



Message from the Executive Director

Dear Members,

As I watch the snow blowing outside of my window it reminds me; what did one snowman say to the other? Do you smell carrots?

It is truly amazing how the end of another year approaches, I'm thrilled to reflect on what we've accomplished together in 2024 and share exciting plans for the year ahead.

Celebrating 2024 Successes and the Future

This year has been one of growth and innovation for GFOA Alberta:

- ▣ **Membership Growth:** We've welcomed new members from across Alberta and beyond, strengthening our network, at last count we are at 1216 members! Membership renewals were emailed late November for 2025 due January 1st, 2025.
- ▣ **Professional Development Opportunities:** Our webinars and events have delivered practical tools and insights to help you excel in your roles. With Shelley on board as Professional Development Coordinator we anticipate even more focus on new opportunities.
- ▣ **Networking:** In addition to networking at our annual conference we have started hosting live online forums for like minded folks to discuss topics affecting them in their everyday work life. Currently the forums are designed based on municipal size and type, in addition we are looking at topic-based forums in the future.
- ▣ **Partnerships:** We attended the CPA Meet Your Employer events in Calgary and Edmonton, the LGAA conference in Canmore and the AB Munis convention in Red Deer. These events provide an excellent opportunity to expand our network and gain insight into our environment.
- ▣ **Expanded Reach:** We've made strides in connecting with members in neighboring provinces, building a broader community of shared expertise.
- ▣ **AI Integration:** We're proud to have added AI functionality to the GFOA Alberta website, offering members smarter, faster ways to access resources and information.

Save the Date: 2025 GFOA Alberta Conference

Mark your calendars for our 2025 Conference, June 1–4, 2025. Not only do we have a stellar conference planned, but we are also excited about the rest and recreation available in Lethbridge and surrounding area. For many of you that know me know that I am not acutely aware of my surroundings. However, my last tour of Lethbridge surprised me in the number of opportunities to see and do in the city. Also, outside the city are numerous sites within a short drive. Fort Macleod, home to the NWMP in southern Alberta, Waterton Lakes National Park or even Big Sky Montana. On the way you can also stop in Vulcan and have your picture taken on the bridge of the USS Enterprise! Stay tuned for more details about this must-attend event.

Co-op Program Partnerships

We are working with post-secondary institutions to connect you with top co-op candidates. These students bring expertise, fresh ideas, and enthusiasm to help your organization tackle projects and develop future talent pipelines. As people like me retire, there is a need for new fresh thinkers to enter the workforce, working with the post-secondary institutions (and CPA) we hope to raise an awareness of the opportunities in the public sector for young graduates. It amazes me how many students are not aware that the municipal sector provides a career choice that is both challenging and rewarding. Don't miss the chance to engage with this next generation of professionals. Stay tuned for more information.

As we head into the holiday season, I want to thank you for being part of the GFOA Alberta community. I would also like to thank our Board for their support and guidance in creating greater value for our membership. Here's to celebrating our achievements and looking forward to even greater things in 2025.

Happy Holidays and a prosperous New Year!

Best regards,

Rick Wojtkiw,

Executive Director



Discover the Benefits of Hiring Co-op Students

GFOA Alberta has partnered with leading post-secondary institutions to make it easy for members to connect with skilled students ready to work in public finance roles.

[GFOA.AB.CA](https://www.gfoa.ab.ca)



Explore Co-op Programs with Us!

We will be hosting a virtual info session in 2025 to introduce GFOA Alberta members to co-op programs and how to access talented students from partner institutions. Hear from members who have successfully used co-op placements and learn step-by-step how easy it is to post your own opportunities. Whether you're new to co-op programs or looking to enhance your recruitment strategy, this session will provide valuable insights.

Stay tuned for registration details in 2025 to discover how co-op students can help you meet your team goals!



Membership Reminder
Current members, keep an eye on your inbox for your 2025 membership auto-renewal invoice! **Due Date:** January 1, 2025



Do you have an interesting article to share with our members?

We will post it on the the GFOA Alberta website and share links in the monthly **General Ledger Newsletter**.

Please contact Sheila Moore at communications@gfoa.ab.ca for more information.

Check out Open Positions across Alberta

Visit the [Career Postings](#) page to find open positions from municipalities across Alberta. To apply for any, read the post and follow the specific directions for applications at the bottom of each post. Positions will be removed on expiration, so if you apply for any we recommend that you copy the information onto a note or word document for your reference.

