Message from the Executive Director

Before we get going, I must tell you that science is amazing, I am reading a book about anti-gravity…it is impossible to put down!

Conference season is officially underway, pick any day over the next three months and there is a conference you can attend. However, I am pleased to share that registration is now open for the 2026 GFOA Alberta Annual Conference, taking place May 19 to 22 in downtown Calgary at the Hyatt. This is the only conference you need to attend, especially as a CPA looking for the post-designation credits. The program is shaping up to be another strong one, with timely topics, engaging speakers, and valuable opportunities to connect with peers from across the region and afar (our reach is growing!).

Before looking ahead, I would like to thank everyone who has already renewed their GFOA Alberta membership. It has been great to see such strong engagement from municipalities across the province and especially encouraging to see how many have chosen to opt in to the partner membership with GFOA of the United States and Canada, further expanding access to professional development, research, and networking opportunities. Anyone looking for more information regarding the benefits of joining both associations please contact us or GFOA.

New this year, we are pleased to offer a pre-conference workshop hosted by Deloitte, focused on PSAB 1202. AI informs me that PSAB 1202 aims to enhance the presentation of financial statements in the public sector, ensuring improved accountability and transparency. This applies to fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2026. This CPD-eligible session takes place in the morning on Tuesday, May 19, and provides an excellent opportunity to arrive early, deepen your technical knowledge, and set the stage for the conference. I encourage anyone involved in presenting financial statements to their council to consider this session.
We will also kick off the conference on Tuesday with our popular GFOA Alberta Golf Tournament at Elbow Springs, offering a relaxed and enjoyable way to connect with colleagues before the formal program begins. **Come for the workshop and stay for the golf. (Sheila wrote this, I say come for the golf and stay for the conference)**

The main conference programming runs Wednesday morning through Friday at noon, and we have secured group rates at three downtown hotels included the Hyatt where the conference will be held, all within easy walking distance of the conference venue, to help make planning and travel as smooth as possible.

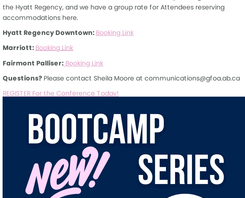
Beyond the conference, GFOA Alberta continues to offer a strong lineup of professional development opportunities, including upcoming webinars, hands-on bootcamps, and our member-only Municipal Discussion Forums, which provide valuable peer-to-peer learning and discussion.

If your team is looking for in-house or customized training, GFOA Alberta is always happy to help coordinate sessions tailored to your organization's needs.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support. I look forward to connecting with many of you at upcoming sessions and in Calgary this May.

Regards,

Rick Wotkiw
Executive Director



Registration is OPEN!

Join municipal finance professionals from across Alberta and beyond for full days of learning, connection, and inspiration at the GFOA Alberta 2026 Annual Conference, taking place in the heart of downtown Calgary.

This year's conference follows a Tuesday to Friday format, giving you a smoother travel experience and full learning days.

NEW! Pre-Conference Workshop (hosted by Deloitte)

Start your conference experience early on May 19th with a CPD-eligible pre-conference **PSAB 1202** workshop, delivered by Deloitte. This optional session offers focused learning before the main conference begins and provides an opportunity to earn additional professional development credits.

Come for the Workshop, stay for the golf!

After the pre-conference workshop, we will head over the beautiful Elbow Springs Golf Club for the annual tournament. This is a relaxed and fun way to connect with peers and partners before the conference gets underway. Add the workshop and golf when you register for the conference, simple.

Book Your Hotel

This year, we've partnered with three hotels to ensure your stay is comfortable and convenient. All hotels are within easy walking distance of the Hyatt Regency, and we have a group rate for Attendees reserving accommodations here.

Hyatt Regency Downtown: Booking Link

Marriott: Booking Link

Fairmont Palliser: Booking Link

Questions? Please contact Sheila Moore at communications@gfoa.ab.ca

REGISTER for the Conference Today

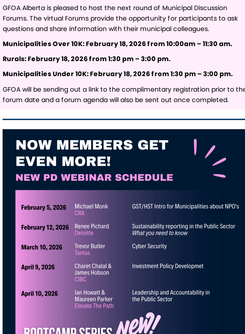
REGISTER for the Bootcamp Series!

📢 NEW For 2026: GFOA Alberta Bootcamp Series Starts in January!
You asked for more hands-on, skill-building training and we listened. Register for one or all four! You can join late or fit whatever aligns with your schedule, it is all practical and helpful information.

💻 **Excelling in Excel (4-Part Series) PART TWO Feb 10**
From fundamentals to power-user skills using municipal finance examples. Learn to structure data, build formulas, analyze information, and take first steps toward workflow automation.

🤖 **Everyday AI (4-Part Series) PART TWO Feb 24**
A gentle, beginner-friendly introduction to AI for everyday life. Build confidence, explore safe and responsible use, and understand how AI can support communication, organization, and creativity.
These bootcamps are short, accessible, and member-requested, perfect for individuals and teams.

REGISTER TODAY



SAVE THE DATE: Municipal Forums 2026

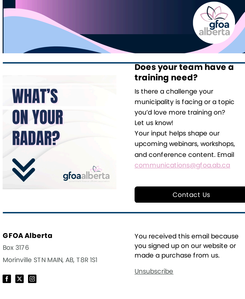
GFOA Alberta is pleased to host the next round of Municipal Discussion Forums. The virtual Forums provide the opportunity for participants to ask questions and share information with their municipal colleagues.

Municipalities Over 10K: February 18, 2026 from 10:00am – 11:30 am.

Rurals: February 18, 2026 from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm.

Municipalities Under 10K: February 18, 2026 from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm.

GFOA will be sending out a link to the complimentary registration prior to the forum date and a forum agenda will also be sent out once completed.



Does your team have a training need?

Is there a challenge your municipality is facing or a topic you'd love more training on?
Let us know!
Your input helps shape our upcoming webinars, workshops, and conference content. Email

Contact Us

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