2023 Atlantic Asset Management Conference

Call for Presentations

Come share your stories and successes at AIM Network's Atlantic Asset Management Conference in Moncton, New Brunswick on September 18 – 20 this year as we explore our theme *"Leading the Charge for Change"*. The challenges of aging infrastructure, changing demographics and climate change all present opportunities to reinvent the way we manage local governments to build sustainable communities.

Take this opportunity to show your community's achievements by sharing experience with your peers. To keep our focus on peer to peer sharing, if you are a vendor or supplier we ask that you partner with a municipal or First Nations client to present a case study relevant to your abstract.

This year's conference has four topic streams and several delivery formats. Please indicate the topic stream and your preferred method of delivery. We have included a draft program outline with this email, but this program is flexible and may change depending on the number and types of abstracts we receive.

Formats (Select one or suggest an alternate format for your presentation):
Technical Presentation – These are thirty-minute time slots, with twenty minutes of presentation and ten minutes for questions.

Workshop – These are hands-on exercises which combine a presentation and learning component along with an opportunity for attendees to put the content into practice through facilitated group exercises.

Facilitated Discussions – Sometimes called a "fishbowl" discussion, two or three presenters begin a discussion with a three- or four-minute talk on a topic at the front of the room. Attendees can then carry on the conversation by replacing one of the initial speakers at the front.

Idea Seeding / Crowdsourcing Discussion – Presenters will each be assigned a table. In fifteen minute segments, they present their topic for ten minutes, with the last five minutes held for audience discussion on the topic, their future need for support and any other ideas that come from the presentation. We will collect notes to help connections between peers and develop training and education opportunities.

Topical Streams (Select one topical stream for your presentation)

Stream 1: Resilient Communities – Asset management is focused on long-term service delivery. That means making decisions today for communities of the future. While climate change and aging infrastructure pose risks to our services, they also push us into opportunities to think about what our communities will look like in the future. How are you planning to build better, smarter and more resilient for the future? Consider topics like demographic changes, serving vulnerable populations, active transportation efforts, natural asset management, green infrastructure and long-range strategic planning.

Stream 2: Operations, Maintenance and Cost of Service Delivery – We all know that asset management decisions need input from across the organization. Anyone who has brought a car in for an oil change knows that good maintenance practices will save money over the long term. How have you addressed the challenges of managing all your assets consistently? How have actions "on the ground" affected your cost of service delivery? Have you considered life cycle cost of service (including operations and maintenance) with projects like new facilities, utility extensions or service upgrades? How do you track and measure success?

Stream 3: Capital Financing, Funding, Resourcing and Municipal Partnerships – We all have days where it feels like there is just too much to do and not enough time, money or resources to do it. How have you met these challenges in your community? Do you have a novel way of financing projects, or have you successfully mapped long term capital funding for infrastructure planning? Climate change adaptation brings new challenges of funding large projects and there is a need to consider novel financing strategies like attracting private capital investment. There is also a clear need in Atlantic Canada for municipal partnerships with neighbours, regions and First Nations, and we would like to hear from you about your experiences with these new approaches.

Stream 4: Putting Your Data to Work and Becoming Digitally Relevant – Every year brings advances that can put more information in the hands of decision makers. We want to hear how communities are using their information and technology to empower themselves in making service delivery decisions for the long term. Consider things like using machine learning to process data, leveraging technology and social media to engage and inform residents about assets and services, mapping and tracking infrastructure performance to inform decision making on investment, using new platforms to collect and share information, linking staff to the information they need for reliable services or setting service levels using real time information.

Please submit an abstract **(maximum 250 words)** outlining details of your presentation including the topic/presentation title, presentation format, topical stream project description and presenters. Submissions should include brief presenter biographies **(maximum 250 words)**.

Important Dates:
Abstract Submission Deadline: June 30, 2023
Acceptance Notification: July 17, 2023
Presentation Dates: September 19 or 20, 2023

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If you have any additional questions, please contact us at **info@aimnetwork.ca**. We look forward to hearing from you!