At this year’s Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards, with 14 Senior Parliamentarians in attendance, the industry celebrated excellence and paid tribute to the best achievements of engineering in the past 12 months. The Beaubien Award, which is presented annually by ACEC for individual lifetime achievements, was awarded to Wayne Bowes, P. Eng. Mr. Bowes, an engineer at Delcan for 40 years, is a former Chair of the Board of ACEC and a past President of FIDIC, the International Federation of Consulting Engineers. Congratulations and thank you, Mr. Bowes, for your many contributions to the industry and to the profession.

The Schreyer Award for the most outstanding overall
(cont’d on page 2.)

Elections 2006 - Three Questions to Ask Your Candidates:

During the current election campaign, ACEC members are encouraged to attend political discussion groups to ask their respective candidates to share their views on engineering-related national issues. Specifically, three questions could be raised:

1) Do you support the extension of the current federal infrastructure programs to assist Canadian municipalities?

2) Do you support the use of a greater share of the federal gas tax revenues to stop the decline in Canada’s national highways system?

3) Do you support the re-Canadianization of Canadian aid and reinstatement of funding for sustainable physical infrastructure investments in developing countries?

For background information on the above three topics, please visit the ACEC website at www.acec.ca and click “Policies and Programs” for ACEC’s briefs to the House of Commons Finance Committee.

Elections are probably not the best time to raise the issue of QBS, which ACEC will continue to address in a concerted fashion once a new government is in place. Should you nevertheless want to raise this topic, you will find the necessary background material on the ACEC website at www.acec.ca, click “What’s New” and go to “Concept”.

Register Now!
PSMJ Project Managers’ Bootcamp
January 26-27, 2006
Toronto, Ontario
details on page 4...
technical project was presented to Carruthers & Wallace Ltd, a division of Trow Associates, and MCW Consultants Ltd., for the Ontario College of Art & Design, Sharp Centre for Design.

Fourteen Senior Parliamentarians attended the Awards Ceremonies, including our guest of Honour, National Liberal Caucus Chair, Mr. Andy Savoy, P. Eng. Among the confirmed attendees were five parliamentarians who are engineers, three MPs and two Senators. Other MP representation included members from each political party including Parliamentary Secretaries, Senators, and critics from the opposition parties.

This year’s awards are designed to promote excellence in the industry. The recipients are listed below:

The Hon. Bryan Wilfert
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of the Environment

Schreyer Award
Ontario College of Art & Design, Sharp Centre for Design
Carruthers & Wallace Ltd, a division of Trow, and MCW Consultants Ltd.

Awards of Excellence
Sea to Sky Highway Test Section - Design and Construction Services
Lions Bay, B.C.
Associated Engineering with Golder Associates (Burnaby, B.C.)
Category: Transportation

Remediation of Sungai Bera Holding Basins
Brunei, Southeast Asia
Jacques Whitford Limited (Dartmouth, N.S.)
Category: Environmental Remediation

Harvey Barracks Environmental Remediation
Calgary, AB.
Golder Associates Ltd., (Calgary, Alta.)
Category: Environmental Remediation

African Development Bank’s Environmental and Social Assessment Procedures
Montreal, QC
Tecsult Inc.
Category: Studies, Software & Special Services

The Hon. Larry Bagnell
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources

The Hon. Sarmite Bulte
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources

The Hon. Walt Lastewka
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of PWGSC

The Hon. Senator Mac Harb
Opposition Critic for Infrastructure and Communities

Rahim Jaffer
Awards of Excellence cont’d...

Specialty Sinks for Firefighter’s Burn Treatment Unit, Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre
Edmonton, AB.
Hemisphere Engineering Inc. (Edmonton, Alta.)
Category: Studies, Software and Special Services

Pearson International Airport Terminal Development Stage 1
Toronto, ON
Marshall Macklin Monaghan Ltd., lead consultant in MGP Project Managers
Category: Project Management

The Alberta SuperNet
Calgary, AB
Morrison Hershfield Limited
Category: Project Management

Dam Safety Programs in Costa Rica and El Salvador
Acres International
Category: International

Identification and Analysis of Sources of Pollution in the Dnieper River Basin
Ukraine, Belarus and Russia
SNC-Lavalin Engineers & Constructors Inc. (Toronto, Ont.)
Category: International

Congratulations to all Award recipients!!
InfraGuide and ACEC partner for selection guidelines:  
Multi-stakeholder task force to develop “Best Practices”

InfraGuide and ACEC have agreed to partner in the development of a “Best Practices” guide for the selection of engineers. The guidelines will be developed by a task force on which ACEC will be represented along with stakeholders including other engineers. Andrew Steeves, P.Eng., a past Chairman of the Board of ACEC, and Rick Prentice, P.Eng., an ACEC Board member, have been delegated as the ACEC representatives.

InfraGuide, which is part of the National Research Council of Canada and which works collaboratively with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, has produced over 50 “Best Practices” guides in the areas of municipal infrastructure. For more information on InfraGuide, please visit http://www.infraguide.ca.

It is expected that the first draft of the report will be ready by the spring of 2006, at which point it will be sent for peer review and multi-stakeholder consultations. The starting point for the task force will be a document that was prepared by APEGBC and it embraces the principles of QBS.

ACEC expects that this initiative will provide the right opportunity for a comprehensive analysis of the dangers of low-bid selection and the benefits of Qualifications-Based Selection. It is hoped that the resulting guidelines will bring about a significant improvement in the current procurement practices in many jurisdictions, especially in municipalities.

Register Now!!

ACEC/PSMJ Project Managers’ Bootcamp  
Toronto, January 26-27, 2006

As part of its ongoing training for members, ACEC and CEO bring you another PSMJ Bootcamp:

Register Now!  PSMJ Project Managers’ Bootcamp  

This course, which has been adapted to the Canadian reality, is an opportunity for you or your staff to improve your project management skills, which are at the core of your firm’s financial success. ACEC has been organizing these Bootcamps for several years now and participants have been unanimous in praising the superior quality of the course content, the materials, and the instructors.

At this event, attendees will learn and gain valuable insights on how to:

* Bring projects in on time and under budget
* Fulfill the 6 roles of a Project Manager
* Actively manage the client relationship
* Increase staff productivity in 5 ways
* Effectively control “scope creep”
* Make proposals become winners
* Create budgets and schedules to produce success

Please note that firms sending more than two registrants are eligible for discounts.

For registration details, click here
Transportation Planning and Modal Integration: Second Call for Proposals Guide for Applicants

Transport Canada is pleased to inform you that it is issuing a second call for proposals for Transportation Planning and Modal Integration Initiatives to advance modal integration and transportation planning in urban areas and along transportation corridors. Each initiatives will be assessed separately.

Applications must be receive by Transport Canada no later than 15:00 (3:00 p.m.), local Ottawa time, on February 1, 2006.


Fix our Highways Campaign Wraps Up

The Fix our Highways Coalition, of which ACEC was a founding member, wrapped up its national campaign promoting the use of a greater share of the federal gas tax revenues to stop the decline in Canada's National Highways system. To date, one major political party, the Conservatives, have included a highways program in their platform.

For more information on the campaign, visit www.fixourhighways.ca.

Services Leading Export Growth

by Stephen S. Poloz, Senior Vice-President, Corporate Affairs and Chief Economist, Export Development Canada

Exports of services always seem to take a back seat to goods, because goods are easier to understand and the statistics are much better. But services exports are gaining in importance.

Here, the data are even more difficult to come by, but Statistics Canada recently reported that sales of services by Canadian foreign affiliates abroad were $113 billion in 2003. This compares to $211 billion for goods-producing foreign affiliates. Thus, services account for about 14% of total exports, but make up more than a third of sales by Canadian foreign affiliates operating abroad.

For more information on EDC services, visit www.edc.ca.

Encon Corner

As we approach the Holiday Season, we are reminded of how fortunate we are to live in a country that has so many things to offer. Many of the comforts we enjoy are due in large part to the contributions made by the engineering profession. Over the past 36 years, ENCON has had the good fortune to be able to witness the tremendous achievements that have been accomplished as a result of the engineering talent which exists in Canada.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the firms that support our program and to express our appreciation to the ACEC for allowing us to partner with it in the support of engineering excellence. Best wishes to all for the Holidays and 2006.

For more information on Encon, visit www.encon.ca.
CEBC POLICY ON THE USE OF SALARY MULTIPLIERS TO DETERMINE FEES

Traditionally, some clients and consultants have determined hourly rates for engineering and technical services based on salary multipliers. Recent changes to provincial legislation in the form of the Personal Information Protection Act have impacted on this method of price determination. Accordingly, at its meeting of April 27, 2005 the Board of Directors of Consulting Engineers of British Columbia (CEBC) endorsed the following policy on the use of salary multipliers:

“The requirements of the Personal Information Protection Act prevent employers in British Columbia from disclosing personal information of employees. This precludes members of CEBC from disclosing information regarding remuneration of Principals and employees. Accordingly, CEBC recommends that members decline to release such information to clients and prospective clients when fee quotations based on salary multipliers are requested. CEBC further recommends that consulting services not be priced on the basis of salary multipliers. This practice is contrary to the principles of Qualification Based Selection and value-based pricing.

When clients request proposals for services based on salary multipliers, members are encouraged to respond by proposing another form of pricing and to refer these requests to the CEBC Secretariat, who will take action to inform the client of CEBC’s policy and recommendations in this regard.”
INDUSTRY NEWS

McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd. of Vancouver was presented with the SNC-Lavalin Group Award for Improvement of Physical and Social Infrastructure, for their Land Administration in Landmine-Contaminated Areas Project in Cambodia at the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters and CIDA 13th Annual Canadian Awards for International Cooperation in Toronto, on November 1st. McElhanney partnered with GeoSpatial International Inc. of Victoria to design a ground-breaking project using satellite image technology and landmine safety procedures to prepare property mapping and over 3,700 land title certificates for five villages badly contaminated with landmines.

Your News Here!

ACEC member firms can now share their key corporate news with firms across Canada. These news items can include mergers, acquisitions, management changes, awards, etc. New items submitted by member firms must be limited to a maximum of 70 words, but can include a web address for more information. Unfortunately any item with more than 70 words will be returned for further editing.

Please submit your Industry News items to the editor of Communiqué, Susie Grynol, at sgrynol@acec.ca.
Join us on The Rock:  
2006 ACEC Summit

June 29-July 1, 2006  
St. John’s, Newfoundland

The Fairmont Newfoundland Hotel

June 28-29:  PSMJ Pre-Event Bootcamp:  
*Leadership and Ownership Transition*

June 29-July 1:  ACEC Summit

ACEC is pleased to provide the leaders of the Canadian consulting engineering industry with an exceptional learning and networking experience on Canada’s beautiful east coast.

- Principals’ Roundtables
- Public Owners’ Forum
- Business Sessions
- ACEC Golf Classic
- Local Flavour Night
- Full Social and Companions’ Programs