

AWET-M AGM 2023

The AWET-M AGM 2023 was a huge success with 49 attendants and plenty of positive feedback. In the past attendance for WETT Affiliate AGMs could be expected to be in the 20's or less. What did Manitoba do different to promote such success?

It started off with monthly meetings with the AWET-M board discussing courses, the future of WETT in Manitoba, and an early start to planning the 2023 AGM. AWET-M hosted just over a dozen courses before the AGM in 2023 and at each course a member of the AWET-M board spoke to the students about AWET-M and promoted the coming AGM. At many of the courses the students were asked for their opinions and ideas for the future of AWET-M.

2 months before the AGM a save the date was sent out to all the WETT members in Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as the students/candidate members with an open invitation for any companies who wanted to send tentative WETT Students. The save the date highlighted the working at heights safety course and presentations on House as a System, Selling to Difficult Customers, and Writing Inspections. There was a \$20 registration fee for each participant and free lunch provided.

The AGM started off with a safety presentation from Construction Safety Association of Manitoba. This was 3 hours long and was presented with enthusiasm from the CSAM representative Adam Miller and presented the different ways to work safely at heights and the importance of safe work habits.

Lunch was then provided and was sponsored by DuraTech. During this time there was plenty of networking as AWET-M members from all over the prairie provinces were in attendance.

After lunch there were 3 presentations. Each presenter was given 30 minutes to present. This time frame was a challenge for all 3 presenters. Dalton Hooker presented on how to sell to difficult customers. Rob Andrushuk an instructor with HRAI presented on the house as a system focussing on it in relation to solid-fuel-burning appliances. Henry Nagtegaal presented on inspections which included an interview conducted by Naomi Nagtegaal with 2 WETT certified insurance representatives, Justin LaRoche from Red River Mutual Insurance and Mike Edgar from Portage Mutual Insurance. This presentation was met with plenty of interaction from the audience, and a want for more as it is not often that insurance and technicians look at each other's points of view.

After these presentations Dave Rayner was presented with the AWET-M Lifetime Achievement award with a speech from Henry Nagtegaal and the gifting of the award by Kristy Bakker (President of AWET-M).

The day was then finished off with the meeting part of the AGM, which was kept short and concise, getting the important information taken care of and leaving everyone satisfied.

Upon wrap up the 49 attendants took home a larger network, stronger connections, and some AWET-M themed "swag".