

John Elzinga was the President of the RFABC from 2004-2005. He also served on the Executive of the Association as President Elect, Past President and Marketing Director. For his dedicated service to the RFABC John was awarded the Dave Dauphinee Memorial Trophy in 2004 and the Bob Muir Memorial Trophy in 2006.

John brought a steady style of leadership to his presidential role with the Association. During his term John enjoyed working on a couple of notable items. One such project was to support a previous vice president and then the Association's liaison, Joyce Fordyce, in her leadership work with the BC Provincial Government's "Boiler Branch" (this branch evolved over time into what is now known as Technical Safety BC). The RFABC was working with the government to see the creation of the new designation of "Ice Facility Operator" (IFO). The second major project he participated in was with the Canadian Recreation Facilities Council, in his role as BC representative on the Council and Western Canadian representative on the Council's executive. Through this national body John enjoyed helping to establish the wider practice of installing heat recovery units in facilities around the province and certifications transferable to Western Canadian provinces.



John is currently the General Manager, Community Services for the Cowichan Valley Regional District in Cowichan, BC.

One of his highlights while working in the specific area of recreation is helping to bring in large community and sporting events to the Cowichan region. In his expanded portfolio of community services he now enjoys his work opportunities dealing with public safety (emergency preparedness and fire departments), arts and culture and the region's transit system, in addition to recreation.

For his own personal recreation he keeps himself busy with activities like oldtimers' hockey, curling, golfing and playing volleyball with his two adult children

When asked what his best memories of the RFABC were, John indicated that it was the opportunity to be mentored by some of the greats in the industry like John Bate, Jim Weicker, Ernie Mansueti, David Burr and many others. He also enjoyed the professional development and networking opportunities that the RFABC provided through the Island Zone's mini conference and also the main provincial conference. ■