

meet Kathleen Muretti

PROCUREMENT & AP TEAM LEADER for the City of Airdrie, AB and Acting Team Leader for Environmental Services, (covering a one year maternity leave) with 15 staff.

Kathleen was a Canadian Public Procurement Council (CPPC) director for two years prior chairing the CPPC Forum in October 2007, where she was elected to president of the organization – the first female president and the first from the west. Passionate about her profession, she maintains a busy schedule, speaking in April at a national conference in San Antonio for the National Association Purchasing Card Professionals (NAPCP) on P-card issues specific to Canadian agencies; hosting the 2008 March Canadian regional conference for NAPCP in Airdrie; and chairing the Canadian Institute's conference in Victoria on eprocurement in April. Her biggest event will be the 2008 CPPC Forum in Montreal in October.

Kathleen is a member of NIGP, holds a CPPB certification and has completed the requirements to write the final exam in 2008 for CPPO certification. She is a member of the NAPCP, involved as a member of the Canadian focus group. Kathleen is one of only three Canadians to hold a CPCP (Certified Purchasing Card Professional) designation.

Kathleen has worked for Airdrie for six years and enjoys the culture of “good to great,” open communication, continuous learning and entrepreneurship. “The City of Airdrie is a great place to come to work,” says Muretti. “Every individual has the opportunity to take themselves to the next level, both personally and professionally.

Kathleen was the middle of five children and grew up in Victoria, BC, graduating in 1978 from Belmont High School. Moving to Calgary in the boom of the early 1980s, she worked on the order desk for a compressor company. She was hired away to an order desk/shipper position with an electric motor distributor. She took a PMAC Buyer course and began moving through the “ranks.” She spent 18 years in procurement in the oil and gas industry. Then she spent a couple of successful and demanding years with a manufacturing company learning that business. Searching for more regular hours and future security, Kathleen chose Airdrie – her first job interview since being a teenager.

Muretti says public purchasing was a different world. After working a few months in the field, she knew she had found her niche. Looking for agencies to network with, Muretti found public procurement agencies more than willing to share their resources and knowledge – the main reason she became a member of the CPPC. As president, she plans to work to help facilitate this exchange of information and sharing of knowledge. “It is so important to colla-



borate with other professionals in your field,” says Muretti. “We should all be constantly talking and learning from each other.”

When asked what she sees as her top three challenges she said:

- environmental, sustainable, ethical procurement,
- CPPC operations and development, and
- maintaining a good work-family balance, staying healthy and active.

Kathleen is married to her best friend, Frank (LRT Control/Operations supervisor, Calgary Transit), and credits her success to his loving support and patience. She is the proud mom of two daughters: Nadine (sr. account manager, RBC) and Stephanie (Parks, City of Airdrie).

Kathleen and Frank love to travel and ride their Harleys. Their longest motorcycle trek together was across Canada and back across the US – 13,000 kms. Riding to BC for a long weekend, or to Banff for the day, is what they really love to do. They plan to visit Rome and cruise the Mediterranean. They also share a passion for sports, particularly for the Calgary Stampeders, Calgary Flames and the Camrose Kodiaks.

Kathleen is planning for eventual retirement, perhaps doing some consulting and/or training, wintering in Mexico and spending time with her family. ❧