

Note from the President

Welcome to the second edition of URISA BC's Newsletter. Our aim is to bring you closer to geospatial technology issues and events happening throughout the province.

We'd like to thank all of those who attended and participated in the *GIS Applications Showcase* seminar last November 26th, 2002. Your feedback indicates that the event was a huge success and that the presentations were interesting and informative. Please see the Feedback section for more details. This event was a first for us in a couple of ways. We added a new dimension to the seminar by organizing a vendor display area. In addition, it was the first time we hosted the event at the Richmond Ramada Inn. Our next seminar will once again be held at the Ramada Inn at the beginning of May 2003. Check the website for details.

URISA BC is co-hosting an informative session aimed at community and regional planners who are interested in leveraging geospatial technology. See Plan Talk in

the Upcoming Events section for more details.

In mid – March Vancouver will host the 2003 GeoTec event at the Vancouver Convention centre.

Our next seminar will once again be held at the Ramada Inn in May 22, 2003. The theme of the next event is "GIS Going Forward - Techniques and Trends" and will focus on some common aspects of how to build and maintain a successful GIS. Check the website soon for further details.

We look forward to seeing you at these upcoming conferences and expect a very exciting spring season of geospatial events in BC.

Regards
Shawn McLeod

Applications Showcase Feedback

At our last seminar you took some extra time to give us feedback and we would like to return the favour by giving you some of the results.

20% thought the seminar was very useful and 56% thought the seminar quite useful. 29% thought the level of content

very useful and 55% thought the level of content quite useful. 33% thought the visual aids very useful and 57% thought the visual aids quite useful. 75% thought the seminar content to be well organized/structured. 28% rated the event as excellent and 67% rated the event as good. And finally, a resounding 97% would recommend future URISA events to others!

Upcoming Events

The PLAN TALK Discussions

PIBC

The Planning Institute of BC (PIBC) appreciates the opportunity to collaborate with URISA on the February 20 event *GIS in PLANNING* taking place at 6:30 in the SFU Harbour Center, Labatt Theatre, 515 West Hastings Street, Vancouver.

Clearly, the use of GIS in planning practice is of interest to our members. The spirit of *Plan Talk* is to link minds and learn together, and in this spirit PIBC is always interested in making connections with other land use related organizations.

Plan Talk is an event series intended to link planning professionals and students in

a meaningful way, by learning together and sharing the challenging and provocative issues of planning practice. Plan Talk is co-sponsored by the Planning Institute of BC's Lower Mainland Chapter and the UBC School of Community and Regional Planning.

Find out more information about PIBC at www.pibc.bc.ca, and for information on this Plan Talk event check the URISA web site *Headlines* at: <http://urisabc.org>

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GeoTec Event

March 16-19, 2003
Vancouver, BC. The *GeoTec Event* provides a unique gathering place for geospatial technology professionals from all disciplines to interact and learn from each other's experience and knowledge.

The conference theme, "A Spirit of Collaboration," builds on the multi-disciplinary content of past years with an overriding call for cooperation and collaboration among all spatial technology practitioners. The tools for true interoperability are coming into place and geospatial infrastructure initiatives are realizing great progress. The time is ripe to

share knowledge and examine the benefits that can be gained once these barriers to collaboration have lifted. For more information go to: <http://www.geoplace.com/GeoTec/welcome.asp>

Portland, Oregon Regional GIS Conference

For the past eleven years, the Columbia River Region of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) and the Oregon chapter of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) have collaborated to hold a conference dealing with current issues on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) from a regional perspective. The theme for this year's conference in Portland, Oregon will be the effect of collaboration on GIS in the region. The general conference will be held Tuesday, April 22nd, and Wednesday, April 23rd, 2003 For more information, visit the conference web site at <http://www.orurisa.org/events/gisinact/2003event/index.html>

Washington URISA Conf.

The Wash. URISA Chapter is holding its annual conference this May 19, 20 & 21 in Tukwila

WA at the Embassy Suites. The 19th is a pre conference workshop only and the 20-21 is the conference. Check their website for details: <http://www.waurisa.org/>

Feature Web Site



As a new feature we will be suggesting members browse some of our many B.C. municipal web sites featuring exciting GIS activities. This month we feature the District of North Vancouver's GIS website called "GeoWeb". This site features free GIS data, information on parks, public art projects, searchable aerial photographs 3D fly movies and much more. Please check it out at: <http://www.geoweb.dnv.org/index.asp>



Any suggestions or comments on the newsletter please e-mail me at jerry@maedel.ca

Happy GISing!