges and opportunities in the industry. On behalf of the institute, Don Brownie, co-founding member of the Institute, presented a discussion that highlighted the Institute's initiatives in partnership with our affiliated post secondary institutions to promote educational programs in the sector. In addition, he outlined challenges experienced by members in the field of skills development, hiring and maintaining a strong workforce. Results of the discussion will be provided to the institute and used in the development of an action plan for skills development in the transportation industry.

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The Van Horne Institute has been established to address important transportation and related regulatory issues confronting industry and government, in North America and internationally, through education and research. The Institute was incorporated federally in 1991 as a not-for-profit organization, and was granted affiliation with the University of Calgary in January 1992, the University of Alberta in 1998, and with SAIT in January 2000.

New members

Since our last newsletter we are pleased to announce that Siemens Canada Limited and Bell Canada Enterprises have joined the Institute. Joining the Board of Directors from Bell is Stephen Markey, Senior Vice President and Chief Government Relations. Mr. Markey has owned several businesses over the years, focused on public policy and public affairs. He has worked as a Senior Vice President, Canadian Airlines International and as Vice President of Air Canada. Steve Markey has recently joined Bell Canada as Senior Vice President and Chief Government Relations Officer.

Siemens Canada Limited has also recently joined the Institute. Also joining the Board of Directors is Robert Weber, Vice President, Transportation Systems. Mr. Weber has worked with Siemens, Germany where he was General Manager for turnkey business for the regions of America, Africa, Middle East, Turkey, India and Pakistan. His focus has been in the rail bound transportation area, where he gained significant international experience. He brings to Siemens Canada Limited over 33 years of experience in General Management positions in sales and marketing, and both product business and large scale infrastructure business.

The Institute would also like to welcome Sheryl-Ann Stanjeck, AVP, Telus to the Board of Directors. Sheryl-Ann joined Telus in the fall of 2004 after a 16-year career with The Document Company Xerox. While at Xerox, she held a number of roles involving Western Canada Business Operations, and national responsibilities in the I.T. Group and Marketing. Prior to her current position with Telus, Sheryl-Ann was the Director of Business Solutions, Alberta, with a focus on Utilities and Transportation.

Also joining the Board from FortisAlberta is Cynthia Johnston, Vice President, Corporate Services and Regulatory. Cynthia most recently held the position of Vice President, Operations at TransAlta Corporation. Prior to that time, she held various positions of increased responsibility at TransAlta. Cynthia has over 18 years experience in sales and marketing, customer service, business development, operations and regulation in the Alberta electric industry.

Small Airport Challenges Workshop

On November 17 & 18, 2004 we co-hosted, with WESTAC, a round table workshop discussing challenges of small airports; this event was a great success. Over 70 delegates joined us from Airports, Councils, Government, and Industry across Canada to discuss best practices, partnerships and federal policies and practices. Dr. David Gillen from Wilfrid Laurier University opened the workshop with an engaging talk on the Canadian airline industry. The proceedings will be available on our website in the New Year and we look forward to further work on this important Canadian topic.

Van Horne Institute: Key Player in University Transportation Community

In an article that appeared in The University of Calgary's October 15th issue of On Campus Weekly (vol 2 #5), the Van Horne Institute was credited with playing an important role in the University's Transportation community. Head of the Civil Engineering Department, Professor Tom Brown stated that The University of Calgary has a strong transportation engineering group, of which the Institute is part. The article introduced Dr. Richard Tay as the University's first Chair in Road Safety in the department of Civil Engineering. He has come to the U of C from a broad background in road policy, and is currently interested in road safety research within the scope of modeling, public policy, and transport economics.

High-speed Rail Study

The high-speed rail study was presented to the Board of Directors of the Alberta Economic Development Authority (AEDA) on November 10, 2004. The President, accompanied by Professor Alain Verbeke, holder of the McCaig Chair in International Business at the Haskayne School of Business and Teresa Watts, Project Manager for the high-speed rail study, made the presentation. The Ministers of Economic Development and Transportation for the Province of Alberta had received the report on October 6, 2004 and referred it to the AEDA to review and make recommendations to the Government of Alberta as to the next steps. At the presentation, the views of the Institute were canvassed along with a number of other questions relating to the long-term economic viability of the project. The Institute offered the AEDA Board its ongoing co-operation and support.

Summer 2005 Internship Program

The Centre for Regulatory affairs will again be involved in an internship program for students in regulatory economics. The call for students will be sent out early in the New Year and this year we will be posting student's resumes electronically for organizations that are interested in hiring. In 2004 we had 4 students hired out of this program, and we look forward to exceeding that number this year.



Inventory of Transportation Research

A number of months ago the President embarked upon a program to meet with the Deans and Associate Deans of all of the faculties at the University of Calgary to discuss research that they have undertaken that may have either a direct or indirect bearing on transportation. The purpose of these discussions was to ultimately develop an inventory of transportation research being carried out throughout the University. Progress has been slow, but it has been very interesting to discover the wide variety of topics that are being researched across the University that have some transportation component. While the research is not yet complete, one of the benefits of this mission will be to create an awareness in one part of the University as to the nature of research that is being carried out in another. We hope that this study will be completed in the late spring 2005.

Careers in Logistics Website Launch www.careersinlogistics.ca

In Conjunction with the Calgary Logistics Council, we are happy to announce the upcoming release of a Careers in Logistics Website. The site will be launched on January 19, 2005 at Supply Chain Management. For more information on the site or the launch, please contact the Van Horne Office directly.

2005 Projects

Look for these and more projects in 2005

- Northern Information Day
- Northern Transportation Conference
- Alberta SuperNet Conference
- Reality Check 2005
- Distinguished Speaker Series

VAN HORNE INSTITUTE MEMBERS

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Alberta Energy & Utilities Board
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* Denotes new members.

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