MESSAGE FROM CHRIS

Welcome to the new season of activities for the Edmonton Pond. I’m honoured and excited to be entrusted as the new MLG for the Edmonton Pond. It looks to be an exciting year for the Pond as we continue to focus on with the precept of Charity with our Christmas Lunch and annual Gala. We were extremely pleased to visit the Wings of Providence Centre to present a cheque for $37,000 – the proceeds from our Charity gala last year – that they plan to use in support of the Rocky Forest Daycare.

We will also look to build on the precept of Fellowship as we endeavor to increase our Pond’s membership and event attendance through an initiative that the International Order has encouraged called ‘Rush for Goslings’. The idea is simple: plan an awesome event, encourage each member to invite one person from the industry, have a great time, and encourage those new people who attend to consider becoming members. Our ‘Rush’ event will be a Brewmaster’s Dinner held on October 23rd at Craft Beer Market. Details are included in this issue of Gaggles. Electronic invites will be sent to all members for your use in circulating to other’s in the industry. Please help us make this an awesome vent by RSVP’ing to attend for yourself and one other.

We will be holding an initiation gathering in November and our Christmas lunch in December. Further details about these events and more will be made available to everyone soon.

I look forward to a great year as we work to build the Edmonton Pond.

... Chris Miller, MLG
**RUSH For Goslings**

- Come to the Edmonton Pond Octoberfest*
- Bring a potential member
- Click **HERE** for membership application
- Sign him/her up
- Drink Beer

* Liederhosen optional

---

**AGM**

The Edmonton Pond AGM was held on June 17, 2014 at the Chateau Nova Kingsway with 24 Ganders in attendance.

Following the Call to Order by MLG Mike Sherban, approval of the minutes, and the usual committee reports, it was announced that the winner of the “Name That Convention” contest was Tracy Fata for both the logo and theme. Tracy was presented with her prize of $100 in gift certificates.

Following an election, a new slate of Pond officers were installed by GKGGE Mark Robertson. The 2014/15 Edmonton Pond Officers are:

- Most Loyal Gander: Chris Miller
- Supervisor of the Flock: Harvey Heinz
- Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg: Keegan McLennan
- Custodian of the Goslings: Zoeanne Campbell
- Guardian of the Pond: Halie Buac

The remaining items of business including approval by the Pond of reimbursement of expenses for attendees at the upcoming Grand Nest Convention in Salt Lake City and the appointment of PMLG Mike Sherban and GOP Halie Buac as the Edmonton Pond delegates to the convention.

---

**GALA SETS NEW RECORD**

Edmonton Pond members and guests once again showed their huge generosity, for which the Edmonton insurance community is known, at the annual Blue Goose Charity Gala. The event, held May 10, 2014 at the River Cree Edmonton Marriott Hotel raised $37,000 for this year’s recipient “The Home Next Door”.

Looking very dapper in his bow tie, our very own SOF Chris Miller MC’d the evening which once again featured artist Lewis Lavoie creating a painting that was auctioned off later in the evening. As a jazz band played in the background, guests enjoyed a first class dinner and an opportunity to bid on countless items in the silent auction.

Over the years, the Edmonton Pond has raised over $216,000 for various charities at its annual events. Our thanks to all of the sponsors, auction item donors, members and guests who supported this year’s Gala!

---

**OCTOBER RUSH**

The Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International has declared October as RUSH month. “What is RUSH” you might well ask. It is a campaign to recruit new members to our order by inviting them to a social event to be held during the month and hopefully encourage them to join Blue Goose.

The Edmonton Pond is hosting an **OKTOBERFEST** Brewmaster’s Dinner on October 23rd as our RUSH event (see next page for details). As a follow up, November’s meeting will be an Initiation Night.

The plan is simple. We encourage Edmonton Pond members to come out to the event. More importantly, we encourage you to bring along an industry friend who may be interested in joining Blue Goose. Here is a chance to bring them out to a fun event and let them experience the fellowship of Blue Goose.

Our organization is unique in the insurance industry. **Blue Goose is the only international insurance organization that focuses, not on the business of insurance, but on Character, Charity, and Fellowship.**

So bring a friend or co-worker out on October 23rd to experience the fun and fellowship that is Blue Goose, as we RUSH for Goslings!

Seating will be limited so make your reservation early. **Tickets must be purchased in advance** as we have to guarantee numbers.

Contact WQG, Neil Miller at edmontonpond@gmail.com for tickets or further information.
$30 PER PERSON | THURSDAY, OCT 23 | 5:30PM
CRAFT BEER MARKET
GOOD FOOD & GOOD BIER!

OKTOBERFEST - BREWMASTERS DINNER

The Blue Goose Edmonton Pond is pleased to host a private event for the insurance industry. Come and enjoy a four course meal complete with beer pairings for each course.

Executive Chef, Paul McGeely, has developed a menu of food and beer selections that complement the flavors in both. Come out and experience a European style Brewmasters Dinner.

JOIN US FOR A GREAT MEAL, GREAT BIER, AND A GREAT NIGHT!

Tickets must be pre-purchased for this event.

RSVP to Edmontonpond@gmail.com

Craft Beer Market
10013 - 101A Avenue NW (off Rice Howard Way)
Edmonton, AB T5J 0C3

www.edmontonpond.com

Menu

EUROPEAN

WELCOME BEER
Stiegl Radler

FIRST COURSE
West Coast Dungeness Crab Bisque
Crispy crab fritters
Paired with Erdinger Weiss

SECOND COURSE
Edam Tartolietto
Pickled beets and organic greens
Paired with La Chouffe

THIRD COURSE
Roasted Duck Breast
Gouda filled croquette, stone fruit jus
Paired with Chimay Triple

DESSERT
Sticky Toffee Pudding
Cocoa nib infused ice cream and smoked cherries
Paired with Mort Subite
CHECK-IN FROM GRAND NEST

Greetings Ganders from Grand Nest.

Hope you all had a fantastic summer.

This past July the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International Convention was held in beautiful Salt Lake City, Utah. It was a hugely successful convention with several important issues taking place along with events showcasing the host city and state.

Firstly, I would like to thank all the Edmonton Pond delegates and ganders who attended this year’s convention. Ganders Neil Miller (Permanent Wielder) and Simon Pugsley and their guests along with the Edmonton Pond delegates; Guardian of the Pond Hailie Bau, and PMLG Mike Sherban. The Canadian Region over all was well represented with the following delegates and ganders:


Not that we are bragging but Edmonton Pond had more ganders/delegates attend than any other pond across Canada. We can take great pride in our pond and its successful membership involvement.

There were several important events at this year’s convention.

- The passing of the amendment to increase the membership dues to Grand Nest. PMLGG Larry Lewer gave the opposing view to this motion while our own PMLG Mike Sherban stood up and provided comments in favor of this amendment.

- A new pond charter was granted and presented to the Mid Missouri Puddle. The granting of a new pond charter does not occur very often and was a special moment for everyone in attendance who witnessed this event.

- PMLGG Larry Lewer also presented a motion from the floor towards creating more transparency in our organization by providing all ganders with access to the Grand Nest Balance Sheet and Membership numbers. This motion also passed. This information will not be posted on the Grand Nest website but will be sent directly to each gander through the current Grand Nest bulletins and notices using membership e-mails. So it is important to make sure that you keep your e-mail contact information current with the pond, and also grant the pond e-mails safe sender status so that these bulletins and notices do not head directly to your junk mail box.

- Dayton Pond’s Kim Bilbrey was elected to the position of Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg and will be spearheading the Convention 2019 representing the Western Region. The Dayton pond rests within the Central Region so Kim had to undergo a dual membership initiation at this year’s convention.

If you have never attended a Convention please feel free to contact any of the ganders attending this year to learn about all the fun times had by all. The fellowship exhibited at these events is truly remarkable making lasting friendships.

Oh I almost forgot, and you will be hearing more about this “Rush for Gosling’s” event which is geared up for this coming October. This is an international event and our own Hailie Bauc joining Canadian Regional Rush Chairperson Dustin Bales in coordinating this event across Canada. Congratulations Hailie.

We should also thank all of the Canadian Deputy Most Loyal Grand Ganders who represent our region. BC – DMLGG Martin Moran, Alberta – DMLGG Lynne Fawcett, Quebec – DMLGG Jacque Cuierrier, Nova Scotia – DMLGG Archie Gillis and our two newest DMLGG’s – Dustin Bales from Manitoba Pond and Laurel DiMaso from Ontario Pond. Congratulations all and heartfelt thanks for stepping up to represent our Region.

That’s all for now, looking forward to seeing all of you out at the Edmonton Pond’s Rush for Goslings event.

Mark Robertson
Grand Guardian of the Nest

DUES CHALLENGE

It started with a challenge from PMLG Jim Gardiner. Then PMLG Tony Thibaudeau issued the same challenge to all PMLG’s.

The idea is simple: write a cheque for double your dues with the extra going to the 2018 Convention Fund. If you have already sent in your dues payment we will accept a second cheque and will direct it to the Convention Fund.

To date the following have accepted the Challenge:

<table>
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<th>PMLG Jim Gardiner</th>
<th>Cheryl Gardiner</th>
<th>PMLG Neil Miller</th>
<th>PMLG Tony Thibaudeau</th>
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<td></td>
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WILL YOU BE NEXT?
FIRST CONVENTION

At the AGM in June the topic of convention was being discussed, and that’s when I really considered attending. Over the past few years I had heard a little bit about convention and what an attendee can expect. The one thing that really pulled my interest was the opportunity to meet new people from all over Canada and the USA who were like minded insurance professionals. I enjoy meeting new people and making new friends and this sounded like the perfect opportunity. I realised shortly after that there were people from our Edmonton Pond that continued to go to convention each and every year. They even said they wouldn’t miss a convention for anything. And that’s because of the really great connections they make with the other attendees. I decided to go to Utah for the 2014 convention along with Mike Sherban, Neil Miller, Mark Robertson, and Simon Pugsley. I was really looking forward to the fun events on the itinerary including: the pre-convention golf tournament, the model initiation, the Days of ’47 Welcome Dinner, the luncheon at Squatters Pub, and the Grand Nest Banquet. As soon as I got to the airport in Utah I realised that this trip was probably going to change some of my perceptions of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International forever.

I have a lot of tradition and we also have our three guiding principles: “Charity”, “Character”, and “Fellowship”. But we have something else that I didn’t realise before: we have an opportunity to be the change that we want to see. And change can happen while we also continue to uphold the key principles of “Charity”, “Character”, and “Fellowship”. These three principles do not speak only about our past and present, but they are the direction of our future. The people who I met were passionate about these three things, but they were also looking forward. And this passion not only affects the industry in which we work, but it affects our local communities as well.

I am really proud to be a part of an organization that has been around since 1906 and I can appreciate now that being a part of this is something really special.

Halie Buac, GOP

CONVENTION RECAP

The 108th Grand Nest Convention was held in Salt Lake City, UT July 23-27, 2014. Ganders and guest from across Canada and the US met at the Marriott City Center Hotel, within walking distance of the beautiful Temple Square and the stately Capitol building. Edmonton Pond first-time attendees Halie Buac and Simon Pugsley joined fellow

Outdoor adventurer and publisher of Outdoor Utah Adventure Guide, Red Oerlerich, was the guest speaker at the All Industry Luncheon. His slideshow presentation showcased the incredible beauty of Utah’s five state parks.

Regional meeting convened following the luncheon. Thursday evening featured the Family Night Dinner at The Leonardo museum. Meetings dominated the mornings for the final two days winding up with lunch at Squatters Grill on Saturday. Edmonton Pond shared hosting duties of the Hospitality Suite on Friday night with the St. Louis Pond.

While Ganders were busy in meetings, spouses were not forgotten with various activities, tours, and luncheons on their agenda.

With the Grand Banquet and Ball closing the convention on Saturday night it was time to say farewell again to wonderful Blue Goose friends, both old and new.

Edmonton ganders Mike Sherban, Mark Robertson, and Neil Miller for the 4 days of fun and fellowship.

A golf tournament on the morning of the 23rd, followed by a Welcome Party that evening, kicked off the Convention. Of course the highlight of the golf tournament was our very own PMLG Mike Sherban hitting a hole-in-one! The formal part of the convention got underway on the morning of Thursday, July 24 with the Opening Ceremonies and Memorial Service. Then it was the “cast” from Blazing Saddles (aka National Capital Pond) who had them rolling in the aisles with their hilarious Model Initiation.

The model initiation was one of my favourite moments to see. The initiates were brought into the room but had no idea there was an elaborate gun slingin’ western act going on inside. The costumes were amazing and the banter between the members hosting the initiation was epic. Being a brand new gosling and partaking in the model initiation is something exciting that you can only experience at convention.

The best part of our trip was the Grand Nest Banquet on the final day of convention. We had a wonderful dinner and live band and many of our ganders really lit it up on the dance floor. We even had some of our ganders get up on stage to steal the microphone and take over the drum set.

The people that I met at convention from all over Canada and the USA are going to be connections that I will have for the rest of my life. I met such a wide range of people including executives, claims investigators, brokers, underwriters, appraisers and marketing representatives. But all in all, no matter how different our work was, we were there for the same purpose. We were there to share and connect with each other under the banner of “Fellowship” and I really do look at our organization with a new understanding.

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First timers Simon, Halie

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PHOTO ALBUM

GRAND NEST CONVENTION 2014
SALT LAKE CITY, UT

Click HERE for more photos
THANK YOU!

The 2014 Blue Goose Charity Gala, in support of *The Home Next Door*, would not have been the resounding success that it was without the generous support of the following sponsors:

**PLATINUM SPONSOR:**

![Rainbow International Restoration of Alberta](image)

**AUCTION DONORS:**

Able Translations  
Action Flooring  
Advantage Claims  
Allegro  
AltaPro / Rainbow  
AMA  
AMI  
Antrim  
ASI  
Belfor  
Blitz Conditioning  
Brian Liddel Law  
Brownlee  
CAFO Inc  
Carpet Studio  
CBM Lawyers  
Canadian Claims Services  
CFI Flooring  
Challenge Insurance  
CIBC Wood Gundy  
ClaimsPro  
Clear Choice Exteriors  
Crawford  
Credo Coffee  
Crystal Glass  
Direct IME  
Doubletree Mayfield  
Edmonton Insurance Association  
ENX  
Edmonton Salvage Disposal  
Fabutan  
Field Law  
First General  
Gardiner Appraisals  
Glazing Pots Studios  
Good Luck Sock  
Graham Ryan  
Independent Jewelers  
Intact  
Italian Centre Shop  
Kaltee Construction  
Lewis Lavoie  
Leslie McDougall Adjusting Services  
Marriott River Cree  
McLennan Ross  
MD&D  
MDSI  
Meadow Construction  
MHK  
Miller Thomson  
New West Adjusters  
Northern Property Appraisals  
Parlee McLaws  
Pazzo Pazzo  
Peace Hills  
Portage Mutual  
Priddle & Associates  
Pryme Restoration  
Ratcliff Appraisals  
Roguski Metcalf  
ServPro  
Sintra Engineering  
Snihur Engineering  
Spar Construction  
SPECS  
The Pint  
Titan Construction  
Townsend & Leedham  
Transcend Coffee  
Veri-Clean  
Wawanesa  
Winnco  
Wings of Providence
GOLF TOURNAMENT
In the largest turnout in recent years, Blue Goose members and guests turned out on June 5th for what was likely the coldest Interpond Golf Tournament on record. Golfers from Edmonton and Alberta Ponds teed off in +5 temperatures at the Lacombe Golf & Country Club, braving cold winds and showers for the next 18 holes. It put a whole new meaning into "Blue" Goose!

Special thanks go out to the sponsors, volunteers and hole-in-one spotters who manned various holes to entertain and feed the golfers. It took an extra degree of stamina for them to survive the day!

Once again, PMLG’s Eugene Way and Rob Keith, assisted by Ken Bolan, did an outstanding job of organizing the tournament on behalf of the Edmonton Pond.

Tournament winners were Cam Hiebert (Overall Low Net), Jay Laplante (Alberta Pond Low Net), Kevin Shaigic (Edmonton Pond Low Net), and Ken Lakhram (55+ Low Net). Edmonton Pond earned the bragging rights in the Inter-Pond competition.

We owe a HUGE debt of gratitude to our tournament sponsors. This tournament was an outstanding success because of their support. These great companies are listed below:

2014 Golf Tournament Sponsors

Alberta Fire and Flood
AMI Autoglass Insurance
Belfor Canada Inc
CBM Lawyers
Crystal Glass
Ecclesiastical Insurance
Intact Insurance
Lacombe Golf and Country Club
New West Adjusters
Norton Rose Fulbright
Portage Insurance
Pro Star Cleaning & Restoration
ServMaster
Servpro
Spar Construction (Edmonton) Ltd
Titan Construction Ltd.
Townsend Leedam Adjusters
Wawanesa Insurance
Way Systems Inc
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<tr>
<td>Southern Region</td>
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<tr>
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GAGGLES ADVERTISING RATES:

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CONTACT US:

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780-420-1551
cmiller@sintraeng.com

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Guardian of the Pond
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Permanent Wielder of the Goose Quill & Gaggles Editor
Neil Miller
780-458-2526
EdmontonPond@gmail.com

Website
www.edmontonpond.com

CHANGING JOBS?
Remember to send you new contact details to edmontonpond@gmail.com
# Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International

## Application for the Edmonton Pond

(Application fee of $50 must be attached)

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<th>New Membership</th>
<th>Reinstatement</th>
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## I prefer correspondence be sent to my

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Have you ever been a member of another pond? [ ] YES [ ] NO  If “YES” what pond? ________________

Flight to ________________ Pond from ________________ Pond and has paid dues for the fiscal year ending ________________. If officer, position held: ________________ Dates: ________________

In accordance with CASL I give my consent to receiving emails from the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International and/or The Edmonton Pond. I understand that I may opt out at any time by contacting edmtonpond@gmail.com [ ] YES [ ] NO

Date:  

Applicants Signature:  

## New Member Vouched for by Three Ganders

1. __________________________  
   Print Sponsor’s Name

2. __________________________  
   Print Sponsor’s Name

3. __________________________  
   Print Sponsor’s Name

Pond use only:  
Dated: _________  
Approved: ________________  

WGQ
INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP
EDMONTON POND
HONORABLE ORDER OF THE BLUE GOOSE, INTERNATIONAL

If you work within the Property and Casualty Insurance Industry, we welcome you to apply for membership in the Edmonton Pond by following these steps:

1. Complete the Application Form (a form which can be completed online and printed can be found at edmontonpond.com/become-a-member)
2. Have your application vouched for by 3 existing members (Ganders) of Blue Goose.
3. Mail your completed application, along with a $50.00 cheque payable to Blue Goose Edmonton Pond (for application fee and current year’s dues) to:
   Edmonton Pond
   54 Arbor Cr.
   St. Albert, AB
   T8N 3R1

When your application is received you will receive confirmation and further notice once the date of the next Initiation Ceremony has been established.

For further information contact the Edmonton Pond at edmontonpond@gmail.com or go to our website edmontonpond.com