

# Tangible Capital Assets Project Newsletter

April 2007

Number 3

## Web Cast

The Tangible Capital Assets New Accounting Standards conference call / web cast will be held on Wednesday, June 13 and Thursday, June 21 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. These interactive sessions are targeted for chief administrative officers and municipal financial officers. The sessions will cover most of the material on capital assets that was presented at the regional workshops.

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### Deadline:

Monday, May 28, 2007  
if you are interested in  
taking part.

## Municipal Excellence Network Creates Tangible Capital Assets Webpage

The Municipal Excellence Network has added a new webpage to the MEnet website that is entirely devoted to storing resources, information and discussions about the Tangible Capital Assets Project. The webpage is designed to be a quick and easy way for municipal staff to find the latest information on the project. The site also provides a discussion board, which allows users to post topics and to participate in discussions. The new page can be found at [www.MEnet.ab.ca](http://www.MEnet.ab.ca) by clicking on the initiative link.



## Public Sector Accounting Board Issues Guide

The PSAB has recently issued a *Guide to Accounting For and Reporting Tangible Capital Assets*.

This guide is a useful reference for local governments implementing Section PS 3150, *Tangible Capital Assets*, and the new reporting requirements. It contains valuable information on the need for and benefits of accounting for tangible capital assets. The guide discusses implementation considerations and subsequent accounting requirements, and how that information could be linked with ongoing asset management practices.



## Future Key Dates

Liaison Committee  
May 10, 2007  
June 14, 2007

Newsletter No. 4  
July 2007

Western Canada GFOA  
Annual Conference  
Calgary, AB  
September 12 – 14, 2007

## Things You Should Be Doing Now

Stay Informed  
Develop a Plan  
Start to Implement Your Plan

## Project Status Update



G . F . O . A

The Government Finance Officers Association recently hosted a series of regional workshops.

The Government Finance Officers Association and Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing recently hosted a series of regional workshops. The tangible capital asset session focused on the overall requirements and how to prepare an implementation plan and a budget. If you would like to obtain the workshop materials, please contact Financial Advisory Services.

Work is continuing on the development of the tangible capital assets implementation toolkit. The target date for the initial rollout of Edition 1 is early June.

Additional information will be prepared for future releases on valuation, reporting and other requested topics.

Contact Municipal Affairs and Housing — Financial Advisory Services at (780) 427-2225 if you have any questions. Dial 310-0000 to call toll-free within Alberta.

### Web Links

Government Finance Officers Association of Alberta

[www.gfoa.ab.ca](http://www.gfoa.ab.ca)

Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing

[www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca](http://www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca)

Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)

[www.amcto.com/db/assetmgmt.asp](http://www.amcto.com/db/assetmgmt.asp)

Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative

[www.ombi.ca](http://www.ombi.ca)

Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB)

[www.psab-ccsp.ca](http://www.psab-ccsp.ca)

## Valuation Matters

Resolving the historical valuation issue is front and centre for the project right now. The Ministry has engaged an engineering firm to prepare estimates of current construction costs for municipal roadway infrastructure in Alberta. This information will then be used in combination with inflation factors to easily estimate the original cost when the actual cost is unknown.

Municipalities are strongly encouraged to get started on the inventory process this summer. Valuation calculations can be completed at a later date as the cost estimates are developed for various types of infrastructure.



## Lethbridge's Community Asset Management Program

Several factors led the City of Lethbridge to develop the Community Asset Management Program (CAMP), including the requirement to depreciate assets. City staff recently prepared an article on the CAMP initiative, which provides tools and processes for managing assets throughout their useful lives. The article can be viewed at [www.MEnet.ab.ca/TCA](http://www.MEnet.ab.ca/TCA) under the resources and guidelines heading.

