



WSAMA News

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February 2008

2008 Spring Conference



Where

Fairmont Chateau Whistler in Whistler, B.C.

When

April 30 - May 2, 2008

Hotel Room Block Cut-Off

April 15, 2008

Hotel Reservation Number

(800) 606-8244, Group Code: WAMA 8

Conference Registration

The spring WSAMA conference will be held at Fairmont Chateau Whistler, in Whistler, British Columbia on April 30 - May 2, 2008. This is the first time WSAMA has ever met in Whistler, Canada.

The materials needed to register for this conference are available on the WSAMA web site at www.wsama.org:

- Preliminary Agenda
- WSAMA Conference Registration Form
- *WSAMA News*: Conference Edition

Hotel Registration

Conference attendees should make their own hotel reservations directly with Fairmont Chateau Whistler, at 1-800-606-8244. Be sure to mention the Group Code Number, WAMA 8, in order to obtain the conference room rates of \$155 Canadian for a standard room.

This rate is guaranteed until April 15, 2008 so please make your room reservations early! The hotel will honor the same guest room rate for three days on either side of the conference for those who arrive early or stay over the weekend following the conference.

Program Highlights

We will meet in a different format than is usual for our conferences. The conference will begin on Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. and the opening session will be from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. that day. The conference will resume Thursday morning at 8:00 a.m. and run until noon. The concurrent sessions for criminal and civil tracks will be Thursday morning. Thursday afternoon will be open for you to enjoy the amenities at Whistler. The conference will resume Friday morning at 8:00 a.m. and last until noon. We have requested 10.25 hours of CLE credits total – this includes 1.0 hours of ethics credits. There will **NOT** be a New Municipal Attorney Seminar this spring – we will hold that seminar in conjunction with the fall conference this year.

There are topics in nearly every area of municipal law, including land use, public works, personnel, open government, and the usual half-day concurrent session on criminal law topics.

The program will include an overview of new developments in the area of public records, including electronic data retention. It will feature updates in telecommunication law, an overview of new legislation affecting local governments from the 2008 legislative session, and a panel on public works focusing on current issues in construction management and new opportunities for use of design build and GC/CM procedures. In addition, a nuts and bolts session on LIDs

will be held, there will be a review of the new developments in DUI and the State Toxicologist Office, and we will include the popular “lightning round” of short topics from the attendees.

As indicated, there will be a concurrent criminal law session on Thursday morning. This session will feature a comprehensive review on the new competency law, practical considerations in responding to the defense pretrial motions, and an update on domestic violence law issues.

Criminal Justice reimbursement will be available for up to \$50 for those who travel at least 50 miles to attend the conference and stay overnight in a commercial facility.

See the preliminary agenda for the full list of topics and speakers!

Social Highlights!

There will be a welcome reception on Wednesday evening from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. We will have at this reception a special remembrance of **Mike Weight**, the president of WSAMA whose unexpected death over the holidays has been such a loss to WSAMA and the city attorneys in the state.

We want to *thank our sponsors* whose generous contributions have made this reception possible: **Kenyon Disend; Foster Pepper; Ogdan Murphy Wallace; K&L Gates** (formerly Preston Gates & Ellis); **Keating, Bucklin & McCormack; Karen Willie/Queen Anne Arbitration and Mediation Services;** and **McGavick Graves.**

The golf courses at Whistler open for the summer season at a different time each year based on weather and snow conditions. The usual opening date is around the time of the WSAMA conference, but it is not certain at this point whether it will be before or after our conference. Therefore, it is not possible to make definite plans for a golf scramble until closer to the conference dates. We will monitor this and provide more information on a golf scramble or other option closer to the conference.

There will **NOT** be a luncheon on Thursday, because we want to give attendees the maximum time to enjoy Whistler without diminishing the professional program in any way. However, there will be a hosted reception Thursday night so members can socialize and network. In addition, the conference registration includes a continental breakfast Thursday morning and full breakfast Friday morning.

Conference Questions???

If you have any questions about the spring conference at Fairmont Chateau Whistler in Whistler, British Columbia, contact either **Donita Knutson** or **Patrick Mason** at the Municipal Research and Services Center:

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