

# EXSHAW PLANT NEWSLETTER



## New Plant Manager Announced for Lafarge Exshaw

**Kate Strachan has been named the new Plant Manager of Lafarge Exshaw, assuming the position in the beginning of June. In her new role, Strachan will oversee the production process, ensure stringent health and safety standards and monitor environmental performance of Canada's largest cement plant.**

"We have chosen a very strong leader for the plant. Kate was selected through a competitive process and brings an excellent production track record and proven background building high performance teams. She has a collaborative leadership style and she will be a trusted community partner," comments Brad Kohl, CEO Western Canada.

Kate has been Production Manager with the Exshaw plant since 2016, following a year-long role managing the transition team for the recent modernization project. She is the first female Plant Manager at Exshaw and the only woman currently running a cement plant for Lafarge Canada.

"Lafarge has been preparing me for this opportunity for 18 years. I earned it through hard work, determination, a solid technical background and a familiarity of community issues," said Kate. "We plan to remain a proud community supporter, a key industry in the region, a safety-first organization—business goes on."

Kate's dad was a marine engineer from Manchester, England. When she was younger he brought her on boats for ship inspections. She also helped him work on motorcycles. You could say being an engineer was her calling.

Strachan, who lives in Canmore with her husband and 6-year old son, graduated as a mechanical engineer from the University of Victoria. She started with Lafarge 18 years ago with the Richmond B.C. Cement Plant. After nine years in engineering, she became

Production Manager in Sugar Creek, Missouri. She moved back to Canada to work in Exshaw after Lafarge sold the Sugar Creek plant.

"My first focus is running the largest cement plant in Canada. We have operational targets we need to hit to make sure our customers get their product," she said. "As an organization, we will continue to look at our operations to make sure we have the right people in the right roles. We will look for ways to do better, environmentally and economically; improving emissions and managing dust."

Jim Bachmann's tenure as Plant Manager officially ended at the end of June after five years, as he completed his expatriate contract with Lafarge. Former Quarry Manager, John Boyt, also completed his expat assignment and returned to Lafarge operations in the U.S. in April. To lead the quarry team, Lafarge hired longtime Bow Valley local Scott Casslemen, a 17-year Exshaw Plant employee.

"Jim was a great manager and mentor. He did countless amounts of work bridging the community and industry, and a lot of great work with the plant," says Kate. "I wish him the best and I know he wants the same for me. I'm excited, I know how much of a responsibility this is. I believe in my people, my team."





GET TO KNOW A FAMILIAR FACE: **NEW QUARRY MANAGER SCOTT CASSELMAN**

Lafarge's latest Quarry Manager knows a thing or two about the plant. Scott Casselman has been working with Lafarge in Exshaw for 17 years. He started in an entry-level position and now oversees all quarry operations, onsite and in the office. In his new role, Scott manages quarry staff, coordinates production and equipment maintenance, ensures the health and safety of his employees and much more.

**Where are you from and how long have you lived in the Bow Valley?**

I was born in Prince Rupert, British Columbia. My family moved to Camrose, Alberta when I was four years old and I spent my childhood there. I moved to Canmore in 1997 and I've called the Bow Valley home ever since. Myself, my wife and our four children enjoy the mountain lifestyle as much as we possibly can. We love it here!

**What brought you to the area?**

I have been paddling and guiding river adventures since an early age. It had a huge impact on my life and ultimately changed the course of my future. I've led 14-day river adventures on the Nahanni and guided whitewater canoe, raft and kayaking trips on many different rivers. This is what eventually brought me to Canmore. I worked seasonally as a river guide for eight years. I instructed the British Army in adventure training. Winters took me away from home to work in the service rig industry.

**When did you first start working at Lafarge?**

After the birth of our first child I knew I needed to make a career change. In the fall of 2002 an opportunity to work for Lafarge offered me a stable career that would let me stay connected to my community and be more available for my growing family. I jumped at the chance and began my career in an entry-level position in the "yard."

**How did you find yourself as Quarry Manager?**

Over the years I have held many positions at the plant. As I gained experience and specialized training, I was given the opportunity to move into a supervisor position, then production coordinator, then helped commission the new kiln line. I progressed to an area coordinator position in charge of the kilns and most recently took on the role of Quarry Manager. I am extremely proud of my career and am grateful to have such great satisfaction in my work life.



**Lafarge Learning Curriculum lets Students get Creative**

The Lafarge Learning: Alberta Rocks & Minerals Program, developed in partnership with Canmore Museum & Geoscience Centre, initiated a Poster Contest during the 2017-18 school year, so students can share what they learned in a fun and imaginative way. The initiative was a huge success with over 150 submissions. Posters were placed outside the Museum during the Canmore Farmer's Market, so community members could actively vote. Winners received a lunch pizza party and goodies for their class.

The Lafarge Learning: Alberta Rocks & Minerals Program had a successful second year. Every grade three class in the Bow Valley took part: Elizabeth Rummel School, Our Lady of the Snows, École Notre-Dame des Monts, Alpenglow, Banff Elementary School, Exshaw School, and Nakoda Elementary School. The program was also attended by the Louis Riel School from Calgary. A total of 316 students participated over the 2017-18 school year alongside 80 teachers, education assistants and parent volunteers.



A couple of poster submissions from the contest.

**Learn the latest on the Lower Carbon Fuels Project**

Pembina Institute has completed the first stage of the life cycle analysis (LCA) on the use lower carbon fuels in cement production. Benjamin Israel, senior analyst with Pembina and project lead, is working closely with two postdoctoral researchers and Dr. Joule Bergerson, assistant professor in the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering at the University of Calgary.

Israel presented some preliminary findings to the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) in May. While still early in the process, research is showing positive results. Of the eight fuels proposed, only carpet is showing higher greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions than natural gas. Alternative fuels made up of biogenic carbon—as opposed to carbon originated from fossil fuels—show the most potential. These include construction and demolition waste, railway ties, wood and natural textiles; each generating approximately 20 to 30 per cent less emissions per tonne of clinker produced.

Thanks to input from members of our surrounding communities we have been able to identify and move forward with many initiatives that improve our operations. The following was presented to the Bow Corridor Environment Committee (BCEC) in June:

**FUGITIVE DUST PROGRAM**

- Lafarge is using an environmentally friendly treatment on its unpaved roads to support dust suppression; it has also purchased a new water truck
- Sprinklers have been added to the raw material additives bays and a fogging system to the additives hopper to reduce dust while transporting material
- A special dust focus group is examining chronic areas for mitigation options this summer; in addition to hydroseeding, paving, sprinkler systems, sweeping and fogging systems currently in place.

**AIR QUALITY MONITORING**

- Visit Lafarge Exshaw's Air Quality Monitoring website to see particulate levels in the community
- Data is verified and provided in weekly and monthly reports and made available to the public on the website
- Reports are also provided to Alberta Environment and Parks
- Summaries are provided for particulate levels, Sulphur and Nitrogen Dioxide
- Meteorological summaries are also shown
- Visit [airquality.ca/clients/Lafarge\\_Public/](http://airquality.ca/clients/Lafarge_Public/) for more information.

**PLANT UPDATES**



**DID YOU KNOW?**

Ever wonder how many times the Lafarge Plant has photobombed tourist pictures from the Lac Des Arcs scenic pullover? Apparently, so did Carrie Tait from the Globe and Mail. The newspaper published 'Why is industry here?': When big business meets a scenic lookout on July 1, 2018. Tait interviewed tourists at "one of the busiest attractions in Canada's Rocky Mountains" to see what makes the pullout and its backdrop such a huge draw. Lafarge is working with the Government of Alberta Ministry Transportation on signage for the pullover to inform people about the history of the area.

Lafarge cement plants have recently been approved by the Ontario Government to produce and sell Portland Limestone Cement (PLC) Envirocore to Canadian Markets. The Richmond, B.C. plant is also selling the product. PLC Envirocore reduces the amount of clinker used in every tonne of cement with no difference in price than other cement products or impact on the strength of concrete. This initiative is estimated to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by one million tonnes per year. Lafarge's Bath Cement Plant will be converting to PLC completely by 2030.

with the sourcing, processing, and combustion of alternative fuels, typically waste industrial products, compared to natural gas. Criteria Air Contaminants (CAC) emissions (Sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter) will also be examined as a part of the LCA. "We are still gathering data for this, especially emission factors, there is not a lot of literature on this," Israel said. Other LCF updates presented at the PAC meeting include:

- Five Statements of Concern have been filed with Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP)

- Lafarge has responded to 19 supplemental requests from AEP
- There is no timeline set for a decision
- Lafarge has applied for grant support from Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA) and the National Research Council (NRC)
- Lafarge Eastern Canada is on track to reduce GHG emissions by 40 per cent by 2019 from 1990 levels; Western Canada expects a 28 per cent reduction by 2020.



*Lafarge gave \$13,000 to support the Canmore Eagles in the 2017/2018 season.*

## Canmore Eagles Contribute to the Community

Lafarge would like to celebrate and recognize another year of Canmore Eagle player and team commitment to the community. We developed the Lafarge Learn to Read Program as part of our Canmore Eagles' sponsorship package. The program was identified as a way for players to give back and support Lafarge's commitment to education as a pillar for giving. Each Monday during the school year, eight players go to the Exshaw School to work closely with Kindergarten to Grade five students. After reading is done, players join students for a game of floor hockey. Thank you again for another great season and for this great education initiative.

## EXSHAW STUDENTS RECEIVE POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP

Three local students have received post-secondary scholarship support from Lafarge in recognition for being excellent students, active volunteers and strong community leaders. **Marina Neilson** and **Chasey Kutzner** were each awarded \$5,000, while **Joshua Carvelli** received \$1,500.

Known as a creative and well-rounded individual with strong interpersonal skills, Marina is starting the two-year Music and Technology program at Selkirk College in September. Her long-term plan is to become a music therapist, with additional schooling planned for Capilano College. Her piano teacher, Andrei Dandridge-Evancio, started working with Marina four years ago, guiding her through three Conservatory Canada practical exams and one theory exam. She achieved First Class Honours in each.

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*Lafarge gave \$11,500 in 2018 from its \$315,000 education endowment.*

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"The dedication and focus required to achieve outstanding marks in several exams speaks to Marina's commitment to her higher educational pursuits," said Andrei. "Marina has also displayed a willingness to support those around her. She has always extended a helping hand or a kind word to the younger learners around her."

Marina's hopes to use music therapy to care for others. "With this education, I would be helping people who suffer from all kinds of illnesses—such as autism and Alzheimer's. I would be providing this care and help through the very thing I love; music," she shared.

Chasey Kutzner will be starting her Bachelor of Nursing degree at Mount Royal University in the Fall. Part Highland Dancer, part academic, all heart, Chasey has spent her last year working at the daycare in Canmore as an aide to a visually impaired two-year old, Adele.

"Thanks to Chasey's compassion and hard work, Adele has been able to attend and participate in the daily routines and activities of a daycare. In a very short period, Chasey not only helped her feel comfortable, but made daycare a place she looks forward to," said Adele's father, Brad Skinner.

This experience has shown Chasey how much she enjoys caring for others. "She has taught me more than I've taught her, about "seeing" things in a different way and how incredible it is that we, as humans, can adapt to our surroundings in such different manners. She amazes me every day!" she said.

Joshua is enrolled in the Information Technology program at Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT). His goal is to open his own Fiber Optics installation company. Athletic and dedicated, Joshua has used sports to give back to the community. He coaches hockey and baseball, volunteers at Canmore Eagles hockey games and helps with the Canmore Community High School garden.

"As a student, Joshua demonstrates an enjoyment for learning and constantly strives for personal growth through new knowledge. He has the drive and commitment necessary to succeed at SAIT and beyond," said family friend, Sara Kelsey.

In 2014, Lafarge in Exshaw announced the creation of a \$315,000 endowment fund that would be used to support annual scholarships for future leaders in the Exshaw and Lac Des Arcs communities pursuing post-secondary training or education. The Lafarge Education Endowment Fund is managed by the Banff Canmore Community Foundation. Visit [www.banffcanmorecf.org](http://www.banffcanmorecf.org) for more information.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Lafarge Exshaw Cement Plant wants to keep you informed on our day-to-day operations and special projects. In addition to distributing this newsletter, we regularly update [lafargeexshaw.ca](http://lafargeexshaw.ca) and work closely with various community associations and committees.

If you have any questions or concerns, call our hotline at 403.673.5220 or email [Info.Exshaw@lafargeholcim.com](mailto:Info.Exshaw@lafargeholcim.com).

