



## ACEC British Columbia

# Newsbrief

August/September 2014



### Message from the President Keith Sashaw

In the previous issue of Newsbrief, I described a recent RFP issued by an owner that had several onerous clauses that caused concern. ACEC-BC received a number of calls on the matter, which underscored that many members have these concerns.

When it comes to contracts, ACEC-BC believes that the Association's members and their clients have a number of mutual goals whenever consulting engineers are engaged to undertake studies and design assignments, including the following:

- Selecting the right team for the work, with the proper qualifications and experience to undertake the work.
- Setting realistic schedules and budgets for a properly defined scope of work.

- Minimizing, to the greatest extent possible, changes of scope and disputes by clearly and effectively defining the scope of work.
- Maintaining good business relationships between the parties.

Furthermore, the Association believes that a good procurement system will exhibit the following important characteristics:

- Uses short lists whenever possible. Proposals are expensive to prepare and time consuming to review.
- Recognizes the differences between engaging professional service firms and purchasing commodities.
- Evaluates proponents on the basis of what distinguishes them.
- Rewards proposals that add value to the process.
- Considers project life-cycle costs.
- Focuses on the best value, and not just the lowest price.

Additionally, the Association believes that good agreements also include the following number of important characteristics:

- Contractual arrangements and terms are fair and balanced.
- Fairly and appropriately shares and distributes risk and reward.
- Recognizes the purpose of insurance, and does not include clauses that are uninsurable.

- Does not hold the consultant responsible for events and actions outside their control.
- Requires an appropriate level of professional liability insurance for the work being undertaken, and limits liability to the insurance available.
- Includes a mechanism for project changes and allows for a fair and balanced dispute resolution.
- Fairly recognizes and compensates for intellectual property.
- Uses industry recognized language that can be understood by both the parties, and not just their lawyers.

*continued on page 2 ...*

### Awards Road Show

until September 3  
**Coquitlam City Hall**  
*3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam*

September 4 – 26  
**District of North Vancouver**  
*355 West Queens Rd., North Vancouver*

September 29 – October 17  
**Science World**  
*1455 Quebec Street, Vancouver*

November 10 – 21  
**Capilano University**  
*2055 Purcell Way, North Vancouver*

## Message from the President

*continued from page 1 ...*

We would encourage all consulting engineering firms to carefully keep these points in mind whenever reviewing a document. Should you come across any contract that does not abide by these principles, we would encourage you to engage the owner at the earliest possible time to explain the importance of adhering to sound business practices, and request that any offensive clauses be removed to conform to the above principles. Should those discussions not bear positive outcomes, please feel free to forward your concerns to ACEC-BC.

As suggested last month, the industry will not affect changes until such time as we collectively stand up for fair, open and transparent tendering practices.



Keith Sashaw  
President & CEO, ACEC British Columbia

## 2014-15 YPG Season Passes

Now is the time to purchase your organization's YPG season passes. A pass allows a representative from your company to attend all Young Professional breakfast seminars in one region for a year. The pass is fully transferable, so any young professional from your company can use it and by purchasing one your firm can save up to \$15 on individual event tickets.

### Lower Mainland YPG Pass:

\$330 + GST for a season pass or  
\$1500 + GST for a Block of 5 season passes

### Vancouver Island YPG Pass:

\$275 + GST for a season pass or  
\$1250 + GST for a Block of 5 season passes

### Okanagan YPG Pass:

\$165 + GST for a season pass or  
\$750 + GST for a Block of 5 season passes

To purchase your 2014-2015 season passes, Contact Alla Samusevich at

 (604) 687-2811,  [alla@acec-bc.ca](mailto:alla@acec-bc.ca)

## Engineering Supplement in BiV

### Advertising Opportunity Available

After the successful launch of the ACEC-BC Awards supplement in April 2014, the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies-BC is pleased to inform you of a new special feature to be produced in collaboration with Business in Vancouver. The feature will run on Tuesday, October 7th 2014.

The supplement, entitled **Engineering in BC**, will highlight the current industry trends, updates in the High Tech sector, and what export opportunities are available for the consulting engineering industry. If there is a particular story you would like to have included in the supplement, please contact Lia Spidlen,  [lia@acec-bc.ca](mailto:lia@acec-bc.ca). Please keep in mind that our goal in producing this special feature is to promote not only the business opportunities this sector has to offer, but to continue to build positive public awareness of the profession.

We would like to encourage your organization to consider advertising in this targeted publication. Due to strong corporate advertising support in similar features over the years, ACEC-BC has been able to effectively communicate the vital role our members perform in this province, and around the world.

In addition to the general public, this supplement will also reach key business leaders and decision makers who purchase engineering services. This special content feature in Business in Vancouver will be sent to all ACEC-British Columbia members and BiV's 12,500 subscribers.

In the near future, you can expect to hear from a representative with Business in Vancouver who will contact you to provide details and ask for your support. In the meantime, please find attached the rack card for your perusal. Should you wish to take advantage of this special advertising opportunity in Business in Vancouver, please contact Blair Johnston at (604) 608-5148 or  [bjohnston@biv.com](mailto:bjohnston@biv.com)

Thank you in advance for your support. We look forward to your participation.

## Upcoming Events

- September 9  
**Business Development for Engineers**  
*Terminal City Club, Vancouver*
- September 10  
**Okanagan Golf Tournament**  
*Harvest Golf Club, Kelowna*
- September 16  
**Mining Industry Outlook**  
*Terminal City Club, Vancouver*
- September 18  
**ASHRAE 90.1-2010 and NECB 2011 Half-day workshop**  
*BC Hydro Corporate office, 6911 Southpoint Drive, Burnaby*
- September 24  
**Education Mixer**  
*Hyatt Regency, Vancouver*
- September 26  
**Vancouver Island Golf Tournament**  
*Bear Mountain Resort, Victoria*
- October 1  
**Health Authorities Mixer**  
*Vancouver - venue to be determined*
- October 23-25  
**APEGBC Annual Conference**  
*Hyatt Regency Hotel, Vancouver*
- November 18  
**Building a Powerful Personal Brand**  
*Four Seasons Hotel, Vancouver*
- December 3  
**Communications/Media 101**  
*Terminal City Club, Vancouver*
- January 22-26  
**Western Engineering Competition**  
*UBC, Vancouver*
- January 28  
**Facing the Future Transportation Conference**  
*Transportation Growth in the 21st Century Vancouver Hilton Metrotown*
- February 26  
**Business Development for Engineers**  
*Terminal City Club, Vancouver*
- April 10  
**ACEC-BC Awards Gala**  
*Vancouver Convention Centre*

## P3 2014:

### Delivering our Infrastructure Legacy

On November 3 & 4, The Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships will hold its 22nd Annual Conference and celebrate the 17th National Awards for Innovation and Excellence in P3 at the Sheraton Centre, Toronto.

You will hear keynote addresses from P3 leaders, experts will share their experience and best practices in 16 innovative sessions, Canadian Trade Commissioners from emerging P3 markets will be available to meet with delegates in the International Café, and Canadian and international P3 leaders will have the opportunity to network in several different venues throughout the two days.

As the world's largest gathering of P3 professionals, this is the must-attend Canadian P3 event, so **register now** to ensure you experience this unique conference.

## BC Hydro Power Smart and FortisBC Seminar

### ASHRAE 90.1-2010 AND NECB 2011

The BC Hydro Power Smart *New Construction Program* and FortisBC *Custom Design Program* are pleased to invite you to register for a half-day ASHRAE 90.1-2010 and NECB 2011 workshop on September 18, 2014. This workshop will review the new City of Vancouver Building Bylaws and British Columbia Building Code's (BCBC's) Part 3 energy provisions, including: a discussion on the energy performance compliance modelling paths, and when it is needed; and review of how LEED Canada modelling compares to compliance modelling.

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Mechanical and electrical engineers, energy modelers, architects, LEED consultants, city engineers or those involved in the design new commercial buildings, institutional and MURB buildings, and need to understand the new BC Building code.

Limited space is available. Registration costs \$50. **Register now.**

## Northeast BC Natural Gas Summit

### The Road Ahead for LNG

September 18-19, 2014 | Vancouver  
Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue

This comprehensive and information intensive program will examine:

- Changing the game – the future for North American natural gas
- Managing Risks, Creating Value
- Effective management of cumulative impacts through stewardship initiatives
- Synchronizing government regulatory and fiscal processes – opportunities and challenges
- Opening the door to future markets
- Update on B.C. Oil and Gas Commission consultation process agreements regulation
- Managing construction costs through effective skills, employment and training programs
- First Nations business and employment participation
- Strategies to address GHG emission challenges
- Community infrastructure gaps and how to address them
- Mitigation of impacts

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

The program will be most beneficial to:

- Executives from LNG Companies including Engineering, Environment, Gas Exploration, Operations, and Planning business units
- First Nations and Aboriginal Groups
- Gas Distribution, Production, Service, Storage and Transmission Companies
- Geological and Engineering Consultants
- Government and Regulatory Officials
- Investors and Financial Officers
- Land Administrators & Area Regulators
- Lawyers and In-house Counsel
- Northern Community Relations Coordinators
- Northern JV Specialists
- Pipeline Construction and Specialist Companies
- Power Generators

 [www.insightinfo.com/  
6th-northeast-b-c-natural-gas-summit/](http://www.insightinfo.com/6th-northeast-b-c-natural-gas-summit/)

## APEGBC Annual Conference

October 23–25, 2014

Hyatt Regency, Vancouver

The 2014 APEGBC Annual Conference and AGM will take place in the heart of downtown Vancouver. The conference provides members the opportunity to connect with other professional engineers and geoscientists, government representatives, industry leaders, consultants and sponsors and exhibitors.

The conference theme this year is *BC and Beyond: Global Innovation Begins at Home*. We recognize that many new ideas and technologies are born right here in our province. Find out how our local innovators and thought leaders have made an impact not only in BC, but globally and beyond.

For more information, see the **conference web page**.

## 2014 TAC Conference

### Transportation 2014: Past–Present–Future

Hosted by the ministère des Transports du Québec and la Ville de Montréal at the Palais des congrès, the 2014 Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) Conference & Exhibition will celebrate the Association's 100th anniversary.

This special event is expected to attract 1200+ delegates (25 to 50% more than during a typical year) who are decision makers and senior managers from the private and public sectors of Canada's transportation and roadway sectors.

Delegates will be able to choose from a variety of innovative technical tours showcasing Montreal's unique transportation infrastructure.

The conference program will feature a wide variety of technical, professional and networking events over three and a half days, September 28 - October 1, 2014.

 [www.transportation2014.ca](http://www.transportation2014.ca)

 [tac-atc.ca/en/conference](http://tac-atc.ca/en/conference)

**Transportation**  
**2014**  
PAST-PRESENT-FUTURE



## 2015 Awards for Engineering Excellence – Coming Soon!

For the past 25 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 2015 Awards Gala – Friday, April 10th at the Vancouver Convention Centre. The competition will be launched in the next few weeks. In the meantime, if you have any questions about the Awards program, please contact the ACEC-British Columbia secretariat at...

 [info@acec-bc.ca](mailto:info@acec-bc.ca)

 (604) 687-2811

or visit our website:

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

## Urban Infrastructure and Built Environment mission to India

The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service and its partners invite Canadian companies to take part in an Urban Infrastructure and Built Environment mission to India from 10-15 November 2014. The mission will consist of a series of seminars and roundtables in New Delhi and Mumbai on 11-12 November respectively, followed by participation at "Municipalika 2014" to be held in Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat from November 13-15, 2014. For more information about Municipalika please see:

 [municipalika.com](http://municipalika.com)

For additional information, please feel free to contact:

Shriya Ramachandran

 [Shriya.ramachandran@international.gc.ca](mailto:Shriya.ramachandran@international.gc.ca)

or Elizabeth Sharma

 [Elizabeth.sharma@international.gc.ca](mailto:Elizabeth.sharma@international.gc.ca)

## Tunnelling in a Resource Driven World!

October 26-28 | Sheraton Wall Center, Vancouver

The **Tunnelling Association of Canada** is pleased to welcome you to **Vancouver TAC 2014: Tunneling in a Resource Driven**



**World** (in conjunction with the ITA Nordic Forum on October 26). The program will include a comprehensive trade show, daily plenary presentations, and technical sessions in the following areas of interest:

- Aging Tunnels and Tunnel Maintenance
- Baseline Reports and Contracts
- Mechanized & Conventional Tunnelling
- Shafts
- Site Investigation and Design
- Tunnelling and Hydroelectric Projects
- Tunnelling and Mining
- Tunnelling for Pipelines
- Tunnelling in Glacial Deposits
- Tunnelling in Remote Locations and Extreme Climates
- Urban Tunnelling & Underground Space

 [www.tac2014.ca](http://www.tac2014.ca)

## 2015 Western Engineering Competition

The Western Engineering Competition (WEC) draws over 250 of tomorrow's leaders every year to compete in 7 unique categories. UBC Vancouver is proud to be the central location for WEC's 30th anniversary in 2015! The competition has expanded to include twelve of Western Canada's distinguished universities. This unique opportunity not only allows students to develop and improve on engineering fundamentals but also helps foster connections between industry members and other students. We hope that you are as eager as we are to be a part of a competition with such a strong history and foundation.

Learn more about WEC at:

 [wec2015.ca](http://wec2015.ca)

For more information about sponsoring WEC 2015, contact Amit Jain or Alan Ehrenholz:

 [amit.sponsorship@wec2015.ca](mailto:amit.sponsorship@wec2015.ca)

 [alan.sponsorship@wec2015.ca](mailto:alan.sponsorship@wec2015.ca)

## Innovate 2014

**UBC Engineering & Architecture Dialogues**

September 29, 2014 | 5:30 – 8:00 PM  
UBC Robson Square

Come discover pathways to industry partnership with UBC Applied Science.

Innovate 2014 is the inaugural UBC Applied Science dialogue series focusing on bringing applied research to the community and providing a pathway for industry to partner. Through several thought-provoking, seven-minute presentations, engineering and architecture faculty will share why they are passionate about their work. After the talks, wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served to facilitate networking and inspire dialogue.

### Who should attend?

Engineers, architects, executives, professionals and people interested in innovation in the following sectors:

- Architecture
- Alternative fuels
- Biomedical engineering
- Clean energy
- Clean water
- Forestry
- IT
- Mining
- New materials
- Structural/earthquake engineering

### How do I register for Innovate 2014?

Fill out the **RSVP form**. Please register early – seating is limited!

For more information, see:

 [innovate.apsc.ubc.ca](http://innovate.apsc.ubc.ca)

## Online Awards Road Show

Be sure to check out the project display boards from the 2014 Awards for Engineering Excellence competition on our web site...

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

## Last Chance to Vote for your Favorite Project!

Be sure vote for your favorite project in the **People's Choice Poll** – the poll will remain open for just a few more days, and the results will be announced later in September.