

## **Allen D. Williams Scholarship Award (2012) – Young Professional Candidate Essay**

**Jeremy Carkner, P.Eng., LEED® AP BD+C**

I am very proud to be a member of the consulting engineering profession. It has enriched my life and more importantly, as shown on the attached list of activities, has enhanced my ability to give back in many ways.

I am currently a Principal and Department Manager at Morrison Hershfield with over 11 years of experience in building science and sustainability consulting. In this role I lead a team of seven green building professionals within our Burlington and Toronto, Ontario offices. I am also a Project Manager and Technical Specialist for sustainable building design and building envelope assignments, with a geographic focus on southern Ontario.

At this point in my career I am well-positioned for continued development, influence, and impact on society. My professional career started at Morrison Hershfield in 2000 after graduation from the University of Waterloo with a degree in Civil Engineering. Building on a solid technical foundation, I was gradually introduced to project management through strong internal mentorship. By helping to establish our Burlington office in 2004 with a senior colleague I was afforded experiences and lessons I could not have gained otherwise. From developing long-term client relationships to forging alliances with other departments and staff members, I was impressed with the mandate of helping make a new office a success for our consulting engineering practice. Since becoming an Associate in 2007 and Principal in 2009, I have gained a greater understanding of engineering leadership and enhancement of the public profile of consulting engineers, and been exposed to our wider influence on industry in Canada and abroad. Through both industry standards development and internal quality assurance committees, I've realized the high value of technical excellence on the image of engineering. My latest progression to Department Manager in 2010 has opened my eyes to a whole new level of influence and management responsibilities, enabling me to hone skills applicable to my career and the outside community.

At this stage I see wide possibilities for my future development at Morrison Hershfield and within the Ontario, Canadian, and North American consulting engineering industry in general. My goal is to continue to progress into increasingly senior management levels while maintaining and sharing my technical focus and expertise. I seek to enhance my project management and people management skill-sets and to better understand present and future clients' needs and the value we bring to them and society through engineering services, particularly in the realm of sustainability-related solutions for buildings and infrastructure. Within the last year I have begun meeting with a senior executive on the Morrison Hershfield leadership team for mentoring and learning how to improve my networking abilities and client interactions and enhance my involvement with the profession at large. This experience has been an exceptional and rewarding one, with my ideas and ambitions stretched as a result of each meeting. I desire to continually seize opportunities to contribute to societal betterment through my engineering expertise and networks.

I see the primary value of the Allen D. Williams scholarship in enabling my perspective and fit within the wider consulting engineering industry to be sharpened. I hope to rub shoulders with professionals across Canada and around the world on significant matters of engineering importance and relevance. I desire to expand my network of relationships from the circle of my North American engineering firm and local client base to the furthest reaches of the earth, as engineering has a significant role to play in all corners of the globe. I see a future interacting with the world's developing economies through my engineering practice, and look to stay true to the professional engineer's calling to serve the public first and foremost and bring real and valued solutions to bear. As I progress within my organization and within the consulting engineering industry at large, I envision numerical growth in terms of staff complement, dollars of revenue and profit, as well as opportunities for others in the engineering profession to grow and influence society. I keenly mentor individuals and share learnings that I have gained over the years, both in technical settings and in life in general, whether it be from coaching children's soccer to volunteering at my church and local food bank, contributing to the development of technical standards, or having a coffee with a young engineer who is struggling to find their way. I am passionate about consulting engineering work and the betterment of society through engineers' expertise and management, and believe this will influence how I go about my life outside of work and the people's lives I have an impact on. I believe one is never too young or old to learn, and have fond memories of sharing the struggles and successes of a given project with my father and grandfather, as well as sharing the history of the iron ring with my two young boys at home time and again as a bedtime story.

I see this scholarship award as a method to launch myself into greater advocacy for the engineering profession and consulting engineering industry specifically, and welcome the opportunity to promote education and development for other aspiring young and older professionals alike. I respect and value the role that both Consulting Engineers Ontario and the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies in Canada play for each professional, and look to strengthen the reach and depth of support offered to each member organization.

## **Jeremy Carkner, P.Eng., LEED® AP BD+C - Summary of Extracurricular and Volunteer Activities**

### **Societal Betterment and Enhancing the Visibility of the Consulting Engineering Industry**

*Canada Green Building Council*, Greater Toronto Area Chapter Member (industry advocacy and promotion of consulting engineers' role in sector) – 2009 – Present

*Milton Youth Soccer Club*, Coach – 2011 – Present

*Sustainable Buildings Canada*, General Member (industry advocacy and promotion of consulting engineers' role in sector) – 2009 – Present

*Morrison Hershfield Green Team*, Chair (advocacy for environmental improvements within a Consulting Engineering Corporation) – 2009 – Present

*Milton Salvation Army Food Bank*, Volunteer (assisted at food bank to help those in need) – 2007 – Present

*Underwriters Laboratories of Canada, ULC S716.1 Standards Development Committee*, General Member (standard development and promotion of Consulting Engineers' technical role in sector) – 2006 – 2007

*Milton Chamber of Commerce*, General Member (advocacy of Consulting Engineering) – 2004 – Present

*Hamilton Chamber of Commerce*, General Member (advocacy of Consulting Engineering) 2004 – Present

*Burlington Chamber of Commerce*, General Member (advocacy of Consulting Engineering) – 2004 – Present

*Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS) Council of Canada* (industry advocacy and promotion of Consulting Engineers' role in sector) – current General Member since 2003 and former Board Member – 2006 – 2007

*The Meeting House Family of Churches*, Home Church Leader, Host and Elder – 2001 – Present

*Humanitarian Mission*, Volunteer in Northeastern Brazil (provided drip irrigation, roof repairs, water tower repair, English teaching) – 1999

*Habitat for Humanity*, Build Volunteer – Summer 1997 and Summer 2007

### **Presentations Given and Papers Written**

"LEED Green Associate Exam Preparation" two-day course, Toronto – March, June and (upcoming) November, 2011

"LEED for Contractor's Toolkit" course, various Ontario Construction Associations – May and November 2010

"LEED Risks during Construction" presentation, Insurance Broker – April 2010

"Energy Audits and Retrofits in Schools – Case Study", 12<sup>th</sup> Canadian Conference on Building Science and Technology – May 2009

"LEED for Contractors" Presentation, Hamilton Halton Construction Association – April 2009

"The Importance of Durability and Commissioning in Sustainable Design and Construction", Lorman Education Services – March 2009

"The LEED Rating System", Food Service Consultants Society International Super-Regional Conference – September 2008

"Green Schools", Ontario Catholic School Board Officials Association Annual Conference – September 2007

"Investigation of Mold Growth and Heating Problems in a new Nursing Home", 10<sup>th</sup> Canadian Conference on Building Science and Technology – May 2005

### **Awards Received**

*Morrison Hershfield Carson Award, Arthur B. Johns Mentorship Category* (Internal Awards Program at Consulting Engineering Corporation) – 2008

*Morrison Hershfield Carson Award, Community and Environmental Leadership Category* – 2008

*Morrison Hershfield Carson Award, Innovation Category* - 2003

Undergraduate Student Competition Presentation, Second Place Finalist, "Strain Behaviour of Corroded CFRP Strengthened Reinforced Concrete Prisms", Canadian Society of Civil Engineering (CSCE) – June 2000