



# Season's Greetings

As 2009 comes to a close, the ALIDP wants to take this opportunity to thank you for your participation and support this year, and to ask you to continue with us in 2010 as we build the strength of our partnership.

2009 has been a year of beginnings: From hiring a new coordinator, writing our first grant application, and getting our committees up and running--to being nominated for the Environment and Sustainability APEGGA Summit Award, it has been a busy time of growth and change for the ALIDP. If Alberta Environment's recent talk of potential licensing of stormwater for re-use is any indication, the role of the ALIDP as advocate will also increase in 2010.

This communiqué shares what we have lined up so far for 2010 and looks back at our activities in 2009.

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## Comings and Goings

### New Coordinator

Leta van Duin joined us in mid-July as Interim Coordinator on a three-month contract. Things went well enough that she has signed on with a contract until the end of August 2010, which will be long enough to see the next Board of Directors get up and running. She is greatly enjoying the diversity of the position.



### Bert van Duin moves – again?!?

Our Secretary, Bert van Duin, moved once again, this time joining City of Calgary Water Resources. He will be guiding the practical implementation of LID by the development industry and supporting the activities of Water Resources' LID Steering Committee. The LID Steering Committee is a recent initiative to draft LID standards and specifications, streamline the implementation of analytical tools, coordinate research and incorporate LID in the City's asset management systems. Bert will also be responsible for future editions of Calgary's Stormwater Management & Design Manual. (Note that the City of Edmonton recently awarded AMEC Earth & Environmental a study to draft LID and Best Management Practices design guidelines for the Edmonton area. Both cities are thus full steam ahead with the implementation of LID.)

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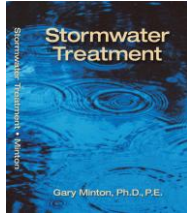
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## LID Learning Opportunities In 2010

### ALIDP and the City of Calgary present *Construction and Beyond: Sustainable Practices for Runoff Management*

The ALIDP has accepted an invitation to partner with the City of Calgary to deliver the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its Erosion and Sediment Control and Pollution Prevention week, March 8 to 12, 2010. There are two courses the ALIDP is responsible for. One is an introductory course by our own Liliana Bozic and Bert van Duin, entitled LID1: The ABCs of LID. As a member, you can receive a \$25 discount off the registration fee for this course (\$135-\$25=\$110). The second course is two full days on Stormwater Treatment by Seattle's Gary Minton. He is the author of the definitive text by the same name. ALIDP members can receive a \$50 discount off the registration fee for this course (\$575-\$50=\$525). Course registration launches in early January.



Space is limited, particularly for Gary Minton's course, so register early. Go to [www.calgary.ca/waterservices/esc](http://www.calgary.ca/waterservices/esc) and click on Erosion and Sediment Control Courses on the left side of the page to access all the details. (There is no online registration, just good old-fashioned phone, fax or mail.) These are great values for our members! Coupon codes will be distributed via separate e-mail for our members only.

### ALIDP Lunch and Learn

To add even more value to our member benefits, in 2010 we are launching Lunch and Learn presentations at the Calgary Water Centre. Our first presentation is set for Friday, January 15, 2010, with our past Director Judy Stewart talking about the legalities of rainwater harvesting. This is timely considering Alberta Environment's recent floating of the idea of requiring licensing of stormwater for re-use.



This event is offered without charge; however seating capacity is limited, so, please reserve your spot by contacting Leta at [leta.vanduin@calgary.ca](mailto:leta.vanduin@calgary.ca). We hope to mirror these events in the Edmonton area when we work out the logistics.

### Nativescape Alberta

The Native Plant Producers Society of Alberta, aka Nativescape Alberta, has an ambitious program planned for 2010, including a public workshop to be offered several times between February and May entitled *Balancing Aesthetics with Ecology: Sustainable Landscaping*.



The ALIDP has been invited to enhance the workshop materials with LID content. We are thrilled to be able to blend some of our outreach in with Nativescape's efforts. More info is available at [www.nativescapealberta.com](http://www.nativescapealberta.com)

### Canadian Standards Association

As part of its new Municipal Infrastructure Solutions Program, the Canadian Standards Association will offer two new one-day courses in Sustainable Stormwater Practices in Calgary on April 7-8, 2010:

- *Sustainable Stormwater Practices: Fundamentals*
- *Sustainable Stormwater Practices: Designing Road and Parking Lot Infiltration Systems*

The cost of either course is \$450.00 with a 10% early bird discount. For more information or to register go to [https://learningcentre.csa.ca/lc\\_site/bet.asp?gid=50045095](https://learningcentre.csa.ca/lc_site/bet.asp?gid=50045095).

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## Committees

We have an enthusiastic, ambitious bunch of volunteers who have stepped up to hammer out various aspects of LID. If you want to participate in any of these areas, we have a spot for you:

- position papers
- summaries of relevant website links
- overviews of research activities and desired research activities
- summaries of applicable guidelines and LID implementation programs in other jurisdictions
- virtual tour of LID installations in Alberta

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- landscaping topics
  - outreach
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### Website



We are excited to announce a website revamp that should launch early in the second quarter of 2010. This will give us a more up-to-date, feature-rich online presence with distributed-authoring permission levels. The new website will include more targeted content to better serve your particular interests.

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### AGM

We will hold our Annual General Meeting in May 2010. We are looking for a partner and venue in southern Alberta. A date will be set soon. Similar to our 2009 event, the morning will be dedicated to the official dealings of our Partnership while an event will be organized in the afternoon.

Four of our Directors will step down, as their two-year terms will be completed. While they may express interest in continuing to serve as Directors, we welcome any other Members in good standing who are interested in running for office.

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### Water Balance Model

In 2009, nine ALIDP member-organizations subscribed to the Water Balance Model powered by QUALHYMO (WBM). This award-winning model is an on-line decision support and scenario modelling tool for rainwater and snowmelt management and stream health protection. The model enables users to model LID practices at both a watershed scale and during functional design. The Inter-Provincial Partnership (IPP), which the ALIDP formed with the British Columbia Inter-Governmental Partnership, allows ALIDP members exclusive access to the WBM. Any ALIDP member with annual dues exceeding \$1,000 may become a full Paid Subscriber to the WBM. The ALIDP transfers \$1,000 of your ALIDP membership fee to the WBM on your behalf.



Besides ongoing maintenance, your membership fees for the WBM are used for continuous upgrades to and improvements of the WBM. In 2009, in addition to your membership fees, The City of Calgary contributed \$15,000 towards the development of a rainwater harvesting module, and the ALIDP donated \$10,000 for the preparation of documentation materials. Additional support is expected in the near future out of Ontario. In addition, the IPP recently embarked on the implementation of a \$500,000 program over a 3-year period to expand the capabilities of the WBM.

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### Studies and Research Initiatives



#### Soil Moisture Testing

We have the opportunity to deploy soil moisture testing units in the Calgary and Edmonton areas. We are thinking about research to compare absorbent vs. traditional soil installations on residential lots. We are looking for suitable developers to partner with us on this endeavour. The impetus for this initiative came out of preparing the Ecotrust grant application. While the grant was unsuccessful (mostly because Ecotrust felt we could get funding elsewhere) we think we will still be able to pursue the grant project in other forms. Originally, we intended to set up a number of demonstration sites at several major centres in Alberta to compare traditional landscaping side-by-side with conservation landscaping, including absorbent landscaping. We are very happy that Michael Clark, who presented one of the landscaping sessions at our Edmonton event, has graciously offered to collaborate with the ALIDP on its research program in the Aspen Parkland region once we decide what the program should be.

#### Susan Ryan Thesis: Impact of Water Conservation Resulting from LID/SUDS

Congratulations to our individual member, Susan Ryan, for being accepted into the Masters Program at the Department of Geography at the University of Calgary. Her topic is called Impact of Water Conservation Resulting from LID/SUDS. Susan's research will be of particular interest to smaller communities in southern Alberta which have to live within their existing water licenses because of the closure of the Milk, Oldman and Bow River basins to new water licenses. Water supply will eventually become a limiting factor for growth in these closed basins. Susan intends to demonstrate how the implementation of LID will reduce peak daily demand during the summer irrigation season. Reduced irrigation demand can make water available for commercial and light industrial activities that will increase local employment opportunities. Community viability can be enhanced as modest population growth

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continues and people find employment locally. As part of her research, Ms. Ryan will conduct interviews at the provincial and municipal levels to determine what is needed by policy and approvals departments to confidently include the water conservation of LID/ SUDS in the calculations for a Municipal Development Plan. The ALIDP, which supported Susan's application to the Department of Geography, will assist Ms. Ryan with the technical details of her research. We hope to showcase her findings as they become available over the next few years.

### **Research Presentations at the Calgary Water Centre**

In late November, more than 50 people were on hand for presentations by Usman Khan, Jennifer He and Caterina Valeo of the University of Calgary. Usman presented some preliminary results of his thesis work on *Bioretention Efficacy in Cold Climates* based on the field installation at Currie Barracks in Calgary and the laboratory pilot at the University of Calgary. Jennifer provided a summary of her postgraduate research on the re-use of stormwater for irrigation purposes based on her work at the Inverness storm pond in southeast Calgary. She talked about public health concerns, how they may be impacted by climate change, and provided recommendations on optimizing the intake location for an irrigation re-use system. Dr. Valeo, assistant professor at the Schulich School of Engineering, summarized the day with several thought-provoking observations about the findings of Usman and Jennifer. Presentations should be uploaded shortly.

### **Residential LID Subdivision Study**

City of Calgary Water Resources was recently presented with the draft report of the *Residential LID Subdivision Study* by Westhoff Engineering Resources and the IBI Group. This study is a comparison between a conventional and theoretical LID subdivision with the aim of meeting the pre-development runoff volume targets of the Nose Creek watershed. The draft report is still undergoing review by the City of Calgary and the Urban Development Institute. We hope that the findings may be presented at a future ALIDP workshop.

### **City of Edmonton Awards Development of LID/BMP Design Criteria Study**

AMEC was awarded a consultant study entitled "Development of LID/BMP Design Criteria" in December 2009, from Drainage Services, City of Edmonton. The main works to be undertaken include the development of guidelines, and more detailed design manuals that deal with various LID features such as rain gardens, bioswales, green roofs, etc. This study is a major step forward for the City of Edmonton and should help to build a common set of expectations and minimum requirements around land developments using innovative land drainage designs.



### **University of Calgary Parking Lot Bioretention Pilot**

This summer Caterina Valeo, Angus Chu and Bert van Duin were in charge of the design and installation of a bioretention pilot at Parking Lot 10, northwest of the Olympic Oval, at the University of Calgary. Our Coordinator, Leta van Duin, prepared the planting plan and oversaw the planting installation by more than 15 enthusiastic volunteers. Kudos to the Office of Sustainability at the University of Calgary for making this pilot reality.

Please contact our Secretary, Bert van Duin, [bert.van.duin@calgary.ca](mailto:bert.van.duin@calgary.ca) if you or someone you know is interested in embarking on graduate or post-graduate research on LID / sustainable urban drainage systems. As adjunct assistant professor at the University of Calgary, Bert will gladly assist to connect people and funding with topics for research. There is no shortage of research topics!

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#### **Alberta Environment Stormwater Licensing Re-use Question**

In November, several of our members approached the ALIDP about Alberta Environment's proposal to require licensing of stormwater for re-use. Since rainwater harvesting and stormwater capture and re-use are essential components of any LID toolbox, the concern is that licensing would penalize stormwater re-users for doing a good thing. Rainwater harvesting and stormwater re-use are paramount to reduce the effects of the exponential increase of runoff due to urbanization.

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While we strongly support better accounting of subsurface and surface flows in our watersheds, in the case of stormwater, we believe that watershed and master drainage plans can include the provisions to protect our water resources without the need for stormwater re-use licensing.

In response to these concerns, the ALIDP has sent a letter to Alberta Environment requesting consultation of our membership before adopting a stormwater reuse licensing system. A copy of this letter is available by request from our Coordinator, Leta.

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**ALIDP  
Edmonton  
Workshop  
2009**

On September 29th the University of Alberta was our venue for Edmonton LID: Yes, We Can! More than 10 speakers participated in this one-day workshop, which was attended by about 110 people. The feedback was very positive. We look forward to catching up on progress in southern Alberta at our next workshop.

The presentations are available at <http://www.alidp.org/Edm09Presentations.html>. In addition, copies, on CD-ROM, of the Green Communities Guide issued by the Land Stewardship Network are available for pick-up at our office at the Water Centre.

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**ALIDP –  
Out There**

**Western Canada Water – The Future Art of Stormwater**

In late October, our Directors Lyndon Gyurek and Bert van Duin spoke at The Future Art of Stormwater event organized by Western Canada Water in Red Deer. Lyndon spoke about “City of Edmonton Watershed Management” and Bert spoke about “Stormwater Wetlands – Ongoing research activities to improve our understanding of the operation and optimize the design”. Pamela Duncan of the City of Calgary admirably filled in for Liliana Bozic speaking about “Watershed Protection Through Innovative Stormwater Management”. Other interesting presentations were about the “Constructed Wetlands Research Program” at Olds College by Dennis Westhoff, “Changing the Stormwater Pond Design Game” by Cory Albers, and “Calgary Stormwater Quality Retrofit” by Bernie Amell. Presentations by our Directors will be uploaded to our website shortly.

**Buildex Calgary**

In early November, Liliana Bozic and Bert van Duin co-presented with Graham Tait, Erosion Control Coordinator at the City of Calgary, at Buildex – Calgary, a conference and exposition for real estate, property management, interior design, architecture, renovation and construction. Their presentation entitled “Reducing Impact to Preserve Water: Low Impact Development in Alberta” will be uploaded to our website shortly.

**Marda Loop Justice Film Festival**

Also in November, Leta and Bert van Duin attended the screening of Waterlife, a summary of the state of the Great Lakes, at the Marda Loop Justice Film Festival in Calgary <http://waterlife.nfb.ca/>

Bert and Leta had the opportunity to talk with many who are active in environmental stewardship in the Calgary area and to make them aware of the work the ALIDP is doing.

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**Call for  
Stories,  
Pictures and  
Presentations**

If you are interested in sharing your personal or your organization’s LID initiatives at a Lunch & Learn event, the AGM, or a workshop / conference, we would be glad to hear from you. We are also in need of photographs that illustrate LID techniques, for promotional use.

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**More  
Information**

Wondering what it takes to implement LID at your site or in your community? Would you like to bring ALIDP representatives into your organization, municipality or community group to present the benefits of LID or to provide information about ALIDP membership? We would be more than pleased to visit you.

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**Thank you for your support of the ALIDP, especially in these challenging economic times.** We have not raised our membership fees for 2010. Your fees and/or voluntary contributions cover the wages of our part-time Coordinator allowing us to put on our workshops and conferences, lunch and learn events, and coordinate the efforts of our committees. We hope that you will continue to support the Partnership in 2010.

A special thank you goes out to City of Calgary Water Resources for its ongoing, generous donation of office space and supplies for our Coordinator at the Calgary Water Centre.

Our Board of Directors extends Best Wishes to you for a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2010,

President	Doug Marter, City of Calgary Parks
Vice-President	Liliana Bozic, City of Calgary Strategic Services
Treasurer	Lyndon Gyurek, City of Edmonton Drainage Branch
Secretary	Bert van Duin, City of Calgary Infrastructure Planning
Director	Vanessa Higgins, Strathcona County
Director	Lesley Kalmakoff, Rocky View County
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