

CPA NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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CPA President
Ryan Weddel

It's hard to believe we are already heading into fall and getting close to another CPA Annual Convention. Hopefully everyone has had a safe and productive summer and is looking forward to what is always a great few days together.

I'm really looking forward to getting together in Kingston this year. One of the things I have always enjoyed about the CPA convention is that it gives us a reason to step away from our own businesses for a couple of days, reconnect with people in the industry and have

conversations that we probably wouldn't otherwise make the time for during the year.

I'm also really looking forward to our tour of Anchor Concrete and getting a firsthand look at what they have been working on with Lodestar. Most of us are used to thinking about precast through the products we make every day, so seeing how Anchor is using it to manufacture complete buildings should make for a really interesting tour. It's a different side of precast than most of us are exposed to regularly, and I think there will be a lot of good conversation around what they are doing and where they are taking it.

Of course, the convention is about more than the plant tour. It gives us a chance to spend time with our associate members and suppliers, learn from the speakers and seminars Megan has lined up, and most importantly, catch up with fellow precasters from across Ontario.

Some of the best conversations at these events happen over dinner or a few drinks when we get the opportunity to talk about what is happening in our businesses and our industry.

That is one of the things that continues to make the CPA special. We may all run different businesses, but when we get together there is a real willingness to talk, help each other and work towards making our industry stronger.

I encourage every member to make the effort to join us in Kingston this year. Come for the tour and seminars, but just as importantly, come for the conversations and the people that make this association what it is.

I look forward to seeing everyone in Kingston.

Ryan Weddel,

CPA President

34TH ANNUAL CPA CONVENTION



Claude Goguen



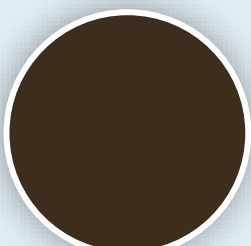
Christopher Carrine



Chris Mackey



Winston Bashford-Land



Denis Grignon

As autumn settles into Ontario and the busy summer season gives way to cooler days, the precast industry continues to move forward with strength and momentum. It's the perfect backdrop as we prepare for the 34th Annual CPA Convention, taking place November 22-24 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Kingston.

This year's Convention brings together familiar traditions and exciting new additions. Delegates will gather on Sunday evening for our warm and welcoming reception, a chance to reconnect, meet new members, and ease into three days of industry discussion and collaboration. On Monday, the Convention program features a full slate of speaker sessions, outlined in recent Convention emails, along with evening entertainment that promises a lively finish to the day. The left-side panel features this year's speakers and entertainment.

We are also looking forward to our Tuesday morning tour at Anchor Concrete / Lodestar Structures, a facility well known to many in our community. The tour offers delegates a firsthand look at current operations and innovations, and it remains one of the most anticipated parts of the Convention.

For those arriving early, we're pleased to host our second-ever Saturday evening Social Event, continuing a new tradition that has quickly become a favourite among attendees.

We extend our appreciation to the member companies who have already stepped forward with sponsorship support for the Convention. Your contributions help strengthen our programming and enhance the experience for all delegates. There is still opportunity for additional sponsors to participate, and we welcome those who wish to support this year's event.

As we move through the fall season and look ahead to November, we're excited to bring the precast community together once again for learning, connection, and celebration at the 34th Annual CPA Convention in Kingston.

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

KEMFLO CANADA INC/AIK TANK ACCESSORIES

Kemflo Canada established in 1988, is a fully Canadian owned and operated company. We have developed a solid reputation for the design and manufacturing of quality injection molded products. Kemflo is an ISO 9001 certified company with over 30 years of experience in injection molding and manufacturing. We have valued knowledge and experience in a wide range of Engineered Thermoplastic Resins. Our commitment is to provide our customers with top quality products, value added services and on time delivery.

Kemflo has recently relocated to our new 100,000 square foot facility in Bradford, Ontario. Our AIK product line has made us a leader in the Tank Accessories industry. AIK specializes in industries such as, Agriculture, Industrial, Wastewater, Chemical and RV. We offer many products from Man-way Covers to Screw Caps to Bulkhead Fittings. We have recently expanded our AIK line to add additional products, such as the 24" Septic Tank Lid & Riser System.



MEL C. MARSHALL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: CELEBRATING OUR FIRST RECIPIENT



Jenna Cherepacha
Inaugural Recipient of the
Mel C. Marshall Memorial
Scholarship

The Concrete Precasters Association of Ontario is proud to announce the delivery of the first-ever Mel C. Marshall Memorial Scholarship, awarded this spring to Jenna Cherepacha of the University of Guelph.

Jenna distinguished herself through outstanding academic achievement and an impressive level of engagement within the engineering and precast community. Her commitment to learning, her initiative in industry-related activities, and the promise she shows as a future leader made her an exceptional inaugural recipient of this award.

A formal acknowledgement of Jenna's accomplishment will take place at the 34th Annual CPA Convention in Kingston, where members will have the opportunity to recognize her success in person.

We extend our sincere thanks to all CPA members whose contributions have helped build and sustain the scholarship fund. Your support ensures that Mel Marshall's legacy continues to inspire and uplift the next generation. The Marshall family has expressed deep appreciation for the establishment of this award, and it stands as a meaningful tribute to Mel's lifelong dedication to precast excellence, education, and the advancement of our industry.

REGISTRATION PROGRAM UPDATE

YOUR SEPTIC TANK PASSED THE TEST — SO WHY DID IT FAIL IN THE FIELD?

A septic tank can pass all aspects of the annual compliance test when it leaves the plant and still experience problems after installation. For concrete tank producers, understanding why this happens is an important part of producing a consistently durable product.

Concrete quality is the starting point. Consistent batching, proper water/cement ratio control, adequate consolidation, and proper curing all contribute to a dense, durable concrete product. Small variations in production can sometimes become significant after years of exposure to moisture, freeze-thaw cycles, and loading.

Reinforcement is equally important. Correct bar size, spacing, placement, and concrete cover are essential to achieving the intended structural performance. Reinforcement that has shifted during concrete placing may leave the tank with less capacity than the design intended, even though the finished product initially appears acceptable.

Forming and casting can also influence performance. Poor consolidation, honeycombing, dimensional variations, or defects around openings and penetrations can create weaknesses that may not be obvious during routine inspection.

Handling is another critical stage. Stripping, lifting, loading, and transportation can introduce cracks or damage that may not be immediately recognized. Correct lifting procedures and adequate strength before handling are essential.

Finally, installation can determine how the tank performs in service. Improper bedding, backfilling, connections, or loading conditions can place stresses on a tank that were never intended in its design.

Passing a test is important—but producing a tank that performs reliably for decades requires quality at every stage: concrete quality, reinforcement, forming, handling, and installation.

Dominic Girotti P.Eng.,
Program Registration
Administrator



SEPTIC SYSTEM SAFETY RESOURCES & SEPTIC AWARENESS WEEK

Industry Partners have collaborated on safety documents designed to strengthen public awareness and reinforce shared responsibility for septic system safety. Set to be released this week during Septic Awareness Week, these materials reinforce shared responsibility for septic safety. Developed jointly by CPA, OOWA, and OASIS, the resources include: **Role-based Sewage (Septic) System Safety Checklists & A public education brochure: Sewage (Septic) System Safety is Everyone's Responsibility**

These tools were created in response to the June 2025 Chief Coroner Review, which called for sector-wide collaboration to strengthen safety practices and increase public awareness. The Review also encouraged leveraging Septic Awareness Week (September 14–18, 2026) to promote regular checks of septic tank access points and secondary safety devices. Throughout the week, CPA will also be sharing daily Septic Awareness Week posts on Instagram, and members can find a link in our bio to register for the upcoming collaborative septic safety webinar with OOWA and OASIS.

The new checklists outline clear safety expectations across the full lifecycle of onsite systems, from manufacturing and design through installation, inspection, servicing, and ownership. They provide practical guidance on maintaining secure access openings, ensuring secondary safety devices are properly installed, communicating identified hazards in writing, and taking prompt action when lids, fasteners, risers, or other components are damaged or unsecured.

The companion brochure uses a "safety chain" narrative to show how septic safety depends on every link, from professionals to property owners, and encourages families to keep lids and secondary safety devices secured and act immediately when hazards are found.

Before public release, the associations notified stakeholders including the Office of the Chief Coroner, multiple provincial ministries, AMO, and ROMA, encouraging broad distribution.

CPA members are encouraged to follow along and help amplify the safety messages.



News In Brief

REGISTER NOW! Join us in KINGSTON, Ontario November 22, 23, 24, 2026 for our Annual Convention. Details have been emailed and registration is available online:

<https://cpaontario.com/convention-registration>

Check Your Web Listing: Do you have products you would like added to your listing? Has your primary contact information changed? Would you like your logo or site photo updated? Contact the CPA office to enhance your listing today! : 866-853-0310 or info@cpaontario.com.

NEW Septic Solution Guide: The Septic Solution has been updated and can be obtained by logging on to the CPA website at www.cpaontario.com and clicking on the link to the free download of the electronic version of the guide. Hard copies of the guide are also available by contacting the CPA at info@cpaontario.com. The cost is \$1.75 each; tax and shipping fees apply.

Points TO Ponder

"PUNS TO PONDER"

- Precast folks don't gossip, we keep everything in the forms.

- You can trust us, we never crack under pressure.

- Our boom truck drivers are always outstanding, mostly because they're standing outside...guiding a lift.

- I told a joke at the plant, it got a mixed reaction.

- Precast people have reinforced opinions.

- We don't just make tanks, we make concrete decisions.

- Boom trucks: the original high achievers.

- I tried to make a joke about slump, but it didn't flow.

- Our boom truck operators don't brag, they just lift others up.

- Precasters: we like our jokes well-cured.

- This industry is solid... literally.

- When the boom truck arrives, things really start looking up.