A3LC – A/E/C Collaborative Resource

In an industry often divided with contractors, architects and engineers all working in their own silos, A3LC (AIA, AGC, ACEC Liaison Committee) is a committee that allows these groups to put aside their differences and truly collaborate in order to affect change in the ever-evolving design and construction industry. The group first formed about 20 years ago in Colorado in an effort to share knowledge amongst various industry players, before the buzz words of integrated project delivery and design-build became popular. This committee recently strengthened their vision by revising their mission statement to include “As stewards of the building community, we promote trust through collaboration and shared knowledge to create value for all.”

Each year, A3LC hosts several educational, networking and collaborative events for contractors, architects and engineers throughout Colorado - including the Curt Dale Roles & Relationships Seminars held in Denver and Colorado Springs. The group held their strategic planning meeting the third week of January with a look back to their accomplishments in 2015 and to refocus their efforts to affect change in the industry moving forward. Brad Schenck from JE Dunn challenged the group to evaluate “What does success look like?”

The resounding response from the A3LC group, which includes about 30 members from leading construction, architecture, engineering and now owner’s representative groups in the Denver region, is to be a valued resource for the design and construction industry. A3LC hosted two Owner Roundtable events in 2015 and looks to continue this effort in 2016 by also inviting owners to sit in and present at monthly A3LC meetings, in order to be more inclusive of the entire design and construction industry vertical.

Another A3LC initiative for 2016 includes communicating these breadth of resources to the industry itself. Oftentimes members of associations are not aware of the variety of benefits they have access to within their organizations. A3LC triples the amount of events and networks an A/E/C industry professional can take advantage of because it combines the shared knowledge of AGC, AIA and ACEC. Last year, A3LC organized a Plus20Networking Event where participants could gain 20+ new contacts in the industry. Bringing together a variety of industry professionals opens the door for engaging discussions about common challenges and solutions affecting the Colorado construction industry and the chance to learn how professionals outside your field tackle these issues.

In order for the trends of integrated project delivery and the new “enhanced design-build” to truly take root in Colorado, A/E/C professionals must engage outside of the workplace and construction site. Learning more about the challenges each group faces and how to work more collaboratively to solve them will provide the catalyst the design and construction industry needs to move forward. A3LC can serve as that resource to propel the industry towards more shared knowledge and create greater value for the A/E/C community.

If you are a member of one of these three organizations and are interested in joining the committee, contact the committee liaisons.

AIA – Chad Hill (303) 446-2266
AGC – Bryan Cook (303) 388-2422
ACEC – Heidi Gordon (303) 832-2200