As we move into the holiday season, we don't seem to be slowing down. The Seattle Chapter of the AIA is sponsoring what seems to be turning into an annual review of Integrated Project Delivery. Dave Kievet (Teaming) and Will Lichtig (Legal and Insurance) of Boldt, Tony Toppenberg (IPD Techniques) of Turner and Dean Reed (IPD Techniques) of DPR will be presenting at the event on Tuesday, December 13. Board Member Markku Allison will join Prof. Renee Cheng (U. Minn), Dave Kievet and Digby Christian (Sutter) to present case studies as well. The next day, Will and Greg Howell will “begin [their presentation] by understanding the magnitude and nature of uncertainty faced on construction projects, the sources of risk that people experience most frequent and severe risks people face, and then explore how Lean Design and Project Delivery serve as countermeasures to that risk.” This one takes place on Wednesday, December 14 at the Mountaineers Club in Seattle, and reprises the next day, December 15 in Portland at CH2MHill’s offices (see below for signup information). An important 3 days for our community—please try to attend if you can.

I’m following up my brief presentation at Construct Canada at the end of last month with two days in Toronto and Hamilton, doing an Introduction to Lean Design and Construction for the Ontario Association of Architects. Signups nearly doubled after the Construct Canada presentation—it appears that our sister to the North is ready and eager to embrace Lean. In fact, Bill Black of Haworth has been in touch trying to see what it would take to form a Calgary Community of Practice. Most of our Community development has been in the States where we’ve focused on increasing participation but Canada makes an easy and sensible case for inclusion.

The Associated General Contractors rolled out Lean Construction 101 on December 5. You can access it through the AGC website, agc.org. Thanks to our colleagues at AGC for their tremendous efforts in making lean more available and accessible—especially Stephanie Mullins for spearheading the development and roll out after Amy Fields Bharwani labored for years to make it be true. Our Academic Forum leader, Tariq Abdelhamid was instrumental in developing Lean Construction 101 so thanks to him for that and his continued leadership.

All of the Congress Videos should now be accessible on the website. Follow the members log in page and click the 13th Annual Congress for access. We’re looking for feedback on the value of upgrading the quality of video captures so please let me know your thoughts. If we have enough interest, we’ll try to produce the same kind of quality of the P2SL/LCI/AIA Design Forum that takes place in Berkeley on February 16 and 17.

We have set the date and location for the early summer LCI/AIA Design Forum as well. It will take place in St. Louis at the Ameristar Casino on June 13-15, 2012. Please hold the date and mark your calendars. This will be our third joint program with the Construction Users Roundtable and will highlight early designer integration into the lean delivery process. AIA is
our sustaining member sponsor of the Design Fora going forward and the AGC has agreed to co-sponsor the St. Louis event as well. One of the main value propositions we’ve tried to build toward in the last year and a half has been closer ties with industry associations. We’ve made that happen—thanks to our partners.

Be safe, drive safe in this holiday period. Safeguard your workers and employees and loved ones with the same zeal and enjoy the festivities.