

## 2022 President's Message



Hello members and welcome back to another year with GFOA Alberta!

As the pandemic continued to be a factor, the past year did provide some challenges for the organization, but we as a Board and Administration have remained focused and are determined to provide some new and exciting services for our members in the upcoming year. Before moving onto some of the initiatives we are looking at for 2022, I would like to quickly reflect on a few highlights from 2021.

2021 ~ Let's Move Forward Together – Finding Silver Linings Through Adversity

At the 2021 Annual General Meeting we welcomed new Board Members, Milap Petigara (City of Edmonton), Director at Large and Travis Nosko (Town of Morinville) moved into the Treasurer position as Gene Peskens resigned from the Board.

We had anticipated hosting a hybrid in-person/virtual conference however circumstances forced us to make the tough decision to move to a strictly virtual conference. Thanks to the support of our sponsors, the quick action of our speakers to prepare virtual sessions, conference committee dedication and guidance and support from our quick acting GFOA Administration, the virtual conference was a success.

GFOA Administration spent time in early 2021 behind the scenes with new accounting software, a Microsoft 365 transition and implementing a SharePoint database where the Board, Task Force members, and Committees can access meeting agendas, minutes, policies, etc. in an easy and hassle-free manner.

Those are just a few of the many items and activities that took place throughout 2021 but are worthy of mentioning.

As we move into 2022, we are excited about some of the many initiatives that are on the horizon. Here is a quick list of some of the priority items the Board is working on:

- 2022 In Person Conference, Tradeshow and Golf Tournament to be held in the fall at the Hyatt Regency in Calgary – This year's theme is *Energizing the Future*
- Launch of the GFOA Member Forum – currently in beta testing
- Sponsorship Package Update
- Online Course Development with a Post-Secondary Institution – Municipal Finance Certificate Program
- Live Webinars featuring speakers Gord McIntosh, and others
- Regional In-Person Professional Development and Networking Sessions
- Administrative Restructure
- On-line Forum through the GFOA website

Please watch for announcements with more detailed information and specific dates and times as we roll out these programs.

I would also like to take this time to remind you all of some of our services that are currently offered, that you can access now on the GFOA Website.

**On Demand Courses** – There are several courses available through our On Demand site that you and/or your staff can sign up for and earn CPE Credits on your own time at your own pace. They include budget planning, leadership principles, long term financial planning, municipal fundamentals and more.

**HISA Program** – GFOA Alberta has partnered with Alberta Municipalities to offer a High Interest Savings Account option that is tailored to specifically to meet municipal investment requirements. They are liquid funds that are secure and offer competitive interest rates. Enrollment packages are available on the website.

**Shared Document Database** – Through the members only tab, you can access the document database that is available on the website, where members can access and/or add policies, bylaws, best practices, RFP's, etc. that may be relevant or of interest to other municipalities.

**Career Postings** – GFOA Alberta is a great place to submit and look for career postings. We offer special rates to members.

**Social Media** – Did you know that in addition to the website, you can also connect with and get updates on GFOA Alberta through LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook?

Many of these services are only available through the members only tab on the

website so please remember to renew your membership for 2022. For the 2022 renewal, the Board made some slight increases to the membership fees to keep us current with similar organizations and to offset inflationary pressures. Membership fees are due for the 2022 calendar year and can be paid online.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to say that we are excited and looking forward to the upcoming year and plans that are in place as we are here to serve you the members and want to provide valuable services to all of you. We are also always open to any suggestions or ideas you may have so please reach out anytime. I wish you all a wonderful year and hope to see many of you at the 2022 Conference in Calgary.

Stay Safe and Healthy Everyone!

Jennifer Place  
**GFOA Alberta President**



---

*Copyright © 2022 GFOA, All rights reserved.*  
GFOA Alberta Chapter <http://www.gfoa.ab.ca>

**Our mailing address is:**

GFOA  
PO Box 88039 Rabbit Hill RPO  
Edmonton, Alberta T6R 0M5  
Canada

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).