

THIRSTY THURSDAYS

NEXT GEN

Virtual
HAPPY HOUR

MCAM MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA
ADVANCING INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE

MCAM's Next Gen Committee is thrilled to launch and host Thirsty Thursday's Virtual Happy Hour. Thirsty Thursdays take place on the last Thursday of each month and are a casual virtual Zoom Happy Hour to meet up, network and take part in conversations with the mechanical industry's future leaders.

The special guest for March Thirsty Thursday was Bryan Alston, Director at Alston Properties via and sponsored by Thermo Applicators. Bryan is the Director of Alston Properties, a private real estate investment and development company with operations in Victoria, Calgary, and Winnipeg. Bryce expanded the business into Winnipeg in 2014 and is responsible for all asset and property management, development, and construction activities in Winnipeg. Alston Properties has been one of the most active developers in downtown Winnipeg in the last decade.

The special guest for April Thirsty Thursday was James Derksen of Derksen Plumbing and Heating, this hour was sponsored by Bibby-Ste.-Croix. Following the retirement of Derksen Plumbing and Heating founders Frank and Henry Derksen, James joined as a full partner in 1990. James's contributions to the Mechanical Contracting industry include terms as President of both the Mechanical Contracting Association of Manitoba (MCAM) and Mechanical Contracting Association of Canada. He also assumed other roles within these organizations, including Executive Board Member of MCAM from 1997 to 2014. He also served on several committees with the Winnipeg Construction Association. He is also MCAM's most recent Pioneer inducted in 2019. Now in retirement, James enjoys spending time with his family at their cottage in Lac Du Bonnet MB and spends winters at his home in Palm Springs CA.

Next Gen Chairman, Cory Ball of Mikkelsen-Coward, did a fine job in keeping both happy hours engaging for all those who attended. The conversations circled around topics like the rising costs of supplies, relationship building and preparing for leadership roles in family-owned businesses.

Next Gen events such as the popular Scotch Night were cancelled this year due to the pandemic. The committee launched Thirsty Thursdays because there was an appetite to network and learn. This event provided an opportunity to share stories and have questions answered as they relate to the Mechanical Contracting Industry. Cole Ridd from Dynamic Building Controls said, "It is a great opportunity to network and get to know your peers in the industry!" and Cory Gray of Thermo Applicators says, "It's not everyday you get to speak with CEOs and decision makers in a casual setting!"

The next Thirsty Thursday is May 27 and this event is growing in popularity!



Thank you sponsors!