

# Buildex Calgary

Construction Trade Show

## Innovation takes the stage at Buildex Calgary

JESSICA PATTERSON  
CORRESPONDENT

**O**rganizers of this year's Buildex Calgary, running Nov. 8-9 at the BMO Centre in Stampede Park, say the seminars are must-see and the lineup is innovative.

Paul Maryschak, show director with Buildex, is excited about the show.

"It's covering some really interesting things across the board," he said.

"The quality is top notch. This year is phenomenal."

An underlying thread running through many of the sessions at this year's Buildex Calgary is social media.

"I think the industry is grappling with it right now," Maryschak said.

"Social media is getting bigger, it is becoming more important to become part of the conversation, but when do we start to figure out how it affects our bottom line? When do we get that reassurance that what we're spending our extra effort, our extra time on, is going to result in a positive? A lot of these different seminars are going to explore that, provide ways to find that out, to measure it, and what to do?"

There are five seminars that tie into social media in some way, and that includes how it impacts business, Maryschak said.

Seminars include utilizing technology to remain competitive, branding and social media, and how the internet is changing the way we work.

This is also the first year Buildex has had a real presence on Twitter or LinkedIn.

Included this year is a seminar called "How to Trade a Red Paperclip for a House."

Known as the red paperclip guy, Kyle MacDonald began with the idea of trading objects over the internet and one year and 14 trades later, he traded for a house.

"He's had a pretty interesting experience in the way his story spread," Maryschak said.

"It was all about social media and online presence and being able to adapt."

He said that there are big lessons to be learned from seminars about building relationships and executing ideas.

"It caught our attention. It's very out of the box. It's not so radical that any one

of us couldn't do the same thing. Kyle's story is about inspiration, it's about how you execute ideas and bring them to fruition."

Also of interest are case studies, one on the Eighth Avenue Place, the first LEED CS Platinum office building project in Canada.

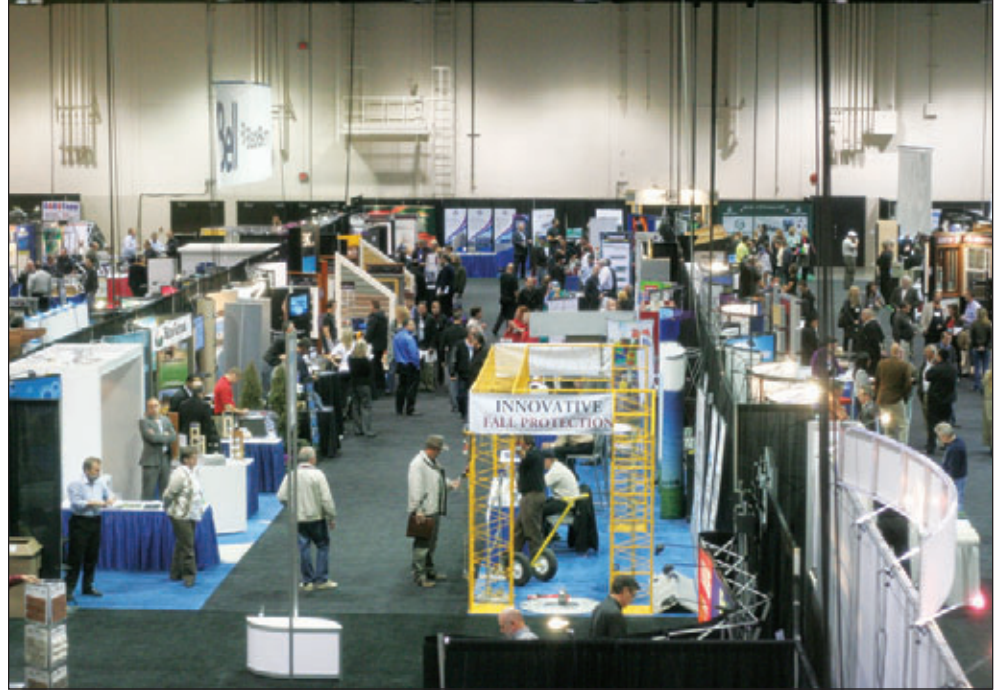
The owner, the architect and the contractor will be speaking as part of a panel.

The other case study is on Calgary's East Village Redevelopment Project, featuring Michael Brown, the president & CEO of the Calgary Municipal Land Corporation.

Buildex Calgary expects to attract more than 4,000 industry attendees, 250 vendors and 60 speakers.

One of the special events this year is a keynote address by Canadian Construction Association chair Dee Miller, at a special breakfast

"It's a great opportunity for the Canadian Construction Association to get in front of the Calgary Construction Association,"



FILE PHOTO

More than 4,000 delegates and 250 vendors are expected to attend Buildex Calgary at the BMO Centre on Nov. 8-9.

Maryschak said.

New on the trade show floor this year is Klaus Multi-parking Inc., manufacturers of parking systems, which will be featuring stackable parking equipment.

To round out this year's Buildex Calgary offerings is the ever-popular photo competition.

"It's one of the most popular links on any of the emails we send out," Maryschak said.

"Everyone wants to see who's won."

To find out more about the photo contest, or Buildex Calgary's seminars, check out [www.buildexcalgary.com](http://www.buildexcalgary.com).

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# Buildex Calgary

## Technology

### Experts gather to discuss Building Information Modeling

JESSICA PATTERSON  
CORRESPONDENT

**A**n upcoming panel discussion, "Building Information Modeling (BIM) in a Practical World," will take a comprehensive look at the emerging technology.

Panelists will look at its benefits and challenges.

Attendees will hear about case studies, lessons and implementation strategies.

BIM allows professionals to design a three dimensional model of a building to see

how different elements interact, before the structure is physically built.

The modelling system encompasses properties of building components, geometry and spacial relationships, information and quantities.

Panelist Rod Yeoh, principal for OMICRON and a BIM expert, said his company has been using the modelling system for nearly a decade.

"We've been implementing various modules as they become more useable and right now, we've gotten to the point where we're doing

full BIM through all the disciplines including engineering and architecture," he said.

Yeoh said about half of the construction industry is using BIM in some way right now.

He believes the remaining industry professionals will have to adopt BIM in the future.

"I think we're moving away from the paper-based way of doing things and people are going to have to get on board, or find other things to do," he said.

A member of the Canada BIM Council, panellist Ian

Trudeau said their recent survey of membership indicates that roughly 50 per cent of the industry are using BIM.

He agreed with Yeoh, about the need for the rest of the industry needing to get on board in Canada in the near future.

"That's definitely going to expand, as others catch on, as governments catch on and start requiring it on their proposals," he said.

"You'll see that constructors and consultants are not going to have a choice, they're going to have to adopt the

tech if they want to play."

Yeoh said there are still challenges to BIM.

As he sees it, an obstacle is challenging the traditional mindset of how the industry designs and build buildings.

"It's an old industry and we've been doing things the same way for a long time. Now we have to change that, because there's a lot more involvement from all of the parties early on, and more collaborative design and construction," he said.

"We're forced to work collaboratively as a team together and I think that's the biggest change to make."

The construction industry is the only industry in the world, Yeoh said, where a product is made, but not tested.

"Most other manufacturing industries build prototypes and work out all of the kinks. This way, we work out the kinks in the computer before we build it in real life."

Trudeau, who is also the CAD/BIM Manager for Halsall Associates Ltd., said one of the advantages to BIM that doesn't often get talked about is all the information contained in the model, such as cost estimates, material tracking, or the content of concrete mixes, which you can embed and query later.

"As an example, we can track the volume of concrete, the weight of the steel. We also attribute the carbon load of those elements and we can use the model to calculate the entire carbon load of an entire structure. And, we can use that as a basis for decisions, for dif-

ferent material types," he said.

"We're really starting to look at that next level and I think that's where the true power of BIM is going to be revealed."

Trudeau sees communication as the biggest challenge with BIM, especially as it is used by every component of the building team.

"You have to communicate," he said.

"With BIM, we have meetings to discuss the model, how to collaborate and communicate, for what purpose the model is going to be used and by whom, and the project goes much smoother."

Recent projects that have used BIM include St. Joseph's Health Care Centre in Hamilton, where the full team was involved in BIM, including the architect, engineers and contractors.

The design-build project cost about \$581 million in construction costs. It covers about 800,000 square feet of space and is aiming for LEED Silver certification.

Other members of the panel include John Jansen, a building solutions team manager at IMAGINiT Technologies and Allan Partridge, the principal of Group2 Architecture Engineering Ltd.

The panel moderator is Sheryl Staub-French, an associate professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of British Columbia. The Building Information Modeling in a Practical World panel takes place Tuesday, Nov. 8 between 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. at the BMO Centre at Stampede Park.

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## Sustainable Building Taking a close look at the Living Building Challenge

JESSICA PATTERSON  
CORRESPONDENT

**D**elegates at Buildex Calgary have the opportunity to check out a seminar that delves into the future of green building.

"Living Through the Challenge; A Contractor's Perspective on the Living Building Challenge," is a seminar about what it's like to work on a Living Building Challenge project.

The speaker's list includes contractors, who have worked on the unique projects. They will talk about the challenges of turning ideas into reality.

Presenters include Marsha Gentile, a construction sustainability specialist and Rebecca McDiarmid, a project manager, who both work for Ledcor Construction Limited.

The Living Building Challenge has been spearheaded by International Living Future Institute, a group based in Seattle.

Buildings certified as Living Buildings must generate their own energy, harvest and treat their own water and use locally sourced, non-toxic materials.

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# Buildex Calgary

## Occupational Health and Safety

### Due diligence should be top of mind for contractors

JESSICA PATTERSON  
CORRESPONDENT

**A** CALGARY Buildex Calgary seminar, "Construction Due Diligence," addresses the legal defence of due diligence as it relates to the Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) Act.

Donald Turnbull, manager of compliance with Alberta Occupational Health and Safety, is presenting on a topic that everyone should be knowledgeable of and familiar with, he said.

"It's extremely important for construction professionals because it relates to professionals, directly, in everything they do that relates to the worksite," he said.

"It's important that everyone at a worksite understands and knows their rights and responsibilities."

He said OH&S has seen a province-wide need for the seminar and has provided similar presentations to other industry associates in the past.

"I hope they'll walk out, knowing and understanding what their rights and responsibilities are and what due diligence is, and that due diligence is as much a cultural shift and way of doing business as it is a legal defence," he said.

The Alberta Occupation-

al Health and Safety Act is set up so that responsibilities are laid out for all on the worksite including the worker, employer, sub trades and the prime contractor.

According to the OH&S legislation, employers must do everything they reasonably can to protect the health and safety of workers.

Safe work practices must be set up and followed, and employers must make sure workers have appropriate skills and training.

Workers too, have duties and responsibilities under the provincial legislation, including working in a safe and conscientious manner and co-operating with superiors in safety measures.

With the legal defence of due diligence, employers, or someone charged under OH&S legislation, demonstrates all reasonable steps to protect a worker's health and safety were taken.

"You always get some interesting questions and discussion out of these presentations," he said.

"A lot of times, some individuals don't even realize how much due diligence can affect their day to day business."

In 2010, OH&S statistics suggested the rate of disabling injury in the construction and construction trades

was the third highest in the province, with 3.10 per 100 person-years worked.

The majority of those claims were made by men, which represented 92.7 per cent of the injury claims.

Yet, the lost-time claim rate for the construction and construction trades sector was the third lowest in the province, seeing a decrease in lost-time claims since 2006.

The seminar takes place Tuesday, Nov. 8 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the BMO Centre in Calgary.



ALBERTA OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Construction professionals will learn about due diligence at a Buildex Calgary seminar.

### Contractors will share the lessons they learned

Continued from Pg. BC-10

The certification also requires the building to be in operation for 12 months and have no negative impact on the site.

"Ledcor has two Living Building Challenge projects," said McDiarmid. "On one of them, the construction is complete, the other is nearing completion. It is very exciting."

There aren't any certified Living Buildings in Canada yet.

The two projects that Ledcor has been working on, the \$19.4-million VanDusen Botanical Garden Visitors Centre and SFU UniverCity Childcare Centre, are working towards becoming the first certified Living Buildings in the country.

There is also a house on Vancouver Island that has achieved some of the aspects of the Living Building Challenge, but it won't achieve full certification.

"We're definitely doing things that have not been done before," McDiarmid said.

"I hope attendees take away a better understanding of what will be required of them as contractors, who work on Living Building projects. A lot of people have worked LEED projects, so they have a pretty good idea of what's required of them on that front. Living Buildings is a different animal."

The Living Building Challenge is one of the most advanced green building rating system and is considered one of the toughest in the world.

A Living Building sets a new precedent for environmentally friendly design and construction techniques.

The seminar takes place Wednesday, Nov. 9, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the BMO Centre in Calgary.

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