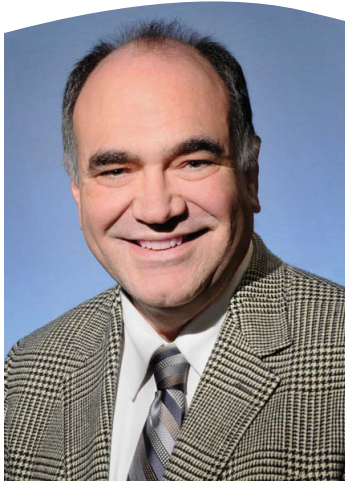


ACEC British Columbia

Newsbrief

June 2013



Message from the President Keith Sashaw

At the recent Summit of the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies–Canada, there was a lot of focus on ethics and proper business practices. This is, of course, in response to the current situation in Québec, where there have been serious charges of bribery and corruption in the construction industry, including several engineering companies.

While there have been many reasons for the situation to arise, there is no doubt that business practices, especially of those companies involved in construction, will be under the microscope. Indeed, it was noted many times that with social media and instantaneous messaging, it is critical that businesses remain vigilant in ensuring that not only are they operating in an ethical and legal manner, but they are

also perceived as doing so. It was noted that the duty of ethical action is a higher standard than the duty of legal action, and increasingly companies will be judged by their ethical approaches to the way they do business.

While the focus has been on the situation in Québec, it has highlighted the fact that there is ever-increasing scrutiny on companies and how they do business, not only in their home markets but also around the world. At the summit there were excellent presentations from people who have had considerable experience dealing with thorny situations in global markets. While it is often easy to slide into a mindset that condones illegal activities such as bribery and corruption, the clear message is to absolutely avoid engaging in such activities. While the immediate payback may be tempting, there are severe consequences to engaging in such practices.

Another topic that received considerable attention at the summit was the growing issue of succession planning and engaging the young people in the industry. There was great representation from the Young Professional Group at the conference, and the input they had was tremendous. There is no doubt that this demographic in our industry brings a unique perspective and, in my opinion, a vibrancy that is refreshing. It was clearly recognized by the delegates to the Summit that the engineering industry, like most sectors of the economy, is already wrestling with the challenges of skill

shortages, and the sooner companies start listening to the YPG and others in the industry, the better position our industry will be in to face the looming challenges.

The 2014 ACEC summit will be in Winnipeg next June, and I would encourage everyone to plan to attend so they can keep up to date on emerging trends and issues facing our industry.

Keith Sashaw
President & CEO, ACEC British Columbia

Awards Road Show

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

September 28 – October 27

Science World
1455 Quebec Street, Vancouver

December 2 - December 20

Fred Kaiser Building
2332 Main Mall, UBC

Be sure to check out the project display boards, and vote for your favourite in the Peoples' Choice Award online poll ...

 www.acec-bc.ca/awards.aspx

ACEC British Columbia Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held June 4th at the Coast Plaza Stanley Park Hotel in Vancouver. **Adrian Corlett**, P.E.; **David Daw**, P.Eng; **Mike Dickens**, P.Eng.; **Shane Johnson**, P.Eng.; **Carl Miller**, P.Eng.; and **Asifa Samji**, MBA were elected to the board for four year terms. The 2013-2014 ACEC-British Columbia directors are:

Chair

Cameron Gatey, P.Eng
Urban Systems Ltd.

Vice-Chair/Treasurer

Catherine Fritter, P.Eng
Moffatt & Nichol

Designated Director

Ken Wiecke, P.Eng
AMEC Americas Limited

Past Chair

Steve Fleck, P.Eng, MBA (ex officio)
Stantec Consulting

Directors

Adrian Corlett, P.E. (newly elected)
Delcan Corporation

David Daw, P.Eng (newly elected)
Hatch Ltd.

Mike Dickens, P.Eng (newly elected)
Kerr Wood Leidal Associates

Martin Jobke, P.Eng
Associated Engineering

Shane Johnson, P.Eng (newly elected)
Klohn Crippen Berger

James Kay, P.Eng, HBA
Focus Corporation

Jeannine Martin
Buckland & Taylor Ltd.

Carl Miller, P.Eng. (newly elected)
Levelton Consultants Ltd.

Asifa Samji, MBA (newly elected)
Stantec Consultants Ltd.

Tim Stanley, P.Eng
MMM Group

Homayoun Vahidi, P.Eng
IBI Group

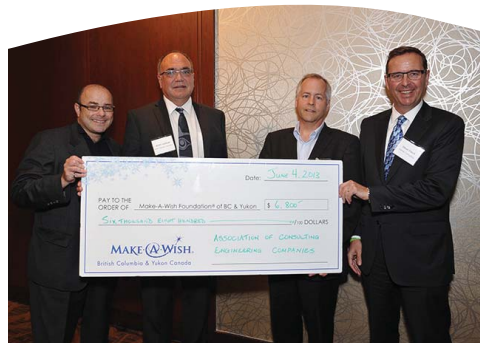
Steve Fleck, P.Eng, MBA, Stantec Consulting, is an ex officio director for a one year term as Past President. He has also been appointed as an ACEC director. **Chris Newcomb**, P.Eng, McElhanney Consulting Services has been appointed to a one year ex officio term as an ACEC director and **Mark Byram**, P.Eng, GOAL Engineering Ltd. has been appointed to a one year ex officio term as Chair of the Young Professionals Group.



Back: Carl Miller, Adrian Corlett, Shane Johnson, Ken Wiecke, Homayoun Vahidi, Mike Dickens.

Front: David Daw, Catherine Fritter, Cameron Gatey, Keith Sashaw, Martin Jobke, Asifa Samji, James Kay, Steve Fleck.

Prior to the AGM, members and guests heard a keynote address by Vancouver Sun political columnist **Vaughn Palmer** on *The Future of Politics in British Columbia*. Mr. Palmer offered his insights and observations on the recent provincial election and what the results could mean to our industry. The keynote address was introduced by Mike Cunningham of PACE Group, event sponsors.



Keith Sashaw, Cameron Gatey and Steve Fleck presented a cheque to Claudio Arato of Make-A-Wish Foundation of BC & Yukon. Funds raised at the annual golf tournament allowed ACEC-BC to donate a total of \$6,800 to this worthy cause. \$800 of this total was raised by Associate Members Andrew Bay and Jeff Thorsteinson of Bay Wealth Management / Investors Group.

Following the AGM, members and guests were invited to attend the annual scotch tasting event, led by scotch whisky connoisseur Andrew Starritt. The event was sponsored this year by Associate Member Jeff McLellan of BFL CANADA Insurance Services, who also provided a rare bottle of Bruichladdich Islay scotch whisky as a door prize.

Event Sponsors

Keynote Address:

Scotch Tasting:



Amendments to Constitution and By-laws Approved at Annual General Meeting

During the Annual General Meeting on June 4th at the Coast Plaza Stanley Park Hotel, Voting Members unanimously approved two special resolutions, one to amend the constitution and one to amend the by-laws. Though minor in nature, the Board felt it important to seek membership approval of these changes to ensure that the by-laws better reflect the activities and governance of the Society.

Article 2. of the constitution states the purpose of the Society and the ways in which this purpose will be fulfilled. Currently, these include "2. b) Representing its interests to the public, news media and governments, ..." and "2. d) Educating the public, news media and governments about consulting engineering, ...". The changes proposed in Special Resolution A add "clients" to these two subclauses. This amendment recognizes the importance of our client liaison activities and our function as an educational resource to clients, in both the public sector and private sector.

Special Resolution B proposed changes to the titles of Officers of the Society. Duties associated with each office remain the same – only the titles are changed. These changes reflect current usage that has been adopted by the Board, and are in line with the usage of other related associations.

These amendments will take effect when they have been filed and accepted by the BC Registrar of Companies.

YPG Victoria Events Report

The 2012/2013 events season has wrapped up with two great breakfast seminars in Victoria. Following is a report on the June and May Victoria seminars...

Civil Liability: Engineering Aspects of Record Generation and Keeping

June 2013

Neil Carfra was able to take some time out of his busy schedule to discuss the importance of good records in a civil action. The seminar was well received particularly by the geotechnical engineers in the room. Two YP's from outside of Victoria were also in attendance. Mike Lange P.Eng. made the trip to Victoria from Port Alberni and Mitchell Brook P.Eng. from Parksville.



Key Take Away Points

- Ultimate Limitation Period – New act for 15 year ultimate limitation period came into effect on June 1, 2013. (Past sins erased on June 1, 2028 if not sued).
- It is recommended to retain records for at least 15 years.
- Basic Limitation Period – Claims must not be commenced more than 2 years after the day on which the claim is discovered.
- Engineering E and O Insurance is generally on a claims made basis – Your current company's insurance will not cover you for work completed at another company.
- Record all records under the assumption that they will become public.
- You do not want to be the engineer who has to rely on memory alone to explain past actions.

- It is important for Young Professionals to understand how much coverage their firms have to cover Errors and Omissions. You cannot afford not to have coverage even after you are retired (+15 years minimum).
- APEGBC provides \$100,000 in secondary liability coverage including defence costs, to all members to protect them against claims made while the policy is in force.

Engineer to Manager – What you need to succeed

May 2013

It was another packed house for **Mike Currie's** presentation. Mike was able to relate his personal and professional experience to connect with the YP's in the room. Not everyone wants or needs to be a manager to be successful in their career. One of the key take away points of the seminar was that success takes on many forms.



Key Take Away Points

- Define your own success - what type of work (i.e.: field/office) makes you happy?
- You don't need to be a manager to be successful or happy in your career.
- Management is not for everyone – it is less technical, you will deal with people, systems and finance, and be accountable for work of others
- Training for management is readily available (books, courses, mentorship, job experience).
- Keep fit and have balance you will work hard and will have more stress.
- Skills needed – management, people, and communication.
- Be good to people. Don't be a jerk. Treat everybody with respect.

Young professional from McElhanney wins award



ACEC–Canada has awarded the 2014 Allen D. Williams Scholarship to co-winners **Selena Wilson**, P.Eng. of McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd. and **Simon Davidson**, P.Eng. of Roche Ltd.

Selena Wilson is a Transportation Engineer at McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd. She has served as a steering committee member with the ACEC-British Columbia Young Professional (YP) Group, the ACEC YP Network, and the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC) YP Forum Steering Committee. Most recently, she was elected Chair of the FIDIC YP Steering Committee serving a two-year term that will conclude at FIDIC's 2014 annual conference.

In April, Selena Wilson received the ACEC–British Columbia Young Professional Award. This is the second consecutive year that a BC young professional has also received the Allen D. Williams Scholarship award.

Simon Davidson is a Project Manager with Roche Ltd. and manager of Roche's start-up office in Ottawa-Gatineau. He is the Founder and Chair of the Roche Young Leader Network and Co-founder and current Chair of the Association des ingénieurs-conseils du Québec (AICQ) YP Forum, as well as Chair of the ACEC YP Network. He is a member of the FIDIC YP steering committee and instigator of a new international training platform for YPs within FIDIC.

The scholarship commemorates Allen Williams, past ACEC Chair and Founder of Williams Engineering Inc. It provides the winner with funding to cover registration, airfare and accommodations to attend FIDIC's annual conference. The 2014 FIDIC conference will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



The ACEC Summit – a YP Perspective

by Mark Byram,
YPG Provincial Chair

The ACEC 2013 Summit in Lake Louise provided a venue for YP's from across Canada to gather

and discuss issues affecting Young Professionals. At the beginning of the conference the individual provincial YP groups provided reports of their activities and plans for the upcoming year.

Highlights on the YP conference agenda included:

- YP tech tour of the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise Reservoir and Water Treatment Plant
- YP Networking Session
- Roundtable: *Career advice for tomorrow's leaders from Today's CEOs*

The devastating flooding in southern Alberta affected the conference by blocking access to the Summit for one third of the delegates and all of the speakers on the second day. Many attendees were stuck at the Chateau for several days. This required the ACEC staff to improvise on the agenda. Their exceptional work allowed the conference to continue without any noticeable delays. Improvising on the second day allowed for a YP roundtable where 4 Young Professionals shared their story on how they chose engineering, where they are at now in their career, and where they see themselves in the future.

This also allowed the Senior Professionals to ask the golden question: "What will keep you at your company".... here is a hint: it is not an exorbitant sum of money. However, not receiving fair compensation will drive Young Professionals away from a company.

The general consensus within the YP's was that opportunities to continue to learn and take on more responsibility were most valued. Also of significance was having a mentor figure willing to discuss career path and relay experience. This does not necessarily require a formal mentorship program. Many engineers relayed their experience of having several mentorship figures during a

career that were not necessarily from the same company or even within the same industry. It is however important for a company to ensure that senior staff are accessible to young professionals and respected within their companies an industry.

The Summit provided many insightful keys to success for Young Professionals. These included the following:

1. Build a network by getting involved.
2. Don't be afraid to take reasonable risk.
3. Take the time to think and act strategically.
4. Learn to listen. Probe and know the issue.
5. Build and apply soft skills.
6. Speak up but be informed and articulate.
7. Continually find and develop your success.
8. Identify your mentors.
9. Keep balance in your life.

And most importantly...Pack extra undies.

The thoughts of ACEC-British Columbia members are with the people of southern Alberta who have endured the effects of record rainfalls and devastating floods. We would like to thank the staff of the Fairmont Lake Louise, and ACEC-Canada whose hard work made the Summit a success in the face of some difficult challenges.

Consulting Engineers Compensation Survey

The 15th annual Consulting Engineers Compensation Survey, covering over 80 positions is now open for participation.

The survey gives consulting engineering companies from across Canada access to information on current salaries, bonuses, group insurance, retirement benefits and compensation best practices.

Participate between now and August 31st and receive a 50% discount, plus ACEC-BC members, receive an additional 15% savings.

For more details & ordering information, visit:

www.wcbc.ca/surveys/consultingengineers

Upcoming Legal Conferences

ACEC British Columbia is pleased to be a sponsoring association for two upcoming conferences presented by the Affinity Institute:

Construction Contracting & Project Delivery Models
September 19, 2013

Delay Claims in Western Canada
November 8, 2013

Doug Sanders of Borden Ladner Gervais LLP will chair the Construction Contracting seminar, while the Delay Claims seminar will be co-chaired by John Logan of Jenkins Marzban Logan LLP and Chris O'Connor of Borden Ladner Gervais LLP. If you aren't able to make it down to Vancouver the conferences are also being made available for online viewing.

ACEC British Columbia members receive a 15% discount on these events by using the preferred pricing code AI12013 when registering for Construction Contracting or AI22013 when registering for Delay claims online at...

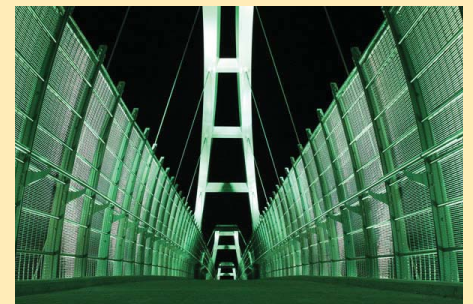
www.affinityinstitute.ca

Online Awards Road Show

Be sure to check out the project display boards from the 2013 Awards for Engineering Excellence competition on our web site...

www.acec-bc.ca/awards.aspx

and be sure vote for your favorite project in the **People's Choice Poll** – results of the poll will be announced in September.



2012 People's Choice Poll Winner –
Tynehead Pedestrian Bridge

Call for Volunteers

ACEC-British Columbia Committees

Participation in ACEC-BC committees is a great way to **learn** about the key issues and best practices in our industry, extend your **network** of business contacts, and help **advance** the goals and objectives of *your* industry association.

There is a wide range of ACEC-British Columbia committees – there is sure to be one or more that will suit your interests, experience and abilities. The main line committees are:

- Business Practice
- Membership Affairs
- Professional Development
- Young Professionals Group
 - Victoria YPG
 - Lower Mainland YPG
 - Okanagan YPG
- Building Engineering
- Municipal Engineering
- Resource & Energy
- Transportation


There are also 2 regional liaison groups that act as a forum for regional issues, and organize regional mixers and events,

- Vancouver Island Liaison
- Thompson-Okanagan Liaison

Many of the main line committees have several active subcommittees - for example, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure Liaison Committee is a subcommittee of the Transportation Committee, and it is one of our most active groups.

A number of committees are currently seeking new members. If you would like to participate as a member of an ACEC-British Columbia committee, or if you would like to know more about a particular committee, please contact our office at...

 info@acec-bc.ca

 (604) 687-2811



ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING
ENGINEERING COMPANIES
BRITISH COLUMBIA

ACEC Welcomes New Chair, Jason Mewis



The Association of Consulting Engineering Companies–Canada (ACEC) is pleased to announce that Jason Mewis, P.Eng., President & Senior Engineer at ENGCOMP, has been elected Chairman of its

Board of Directors for 2013-2014. Mr. Mewis is a recognized leader in the Canadian consulting engineering industry. He was elected to the ACEC Board of Directors in 2009 and has since served on the Executive Committee in a number of roles.

On June 21, during the association's Annual General Meeting in Lake Louise, Alberta, Mr. Mewis outlined his goals and priorities for the year ahead. In his remarks, Mr. Mewis stressed the need for a collective vision for ACEC members. "In the last year we have implemented a new governance model that is allowing our board to be more strategic and forward thinking. Not only do we want to know what our members need from us, we also want to be able to focus on issues that our members may not even be aware of yet but are going to have to face." Mr. Mewis also identified his priorities for ACEC in the coming year, including stronger member engagement and outreach to organizations representing the private sector clients of ACEC member firms.

As the Founder and President of ENGCOMP Engineering & Computing Professionals Inc., Mr. Mewis has over 15 years of experience working on projects for the heavy industrial market in Saskatchewan, as both a Senior Structural Engineer and Project Manager. Mr. Mewis is a registered professional engineer with permission to consult in Saskatchewan for industrial, commercial, and residential structural projects. He is experienced in many areas including project management, estimating, planning, facilitation and structural engineering, and specializes in risk analysis and computer programming.

Mr. Mewis is preceded by Murray Thompson, P.Eng., of URS Canada Inc.

8th Annual Consultant's Invitational Fishing Derby

July 20, 2013 – Best Western Prestige Oceanfront Resort and Convention Center
6923 West Coast Road, Sooke

An invitational event hosted by the civil engineering community of Victoria to raise funds for the Sooke Salmon Enhancement Society and other local enhancement organizations. Since inception, the Derby has donated over \$60,000 to the various charities!

Interested in becoming a sponsor of the Consultants Invitational Fishing Derby? Download the 2013 Consultants Invitational Fishing Derby **brochure**.

ACEC-British Columbia is a Gold Sponsor of the Derby.



Consultants' Invitational

2014 Awards for Engineering Excellence – Coming Soon!

For the past 24 years, the Awards for Engineering Excellence program has recognized and celebrated the outstanding accomplishments of our members. The annual gala is attended by politicians, senior government officials, client groups, industry leaders and peers, with over 500 attendees this year. Participants in the program receive valuable recognition at the premier industry and networking event for British Columbia's consulting engineers.

Now is the time to start identifying projects you would like to highlight at the 2014 Awards Gala – April 12th at the Vancouver Convention Centre. The competition will be launched in September 2013. In the meantime, if you have any questions about the Awards program, please contact the ACEC-British Columbia secretariat at...

 info@acec-bc.ca

 (604) 687-2811

or visit our website:

 www.acec-bc.ca/awards.aspx