



# ONTARIO CHAPTER OPEN FORUM

## PUTTING THE BEST EVIDENCE FORWARD IN ASSESSMENT APPEALS

February 1st and 2nd, 2016

1 KING WEST HOTEL TORONTO



The Institute of Municipal Assessors will grant 11.25 CPD Credits (9.25 hrs L and 2 hrs G) toward the Continuing Professional Development program upon completion of this forum – [www.theima.ca](http://www.theima.ca)



This program contains 1.5 LSUC CPD Professionalism Hour(s) and is also eligible for up to 11 hours Substantive Content.

## CONFIRMED SPEAKERS & SESSIONS



8:30-9:00 **Breakfast**

9:00-9:15 **Opening Remarks**

**Ken West**  
Chapter Chair  
Walker West Longo LLP



9:15-9:30 **Greeting and Welcoming Remarks**

9:30-10:30 **Coping with Stress: My 20 Years Undercover**

Chris Mathers spent most of his life working undercover for the RCMP, DEA, and US Customs. Posing as a gangster, a drug trafficker, and money launderer, he has seen and done it all. He will speak about building an evidentiary foundation, being professional and especially handling stress in difficult situations. His experience applies to all forms of litigation, even property tax.

**Chris Mathers**  
Former RCMP



10:30 **BREAK**

10:45-11:45 **2016 Market Update**

Fragmenting Markets are Making the Averages Dangerous  
A look at Canada Major Office Markets - Key Drivers, Dynamics and Implications

**Sandy McNair**  
Altus Group



11:45-1:00 **Valuation Panel: "Appraisal Review"**

The panel will address the most common things to look for in an appraisal review situation and the impacts of finding errors in an expert report during cross examination. This session will detail how to work with and cross-examine experts professionally and responsibly.

**Charles Johnstone**  
AEC  
**Jerry Kirkland**  
Kirkland Balsom



Lunch **A selection of fine eats from the One King West Kitchen**

2:00-3:00 **Special Purpose???**

Special Purpose property is a term of art. Does it mean different things depending on how it is used? What is the impact of calling something Special Purpose in an appraisal or an assessment assignment? Mr. Tracy has particular expertise dealing with unique properties and will speak to what is "Special" and what isn't.

**Michael Tracy P.E.**  
The Agile Group



3:00-3:15-4:15 **Break**

**Special Presentation: Crisis Negotiation**

We all negotiate but not like the TPS ETF. Crisis negotiation provides excellent lessons in how to deal with people toward accomplishing win-win situations. The ETF will give an overview of the service they provide and the principles of crisis negotiation and how they can apply to you and your everyday practice.

**Insp. Tim Crone**  
Toronto Police Service  
Emergency Task Force



4:00-4:45 **Its All About the Taxes**

This session will address Toronto's Finances, the Stormwater Funding Proposal Update and other tax related issues.

**Adir Gupta**  
Manager, Financial Policy  
City of Toronto



6:00 **Cocktail Party**

**The Vault**



## DAY TWO

**8:30 Breakfast – Continental Buffet**

**9:00-10:30**

### **National Legal Update**

This panel will provide participants with recent developments from across Canada to keep you informed about how other jurisdictions are deciding cases and the important issues that may arise. It is critical to be aware of recent events across Canada so that we can make informed decisions about matters here in Ontario. This panel of the top lawyers from other provinces is always interesting and informative. One third of this session is dedicated to how different jurisdictions are dealing with best practices and ethical advocacy in assessment tribunals.



**Jim Fraser**

Lawson Lundell LLP

**Brian Dell**

Wilson Laycraft LLP

**Jamie Mercury**

Aikins Law

**Michael Crosbie**

McInnes Cooper LLP



**10:30**

**Break**

**10:45-12:15**

### **Ontario Legal Panel**

The latest developments in the case law, rules and statutes in Ontario from the perspective of counsel for taxpayers, municipalities and MPAC. This session will provide you with an in depth review of the changes to the property tax law in the past year and a view of the things to watch for in 2016. The panel will address best practices for communicating with expert witnesses.

**Kathleen Poole**

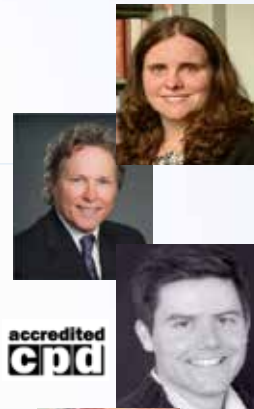
Nixon Fleet Poole LLP

**John O’Kane**

O’Kane Law

**Marc McLaren-Caux**

Conway Davis Gryski



**12:15-1:00**

### **When should Administrative Tribunals refer matters to the Courts**

In Ontario the Assessment Act provides the Board with a unique tool for referring matters to the Courts. When should this essential device be used and how should one go about asking for it?

**Jack Walker QC**

Walker West Longo LLP

**Peter Milligan**

Miller Thomson LLP



**1:00**

**Lunch**

**2:00-2:30**

### **The Assessment Review Board Update**

The view from the board and an update on how the Board will be meeting its mandate of completing outstanding appeals for 2008 and 2012 cycles by the end of the calendar year. The Board will address the expectations for appearing with civility.

**Paul Muldoon**

Associate Chair

Assessment Review Board (Invited)



**2:30**

**BREAK**

**3:00-3:30**

### **Ontario Ministry of Finance**

An update from MOF on various consultation endeavours. What is on the horizon from the Government?

**Diane Ross**

Director

Ministry of Finance

**3:30-4:00**

### **The Inside Out at MPAC: a 2016 Update**

What is coming down the pipes from MPAC? What is MPAC working on? The 2016 Re-Assessment is around the corner and MPAC is getting ready for big changes. What is the status of the pre-Roll consultations?

**Carla Nell**

Vice President of  
Municipal  
and Stakeholder Relations  
MPAC



**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:  
January 20, 2016**



**EARLY BIRD DEADLINE:  
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Registration includes:

- > Two day seminar
- > Conference materials
- > Breakfast, lunch and coffee breaks each day (with cookies)
- > Evening Cocktail Reception

Pricing:	Early Bird Member	\$475 incl tax
	Member	\$525 incl tax
	Non-Member	\$595 incl tax

**Sponsorship Opportunities:**

Cocktail Sponsor \$1000, Breakfast Sponsor \$250, Lunch Sponsor, \$500, Keynote \$100

**REGISTRATION FOR**

NAME .....

TITLE .....

COMPANY .....

ADDRESS .....

EMAIL .....

TELEPHONE..... FAX .....

CC Info ----- Exp \_\_\_/\_\_\_

EMAIL REGISTRATION TO CHRIS WALAT

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT KEN WEST