

# SILGA UPDATE

## Save the Date

- Local Government Accounting 101:

**“Is there an app for that?”**

**October 30, 2013  
10am to 3:30 pm  
Lunch included**

- Taught by BDO and KPMG
- Can be applied to LGLA certification
- Offered to our SILGA membership for only \$25
- Coast Kamloops Conference Centre:
- 250 Rogers Way, Kamloops, BC

**SILGA AGM and  
Convention  
2014**

**Penticton  
April 30 - May 2**

## President's Corner

Welcome to the first SILGA newsletter! The goals of the 2013/14 SILGA Executive are Advocacy, Communication and Education – we want to be the political voice of the region and collectively address issues and concerns that are impacting communities.

As part of the SILGA advocacy, SILGA took the bold initiative and met with many Ministers at UBCM. We asked for your input and brought those issues forward. We were fortunate to receive meetings with Ministers Pat Pimm, Bill Bennett, Terry Lake, and Todd Stone. Please visit [www.silga.ca](http://www.silga.ca) for details on each of these meetings. A highlight of the meetings was certainly meeting with our Premier, where she expressed enthusiasm for regional representation and was pleased that her riding is within the SILGA region.

We were grateful to have our SILGA MLA's join in our meetings. Our thanks go out to MLA's Dan Ashton, Greg Kylo, Norm Letnick and Jacquie Tegart for taking time out of their busy schedules to be part of our conversations. We also wish to thank constituency assistants Cheryl Doll rep-

resenting Premier Christy Clark, and Colleen Misner representing MLA Linda Larson who came along as schedules permitted to assist us. What great support!

We have a few “shout outs” to share. Congratulations to SILGA Director Gary Litke for his win as Mayor of Penticton. The incoming President for UBCM is our own SILGA Past President Rhona Martin. We applaud Rhona for her many years of service to the SILGA executive and know that you will blaze a trail with UBCM. We also wish to congratulate Kamloops Councillor Arjun Singh for his success at being voted Director at Large for UBCM.

Advocacy, Communication and Education – your SILGA Executive is committed to these goals. We shared our advocacy at UBCM, we hope that you enjoy this first newsletter (thank you to SILGA Director Angelique Wood for pulling this together).

We really hope that many of our communities will join us on October 30, 2013 for a new session on Municipal and Regional Finances where we have brought together experts from BDO and KPMG to break down the budget process.



**Marg Spina  
SILGA President**

We've heard from our members, finances are a big issue and can be daunting to grasp all the key issues. “IS THERE AN APP FOR THAT?” aims to bring increased clarity and deeper understanding to the budget and finance issue. For only \$25 / person (including lunch) we are excited for an informative session! This course can be applied as a credit to LGLA certification.

Let us know how we are doing – we are your resource, your SILGA voice.

All the best,  
Marg Spina, President

## MIA Good News story

For insurance geeks it was equivalent to the SuperBowl...high fives and handshakes abounded amongst MIABC Board members and staff following the unanimously endorsed resolution during the MIABC AGM directing the Board and staff to work towards offering its members property insurance coverage.

This marks a bold but calculated effort on behalf of the MIABC to expand its current mandate as solely a liability insurer to a much broader insurance pool. The ultimate goal of the MIABC is to offer its members a full coverage spectrum

## 2nd Vice President

providing exceptional service and coverages at competitive premiums.

The roll out of the new property insurance program will be conservative and calculated starting in 2014 as staff work to develop the coverages, policy wordings, rates and underwriting criteria but undoubtedly the members of MIABC will have more options available to their local governments for insurance coverage.

Local governments should encourage their staff to contact Sherman Chow

## Ryan Nitchie

at MIABC to learn more about this new and exciting program at [shaw@miabc.org](mailto:shaw@miabc.org)





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Please feel free to contact any of our SILGA team directly using the contact information below



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**Working to develop the best educated local government officials in British Columbia**

**IS THERE A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE?**



Shelley Sim  
 Director at Large

Health care recruitment and retention has become a pressing community need for the SILGA region but also brings about a number of questions regarding the process around recruitment. "How can our community help and encourage local recruitment"? "What are the first steps"? "What can we expect as part of the recruitment process"? "What model are we recruiting for and where do we start"? As part of the annual spring conference, SILGA will be hosting a half day session on healthcare and addressing the bigger issues facing communities and we want to hear from YOU! What are your community health care issues? Let us know so we can develop a panel discussion that is interesting and relevant to all. Additionally, at UBCM, the SILGA executive connected with many of our Provincial Ministers and advocated for fair and equitable recruitment and local assistance as well as encouraged participation in the SILGA dialogue. We know health care can be a daunting issue, but we're ready to have the courageous conversations needed to ensure positive community action and resiliency.

**The SILGA team 2013**

**Back row:** Garry Litke, Mayor of Penticton; Ryan Nitchie, Armstrong Councillor, Angelique Wood, Area Director, Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen; Chad Eliason, Salmon Arm Councillor, Patty Hanson, Area Director, Central Okanagan Regional District; Tim Pennell, Area Director Thompson-Nicola Regional District;

**Front row:** Alison Slater, Executive Director, SILGA; Janice Brown, Mayor of Spallumcheen; Harry Kroeker, Merritt Councillor, Marg Spina, Kamloops Councillor, Shelley Sim, Clearwater Councillor; Susan Roline, Mayor of Merritt



- ◆ ADVOCACY
- ◆ COMMUNICATION
- ◆ EDUCATION

<b>SILGA          COMMITTEES          2013/14:</b>	RESOLUTIONS	PENTICTON CONVENTION
	FINANCE	HEALTHCARE ADVOCACY
	EDUCATION	