

*SuperScript* is the official newsletter of the Alberta Chapter 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

- Jessie Channey, President

As quickly as the summer has turned into fall, your executive council is up and running with boundless energy.

The salary survey, headed up by our enthusiastic new volunteer, Helen Lansdell, is well under way and will be announced soon. See ***Are You Paid What You're Worth?*** in the next column for more information.

Additionally, as part of our Website revival initiative, we're looking to create a Web team to partake in the following activities:

- Research CMS tools and provide the Webmaster with a shortlist
- Propose a redesign outline
- Select images for use on the site
- Create content.

Members of the Web team have the opportunity to learn from our Webmaster, Lori Robertson, who is embarking on her third year with STC Alberta. For more information, you can contact Lori directly at [webmaster@stc-alberta.org](mailto:webmaster@stc-alberta.org).

If Web activities don't capture your interest, you can still become a part of this great energy; we have the following positions open:

- Public Relations
- Archivist
- *SuperScript* Editor (See ***Wield the Power of SuperScript*** in the next column).

If you're interested in any of the positions, please contact me at [president@stc-alberta.org](mailto:president@stc-alberta.org). Better yet, you can meet me and the rest of the council while at Ceili's.

And what's up for spring? Our Workshops Coordinator is a vibrant volunteer who has grand plans for a New Heights seminar. Mellissa Ruryk is focused on bringing in a well-known speaker for the Alberta Chapter's learning enjoyment. See ***New Heights, 2009*** below for more information.

Many thanks to the council who got up to speed during the summer and have hit the ground running for a great fall start up. This year promises to be a good one filled with lots of activity so watch your e-mails and keep your calendars updated!

## 2008/2009 Programs

- Rosalinda Hernandez, Programs Coordinator

With autumn's crisp air and vibrant colors comes the kick-off to our Program nights.

Check out the Event Calendar (<http://www.stc-alberta.org/Calendar/calendar.php>) or next month's *SuperScript* issue for details on this year's speaker lineup.

If you have any questions or comments regarding our programs, e-mail me at [programs@stc-alberta.org](mailto:programs@stc-alberta.org).

## New Heights, 2009

- Mellissa Ruryk, Workshops Coordinator

The 2009 New Heights seminar will be held on Friday, April 17, 2009. New Heights will feature Neil Perlin, an internationally recognized expert in online help and documentation design and development—mark your calendars! More details to come in the next *SuperScript*.



## Are You Paid What You're Worth?

- Helen Lansdell, STC Salary Survey Coordinator

Find out by participating in the **2008 STC Alberta Salary Survey!**

Check your e-mail September 15<sup>th</sup> for the link to the 2008 STC Alberta Salary Survey. (If you're an STC member and you didn't receive the link, e-mail [salarysurvey@stc-alberta.org](mailto:salarysurvey@stc-alberta.org).) Just click the survey link in the e-mail, and in five short minutes you can complete the survey.

You don't need to worry about your privacy because the results are completely anonymous. And you don't need to worry about your identity's security; your Chapter administers the survey through Survey Monkey, a respected firm with proven, secure processes in place.

The annual STC Alberta Salary Survey nets data that is specifically relevant to you, as a technical communicator:

- Regional data: applicable to you and your region's economy
- Comparable data: data that can be compared to the 2006 and 2007 surveys
- Timely data: data that reflects the state of your regional market "now".

Members can complete the survey anytime within a two month timeframe, from September 15 to November 15, 2008. The results of the 2008 STC Alberta Salary Survey will be released early in 2009.

## Enjoy the Meet & Greet at Ceili's!

- STC Alberta Executive Council

Thanks for joining us at Ceili's and helping us kick-off another STC year!

Many thanks to Linda Robson who organized this event and has put together many great events for us throughout her years of service to the Alberta Chapter. Great job!



We hope everyone enjoyed themselves and we hope to see you again at other events!

## Wield the Power of *SuperScript*!

- Carmen Wyatt, *SuperScript* Editor

*"Substitute 'damn' every time you're inclined to write 'very'; your editor will delete it and the writing will be just as it should be."*

- Mark Twain

What would we do without Mark Twain?

Have fun hunting for pithy quotations! Be the second to know just about all the great stuff that happens at STC! Wield the power of *SuperScript* in your hands! Sign up as the new *SuperScript* Editor! Who else gets the chance to use exclamation points five times in one paragraph? I'll be happy to assist the new *SuperScript* Editor with the first issue or two to get you off to a good start. Go for it!



Have an article you'd like to share? The deadline for the next *SuperScript* is October 10. Send submissions to Carmen at [newsletter@stc-alberta.ca](mailto:newsletter@stc-alberta.ca).

Tech Showcase & Open House Presents

# Tech Lounge

October 30, 2008

Spotlight on  
Calgary Tech

Bringing  
innovative  
new companies  
to Centre Stage

Calgary  
Technologies Inc.

## Join us for Tech Lounge—Spotlight on Calgary Tech

Meet the founders of Calgary's most innovative new technology companies and find out about their products or services. Sample some cool jazz while you take in Calgary's hotbed of tech. Listen in on Pitch Corner as founders take centre stage to give you their 7-minute pitch about their technology innovation. Mingle at one of Calgary's best business networking events for the tech sector.

### 9th Annual Tech Showcase & Open House

Thursday, October 30, 2008  
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
Alastair Ross Technology Centre  
3553 - 31 Street NW  
Calgary, AB

Please **RSVP** to:

Nicole Sturrock [nsturrock@calgarytechnologies.com](mailto:nsturrock@calgarytechnologies.com)

Feel free to dress in cocktail attire.

### Event Description

The theme of this year's Tech Showcase & Open House, Tech Lounge—Spotlight on Calgary Tech, will focus on new and innovative tech startups and growth stage companies founded in the Calgary area. The Tech Lounge will provide a venue for guests to find out more about the products or services of Calgary tech startups in the casual lounge atmosphere. Traditional-style exhibits by more established companies will be featured off the main lobby of the ARTC. You can also take in Pitch Corner, where founders of startups will take centre stage to pitch their product or service at scheduled intervals throughout the event. As always, there will be plenty of opportunities to just network within Calgary's tech business community. And what Tech Lounge would be complete without a jazz band and complimentary hors d'oeuvres and bar.

Please join us again this year in supporting the United Way of Calgary by making a donation in the Toonie Box at the bar.

See CTI's Website for more information: [http://www.calgarytechnologies.ca/bins/content\\_page.asp?cid=5259-6235-8415](http://www.calgarytechnologies.ca/bins/content_page.asp?cid=5259-6235-8415)

## STC at the Tech Lounge

- Jessie Channey, President

Calgary Technologies Inc (CTI) is having a tech showcase and open house on October 30. Since STC Alberta holds its monthly executive meetings there (as well as several other events throughout the year), we will be setting up an exhibit alongside the other companies whose offices are at CTI.

Last year's president Lucille Worone and this year's president Jessie Channey will be hosting the exhibit as this is a great chance to promote the profession and network with people from the tech sector.

We're looking for four people to help us set up our booth. Once that's done, you'd be free to check out the open house, listen to the speakers, and enjoy the jazz band and the food and drinks.

For more information on the Tech Lounge event, see the advertisement above.

To help set up the booth, e-mail Jessie at [president@stc-alberta.org](mailto:president@stc-alberta.org).



## Mount Royal College Offers Revised Technical Writing Certificate

- Mellissa Ruryk, Workshops Coordinator

The Technical Writing program offered through the Faculty of Continuing Education at Mount Royal College in Calgary has been revised to better meet the needs of businesses today. The part-time Extension Certificate comprises 135 hours of required courses plus 22 hours of optional courses. Courses are offered in the evenings and weekends.

The program focuses on writing user guides, procedural manuals, design specifications, online documents as well as writing and structuring Web pages. Courses start in September. Information about the program is available by contacting [cebusiness@mtroyal.ca](mailto:cebusiness@mtroyal.ca), calling 1-888-392-3655 or visiting <http://conted.mtroyal.ca/technicalwriting>.

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