



ACEC British Columbia

Newsbrief

May 2012



Executive Director's Message

Glenn Martin, CAE

Join us on June 7th, for your Annual General Meeting.

Your firm is a member of ACEC-BC and you have received the notice of the AGM. But you are asking yourself if you should participate? You will know for sure if you can answer positively to one or more of the following statements:

- I am a member and the best way to reassure myself that ACEC-BC responds to my needs is to participate
- The AGM is an occasion to provide constructive criticism, encourage and thank those volunteers and staff who are taking care of my consulting engineering business interests

- I appreciate the chance to meet my competitors and exchange ideas with colleagues in my profession
- I've always wanted to become involved in ACEC-BC but never got around to it, therefore this may be a good time to start
- I am curious to meet the new President of the Board of Directors, to wish him well and congratulate and thank the outgoing President, Doug Hinton.
- I appreciate that the association exists to defend my consulting engineering interests and allows a fair equitable competition practices within the industry

ACEC-BC is your association. Reassure yourself that we are operating on your behalf.

I look forward to seeing you on June 7th – the SGM to discuss and vote on proposed by-law changes begins at 3:00; the AGM begins at 4:00, at the Coast Plaza Hotel, 1763 Comox Street, Vancouver.

Working with client groups on behalf of our members is our mandate. However, working with municipalities as a client group, has proved challenging. There are 154 municipalities and 27 regional districts in British Columbia, with vast differences in procurement practices and contract language.

To reach this diverse client segment, ACEC-BC made a presentation on issues affecting

our members, to the Local Government Management Association, at their Annual Conference and AGM on May 17th in Victoria. Presenters Mike Currie, Kerr Wood Leidal Associates; Owen Pawson, Miller Thompson LLP; and Jeff McLellan, BFL Canada Insurance Services, conveyed our key messages in a dynamic, positive and productive manner.

This excellent presentation was only the beginning of a new direction we are undertaking with local governments. The Municipal Engineering Committee plans to

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Upcoming Events

May 31

YPG Victoria Breakfast Meeting

Consulting Engineers Adapting to the Needs of Society - Tsunami Reconstruction, Aceh, Indonesia

June 7

Special General Meeting

Approval of Proposed By-law Changes

June 7

Annual General Meeting

June 19

YPG Breakfast Meeting

Effective Communications Through Technical Writing.

Young Professionals Group Update



Along with the new name and the new website, there are more ways than ever to communicate with ACECBC. Twitter users can get the latest industry news and event updates by following @acecbc.

Breakfast Seminars

On May 22, **Chris Mealing** of HMM gave a very thought provoking presentation to the Vancouver YPG on leadership and the different aspects of being a leader. His presentation featured many sayings that rang true for our YPs, including:

authority is 90% taken and 10% given;
leadership ≠ being the boss; and
have a plan –
a bad plan is better than no plan.

Following great reviews at our last Vancouver Island Breakfast Seminar, **Tara Landes** of MRSI Consulting has agreed to speak to the Vancouver YPG on June 19th. Tara will be presenting on Empowering Young Professionals Through Communications: Effective Communications Through Technical Writing. Written communication is an integral part of the consulting industry and an area that is sometimes overlooked in engineering education.

The Vancouver Island YPG's next Breakfast Seminar is on May 31st. **Chris Newcomb** will present on the subject of the Role of Engineers in Society in Disaster Relief Work – Case Study on Tsunami Relief (Aceh, Indonesia). Chris is the latest recipient of the prestigious 2012 ACEC British Columbia Merit Achievement Award, which recognizes an individual consulting engineer for outstanding contributions to the engineering profession, our industry and the community. Registration and details at the new ACEC British Columbia **Events Calendar**. For a brief snapshot of the tsunami relief project, check out the short **video** on the Engineering Legacies web site:

www.engineeringlegacies.com

12th Annual Golf Tournament



Northview Golf & Country Club in Surrey was the setting for the 12th Annual ACEC British Columbia Golf Tournament on May 16th. We would like to thank the many volunteers, sponsors and participants who made the Golf Tournament such a fun event! Proceeds from the tournament enabled ACEC British Columbia to donate \$6,000 to Make-A-Wish® Foundation of British Columbia and Yukon, helping to make a wish come true for a child with a life threatening illness.



Eagle Sponsor



Birdie Sponsor



Dinner Sponsor



Hole-in-One Sponsor



Drive to the Cask



On-Course Massage Provided by...



Some notable achievements...

Nearest to the Pin

Val Fabick (Canal)
 Mike Cetnarowski (Canal)
 Carter Chan (Ridge)

Drive to the Cask

Jeff Crawford (Ridge)
 Brian Snow (Canal)

Longest Drive

Jeff Crawford (Ridge)
 Paul Payne (Canal)

Putting Competition

Daryl Finlayson
Honourable Mention: Mike LeJeune,
 Rick Marchand, Paul Doornsberg

Low Scores



Ridge (net score=59): Chris Dane, Vince Lalonde, Paul Schaap, Roeland Zwaag



Canal (net score=63): Richard Matthew, Brian Snow, Paul Payne, Paul O'Rourke

Annual General Meeting

The ACEC British Columbia Annual General Meeting will be held at **5:00 p.m.** on **Thursday June 7th, 2012** at the Coast Plaza Stanley Park Hotel, 1763 Comox Street, Vancouver, BC.

At 4:00, just prior to the Annual General Meeting, **Dave Byng**, Chief Operating Officer of BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, will present on the *Pacific Gateway Transportation Strategy*.

Immediately following the AGM, at about 6:00 p.m. there will be a brief ceremony to recognize Past Presidents' of the association, and the contributions they have made to the consulting engineering industry in our province.

And this year, a special recognition ceremony will be held for **Ralph Sultan**, MLA West Vancouver-Capilano. Mr. Sultan was instrumental in changing legislation to reduce the ultimate limitation period.

A rooftop garden reception and Scotch Tasting will be held immediately following.

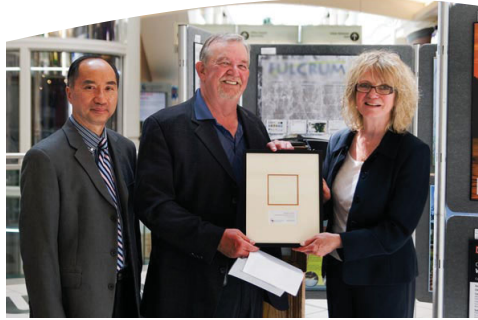
The Annual General Meeting provides a summary of ACEC-BC issues and activities over the past year and highlights plans for the year ahead. It is a good opportunity to network with your colleagues, meet our Past Presidents and other special guests as well as the new ACEC British Columbia Board of Directors.

Special General Meeting – Approval of Proposed By-law Changes

A notice has been issued to all ACEC British Columbia Voting Members on a special general meeting (SGM) to discuss and vote on two special resolutions, one to amend the constitution and one to replace the bylaws. This SGM will be held immediately preceding the AGM, at 3:00 p.m. There is no charge for Voting Members to attend the SGM.

The principal aim of these changes is to ensure that the by-laws more accurately reflect the ways in which we govern ourselves. The proposed new by-laws and amendments to the constitution were developed by a board task force over a year-long review process. This process included input from a lawyer with expertise in association governance and the BC Society Act, and also incorporated feedback from Voting Members.

Burnaby Mayor Derek Corrigan helps launch Road Show at Metropolis



Lambert Chu, Director of Engineering Services, City of Burnaby; Mayor Derek Corrigan; Glenn Martin, Executive Director, ACEC British Columbia

On May 24th ACEC British Columbia Executive Director Glenn Martin presented Burnaby Mayor Derek Corrigan with the Municipal category Award of Merit for the Burnaby Lake Rejuvenation project. The presentation was part of a media event aimed at creating buzz around the Award Road Show's installation at Metropolis at Metrotown's Atrium Court. This high profile location will be hosting the Road Show until June 9th. ACEC-BC members, the City's engineering department and public were in attendance for the event.

Call for Volunteers

Professional Development Committee
The CEBC Professional Development Committee seeks to promote the ongoing professional development of CEBC members, with a special focus on the business side of consulting engineering. A number of goals and objectives for this committee have been established, and there will be a focus over the summer on developing a planned program of events that can be reviewed by the board in the fall. We are looking for more volunteers to join this committee. If you would like to participate, or to learn more about the committee please contact the CEBC office, or committee chair Joel McAllister at:

✉ Joel.McAllister@opusdaytonknight.com

Improving consulting engineers' relationship with local governments

On May 17, 2012 ACEC British Columbia made a presentation at the Local Government Management Association's (LGMA) annual conference. Our LGMA presentation committee worked long and hard to create a light-hearted presentation that encouraged attendees to move towards Qualifications Based Selection and standard forms of agreements. The opportunity to present in front of this client group was a great way for ACEC British Columbia to impress these important practices into clients thought processes. We'd like to thank Mike Currie (Kerr Wood Leidal Associates Ltd.), Owen Pawson (Miller Thomson LLP), and Jeff McLellan (BFL Insurance Services) for presenting on ACEC-BC's behalf.

Vancouver Island and Okanagan Golf Tournaments

Is there any better place to do a little "work" than standing on the first tee on a sunny afternoon? We don't think so, that's why we now have regional golf tournaments for our members in the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island and the Okanagan.

Following a very successful tournament at Northview Golf & Country Club in Surrey, ACEC British Columbia members can look forward to two more golf tournaments coming up this fall.

The second annual ACEC British Columbia Vancouver Island Golf Tournament will be held September 21 at a course near Victoria (venue will be announced soon).

And, the fourth annual ACEC British Columbia Okanagan Golf Tournament will be held September 28, 2012 at Harvest Golf Club, Kelowna.

The ACEC British Columbia tournaments create a fun and relaxed environment for members to network with their clients and industry colleagues. We hope to meet up with you on the links!

Executive Director's Message

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make similar presentations to the Government Financial Officers Association of BC and the Canadian Public Procurement Council, two organizations whose members impact procurement of consulting engineering services.

We encourage members to convey the following points, from the LGMA presentation, to your individual municipal clients:

- Local governments are wasting money and missing out on a consulting engineer "A-team" by using custom agreements and unlimited RFP's
- Most firms have difficulties negotiating acceptable contracts with local governments, leading to many firms declining to submit proposals
- Local governments like the idea of Standard agreements but don't use them, even though they will save money by using consultants time more efficiently
- Employing Short Listing & Qualifications Based Selection keeps the consultant selection process competitive and saves money while garnering local governments the best engineering team possible

Awards Road Show

May 19 - June 9

Metropolis at Metrotown -
Atrium Court

June 20 - July 4

University of Victoria

July 4 - July 20

Swartz Bay Ferry Terminal

July 26 - August 12

Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal

Online Awards Road Show

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

 www.acec-bc.ca/awards.aspx

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

ACEC Summit 2012

ACEC British Columbia members firms are invited to attend the ACEC Summit 2012 at the **Rodd Brudenell River Resort, Prince Edward Island** from **June 21-23, 2012**.

The theme for this year's Summit is *Connecting Leaders, Driving Business*. This must-attend industry conference is the only one of its kind specifically designed for business leaders. The business program will focus on emerging trends and opportunities, better business practices, key legal issues and HR challenges. Principals will also have the chance to share their experiences and ideas through our peer-to-peer roundtable sessions.

Keynote Speaker

Futurist & Innovation Expert Jim Carroll Kicks Off ACEC Summit 2012

Jim Carroll is recognized worldwide as a "thought leader" and authority on: global trends; rapid business model change; business transformation in a period of economic uncertainty; and the necessity for fast paced innovation.

Who Should Attend

Geared to senior leaders in the consulting engineering sector, the program will cover a range of relevant topics such as business and market trends, industry challenges and opportunities, human resource issues and business risk. In addition to offering high quality program content, the Summit provides an excellent opportunity to network with industry peers and build valuable and lasting business relationships.

ACEC also offers a Young Professional (YP) program stream for future and emerging leaders who work for ACEC member firms and who are under the age of 35. YPs are invited to attend joint sessions (for primary delegates and YPs) as well as YP-specific sessions throughout the conference

This conference includes 9 hours of content that may be applicable to continuing professional development requirements for professional registration in some jurisdictions. Confirmation of participation will be available from ACEC upon request.

Further details can be found [here](#).

 www.acec.ca

Salaries Continue to Increase.

Do You Have the Tools Needed to Make Informed Compensation Decisions?

Last year, Canadian Consulting Engineering companies increased salaries by approximately 3%, depending on geographic location and level of position. Looking forward, will organizations increase or freeze salary budgets? Increase or hold base salaries? Increase or cut back on incentive plan payouts or be more focused on how those payouts are distributed?

Where will your organization fit in?

Compensation decisions are crucial. If you pay below market, you run the risk of losing the employees you have and not being able to attract the employees you want. On the other hand, overpaying is a drain on your organization's finances.

So what is the market paying? Participate in WCBC's Consulting Engineers Compensation Survey and find out.

Receive comprehensive information on:

- Current salaries & bonuses for 75 positions including:
 - engineers/scientists
 - technician/technologist
 - executives/management
 - human resources
 - information technology
 - accounting & payroll
 - administrative staff
- Expected changes in salaries for 2013
- Short and long-term incentive plans
- Group insurance and retirement plans
- Policies on vacation, overtime, perks and more

Make the commitment to participate now so when you need to make important compensation decisions, you'll be ready.

Data collection is from May 1st to August 31st. Participants save 50% and members of ACEC-British Columbia receive an additional 15% discount.

For more information visit:

 www.wcbc.ca/surveys/consultingengineers

Don't miss the opportunity to contribute to this year's surveys and map out the compensation strategy that is right for you.