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Consulting Engineers from Nova Scotia Recognized at National Awards Gala

Transportation projects are transforming landscapes and contributing to the economy

(OTTAWA) October 24, 2017 – From replacing an existing structure with a signature landmark bridge in the Niagara region, to transforming Halifax Harbour into North America's most modern shipyard, consulting engineers from the Halifax area were celebrated for these outstanding achievements Tuesday night in Ottawa at the 2017 Canadian Consulting Engineering (CCE) Awards gala. Recognized as the industry's highest honours, the awards are presented to projects by Canadian firms that showcase the most remarkable engineering feats.

"These awards not only provide the opportunity to recognize the valuable contributions that consulting engineers make to our local communities, they showcase these outstanding achievements on a national stage," said ACEC President and CEO John Gamble. "They bring focus to the important role that these projects, and consulting engineers in general, have on the social, economic and environmental quality of life of all Canadians."

Well deserved awards are presented in a variety of categories, ranging from buildings and transportation, water and natural resources, to special projects and community outreach. Nova Scotian firms took home two **Awards of Excellence** from the transportation category.

Landmark bridge required to replace the existing Burgoyne Bridge in the Niagara Region

The *Replacement of the Burgoyne Bridge*, a joint project between **Harbourside Engineering Consultants** and **Parsons Corporation,** was recognized for its role in improving the surrounding landscape as well as for its functionality and public safety characteristics.

Proven to provide renewal to areas in need of such benefit

With the project's proximity to downtown St. Catharines, it provides state of the art bridge engineering and aesthetics that promises to become synonymous with the City itself. By utilizing lightweight fill embankments to shorten the ends of the bridge, and employing a twin deck, the new bridge structure has transformed areas previously dark and uninviting under the bridge, into areas now more open and naturally lit, improving public space security. The structure has also been designed with numerous plazas to encourage public gathering, thus creating a destination for pedestrians.

Innovative and unique construction techniques utilized

As the existing roadway is a significant route in St. Catharines, engineers implemented bridge erection procedures that provided the public with constant access throughout the construction phase; both vehicular and pedestrian traffic flows were maintained. The bridge was partially erected and used as a detour while the existing bridge was demolished

and the final bridge completed, allowing the City to provide virtually uninterrupted access across the valley as well as to the underlying highway.

Due to the joint efforts of these two firms the new bridge has met the requirement of a signature landmark bridge, enhanced the environment, and provided a timely replacement to the previous structure which had reached the end of its useful life. For their success both firms were "honoured to receive this award in recognition of [their] work on the Burgoyne Bridge Replacement," said Robbie Fraser, M.Sc., P.Eng, Principal, Harbourside Engineering Consultants and Mike Johnson, Parsons Group President in a joint statement. "This recognition is a testament to both firms' capabilities to undertake challenging and innovative design and construction projects, and our combined efforts to successfully complete this project."

Overcoming technical and scheduling challenges to deliver monumental shipyard

For the *Halifax Shipyard Modernization Project* **Hatch**'s Halifax office was recognized for its role as lead design engineer and construction consultant. With Irving Shipbuilding's investment of more than $350 million to build North America's most modern shipyard, and by utilizing the latest tools in Building Information Modeling (BIM) technology, Hatch overcame numerous technical and schedule challenges to deliver this monumental project. One of the primary complexities was an extremely aggressive schedule set by the Federal Government that required the project to move from preliminary design to the commencement of shipbuilding in a mere 36 months.

Another major challenge involved maintaining operations during construction. The previous fabrication facilities were removed in stages to allow for successful completion of the final coastguard vessel without disrupting their schedule; and permitted foundation construction activities for the new building to begin at one end while the final vessel was completed in the other. Combining designs for structural steel, concrete, marine, HVAC, piping, electrical, plumbing, architectural, water, sewer, industrial gasses, and overhead cranes into a single design and construction phasing plan presented real challenges. And these challenges were exacerbated by the physical constraints imposed by the site. Hatch's employment of BIM was critical in preventing service clashes.

Economic benefits for years to come as fleet construction continues

Construction of this project has contributed a capital value of over $350 million, of which 63% was distributed within Nova Scotia.
Other economic benefits included the generation of stable employment, reduction of the outward migration of young people, stability for small businesses, and increased confidence in the community. The new shipyard facility has and will continue to provide economic benefit to Nova Scotia and Canada for decades to come, as workers proudly construct the Royal Canadian Navy's future fleet.

"The strong team that Hatch was able to provide for the Facility Modernization Project was a key factor in the project's success" said Robert Stewart, Director Facilities and Maintenance, Irving Shipbuilding. "They brought innovative design solutions to the challenging technical aspects of the project while ensuring the aggressive project schedule was maintained. Irving Shipbuilding considered the team at Hatch to be a partner in the Modernization Project and it was a very successful partnership."

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.

About award-winning firms

Harbourside Engineering Consultants specializes in the design, project management and construction implementation of heavy civil infrastructure projects, with emphasis on bridges, marine structures, construction engineering and buildings. www.harboursideengineering.ca

Hatch. With over six decades of business and technical experience in infrastructure, mining and energy, Hatch knows your business and understands that your challenges are changing rapidly. We respond quickly with solutions that are smarter, more efficient and innovative. We draw upon our 9,000 staff with experience in over 150 countries to challenge the status quo and create positive change. www.hatch.com

Parsons Corporation is a leader in many diversified markets, focusing on infrastructure, defense, security, and construction. Parsons delivers design/design-build, program/construction management, systems design/engineering, cyber/converged security, and other services packaged in innovative alternative delivery methods. www.parsons.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 2017 Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards, please visit www.acec.ca.

Canadian Consulting Engineer is a bi-monthly magazine for engineers in the construction industry. It is a division of Annex Publishing & Printing Inc. The award-winning projects are described in full in the October-November 2017 issue of *Canadian Consulting Engineer* at http://www.canadianconsultingengineer.com/digital-edition/.

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Multimedia (includes project description, video, photo)

Harbourside Engineering Consultants & Parsons Corporation project photo
Harbourside Engineering Consultants & Parsons Corporation project page on acec.ca
Hatch project photo
Hatch project page on acec.ca

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