



SuperScript

Volume 15, Issue 11 | September 2007

SuperScript is the official newsletter of the Alberta Community of the Society for Technical Communication and is published 10 times a year. The editors welcome submissions and advertising that will be of interest to our members. If you have an idea for an article or if you have an advertising enquiry, please contact us.



President's Message

Our STC year is already off to a strong start. As I write this, 25 people are already registered for the September 27 Wine and Cheese, and we are in the planning stages of our STC Alberta exhibit at the Calgary Technologies Inc. Tech Showcase and Open House in October. [More ...](#)

~ Lucille Worone, President

You know you're a tech writer when ...

- you proofread the cereal box in the morning – and then mail the revisions to the cereal company!
- you know every sign in town that uses an apostrophe incorrectly or not at all (when it should).
- you copyedit your own writing, even when you're not at work.
- you find discussions on the serial comma exhilarating!

~ STC members

Membership News

In August, the Alberta Community gained six members, bringing the membership count to 223. Welcome to our new members:

- Andrew Coutts, Muenster SK
- Andrea Dennis, Calgary
- Laini Giles, Texas
- Louise Praught, Edmonton
- Colleen Stewart, Calgary
- Wei-Yuen Tan, Vancouver.

~ Deirdre O'Riain, Membership Coordinator

Online Resources

Try dita - users at [yahoo groups](#). This list helps people with all things DITA – from basic info to technical resolution to problems. ~ Karen Lowe, STC member

If you're interested in content management and related subjects, [The Rockley Report](#) has practical information on topics like best practices, tools and techniques, usability, and more on DITA, too. ~ *Carmen Wyatt, SuperScript editor*

It's coming, it's coming!

The next SuperScript deadline is October 19. I look forward to SuperScript submissions landing in my e-mail box. Articles, quips, tips, news about news groups, photos, discussion topics...pass along whatever you think might be of interest to the STC community.

To send in submissions or for more information about SuperScript, e-mail newsletter@stc-alberta.org.

~ *Carmen Wyatt, SuperScript Editor*

[SuperScript Archives](#) | [Events](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [STC Alberta](#) | [STC.org](#)



SOCIETY FOR TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION



Home

About STC
Alberta

Awards/
Scholarships

Edmonton

Chapter
Resources

Contacts

Competitions

E-mail lists

Event Calendar

Event
Registration

Jobline

Links

Membership

Mentorship

New Heights

Newsletter

Other Events

Programs

Publications

STC Web
Seminars

The Alberta Chapter newsletter, *SuperScript*, is published ten times a year, with double issues in December/January and July/August. *SuperScript* presents feature articles from inside the Chapter and out, program and events calendar, profiles, tips and tricks to improve your skills, and important contact information. [Contact our SuperScript Editors](#), with any comments, stories, technical tips, book reviews, advertisements, or questions. >> [Previous editions](#).

STC Alberta News and Updates — September 2007

President's Message

Lucille Worone, President, STC Alberta

Our STC year is already off to a strong start. As I write this, 25 people are already registered for the September 27 Wine and Cheese, and we are in the planning stages of our STC Alberta exhibit at the Calgary Technologies Inc. Tech Showcase and Open House in October.

I would like to thank Pam Smith and Mai-Ann Sprung who audited the Chapter's 2006-7 financial records over the summer. These audited records are on their way to STC's head office and we will soon receive our chapter rebate — our major source of income.

Our chapter operations are running smoothly, although many council members are taking on additional tasks to cover for the currently open positions. "It takes a village to raise a child," as the African proverb goes, and it takes a team of active members to create the events and services we have come to expect from STC Alberta. One advantage of having 26 separate council positions is that the effort is divided into roles that can fit into our busy members' lives. Many of our available positions require only a few hours a month.

STC Alberta is a volunteer organization. Without enough volunteers to fill these positions, our choice is either to divide the work amongst a smaller number of members, or to cancel events and services. Not an easy choice — the former causes the downward spiral of volunteer burnout and resignations, and the latter causes less value to our members and fewer reasons to become involved.

As a council, we will soon be forced to make this decision about a key STC Alberta offering, the New Heights seminar. As of September 22, the New Heights Manager position is still available. It is unfortunate that although we have the funds to host a world-class speaker, we may have to cancel this highly valued event for the lack of a manager. Our recent membership survey showed that for most members, this seminar was the only technical communication-related seminar they attend.

Our contacts page shows a list of other available positions. I encourage you to call me to discuss these opportunities. We are also establishing "associate" roles for the key positions of jobline coordinator, webmaster, and SuperScript content manager, to help share these important responsibilities.

I will end my message with this quote from *Never Eat Alone (and Other Secrets to Success, one Relationship at a Time)* by Keith Ferrazzi: "Where employees once found generosity and loyalty in the companies we worked for, today we must find them in a web of our own relationships." ¹ Active participation in STC Alberta is an excellent way to develop your "web of relationships."

¹ Keith Ferrazzi, *Never Eat Alone (and Other Secrets to Success, one Relationship at a Time)* (New York City: Doubleday, 2005), 17.

[top of page](#)



Last updated: September 29, 2007



STC Alberta Calendar of Events

Home

About STC
Alberta

Awards/
Scholarships

Edmonton

Chapter
Resources

Contacts

Competitions

E-mail lists

Event Calendar

Event
Registration

Jobline

Links

Membership

Mentorship

New Heights

Newsletter

Other Events

Programs

Publications

STC Web
Seminars

STC Alberta Activities

Check out our [Programs](#), [Workshops](#), [Coffee Nights](#), [Administrative Meetings](#), and [Social Events](#) for an opportunity to meet & greet, learn a tool or skill, or further develop your technical and writing expertise.

The calendar shown below outlines upcoming Alberta Chapter events. These events, unless otherwise stated, are held in Calgary. Please see our [Edmonton](#) page for a listing of "Upcoming Events" in that city.

2007 Upcoming Events

October	STC Board Meeting @ 5:30 p.m. Calgary Technologies Inc. Learn more
October 16	Calgary Program: Inclusive Communication in the Work Environment - The Question of Diversity

Throughout the year, STC Alberta presents a wide variety of opportunities to learn, share and to become involved in the field of technical communication. Through workshops, social events and regular meetings we endeavour to:

- Present the latest information regarding theory and practice of technical communication
- Provide opportunities to learn and experiment with new tools and techniques
- Open up opportunities to network by meeting and exchanging ideas with fellow STC members
- Provide on-the-job training and opportunities to share your skills through our mentoring program.

Register in advance for all Programs and Workshops through our [online registration page](#).

Note: When space is limited, preference is given to current STC members.