

# News Release

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Tuesday, November 28, 2006



## ARPA Elects New President

**Edmonton, AB** – Shelley Shea has been selected to lead Alberta’s recreation and parks professionals and practitioners as the new president of ARPA. Shea was elected to the two-year term as president at ARPA’s recent Annual General Meeting and Conference in Jasper, Alberta. ARPA is a provincial, not-for-profit, charitable organization made up of volunteers working to improve the health, quality of life and well being of Albertans and their communities through recreation and parks, including play, sport, arts & culture, outdoor and physical activities.

Shea is currently the Manager of Sport Development for the City of Calgary, a position she has held since June of this year. Prior to this position she was doing special project work for the City developing a facility management framework for the City of Calgary’s recreation facilities.

*“I am excited for the opportunity as President to advance ARPA’s Active Communities initiative that will encourage strong, engaged, active communities province wide. I believe, ARPA is well positioned to champion the benefits that recreation and parks bring to our communities.”* said Shea. *“Further, I will continue to support ARPA’s focus on advocating for social infrastructure initiatives and related programs, to ensure Albertans have safe, efficient and effective facilities that contribute to the quality of life in Alberta’s communities.”*

With over 20 years of experience in community work and recreation, including extensive community development work with Calgary’s Community and Neighborhood Services and working with not-for-profit organizations, Shea is a natural pick for the Association.

In her address to the 400 delegates at ARPA’s President’s Banquet in the Jasper Park Lodge, Shea noted that, *“We, in our profession, are key players in the quality of life in our Alberta communities and provide a leadership role to ensure inter-agency relationships are strengthened, green space is created and preserved and positive healthy recreation experiences are created for our citizens”.*

Shea assumes her role with ARPA at a key time, as the Association plans to embark on furthering work stemming from ARPA’s report entitled *“Foundations for Action: Enhancing the Quality of Life in Alberta”* with other quality of life partners in the province. For further information on this and other ARPA activities see ARPA’s website at [www.arpaonline.ca](http://www.arpaonline.ca).

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