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Montreal Consulting Engineers Claim Top Awards at National Gala Projects carried out in Canada and internationally recognized for their excellence and contribution to community

(OTTAWA) October 25, 2016 – From designing leading-edge buildings and wooden bridges, to planning protection infrastructures against natural disasters caused by climate change in Haïti and converting non-recyclable household garbage into clean, renewable energy, consulting engineering firms from the Montreal area put their expertise to work on a variety of projects that often go unnoticed. But this was not the case in Ottawa Tuesday evening, as projects by AECOM, BBA, CIMA+ s.e.n.c., SNC-Lavalin Inc. and Stantec won six of the twenty Awards of Excellence, and three out of five Special Achievement Awards. These awards represent the highest recognition for achievement in the consulting engineering industry at the 2016 Canadian Consulting Engineering (CCE) Awards gala.

“These Awards showcase the outstanding talent and expertise of consulting engineers across Canada,” said ACEC President and CEO John Gamble. “By recognizing these projects with national awards, we highlight the important contributions of engineering firms to Canadians and the huge impact they have both here at home and around the world.”

Well-deserved awards were bestowed to these firms for their projects’ technical excellence and social, economic and environmental contribution to the community in which they were carried out.



AECOM won the **Ambassador Award** and an **Award of Excellence** for their work on **an improved method for planning protection infrastructures against natural disasters caused by climate change in Haiti**. The Ambassador Award is presented to a project constructed or executed outside of Canada, which best showcases Canadian engineering expertise. “We are honored to receive these awards recognizing our commitment to building a better world and bringing positive change in our communities,” said Doug Allingham, Executive Vice President, Canada. “At AECOM, we drive innovation to create safe, sustainable and resilient environments for the generations to come.”



For its **Enerkem Alberta Biofuels Project**, BBA won an **Award of Excellence** and the **Tree for Life Award** which is presented to a project that best demonstrates outstanding environmental stewardship or commitment to the environment. Enerkem Alberta Biofuels is the world’s first commercial biorefinery that converts non-recyclable household garbage into clean, renewable energy. “Sound engineering and innovative solutions are key to transitioning from research and development to full-scale application. Given that the Enerkem Alberta Biofuels project is unique worldwide, it required an understanding of complex challenges as well as creative and environmentally friendly solutions, challenges that matched BBA expertise and this award proves it,” said André Allaire, P. Eng., M. Eng., Ph. D., President. Through less landfilling, calculated **greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by 110,000 tons of CO₂ per year**.



Stantec’s **Varennes Net-Zero Library** and **Mistissini Wooden Bridge** projects each won an **Award of Excellence**, with the latter also winning the **Engineering a Better Canada Award** because it best showcased how engineering enhances the social, economic or cultural quality of life of Canadians.

The Cree Nation of Mistissini needed a bridge across the Uupaachikus Pass to connect the communities within their territory. “Stantec is honoured to receive these Awards for the Mistissini wooden bridge project, integrating engineering and creativity,” said Isabelle Jodoin, Senior Vice President, Quebec. “This prestigious

distinction, the Engineering a Better Canada Award, celebrates our teams' solid bridge expertise and ability to innovate, by designing an impressive structure for, and with, the local community."

Beyond being safe, the structure is also aesthetically appealing, ecological, and durable. Construction of this wooden bridge – one of Canada's longest – involved the active participation of the local community and strongly promoted the region's socio-economic development.



Stantec also designed **Varenes' Net-Zero Library**, the first net-zero institutional building in Canada, with high-performance electromechanical systems to achieve a net-zero library – meaning it produces the same amount of energy as it consumes. "Stantec is proud to be recognized for our work on the new Varenes library, an iconic sustainable development project," said Isabelle Jodoin, Senior Vice President, Quebec. "Our engineering team designed an innovative, high-performance, and energy-efficient building for the benefit of the community which now has a modern and accessible library." Mission accomplished: the library's attendance has doubled since opening in December 2014.



CIMA+ s.e.n.c. won an **Award of Excellence** for the leading role the firm played in constructing the **Westmount Recreation Centre**, a large underground arena complex with a park space on its roof. The structure, which is has a LEED Gold certification, was quite a challenge to achieve, in fact the structural engineer borrowed from bridge-building methods to create the green roof. "We are proud to see our engineers' creativity and know-how being recognized with such a prestigious award. This project is testament to our sense of innovation as it combines sustainability and our various complementary areas of expertise in buildings and bridge engineering," said Ian Olechnowicz, P. Eng., Head of Services, Buildings Engineering – Structural



For its Goldcorp - Éléonore project, **SNC-Lavalin Inc.** won an **Award of Excellence**. **Goldcorp - Éléonore** is a major mining facility in Northern Quebec comprised of an underground gold mine, ore processing, and infrastructure. At \$2.3 billion, the project represents a significant economic injection into this remote region's economy and a boost to Quebec's GDP. The project not only aimed to ensure that local workforce benefitted during the project's construction and for years to come, but it also provides social and environmental benefits. Thanks to the team's innovative approach, the project's design allows for maximum recovery of process water in the plant itself, eliminates the risk of dam breaking and allows gradual tailings rehabilitation during life of mine operations. The project also exemplifies successful collaboration with the First Nations and local communities. "SNC-Lavalin is committed to the successful execution of client projects worldwide. Over the years, we have forged an excellent business relationship with Goldcorp and we are delighted to have been part of this important project. This award proves that great collaboration between all stakeholders can lead to successful project execution, even in a remote area with challenging climate and logistics," said José J. Suárez, M.Eng., P.Eng., President, Mining and Metallurgy at SNC-Lavalin Inc.

In November, follow the [#20DaysOfExcellence](#) in engineering campaign on Twitter and at www.acec.ca/20daysofexcellence to watch videos of other award-winning projects like these and to learn more about the impact of consulting engineering on our quality of life.

The award-winning projects are described in full in the October-November 2016 issue of *Canadian Consulting Engineer* at <http://www.canadianconsultingengineer.com/digital-edition/>.

About award-winning firms

AECOM is a fully integrated firm working with governments, businesses and organizations globally to develop and implement innovative solutions to the world's most complex challenges. www.ecom.com/ca/

For over 35 years, **BBA** has been offering a wide range of consulting engineering and project management services, from project definition to commissioning. The firm's expertise is recognized in the fields of energy, mining and metals,

and oil, gas and biofuels. BBA relies on a team of seasoned experts to transform complex problems into practical, innovative and sustainable solutions. BBA is supported by a network of offices across Canada to better serve its clients and carry out mandates at the local, national and international levels. www.bba.ca

Stantec employs approximately 22,000 employees working in over 400 locations across six continents. Stantec offers engineering, architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, surveying, environmental sciences, project management, and project economics, from initial project concept and planning through design, construction, and commissioning. They value community, creativity, and client relationships. www.stantec.com

CIMA+ is a Canadian multidisciplinary firm that specializes in consulting engineering, project management, communications systems and the environment. Founded in 1990, the firm has grown both organically and through a series of mergers to become one of the largest engineering consulting firms in Canada with nearly 1,800 employees in 35 offices from coast to coast, and 5 offices in Africa. www.cima.ca

Founded in 1911, **SNC-Lavalin** is one of the leading engineering and construction groups in the world and a major player in the ownership of infrastructure. From offices in over 50 countries, SNC-Lavalin's employees are proud to build what matters. Their teams provide engineering, procurement construction, completions and commissioning services together with a range of sustaining capital services to clients in the firm's four industry sectors, oil and gas, mining and metallurgy, infrastructure and power. SNC-Lavalin can also combine these services with its financing and operations and maintenance capabilities to provide complete end-to-end project solutions. www.snclavalin.com

About Awards co-sponsors

ACEC represents companies in Canada that provide professional engineering services to both public and private sector clients. These services include the planning, design and execution of all types of engineering projects, as well as providing independent advice and expertise in a wide range of engineering and engineering-related fields. For more information about ACEC and the 2016 Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards, please visit www.acec.ca.

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Multimedia (includes project description, video, photo):

[AECOM project photo](#)

[AECOM project page on acec.ca](#)

[BBA project photo](#)

[BBA project page on acec.ca](#)

[Stantec Mistissini wooden bridge project photo](#)

[Project page on acec.ca](#)

[Stantec Varennes Net-Zero Library project photo](#)

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[CIMA+ project photo](#)

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[SNC-Lavalin Inc. project photo](#)

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