



ACEC British Columbia

# Newsbrief

April 2013



## Message from the President Keith Sashaw

On April 5th, BC's consulting engineering community once again came together to celebrate excellence by acknowledging this year's winners of the ACEC-BC Awards of Excellence. As in previous years, the entries were outstanding examples of the innovation, technical expertise and commitment to sustainability and the environment exhibited by member companies. Details of the winners of this year's awards are outlined in greater detail inside.

However we all know that engineering is not just about the projects – it is also about the people. This year, ACEC-BC recognized three outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions to our profession.

The Meritorious Achievement Award is presented annually to an individual for significant lifetime contributions to the engineering profession, the industry and the community. The recipient of the 2013 Meritorious Achievement Award is Mr. **John Watson**, P.Eng. Through a lifetime of achievement, Mr. Watson has made significant contributions to organizations such as APEGBC, Vancouver International Airport Authority, British Columbia Safety Authority and many other business and charitable organizations.

The Young Consulting Engineer Award recognizes an individual for achievements in the first 10 years of their career, and the worthy recipient this year is Selena Wilson, P.Eng. of McElhanney Consulting Services. Ms. Wilson has many successful projects in her portfolio and has been actively engaged with the Young Professionals Group, not only locally with ACEC-BC but also with the international organization FIDIC.

This year, ACEC-BC presented a new award, the Chairman's Award. This award is to be presented annually to an individual or organization that has consistently provided exceptional support to BC's Consulting Engineering community or to the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies of BC. This year's recipient was **Hon. Ralph Sultan**, Minister of State for Seniors, who has contributed significantly to ensuring the concerns of the engineering community are heard and acted upon.

On May 14th, British Columbians go the polls to elect a new Provincial Government. It is critically important that everyone gets out to vote for their candidate who will do the best job of representing the interests of their community.

Almost immediately following the election, at ACEC-BC's Annual Meeting on June 4th we are pleased to present one of BC's foremost political commentators, Vaughn Palmer. An award winning journalist, Palmer is the Vancouver Sun's provincial political columnist, a legislative correspondent for Global Television and host of the weekly program *Voice of BC* on Shaw TV and a regular commentator on radio station CKNW in Vancouver. Vaughn will share with the members of ACEC-BC his take on what the future will hold for BC post-election.

Be sure to attend this year's Annual Meeting for informed insights on BC's politics followed by the chance to taste some great scotches!

Keith Sashaw  
President & CEO, ACEC British Columbia

## Upcoming Events

- May 1  
**Surrey-Langley Mixer**  
*Sheraton Guildford Hotel, Surrey*
- May 15  
**Annual Golf Tournament**  
*Northview Golf & Country Club, Surrey*
- May 22  
**YPG Social Event**  
*The Irish Heather, Gastown, Vancouver (register through Eventbrite).*
- May 23  
**YPG Victoria Breakfast Seminar**  
*The Union Club, Victoria*
- May 30  
**YPG Okanagan Breakfast Seminar**  
*Coast Capri Hotel, Kelowna*
- June 4  
**Annual General Meeting**  
*Coast Plaza Stanley Park, Vancouver*
- June 20 - 22  
**2013 ACEC Summit**  
*Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, Alberta*
- June 26 - August 18  
**2013 Victoria YPG Dragon Boat Team**  
*Gorge Rowing and Paddling Centre*  
*May 15th deadline for registration*

## Awards Road Show

- April 14 – April 27  
**Pendulum Gallery, HSBC Building**  
*885 West Georgia, Vancouver*
- April 29 – May 20  
**Richmond City Hall**  
*6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond*
- June 12 – July 3  
**Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal**  
*1 Ferry Causeway, Delta*
- July 4 – July 25  
**Corporation of Delta Municipal Hall**  
*4500 Clarence Taylor Crescent, Delta*

## Online Awards Road Show

Be sure to check out project display boards on our web site, at

 [www.acec-bc.ca/awards.aspx](http://www.acec-bc.ca/awards.aspx)

## Annual General Meeting

The ACEC British Columbia Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday June 4th, 2013 at the Coast Plaza Stanley Park Hotel, 1763 Comox Street, Vancouver, BC.

Just before the AGM begins, at 4:00 p.m. we will feature a special post-election presentation by noted BC political commentator Vaughn Palmer...

### Peering into the Crystal Ball: Vaughn Palmer on the Future of BC Politics

Fresh after the Provincial election, ACEC British Columbia is pleased to present **Vaughn Palmer**, one of BC's most experienced and hard hitting watchers of the provincial political scene provide insights and observations on what the results all mean to BC, and our industry. Regardless of the outcome, there will be changes – come out to the ACEC-BC AGM and get a glimpse of what to expect.

The Annual General Meeting will begin at 5:00 p.m., and will provide a summary of ACEC-BC issues and activities over the past year and highlights plans for the year ahead. It is a good opportunity to network with your colleagues, meet our Past Presidents and other special guests as well as the new ACEC British Columbia Board of Directors.

The AGM will be followed by a rooftop garden reception and scotch tasting.

### Special Resolution to modify the Constitution and By-laws

A notice will be issued to all ACEC British Columbia Voting Members on a special resolution to make some minor changes in the language of the by-laws and constitution. These can be summarized as follows:

- Titles of officers of the association have changed, and this needs to be reflected in the by-laws. For example, the position formerly called Executive Director is now called President and CEO, while the position formerly called President is now called Chair. The duties associated with

these titles will not be modified – just the nomenclature. This change reflects the current usage that has been agreed upon by all board members.

- The constitution states the purposes of the association, and ways in which these purposes will be fulfilled. Currently, these include:

*2. b) Representing its [e.g. the consulting engineering industry's] interests to the public, news media, and governments, ...*

and

*2. d) Educating the public, news media and governments about consulting engineering, ...*

The special resolution proposes adding *clients* to these 2 sub-clauses.


A vote will be held as part of the AGM to seek membership approval for these changes.

## 13th Annual Golf Tournament

Start planning ahead for sunnier days and fun on the links at ACEC British Columbia's Annual Golf Tournament, **May 15th**, 2013 at the Northview Golf & Country Club in Surrey.

The tournament offers a fun and relaxed networking environment for ACEC British Columbia members, clients and industry colleagues. We're joining forces again with Make-A-Wish® Foundation of BC and Yukon to help grant a wish for a child with a life threatening illness.

Complete tournament information is posted on the web site at:

 [www.acec-bc.ca/events/golf-tournaments.aspx](http://www.acec-bc.ca/events/golf-tournaments.aspx)

### Sponsor – and Secure your Foursome!

All tournament sponsors will be offered first priority to additionally register up to one foursome. A Pin & Play sponsorship is a great way to secure your place in the tournament.

For more information about sponsorship, please review the **Sponsors Guide**.

## YPG Update

### Lower Mainland YPG

#### Social

The next ACEC-BC YP social is on Wednesday, May 22 at 6:00 p.m. Join us at the Irish Heather where you can mingle with members of the ACEC-BC board! Tickets will be available through Eventbrite in an email to follow.

### Okanagan YPG

#### Breakfast Seminar

A breakfast seminar will be held at the Coast Capri Hotel, Kelowna on May 30. Guest speaker **Steve Frith**, President of Urban Systems will talk about *Creating a Culture for Success – How YPs can Affect Change to Improve their Work Environment*.

### Vancouver Island YPG

#### Breakfast Seminar

Join us on May 23rd at the Union Club, Victoria, where **Mike Currie**, P.Eng. will give a presentation on *Engineer to Manager what you need to succeed*. Mike is the President of Kerr Wood Leidal Associates, and a Director and Past President of ACEC-BC.

*The final breakfast seminar of the season will be held in June.*

#### Social – ACEC-BC Dragon Boat Team

The Victoria ACEC-BC YPG group is organizing a Dragon Boat Team to enter the 2013 Victoria Dragon Boat festival. Registration and fees include 8 training sessions (one per week for 8 weeks), coaching, rentals, team jersey and entry into the Victoria Dragon Boat Festival.

For more information, please see the ACEC-BC event page. Deadline for registration is May 15th.

*A Pub Night Social will be held in June. More details will be posted in the future.*

## Call for Nominations

### 2013-2014 YPG Steering Committee

The ACEC-BC YP steering committee is seeking new members for the upcoming year. Please review the [positions available](#), their descriptions, and the YPG [organizational chart](#) for more details.

Detailed information is posted on the ACEC-BC website [Nominations Page](#).

Applications should be forwarded by April 26th to Allison Clavelle,

✉ [aclavelle@urbansystems.ca](mailto:aclavelle@urbansystems.ca)

Applicants are invited to meet the current steering committee members at the next steering committee meeting on May 1st at 7:30am. The existing steering committee will review all applications and conduct elections/appointments on May 8th.

## ACEC Summit 2013

All ACEC member firms are invited to attend *Summit 2013* in spectacular Lake Louise, Alberta, June 20-22.

The theme for this year's Summit is *Leading the way, shaping our future*. Join your industry colleagues to tackle the key issues of today and tomorrow.

Gain insight and inspiration, learn from industry experts, and enjoy spectacular scenery and world-class accommodations. All this and much more awaits you at *ACEC Summit 2013*. Don't miss this exceptional industry event!

Business program highlights:

- Business and market trends
- Top business risks
- Corporate responsibility and accountability
- Enhancing transparency and building trust
- Ensuring success in a changing world
- Market sector roundtables – back by popular demand

Opening speaker **Warren Everson**, Canadian Chamber of Commerce will discuss the *Top Ten Barriers to Competitiveness for 2013*.

## UBC Integrated Engineering Program Seeks Industry Challengers

The **IGEN Challenge** is a prize competition intended to bring out the best in creative problem solving from UBC's Integrated Engineering (IGEN) students. We are looking for industry partners ("Challengers") to provide unsolved technical problems to our teams of IGEN students ("Collaborators"), who will work to solve them over the eight-month academic year. Each team will receive course credit for their attempt, and those who succeed in solving their challenge will win a monetary prize. Challengers will work with the IGEN Challenge Advisory Committee in advance of the Challenge to set the scope of their challenge, and to determine both the prize structure and an initial estimate of project-related costs incurred by Collaborators. Each Challenger will provide a \$5,000 cash prize and will cover the project costs of a minimum of \$1,000 per Collaborator team involved in their challenge. Challengers will benefit significantly from the manpower hours derived from the IGEN students, and they will obtain valuable solutions to their technical problems at a fraction of the cost of dealing with them in-house with paid employees. Challengers will retain exclusive rights to any intellectual property obtained during the Challenge. They will also benefit from an enhanced exposure and profile on UBC's campus and beyond, through a presence in Challenge-related documents and websites, as well as at all Challenge-related receptions and publicity events. The IGEN Grand Challenge represents an ideal opportunity for industry to increase its involvement in the education and development of the next generation of innovative engineers.

For more information about the IGEN Grand Challenge and how to get involved:

#### Professor Daan Majer

Director, UBC Integrated Engineering Program  
✉ [daan.majer@ubc.ca](mailto:daan.majer@ubc.ca)

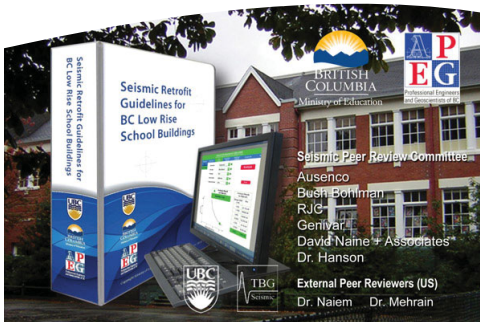
#### Oliver Zihlmann

Development Officer, UBC Applied Science  
✉ [oliver.zihlmann@ubc.ca](mailto:oliver.zihlmann@ubc.ca)

## 2013 Awards for Engineering Excellence

On Saturday, April 6th the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies – BC held their 24th Annual Awards for Engineering Excellence Gala at the Vancouver Convention Centre. This event showcases the best engineering accomplishments from the past year by BC consulting firms.

### Lieutenant Governor's Award for Engineering Excellence



#### Seismic Retrofit Guidelines

Ausenco with Bush Bohlman & Partners, GENIVAR and Read Jones Christoffersen

**Category:** Soft Engineering

**Location:** Public School Buildings in BC

In 2004, the Ministry of Education initiated a \$1.5B seismic mitigation program for public school buildings. APEGBC was retained to manage the development of performance-based technical guidelines for use in seismic risk assessments and the production of cost-effective retrofit designs.

The collaboration between government, academia and the engineering community resulted in 300+ page manual and companion tool – a unique state-of-the-art web-based Seismic Performance Analyzer.

The Analyzer accesses a database of millions of non-linear incremental dynamic analyses for different structural systems and high-risk partition walls, evaluated for earthquakes expected to occur in BC. With province-wide consistency, users can quickly determine the seismic risk of an existing building, and optimize retrofits to achieve “life-safety” seismic performance.

As recently noted by Dr. Robert Hanson, PE, technical adviser to the United States’ FEMA, these guidelines are “... a significant contribution to the tools of the international community in reducing life loss from earthquakes.”

## Awards of Excellence

### UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Glotman Simpson Consulting Engineers

**Category:** Buildings

**Location:** Vancouver, BC

The distinctive cantilevered west façade of the UBC Pharmaceutical Sciences building provides a prestigious gateway to the Point Grey campus. The three atriums act as the lungs of the building, creating four separate structural buildings that were designed to work as a single entity seismically. Use of BIM modeling during a fast-tracked schedule brought the team together to find ingenious design solutions.

### Bridgeview Sewer System

AECOM Canada Ltd.

**Category:** Municipal

**Location:** Surrey, BC

Surrey was faced with a vacuum sewer system that was unreliable and its operating costs were 20 times higher than conventional systems. AECOM designed an innovative sewer replacement system using trenchless technology in a manner that had never before been used for municipal sewers in British Columbia. AECOM’s design provides residents with a highly reliable sewer service that saves the City over \$1 million annually.

### South Fraser Perimeter Road – Eastern Section

Stantec Consulting Ltd. and exp Services Inc.

**Category:** Transportation

**Location:** Surrey, BC

The South Fraser Perimeter Road is a new 40km, four-lane highway extending from Deltaport Way in Delta to 176 Street in Surrey. The Eastern Section opened to traffic on December 1st, 2012. Stantec, as Prime Consultant for the P3 team, has led the multi-disciplinary design team providing project management and design services. Geotechnical engineering has been provided by exp Services Inc.

### Wilson Creek Farm Habitat Enhancement

Kerr Wood Leidal Associates

**Category:** Natural Resource,  
Energy & Industry

**Location:** Port Coquitlam, BC

For the first time in 100 years, salmon are swimming in the channels at Wilson Farm. In the early 1900s, the Coquitlam River estuary was diked and drained, isolating the floodplain and depriving salmon of valuable habitat. Kerr Wood Leidal’s innovative use of self-regulated tide gates restored tidal exchange to floodplain channels. This allows fish in while keeping enough water out to protect wildlife habitat.

## Awards of Merit

### Tsingtao Pearl Visitor Centre

Fast + Epp Structural Engineers

**Category:** Buildings

**Location:** Tsingtao, China

### Harvest Energy Garden

Opus DaytonKnight Consultants Ltd.

**Category:** Municipal

**Location:** Richmond, BC

### 202 Street Bus Rapid Transit Project

Hatch Mott MacDonald with MMM Group, McElhanney, Delcan and CMS Focus

**Category:** Transportation

**Location:** Langley, BC

### Gibraltar Plan 3 Development

Golder Associates Ltd.

**Category:** Natural Resource,  
Energy & Industry

**Location:** Vancouver, BC

### Deh Cho Bridge – Bridging New Opportunities

Associated Engineering

**Category:** Soft Engineering

**Location:** NWT and Burnaby, BC

 [www.acec-bc.ca/awards.aspx](http://www.acec-bc.ca/awards.aspx)



## 2012 Meritorious Achievement Award

The ACEC British Columbia Meritorious Achievement Award recognizes an individual consulting engineer for outstanding contributions to the engineering profession, our industry and the community.

The recipient of this prestigious award in 2012 is **John Watson**, P. Eng., FEC.

When Fluor acquired Wright Engineers in 1988, John was a key figure in the successful integration of the two companies.

John has been an active volunteer with many organizations throughout his career, including the Vancouver International Airport Transition Advisory Group, and as a Director and Chair of the BC Safety Authority.

He has been actively involved on a number of APEGBC committees, task forces, and as a Director, Vice-President and President. In 2007, John received APEGBC's Professional Service Award, and in 2008 John was honoured as a Fellow of Engineers Canada.

In June 2004, John received a Certificate of Appreciation from ASTTBC for Leadership in Promoting the Engineering and Geoscience Team.

From 2003 to 2005, John served on CCPE (Canadian Council of Professional Engineers, now known as Engineers Canada) Audit Committee and the Task Force on Technicians & Technologists, both as a Member and Chair.

John was President of CEBC (now ACEC British Columbia) in 1988/89.

John Watson is a most deserving recipient of the 2013 ACEC British Columbia Meritorious Achievement Award.



## 2012 Young Professional Award

The ACEC-BC Young Professional Award was established in 2008 to recognize an individual in the first ten years of their career who has shown leadership within their company, contributed to the consulting engineering industry, the profession and the community.

The recipient of the 2013 Young Professional Award is **Selena Wilson**, P.Eng. of McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd. Selena has 7 years of professional experience working in the transportation sector, including Design-Build and P3 projects.

Selena Wilson graduated in 2005 and joined McElhanney after having spent the previous three summers working there. She quickly took on small, local projects, and progressed to increasingly larger assignments, specializing in major transportation design/build and P3 projects, leaving her mark on such projects as the Horseshoe Bay Interchange, the Golden Ears Bridge Northern Approach Roads and the Port Mann/Highway 1 Improvement Project.

In addition to her professional career, Selena Wilson has maintained a high profile in her volunteer efforts on behalf of the consulting engineering industry - locally, nationally and internationally. Last year, she was featured in the December 2012 Canadian Consulting Engineer magazine, "Seven Inspiring Engineers," alongside some of Canada's other top consulting engineering talent.

## Consultation Opens on Licensee-inclusive Bylaw Amendments

APEGBC's governing legislation, the Engineers and Geoscientists Act, received 11 modernizing amendments in June 2012. These included changes that enable limited licensees to participate in APEGBC's key governance processes, including the ability to run for Council and vote in Council elections, petitions, and bylaws; and to call and vote at meetings of the association. Council is now opening consultation with members on three related bylaws.

Council approved in principle amendments to support the inclusion of limited licensees in these processes:

### Bylaw 3 (a.1) Nominating Committee

Amendments would allow limited licensees to participate on the Nominating Committee.

### Bylaw 3 (j) Ballot

Amendments will allow limited licensees to participate as ballot counters.

### Bylaw 10 (c.1 and c.2) Life Membership and Honorary Life Membership

Amendments will allow life or honorary life licensure to be bestowed on limited licensees.

APEGBC is now beginning a period of member consultation on these proposed amendments through **a process that was established** recently as part of a Council initiative to increase the opportunities for members to provide feedback on potential bylaw changes.

Members and limited licensees may provide their comments and feedback on these bylaw amendments until **May 3, 2013**. Following review of this input, the proposed bylaws, with any further amendments or refinements, will be brought before Council at its June 2013 meeting for approval of the final wording. The approved bylaws would then be submitted to the membership for ratification in the fall of 2013.

The **full bylaw** text, as well as **background information** on these amendments, is provided on the **APEGBC website**. Comments may be sent to [✉ bylaws@apeg.bc.ca](mailto:bylaws@apeg.bc.ca) until **May 3, 2013**.