

# **ITE District 7 (Canada)**

## **Southern Alberta Section**

# **Annual Section Report 2024**



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March 1, 2025

Mr. Ryan Vanderputten  
President, District 7  
Institute of Transportation Engineers Canada

Dear Mr. Vanderputten:

We proudly present our 2024 Section Report for your review. Our Section continues its excellent participation with transportation professionals in Southern Alberta through numerous technical, and student activities. The Section Executive held 15 events this year, including a social gala event in December, with overall attendance exceeding 300 members and non-members. In 2024, the City of Lethbridge chapter was amalgamated into the Southern Alberta Section. As such, we extended our technological prowess to provide Lethbridge members virtual access to participate within our monthly luncheon presentations and to network amongst the community members. We also participated in a Joint Webinar held by the Prairie Sections; and invited Northern Alberta Section members to join a virtual presentation on Northern Alberta Emergency Traffic Management.

We supported professional development for young members by creating opportunities for mentoring. We collaboratively held a successful student-industry mixer with the University of Calgary Civil Engineering Undergraduate Society. We continued to actively support our local University of Calgary student chapter through assisting with advertising and participating in events. In May, we hosted 4<sup>th</sup> Year Civil Engineering Students to present on their Capstone Projects. In addition, we sponsored \$500 towards a team of transportation engineering students to partake in the Traffic Bowl at the 2024 ITE Canada Conference in the City of Hamilton.

The financial state of the Section remains healthy, with a balance over \$12,300 at year-end. Our monthly luncheon sessions continued in-person and we added an on-line virtual option, which has provided a slight buffer of revenue over the costs.

We were fortunate this year to have one of our members, Jen Malzer, P.Eng., MSc., to receive ITE Canada's most prestigious honour, the H. Robert Burton Distinguished Service Award (see attachment).

It was another successful year for the Southern Alberta Section. This was made possible through hard work and dedication from our outstanding members and Executive Team as well as support and guidance from our District Executives and Administrator. We look forward to a great 2025!

Kind Regards,

Lou Mak, P.Eng.  
2024 President – Southern Alberta ITE Section

## Regular Meetings

A summary of the Regular Meetings held by the Southern Alberta Section in 2024 is provided below.

Meeting Type	Number of Meetings/Events
2024 AGM	1
In-Person and Virtual Presentations	8
ITE Prairie Sections Joint Webinar	1
Panel Discussion	1
Year End Gala Event	1
Mentoring / Networking Events	1
Social and Networking Event	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

Every year, the Southern Alberta Section organizes regular monthly luncheon meetings to conduct the Section's business, convey announcements, enable networking, and provide informative presentations. Presentation topics are planned and adjusted throughout the year as needed. This helps ensure luncheons are diverse and remain a source of current information about important developments in the transportation (or related) field at the local, provincial, and national level. The presentations this year consisted of a diverse mix of topics that included transit, future proofing, health and planning, public space, active modes, environment, commercial business zones, traffic accommodation, and data collection/analyses.

Brief summaries of the presentations hosted by the Southern Alberta Section in 2024 are provided on the following page.

One heartfelt presentation that was particularly well received by our members was:

- **Transportation Management of Emergencies in Northern Alberta.** This event featured Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors presenting on the deployment of traffic management strategies during emergencies, such as wildfires, in remote areas with limited access and communications. The traffic management strategies needed to consider non-typical behaviors from motorists as they are emotionally-charged from the emergency situation with family in tow, fatigued from extensive driving after working a regular shift, and the lack of guidance and support. The presentation conveyed that the engineering of solutions must consider the human psychological needs of the situation.

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Topic</b>
January 16	Bidoura Khondaker, City of Calgary	Bus Priority Measures in Calgary
February 20	Jamie Hilland, Urban Systems	Integrating Health into Transportation Planning
March 12	Jen Malzer, City of Calgary	Designing Public Spaces in Calgary
April 10	Dr. Willem Klumpenhower	Just Transit Futures: Equity Analysis of Transit Infrastructure Projects
May 14	University of Calgary 4 <sup>th</sup> Year Civil Engineering Students	Transit/Micromobility; and Net-Zero Transition Modelling
June 4	Chris Prosser, CAO, High River	High River's Pathway Journey
July 9	Josh Workman (host) Tulene Steiestol (17 Ave), Marion Hayes (Montgomery), Bob van Megen (Marda Loop)	Panel Discussion on Business Improvement Areas – Transportation Boosting Business
September 10	Mae Stewart, Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors	Transportation Management of Emergencies in Northern Alberta
October 15	Colin Adderley, Amy Sun, City of Calgary	LoRaWan – Acoustic Monitoring and Other User Cases

## Student/Younger Member Support

The Section continues to support our local University of Calgary (U of C) ITE Student Chapter through advertising events, and subsidizing student attendance at Section luncheons and events. The Student Chapter has 60 members. The chapter met every second Friday through the fall of 2024. They held student/industry presentations, workshops, social events, and their AGM. Students from the University of Calgary were also given an opportunity to present to the Section during our May 2024 meeting, where a team presented on their 4<sup>th</sup> Year Capstone Project and a Master Student's Thesis: Transit/Micromobility, and Net-Zero Transition Modelling – AB Heavy Trucking Sector.

## Application of Technical Knowledge

Throughout 2024, our focus was to bring technical knowledge to the membership on diverse topics and diverse speakers. This includes our January meeting on Bus Priority Measures and their benefits and requirements; April meeting on Equity Analysis of Transit Infrastructure Projects; and October meeting on Acoustic Monitoring and Other Use cases. We also had presentations on Designing Public Spaces and Integrating Health into Transportation Planning.

## Networking Events

We facilitated networking in several ways over the course of the year:

- **Student-Industry Mixer** – Jointly with the Civil Engineering Undergraduate Society, we held a student-industry at the University of Calgary to encourage students to meet industry members; ask questions on the industry; showcase their personal academics and experience; and above all, get acquainted and involved with ITE. The event encouraged new memberships to the Southern Alberta Section; and provided a chance for young professionals, from students to recent graduates, to develop meaningful connections and understanding of the industry that will benefit both parties and the industry
- **Industry Social** - We held a social event to encourage networking among industry members. University students were also invited to attend the event. The purpose of the event was for members to reconnect with one another, meet new colleagues, and share knowledge and experience.
- **Year End Gala.** In November, we held a 2024 Year-End Gala at the Calgary Zoo to close out the yearly activities; thank the membership for their involvement and participation in this year's events; presentation by Jen Malzer on "Community"; present awards for best project of the year (McElhanney Geomatics Engineering Ltd. – Highway 3 and Highway 40: Minor Grading, Crack Repair, Cold Milling, ACP and Other Work); and encourage further networking. A year end summary was presented by President, Lou

Mak, which included upcoming 2025 ITE Canada and Southern Alberta events and technical seminars.

## **K-12 Stem Outreach**

No specific K-12 Stem Outreach Activities were conducted in 2024.

## **New Member Recruitment**

In line with ITE International's goal to increase membership, the Southern Alberta Section strives to increase local membership by:

- Student-industry mixer event
- Social mixer event with students being welcomed
- working with public agency members to ensure their staff are aware of opportunities to join ITE and the benefits of membership and updating the agency member list
- providing discounted luncheons and events for student members,
- allowing non-members to attend luncheons to increase their exposure to ITE and their awareness of membership benefits.
- working with the Lethbridge representative to encourage presentations relevant to smaller communities; and associated attendance through virtual on-line broadcasting.
- virtual events with minimal charge to encourage actual attendance after sign-up

## **Diversity and Inclusion**

Our Chapter fosters an inclusive and diverse environment where all members are welcome regardless of their gender, race, or ethnicity. Our executive is a group of diverse individuals from different background who not only bring technical knowledge to the membership but also share their unique perspective and strengths built from the different cultures they belong. Our speakers represented this diversity at our webinar sessions. In addition, we have members from various sectors: public agencies, planners, students, and private sector.

## **Training/Professional Development**

No specific training/educational opportunities were conducted in 2024.

## **Field Trips/Technical Tours**

No field trips/technical tours were conducted in 2024.

## **Service Projects**

No service projects were conducted in 2024.

## Funding Support

Sponsorship for monthly luncheons, industry-student mixers, social events, and the Year-End gala was provided by industry. This, and member dues, supported the event activities.

## Advocacy

Following from a panel discussion in 2023 on Rules of the Road, there were interests to continue exploring this topic in 2024. An advocacy group was developed to present/summarize/share interpretations of legislation; and to discuss experience, bylaws, standards, guidelines. The purpose of the group was to advocate for legislation revisions/clarifications that better suits today's environment, technological advancements, and new modes of transportation.

## 2024 Executive Committee

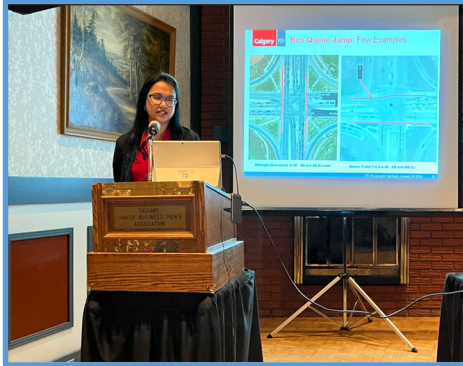
POSITION:	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER:	
President:	Lou Mak	
Vice President:	Annie Wang	
Treasurer (2-yr Term):	Kennith Lin	
Secretary (2-yr Term):	Kayla Royce	
Publicity Coordinator	Bidoura Khondaker	
Past-President	Josh Workman	
Section Director (2-yr Term)	Anne Cataford	







## ANNUAL SECTION REPORT-2024



## ITE Canada's Post



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ITE Canada's most prestigious honour, the H. ROBERT BURTON DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD, has been awarded to [Jen Malzer, P.Eng, MSc](#). This award recognizes outstanding achievement in the transportation profession and dedicated service to ITE Canada.

Over her 22-year career, Jen has served with passion and enthusiasm at every level of [ITE—A Community of Transportation Professionals](#) with Executive roles and committee participation at the [University of Manitoba ITE Student Chapter](#), the [ITE Southern Alberta Section](#), ITE Canada (President, 2015-2017), and the ITE International Board of Direction (Director, 2018-2021). In every role, she contributes ideas and dedicated effort to building strong communities of practice. Beyond ITE, she has also been a board member for [Vélo Canada Bikes](#), served on an expert panel to advise Parks Canada on Sustainable Transportation opportunities within Banff National Park, and was on the steering committee for [Walk21 Foundation](#) Calgary.

In her day job as the Leader of Public Spaces Project Development at The City of Calgary, Jen supports a team reimagining mobility, parks, and recreation. She has led many complex projects like Flyover Park, LRT and BRT functional plans. Outside of work, Jen loves reading, travelling, and biking with her son, Scott, to school every day.

Congratulations, Jen, on this momentous accomplishment! Your dedication, passion, and spark are infectious and you continue to inspire many in the ITE community.

