

Karen Harman takes the show on the road



Karen Harman gets the ABCRC display ready for travelling

Not the least of her contributions to ABCRC is Karen Harman's commitment to getting the ABCRC story told. Between the success of Alberta's Common Collection System for beverage containers and the Grade 4 Science curriculum for Alberta students that focuses on the environment, there is not only a story to tell but a place to tell it. The ABCRC video is loaned to schools regularly as a teaching aid for the Grade 4 science classes. Since 1999 approximately 350 schools throughout Alberta have liked the video so much that they have purchased their own copies. However, requests to view the video have come from as far away as Nova Scotia and Wisconsin, USA.

Recently, the success of Alberta's beverage container recycling system caught the interest of an

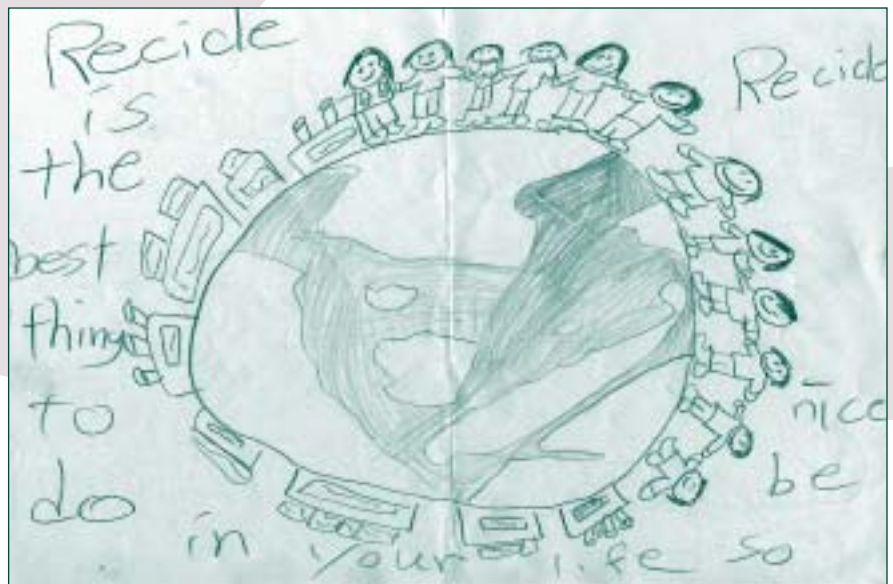
environmental group from Envision, New Zealand. It started with a request for one of the ABCRC juice box posters. Later a presentation to the New Zealand government was made using Alberta's system as a model. Karen has sent them a number of brochures, information sheets and posters to support this initiative.

The ABCRC display also makes many appearances throughout the year at Alberta events and Karen takes care of getting the display to its destination safely and on time. In 2001 the display appeared at the Mayor's Expo in Calgary and the Recycling Expo for Government Employees, both in June. In the fall the display travelled to Edmonton to the Recycling Council of Alberta Conference and the ATA Science Council Meeting in Red Deer. In

November Ken Teare took the display to AUMA in Edmonton.

It is expected the display will have a similar schedule in 2002 and will also be present at the Alberta Teachers' Conventions in both Calgary and Edmonton.

Not only does Karen take care of all these arrangements, she often goes out herself to talk with small groups and show the video. In November Karen visited the Unit 54 Lake Sundance Brownie Group. One of their Brownie badges must be earned by creating something from recycled materials and they got lots of ideas from talking with Karen and watching the video. One of the joys is the mail Karen often receives following these trips. This one is from the Lake Sundance Brownies. ♻️



Unit 54 Lake Sundance Brownie Group send their thanks to ABCRC

MISSION STATEMENT:

To collect and recycle regulated beverage containers in the Province of Alberta.

Ken's Corner



The process to reach agreement with regard to handling commissions to be paid to depots has occupied much of our time this year. The exemption for domestic beer was removed effective November 15th and interim fees have been put in place pending a further cost study. I'm pleased to report that progress is being made and we are focused on strategies to accommodate the changes that will be seen in the ABCRC operation.

The Advertising Committee, made up of representatives of ABDA, BCMB and ABCRC, met on November 29th to establish criteria for the spring campaign. Wendy Anderson of Anderson McFallon has been working with ABCRC in the development of the campaign and our website, which we expect to be

ready by sometime in March. We have had another busy year developing public awareness, not only through the advertising campaign, but also through the display and video that have been produced over the past few years. My thanks go to Karen Harman for all her help in this area.

We have also continued to be busy monitoring quality control issues within the system. In Volume 4 Issue 4 Winter 2000 we reported on the new sampling methods developed to increase accuracy in the system. Improvement has been slower to come than was anticipated. As a result, progressive discipline will be playing a larger part in the procedure in the future.

My congratulations to the new ABDA Executive Committee that was elected at the Annual Convention and AGM on October 20th. I look forward to working with you to

improve the system.

Our Calgary Plant staff celebrated Christmas with a dinner at the Saddledome, followed by the infamous game that now defines the rivalry of the Calgary Flames and the Mighty Ducks.

I hope that all of you had a peaceful holiday season and will join me in looking forward to another successful year in 2002! ♻️

Ken Teare
President and General Manager

Teamwork

At their meeting in November, the ABCRC Board of Directors reviewed the succession plan in consideration of Ken Teare's retirement in December 2002.

As of December 1st, 2001, Ken Teare is the ABCRC President and Guy West is General Manager.

Progressive Action Approved By BCMB

For the past year and a half ABCRC has been working closely with the BCMB and ABDA to address ongoing quality control issues. An insert in the Winter 2000 issue of Round & Round described new sampling methods that were introduced last year to improve the accuracy of the system. In 2001 the reporting of Quality Control results was changed and a 5-step process of progressive action was introduced.

The results of sampling performed by ABCRC are reported to the BCMB and to individual depots. When counts are less than reported, the depots are charged for the equivalent amount of the variance. When the cumulative dollar value of adjustments for a depot exceeds \$100 over a 12-month period, the BCMB places that depot into the Progressive Action program. The first

step of this program is the completion of another sample from a future load.

If the results from this sample are unsatisfactory to the BCMB, the program will move to the second step. The BCMB will request ABCRC to sample another load after a period of 10 days and the depot will be advised in writing to take corrective measures.

With continued unsatisfactory results further steps of the program will be implemented. At the third step the BCMB will notify the depot of results by registered mail and will sample another load from the depot after a period of 10 days.

Unsatisfactory results from Step 3 may elevate the depot to the fourth step of the program. The BCMB will send another registered letter notifying the depot of results and expectations and will also visit with the depot operator to

review their processes. The BCMB will sample another load from the depot after a period of 10 days.

If the results of the sample from Step 4 continue to be unsatisfactory to the BCMB then a fine may be levied against the depot, along with a further registered letter and visit with the depot operator to again review their processes.

Failure to correct problems during this 5-step process will result in the BCMB again giving notice to the depot via registered letter, assessing another levy, and recommending further action against the depot to the BCMB Board.

The process is intended to give fair warning and the opportunity to correct problems. However, if the depot does not correct the problem, then a formal review of the depot permit could be conducted by the BCMB. ♻️

New Regulation Targets Fairness

During the nearly thirty years that the Common Collection System for the recovery of beverage containers has been operating, domestic brewers manufacturing in the western provinces have been exempt from the requirements of the Beverage Container Recycling Regulation.

The domestic brewers have been operating their own collection system in the western provinces and it has been a successful one with a high container return rate. However customers have only received a refund of their full deposit if the beer containers were returned to locations run by Brewers' Distributors (BDL) agents. As a result this system has been less expensive for BDL to operate but more expensive for the consumer when the majority of depots have needed to retain part of the deposit to cover the handling costs not paid for by the domestic manufacturers.

Effective November 15th the domestic brewers are no longer exempt from the Regulation. This means that a full handling commission must be paid by the collection agent. Their inclusion in the system also changes the composition of the Beverage Container Management Board (BCMB). Prior to November 15th the Board included representation of 3 manufacturers, 3 bottle depots, and 3 independents. By including domestic beer the Board is now made up of 4 manufacturers, 4 collection agents with a hotel or liquor store representative joining the depot representatives, and 4 independents.

The process to develop a system where all manufacturers are assured fair treatment under the International Trade Agreement has not been an easy one. Initially instigated by import beer manufacturers, there has been considerable frustration on the part of the domestic manufacturers to change a system that has been working for them. Even as the changeover date took affect there had still not been agreement in setting the handling commission. An interim rate was established by BCMB on November 5th pending a complete study of the cost of

operating a depot. The terms of reference for the study have been drafted by BCMB and through a tendering process, an appropriate consultant was chosen to determine the total revenue required to operate a depot and the relative cost for each type of container. It is expected that the study will be finalized by the end of February.

The impact of these changes will create a few challenges for the ABCRC operations. ABCRC expects about a 6 percent loss of containers coming to their plants in Calgary and Edmonton. ♻️

ABDA elects new Executive and Board

The ABDA held their Annual Convention and AGM on October 20th at the Sheraton Cavalier in Calgary. ABCRC sends congratulations to the new members of the Executive and Board and looks forward to our continued partnership in the ongoing improvement of the Common Collection System.

President	Timothy Mastel-Marr Sherwood Park, Alberta
Vice President	Dave Custer Calgary, Alberta
Treasurer	Don Dewinetz Sundre, Alberta
2 Year Directors	Badur Kherani Edmonton, Alberta
	Roger Arcand Lacombe, Alberta
	Farid Remtulla Calgary, Alberta
	Ray Renaud Calgary, Alberta
	Grace Torpe Camrose, Alberta
1 year Directors	Harold Imes Spirit River, Alberta
	Rick Spafford Drumheller, Alberta
	Marion Kostynuk Rocky Mountain House, Alberta
	Stan Csuti Edmonton, Alberta
	Mohamed Rekieh Wetaskiwin, Alberta



Personality Profile

Peter Nelson – Not all work and no play!

Talent can surface in the most unexpected places, as can be found in Peter Nelson who works in the ABCRC Edmonton Plant. A long time musician, Peter recently joined ABCRC after many years of being on the road so that he could spend more time with his family. He has performed in a wide range of places, from Ottawa to Prince Rupert, as a one-man show, in several duos, and in bands.



Peter Nelson Pursuing a dream

Although he is one of the few Edmontonians who was actually born in Edmonton, it is only in the past decade that Edmonton has been his home. Born into a military family, Peter has lived in numerous bases across Canada. He attended school in at least six places prior to graduating from high school. Following high school Peter began an Environmental Science degree at Trent University and like many first year students, he found that campus life had much to offer other than academics. Peter discovered that he possessed a real talent toward a career in music.

Peter left Trent to attend the Berklee College of Music in Boston and graduated with an Honors Degree in Jazz Composition in 1987. After graduation he was accepted into the Masters Degree program at the New England Conservatory of Music. However finances prohibited this

pursuit and Peter went on to performance and teaching.

In 1993 Peter married his wife Margaret. The happiness of this day for Peter has only been equaled by the birth of his daughter Anna on March 14, 1999. Approximately six months after Anna's birth Peter left the successful duo he had been performing with for three years as he found that the periods of separation from his family were too difficult.

Peter has brought the love of music to many people and even to entire families through is teaching. Although he has a thriving teaching business at home with twenty-five students, Peter needed

to replace the income that was lost when he stopped travelling. A position at ABCRC gave him a solution. Initially the early morning hours were a shock after years of nightlife, but the hours allow him to continue teaching from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. four days a week. While the hours Peter puts in weekly to support his family are long, he doesn't regret having left the road. He now has the opportunity to see his daughter grow on a daily basis. ♻️

New Arrival

Congratulations to Annie and Sam Luc on the birth of their daughter Katrina Tasha at 12:52 a.m. December 26th.



ABCRC Calgary staff hosted a baby shower for Annie and Sam on November 28th.

A Trip to The Zoo

On September 22nd ABCRC staff from the Calgary Plant and their families were treated to an outing at Calgary Zoo.



A real treat – Kimberly West and Kali Gee enjoy some kids' favourites for lunch.



Kimberly sits quietly with the zookeeper to give a rabbit a pet.

Round & Round

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