

# ANNUAL REPORT 22

THE ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING ENGINEERING COMPANIES BC





























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Consulting
Engineering
firms are
partners,
experts, and
innovators
working for
British
Columbians.

### **Lets Connect!**



acec-bc.ca



/acec-bc



@ACECBC

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### **About ACEC-BC**

Since 1976, the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies British Columbia (ACEC-BC) has been the voice of consulting engineering companies in BC. Our mandate is to advance the business interests of consulting engineering firms in BC by advocating for fair business practices and building awareness of the industry's contributions to society and innovative technical expertise.

On behalf of our member organizations, our board of directors endorse our strategic direction and ensure our operations are guided by these principles.

Our purpose is to serve the interests of members through advocacy, creating opportunity for collaboration and building profile of members and the industry. Our member's wisdom, societal contribution, and geographic reach lend credibility and gravity to this purpose.

### Advocacy is our primary mission.

We are a consolidated voice for fair procurement practices, balanced contract language including proportional allocation of risk, and removal of barriers to efficient operation of our businesses in BC.

### Values unite our members.

Our members and our governance act collaboratively to promote innovative thinking and investment in our community. Our words and actions ensure an inclusive environment: celebrating our diversity and striving for equity in all that we do.

80+ Member firms in BC

40+ Municipalities across BC

**9.5k**Employed British Columbians

\$5b Locally to British Columbia

# **Charter of Membership**

A Consulting Engineer is a professional advisor who provides engineering and other technology-based services. The role of the Consulting Engineer is to put expert knowledge at the disposal of the Client, and to serve the Client's interests, acting in good faith. The relationship between the client and the Consulting Engineer is based on mutual trust, respect, cooperation, and fairness.

ACEC-BC provides industry with leadership to build a positive business environment and serves society by promoting the engineering industry as a catalyst for the application of technology, improved quality of life, economic growth, and wealth generation.

ACEC-BC's vision is to build a strong consulting engineering industry, providing value and quality to society.

In order to create a strong engineering industry and a positive business environment, ACEC-BC must be the united voice that speaks for the industry and must foster a high level of unity and trust among its member firms.

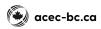
In recognition of this goal, we, the undersigned as Managing Principals of the member firms of ACEC-BC, acknowledge the need to respect our relationships with each other. By affixing our signatures to this Charter, we affirm that membership in ACEC-BC is important to us and that our companies will uphold the aims of ACEC-BC and the following principles:

- 1. Our company will support ACEC-BC through participation in its activities and adherence to its principles and policies.
- 2. Our company will relate to other members of ACEC-BC with integrity, and in a manner that will enhance the stature of consulting engineering, and the profession in general.
- 3. Our company will respect the majority view of ACEC-BC as expressed by its Board of Directors for the greater good of the industry.
- 4. Our company will not impugn the reputation or business of others.

- 5. Our company will actively encourage the selection of consultants based on qualifications.
- 6. Our company will offer its services at a price that reflects the value of the service, taking guidance from the ACEC-EGBC Fee Guidelines for Engineering Services.
- 7. Our company will respect the clientele of other members of ACEC-BC and will not attempt to supplant them when definite steps have been taken for their engagement.
- 8. When partnering for projects, our company will endeavor to select from other qualified ACEC-BC firms, and will follow the principles of qualification based selection and value based fees.
- 9. Our company will not engage in anti-competitive practices.

By upholding these principles, we will create a strong consulting engineering industry better able to serve the needs of our clients.

Signed in Vancouver by the Senior BC Managing Principals of the member companies of ACEC-British Columbia – June, 2015





# **2021-2022 Directors**

Role	Name	Company
Chair	Iain Ward EXP	
Vice-Chair/Treasurer	Richard Bush Binnie	
Secretary/Designated Director	Suzanne Powell	Thurber Engineering
Past Chair	Selena Wilson	Mott MacDonald
Director	Brian Yates	Stantec
Director	Ian Steele	PBX Engineering
Director	Joe DiPlacito	Ram Consulting
Director	Katie Nichols	Collings Johnston
Director	Matt Gellis	Northwest Hydraulic Consultants
Director	Mike Chin	Klohn Crippen Berger
Director	Rodger Welch	COWI
Director	Ryan MacPherson	SNC-Lavalin
Director	Tanya Sadlo	McElhanney
Director	William Johnston	WSP

# 2021-2022 Ex-Officio Directors

Name	Company	
Jay Rao	EXP	
Jeff McLellan	BFL Canada	
Raya Smertina	Hatch	
Tim Stanley	Stratice Consulting	

# 2021-2022 Executive Committee

Role	Name	Company	
Chair	Iain Ward EXP		
Vice-Chair/Treasurer	Richard Bush	Binnie	
Secretary/Designated Director	Suzanne Powell	Thurber Engineering	
Past Chair	Selena Wilson	Mott MacDonald	
President and CEO	Caroline Andrewes	ACEC-BC	



# **Chair's Report**



lain Ward
Chair of the Board of Directors
Vice President, Transportation, Western
Canada, EXP

This year saw the continuation of a global pandemic and climate related events devastate lives and communities across British Columbia. The Association of Consulting Engineer Companies – British Columbia and our member companies continue to be a vital part of the response, getting BC infrastructure and services back to work, and providing help and support to impacted people and communities. In a year that saw many similar organizations struggle to stay relevant, ACEC-BC thrived with provincial engagement increasing membership and our geographic coverage and reach.

Throughout a summer of record high temperatures and a fall season bringing heavy rainfall and flooding, ACEC-BC members demonstrated a resiliency and commitment to BC which has been impressive. Members responded at short notice to supply resources and technology to support critical work necessary to safeguard life and property. During this time ACEC-BC supported both our membership and provincial government organizations, linking people and ideas and maintaining clear and consistent communication during a period of rapid

change. This response is the essence of our Association – demonstrating our value in our communities and with our partners.

ACEC-BC spent another year functioning in a mostly virtual environment, leading the way in how that can be done whilst retaining engagement with our audience. All the usual industry mixers and other events took place, and, in many cases, we have seen increased engagement from a greater and more diverse group of member firms. This is in no small part due to the everevolving ACEC-BC communications strategy that was adopted by the Board in 2020. ACEC-BC engages a greater number of people and firms across BC; we continue to evolve our communications and utilize more sophisticated and practical on-line platforms to do so.

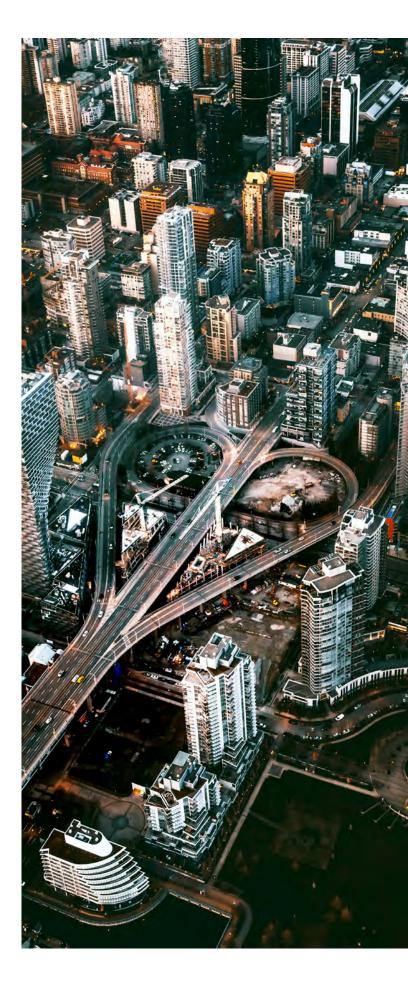
The focus for the board this year has been two-fold; how to further develop the role of ACEC-BC as a trusted advisor to the provincial government, and secondly, developing relevant future events using a GBA+ informed framework as a guide.

Strengthening ACEC-BC's relationship with the BC provincial government has been a long-term goal of the association and last year that need for a strong and productive relationship was brought into sharp focus after the flood events in November. This year the board have worked on the development of a 'road map' toward our goal of "trusted advisor" to the provincial government. Working together we found the right

resources to guide us through that process and this important work will continue through this coming year.

One of the many lessons of the past two years has been the use of ever advancing virtual communication platforms to connect and engage people, a key element of our strategic plan. It's striking that in a world where most people share absolutely everything online, we can still struggle to form and foster important relationships. ACEC-BC supports members to build relationships in many ways, and events remain a strong vehicle for understanding each other, our clients, and partner organizations. In September, the Board initiated a project to consider events through a lens of community, diversity, equity, and inclusion. By applying the GBA+ approach, we are developing a process to support Committees to understand their audience and partners, and better articulate event purpose. The Board believe strongly in this initiative and know that it will be a valued tool both for our Association and for our member firms.

It has been an honor to serve as Chair of the Board of ACEC-BC this past year and an experience I will not forget. All years have successes and challenges, and this past year has been no exception. I greatly benefited from the support of a Board of committed professionals who gave their time, ideas and unlimited support throughout the year. Finally, none of this would be possible without the team at ACEC-BC, who all work toward the goals of improving membership value and making the membership experience excellent. So, to the team: Ben, Alla, Marcie, and Caroline I offer my thanks for continually giving their best.





# **President's Report**



**Caroline Andrewes** President & CEO

**Association of Consulting Engineering Companies British Columbia** 

Every year poses new opportunities for growth and engagement, and new challenges to industry performance and Association operations. Each of the last three years have been unique and different, accelerating the pace of change in the face of heightened demand for services provided by our members.

The intensity of market activity and the ebb and flow of pandemic restrictions continued to challenge our ability to connect. Occasional in-person engagement helped to reinforce the importance of our community and gave us welcome respite from the pace of daily work.

Finding balance between our professional personal commitments has been especially challenging over the past two years but serves to provide perspective as we take this opportunity to reconsider our old ways and welcome different approaches to our work. Retaining the best parts of how we adapted will allow space for more people to enter and thrive in consulting engineering.

# **Better Together**



Better together is a concept that runs deep in our Association culture and is the solid foundation for our purpose to serve the interests of members through advocacy, creating opportunity for collaboration, and building profile for members and the industry.

Our common voice resonated this year as we worked together to respond to our province's most serious natural disaster in a generation. We set aside competition to identify and share data, coordinate resources, understand changing conditions, and meet the needs of the people of British Columbia most affected by the disaster.

Your response was a clear articulation of our purpose and values, and a source of immense pride for our team as we supported your efforts. Your work was valued and acknowledged by all partners, which was reflected in how it was discussed by politicians and in the media.

Thank you for stepping up, supporting each other and our partners, and for your continued efforts to understand how to evolve practice to promote resilience and address climate change.

# **Our Primary Mission: Advocacy**



As the voice of consulting engineering in BC, we worked with members, clients, policymakers, and partners to shape practices, respond to onerous contract language, and identify opportunities to enhance partnership between industry and clients.

Over the past year we shared regular updates on our work to Voting Members, supporting you with timely information to assess opportunities and negotiate terms. Through these updates we raised the profile of our advocacy, encouraging members to bring forward concerns, and to feel supported when pushing back on unfair language and conditions.

### **Onerous Clauses:**

Our onerous clause review group were active over the course of the year, supporting review and response to municipalities and regional districts. Issues ranged from improper use of standard contracts to more serious risks like those impacting compliance with regulated practice. We noted a new openness with some clients, reflecting the changing marketplace and greater competition for qualified professionals.

### External Engagement:

Members of ACEC-BC represent the interests of the industry with the provincial government, municipal clients, regulator, and support partners in construction. These individuals are exceptional leaders and experts, who help to raise the profile of the industry through their generous gift of time and knowledge. This year 10 individuals attended meetings, reviewed documents and practices, and contributed to the advancement of initiatives including regulated practice, fair and balanced contract language, and provincial government policy. These efforts allow us to amplify messages as we work together with other industries on issues including municipal permitting practices and prompt payment for construction services.

### Regulated Practice:

Our relationship with Engineers and Geoscientists BC supports the regulator to better understand regulation in practice and is one of our most important partner relationships. Over the past year we participated in multiple consultation with the Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance and worked with the regulator to support members in understanding and managing practical issues related to new regulation of firms requirements. We continue to meet regularly, referring relevant items to each other, and collaborating on valued resources for professionals.

### Transportation & Infrastructure:

The long-term investment in our partnership with the BC Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure is an archetype of our values and purpose. In addition to partnering to present the annual Transportation Conference, our teams worked together over the past year on procurement, terms and conditions, and in response to the November flood event. We advised the Ministry on the sequencing project procurement, rate escalation, conflict, and highway reinstatement. On the latter, ACEC-BC supported the Ministry as a hub for communication with industry, hosted meetings with industry, and we successfully influenced decisions on procurement including shortlisting and risk transfer.

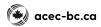
# **Creating opportunity** for collaboration



Our values of community, collaboration, equity, diversity, and inclusion describe our behaviour in how we engage with each other, and with our partners. Members who participate in committees, the Young Professionals Group, various working groups, and our Board, as well as members and partners who participate in events help to build and sustain important relationships.

### Committees and other member groups:

In 2021, members initiated and formed the Sustainability and Climate Change Committee, bringing together practitioners with different expertise and serving diverse



clients to discuss topics like resilience, efficiency, and to develop guiding principles for our Association. Similarly, we developed general terms of reference to support members in Human Resources and Health and Safety Leaders to find space to share information that allows them to better support our teams.

More than 300 individuals volunteer with ACEC-BC, supporting policy and tool development, engagement, and understanding. Professional service with ACEC-BC supports volunteers and their firms to build important relationships, influence the work of the Association, accrue continuing education hours, and provides a venue to develop professionally.

As always, our committees and the Board contribute significantly to advocacy supporting understanding, collaboration, and development of important resources like the annual fee guideline and the Building Permit Level of Design Recommendations.

### Events:

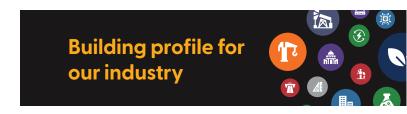
Over the past year more nearly 3,000 people from more than 70 member firms and 200 other organizations like clients, regulators, and government, participated in ACEC-BC events. Significant engagement in events – facilitated through virtual presentation – created connections and fostered collaboration between people across BC.

Looking forward, we are working with the Board to consider how to retain the broader engagement of members resulting from our shift to virtual operations, whilst ensuring we continue to support members to form and foster relationships so critical to success in consulting engineering. By shifting our perspective through use of the GBA+ framework, we are considering event outcome rather than the event type, understanding who we are engaging, who may be left out, and what purpose we are serving.

### Interagency Collaboration:

With support from important clients, member leaders collaborated to align COVID health and safety practices including organization vaccine requirements and reporting. Understanding our partners and speaking

with one voice aligned with our culture of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of our teams and the broader community. Similarly, members and partners engaged in a leadership discussion in December that provided research to support our understanding of diversity in engineering, and to offer ideas to support us in shifting our industry workforce to better reflect the diversity of BC.



Promoting understanding of the industry and how your work contributes to society supports our ability to be effective advocates and to engage decision makers with influence on capital allocation, procurement, and practice.

Showcasing members and their work is considered in every update to our website, each event, and how we utilize social media. Over the past two years we've seen significant increase in content engagement resulting from deployment of our communications strategy. In addition to content engagement, broader participation in events has helped build understanding and connection with members and clients across BC and has directly influenced decisions to apply for Association membership.

### Awards for Engineering Excellence:

The 2022 Awards for Engineering Excellence allowed us to understand the shifting nature of virtual events, introducing broader adoption of connected locations, as participants gathered in smaller groups to celebrate colleagues and projects. Following the event more than 15,000 people in 60 countries viewed the dedicated awards website, including recognition videos for individual winners, project pages, and video greetings from both government and the opposition leaders in Victoria.

### Media Coverage:

When the BC Minster for Transportation and Infrastructure referred to the reopening of the Coquihalla Highway as one of the greatest feats of engineering in BC history, the public and the media paid attention. ACEC-BC members and I participated in interviews with local and national media, supporting understanding of the work performed by our industry.

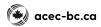
### Looking to the future

As we look ahead, our Association will continue to provide opportunities to build connection between members, clients, and partners.

Together, we've navigated dramatic shifts in the way our industry and Association operate. We worked as a team to introduce new and valued opportunities for members to connect, collaborate, and raise the profile of the industry.

It is an honour to represent our community, and a great pleasure to work with the Board, our committees, working groups, young professionals, and the ACEC-BC team: Alla Samusevich, Ben Abbasipour, Chloe Tees, and Marcie Cochrane.







# **Treasurer's Report**



**Richard Bush** Vice-Chair/Treasurer **Binnie** 

The Treasurer's Report provides comment on the financial operations of the Association for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022, as well as a look ahead at the 2022-23 budget approved by the Board in February.

### Assurance:

In 2021, the Board adopted a simplified audit supporting preparation of financial statements. The Review Engagement approach provides assurance to members that financial statements are appropriate and a reasonable representation of the current financial position (Audit seeks to identify material misstatement).

At the 2021 Annual General Meeting the members appointed Alistair Leung, CPA, CA of Alistair & Victor Chartered Professional Accountants as advisor for 2021-22, and in May 2022 Mr. Leung performed the Review Engagement and prepared the financial statements for members.

Over the course of the year the Board received and reviewed monthly financial statements, supervised management of the activities and affairs of the Association and performed the annual review of the Association's continuity plan. The Board remain satisfied that the Review Engagement approach is appropriate given the relative complexity of the Association financials and the Board's performance of their duties.

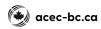
The Board is satisfied with the balanced relationship of advisory and assurance. However, after two years under the new process, the Board recommend that the relationship and process be reviewed later this year and that an auditor be appointed or reappointed following review.

### **Financial Performance:**

In 2021 the Association reported a 50% decline in revenues resulting from changes to operations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (primarily, elimination of in-person events). Federal government subsidy programs were accessed and supported the Association to close the year with a cash surplus. At the beginning of the 2021-22 fiscal year, the surplus was largely allocated to Association reserves, which had been underfunded relative to targets set by the Board.

Over the last year the federal government continued to provide wage and rent subsidy to support businesses to recover and adapt to new ways of operating. While subsidies contributed to the bottom-line surplus, the primary drivers for the Association's 2022 financial performance are increased membership, strong response to major programs like the Awards for Engineering Excellence and Transportation Conference, management control of spending.

Item	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue	\$911,654	\$770,000	\$141,654
Expenses	\$720,922	\$735,000	(\$14,078)
Net	\$190,732	\$35,000	\$155,732

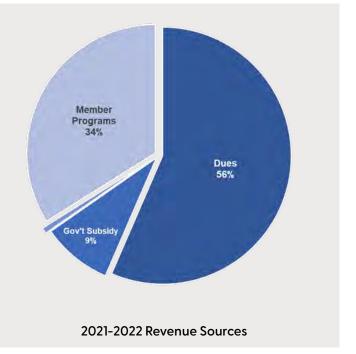


### Revenue:

Sources of revenue shifted back toward typical, historic split of member dues and revenue from events. In the past year, additional revenue resulting from the continuation of federal subsidy programs resulted in \$80,000 in unanticipated revenue supporting member programs and operations. The subsidy is again considered a windfall by the Board and will be handled accordingly.

Like 2021, member dues accounted for more than half of all revenue, which aligns with the Board's objective to seek alignment between member dues revenue and fixed operating costs, allowing other revenue to be invested in initiatives and special programs. Net dues revenue increased by more than 7% resulting from increased hiring in the industry, and the addition of five new corporate members.

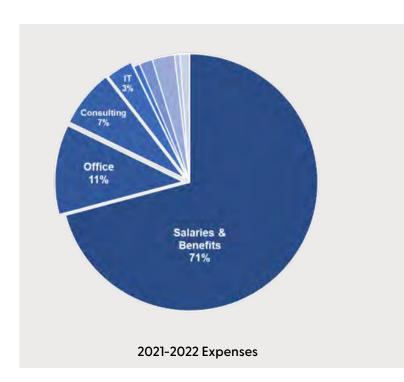
Event revenue rebounded in 2021 to approximately 50% of pre-pandemic levels with the total reflecting appropriate revenue for virtual events relative to (higher) revenue expected with in-person events. Nearly 3,000 people participated in events over the past year, with participation from important partners like clients remaining strong. People from more than 70 member firms joined events, reinforcing our perception that virtual events support broader access for different people and firms, and for participants across the province.



### **Expense:**

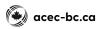
Association operations, including salaries and rent, accounted for more than 80% of all expense incurred over the past year. Operating costs rose slightly year-over-year mainly due to reshuffling of expense as operations adapted to our new normal. For example, banking costs increased commensurate with higher use of credit card payments and a modest increase in hospitality expenses was accrued as team members engaged in person.

With a target of 100% coverage, Association operations were funded approximately 95% through member dues, which is an increase over 2021 and on track toward the Board's goal of full coverage. Excluding the federal subsidy, contribution to operations from events revenue more than offset the difference and accounted for most of the surplus.



### **Reserves:**

In 2015 the Board defined targets for the Association reserves to ensure stability during periods where revenue or cash flow may vary, and to support special projects that require significant investment. The total reserve target was set based on a combination of business continuity, special projects, and other reserve funds.



During budgeting in 2020 and again in 2021, the Board considered the current funding of reserves (approximately 40% of target) and agreed a forwardlooking plan that included asset renewal and planned for modest annual surpluses to fund our reserves more adequately.

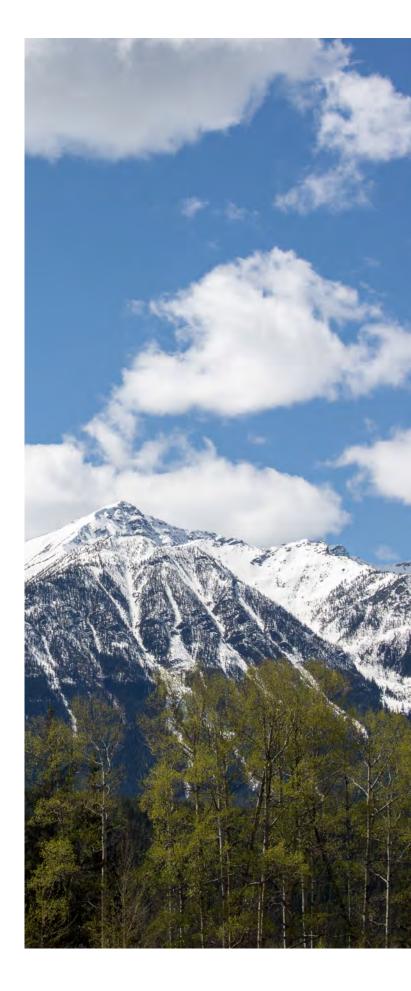
At the start of the year, the Board allocated most of the 2021 surplus to reserves, transferring cash from the Association current account to the managed investment account held with Investors Group. The transfer more than doubled reserve holdings. This decision significantly reduced long term risk to the Association, supporting flexibility to respond to opportunities and challenges in the future.

With reserves funded, the Board plan to allocate most of the 2022 surplus to reinvest in member programs to support important initiatives proposed by the Committees for the coming year. The Board may also consider moving additional cash to reserves should market conditions warrant increased investment.

### Looking Ahead:

The Board approved a budget in March 2022 that forecasts modest growth in dues revenue, and further recovery of events revenue relative to historic values. Government subsidy programs have concluded, and no further benefit is anticipated. The budget assumes hybrid operations, with a mix of event venues consistent with the outcomes of on-going events framework development.

The Board will continue to be flexible in the coming year as operations evolve to align with new ways of working, living, and engagement. The plan includes appropriate operations oversight and governance review, flexibility to address new opportunities and challenges, and investment in a government relations strategy.



# Committee Reports



ACEC-Canada Year in Review

BC Hydro Liaison Committee

**Building Engineering Committee** 

**Business Practice Committee** 

Deputy Ministers and Industry Infrastructure Forum

Client and Consultant Working Group

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee

EGBC Consulting Practice Advisory Group

Heath & Safety Roundtable

Master Municipal Construction Documents Association

Membership Affairs Committee

Metro Vancouver Liaison Committee

MoTI Bridge Subcommittee

Municipal Engineering Committee

Resource and Energy Committee

**Small Firms Council** 

Sustainability and Climate Change

**Transportation Committee** 

Transportation Conference Organizing Committee

TransLink Liaison Committee

**TRAN Ligison Committee** 

Young Professionals Group





### **ACEC-Canada Year in Review**



**Tim Stanley Stratice Consulting** 



**Catherine Fritter Moffatt Nichol** 

ACEC-Canada, with the leadership of its Board of Directors, the engagement of its member firms and the support of its Maple Leaf partners, had another successful year. Our team worked hard to ensure the voice of our industry was heard by elected officials and senior officials in the federal government. We were committed to creating a business and regulatory climate that allowed our industry to be successful and offer exceptional value to its private and public sector clients.

Below is a recap of our activities and efforts over the past year on behalf of our industry and your firm.

- Participation in the in the federal government's consultation process on the National Infrastructure Assessment (NIA). In its submission, ACEC-Canada stressed the need to develop an integrated environmental and economic vision for Canada with specific recommendations on governance, mandate and scope, and stakeholder engagement.
- Launch of Infrastructure: Prosperity by Design, an engagement campaign during fall federal election to promote the need for a strong integrated economic and environmental vision for Canada's recovery.

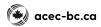
- Adoption of a climate change position by the **Board of Directors**
- Organized a virtual Parliament Hill Day, ACEC-Canada's signature advocacy activities. Participants attended over 25 meetings with Members of Parliament from across the four major parties to discuss the positive impact consulting engineering firms make to the economic, environmental, and social quality of life of Canadians.
- Worked with the Building for Recovery coalition to address the need for timelier and more focused infrastructure investments.
- Testified to the Standing Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure and Communities during its study on targeted infrastructure investments.
- Successfully delayed potentially problematic changes to Public Services and Procurement Canada's Contract Security Program screening process.

- Participated in webinars hosted by ReNew Canada and Engineers Canada on disaster resilient infrastructure and the role of engineers in mitigating and adapting to climate change.
- Hosted the national leadership conference virtually on a complimentary basis for all ACEC-Canada members.
- Celebrated the achievement of Canadian consulting engineering firms with the Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards and the follow up #20DaysofExcellence social media campaign.

In the coming months, ACEC-Canada will continue to collaborate with its provincial partners like ACEC-BC to ensure the consulting engineering industry remains resilient and continues to contribute to the economic, social, and environmental quality of life of Canadians.

We invite you to play an active part in charting our direction forward by sharing with us how we can best benefit your firms and our industry; reach out to us directly or through your ACEC-Canada Board representatives.







# **BC Hydro Liaison Committee**



Bruno Bagnérès Committee Chair Klohn Crippen Berger

### Significant work in the past year:

- 1. Updated the Term of Reference (TOR) following change of objectives.
- 2. Contact with BC Hydro was re-initiated in 2020 and our first committee meeting kicked-off in March 2021.
- 3. We hosted a Virtual Client Mixer with BC Hydro on Nov 25, 2021 which discussed Procurement, Electrification, and the Site C Project. BC Hydro presentations were followed by networking rooms for Q&A.

The BC Hydro Liaison Committee was re-established in March 2021 after ~2 years of inactivity due to the active procurement process and identified risk of conflict of interest.

One of the first major achievements of the committee was a successful virtual BC Hydro Mixer (thanks to Ben Abbasipour!) which hosted presentations and networking rooms and received great feedback from participants and presenters.

The committee is now organizing an upcoming 90 minute presentation on drones and ROV technologies as part of our commitment to two presentations / topics per year.

Moving forward the committee will be focused on delivering on the new TOR which includes:

- 1. Providing a venue for both partners to discuss and explore topics relevant to engineering practice such as technology, regulation, and workforce diversity and inclusion.
- 2. Collaborating with BC Hydro on areas of shared interest including raising awareness of consulting engineering opportunities with BC Hydro or consulting engineering companies contracted with BC Hydro.

Note that these TOR could be revisited if required with new ideas.

Our next meetings will be with ACEC-BC members firms involved in the technical presentations to organize a virtual sessions related to the selected topic of interest.

The committee also holds "regular" BC Hydro-ACEC-BC meetings to review other possible areas of shared interest to raise awareness of consulting engineering opportunities.

### **Committee Members**

Adam Solheim, Wood

Alex Cosovanu, PBX Engineering

Barry Chilibeck, NHC

Christophe Desage, BBA

David Daw, WSP

Ian Steele, PBX Engineering

Matt Gellis, NHC

Mike Chin, KCB

Michael Florendo, McElhanney

Murray Kroeker, BC Hydro

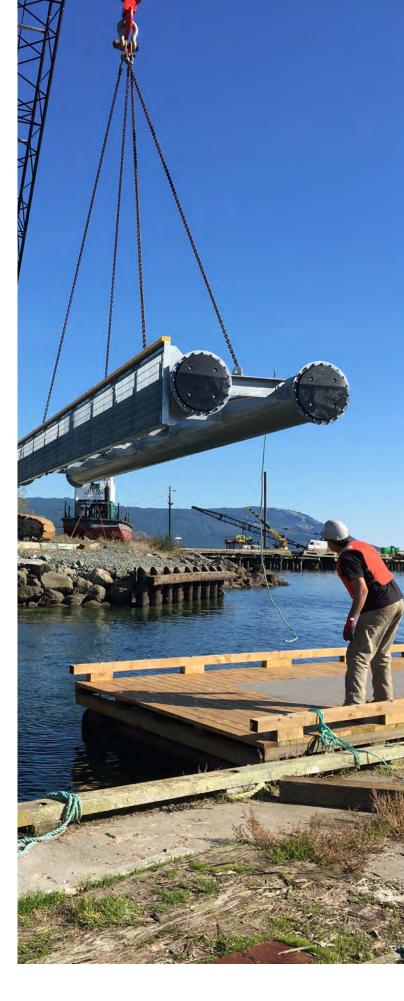
Neill Massey, BBA

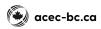
Patrick Korner, Tetra Tech

Peter Leekha, Ausenco

Vijay Kallur, Arcadis

Younes Rashidi, Hedgehog Technologies







# **Building Engineering Committee**



Caroline Andrewes
President & CEO

ACEC-BC

### Significant work in the past year:

- 1. Two significant practice documents completed:
  - Building Permit Level of Design Recommendations released on the ACEC-BC website
  - Budget Guidelines for Engineering Services Buildings endorsed by ACEC-BC Board and Engineers and Geoscientists BC
- 2. Advocacy related to the impact of permitting backlog advanced with the City of Vancouver and the Province.

**Key information for members:** The Building Engineering Committee is a practice-focussed committee, supporting development of documents to support building professionals and advising the Board and Secretariat on issues impacting the sector.

The members of the Building Engineering Committee represent the breadth of technical expertise necessary to plan, design, construct, and maintain complex, modern buildings. The Committee members are leaders in their

disciplines, and work together to advance issues and resources important to the industry. Two new members joined in the past year bringing expertise on civil engineering and building performance, which were not otherwise covered on the committee.

Two major documents were completed by the committee over the past year.

The Building Permit Level of Design Recommendations was published to the ACEC-BC website in July 2021. The document was substantively completed in 2020-21, and is intended to support both design engineers and authorities having jurisdiction in preparing documents that will be submitted for building permits in BC. The document has been downloaded by over 480 individuals demonstrating the relevance of this type of resource for members and partners.

The Budget Guidelines for Engineering Services was first released in 2007, with the most recent version for Building Engineering released in 2009. The document remains an important means of communicating the complexity and importance of appropriately budgeting design services, and an update was encouraged by members and by Engineers and Geoscientists BC. In April, the document was approved for publication by the Board following extensive work by the committee, peer review by a non-member volunteer, and review by Engineers and Geoscientists BC who will jointly publish the final version in the coming months. The committee plans to embark on phase 2 of this process in the coming year,

developing a completely new document that better reflects a modern design assignment, including elements missing or underrepresented in the existing guideline like climate resilience, sustainability, and collaboration with indigenous people.

The committee also supported on-going discussion with the City of Vancouver and the Province regarding the challenges associated with development and building permitting processes.

A transition year for the Committee, which saw the end Graham Lovely's term as Chair. Caroline acted as Chair for the balance of the year while the Committee sought a capable replacement for Graham. The Committee hope to identify a new Chair before restarting meetings after the summer break.

### **Committee Members**

Andrew Tashiro, WSP

Carlos Soto, MCW Consultants

Clint Low, Bush Bohlman & Partners

Fadi Ghorayeb, DIALOG

Graeme Terris, Pinchin Ltd.

Graham Lovely, MCW Consultants

Justin Chu, AECOM

Karen Spoelstra, MCW Consultants

Mohammad Fakoor, RJC Engineers

Nicole Bisceglia, Urban Systems

Sonny Bharaj, Binnie

Suzanne Powell, Thurber Engineering







# **Business Practice Committee**



**Kip Skabar**Committee Chair **Stantec** 

Significant work in the past year: 2022 Fee Guidelines

**Key information for members:** The purpose of the Business Practices Committee (BPC) is to advise on any industry-specific, business-related matters, including but not limited to contracts, trends, emerging issues, onerous clauses.

The BPC has focused on providing advice and developing resources for business practice issues, including preparing position statements, working with ACEC-BC municipality committee to promote quality-based consultant selection across industry, and other ACEC-BC mainline committees to address challenges faced by member firms in the industry.

The BPC key task in 2021 was to perform an annual review/update to the ACEC-BC consulting fee guidelines and present findings to the Board for approval. A higher than usual increase in rates were recommended and approved, which consisted of approx. 3-4% increase across all staff classifications. This was based on high

demand for engineering services forecasted for the region, increasing soft costs for member firms, striking a balance between market and cost influencers, high voluntary turnover across sectors, uncertain economic outlook, and significant salary increases planned in 2022 mostly due to rapidly rising inflation rate.

The BPC collaborated with the Metro Vancouver subcommittee in 2021 to review intellectual property and ownership of work products, indemnification and professional liability, and extra work clauses in the standard terms and conditions of the Metro Vancouver consultant contracts.

The BPC also monitored emerging industry-specific issues that affect the business interests of member firms. Fee based selection across the majority of engineering consultant clients in the BC region continues to be an issue amidst the COVID-19 pandemic/endemic and rising inflation rates. Recent major project owner's engineering contracts awarded by the Province (TI Corp) involve heavy weighting in the evaluation criteria on member firm fees/rates, which does not set the right example for other clients/owners in the region. However, there has been some improvement in recent years with certain clients leading by example in practicing QBS (i.e. MOTI and select municipalities).

The BPC considered how to engage a cross section of members to better understand market conditions and validate the committee's workplan. In collaboration

with the Board, committee members connected with individuals and organizations not represented on the committee and created a list of actions that aligned with the Board's objectives for the year.

For the coming year, the BPC will aim to review current practices and offer guidance/recommendations on onerous clauses and other issues impacting the business of member firms, including:

- · Prompt payment
- Field reviews
- Limits of liability
- Reliance
- · Prime contractor role
- · Subconsultant agreements
- Diversity and inclusion in procurement

### **Committee Members**

Alyse Wilkinson, Golder

Brian Chatwin, Chatwin Engineering

David Lu, Aplin Martin

Emily Schwede, SNC-Lavalin

Emily Schwede, SNC-Lavalin

Frank Liu, Hatch

Jay Rao, EXP

Kathryn Ekman, KCB

Matt Gellis, NHC

Max Lauretta, Associated Engineering

Rob McLeod, Axis Insurance

Robert Bourdages, Stantec

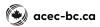
Robert Lew, Aplin Martin

Robert Lew, Aplin Martin

Sheldon North, BGC Engineering

Suki Gill, Mott MacDonald

Umar Alfaruq, Jacobs





# **Deputy Ministers and Industry** Infrastructure Forum



**Gurjit Sangha ACEC-BC** Representative WSP



**Tim Stanley ACEC-BC** Representative Stratice Consulting



**Caroline Andrewes** Special Advisor ACEC-BC

The Deputy Ministers and Industry Infrastructure Forum (DMIIF) supports collaboration between the provincial infrastructure ministries and the design, engineering, and construction sectors. Members of the forum meet two to four times annually, with the DMIIF Steering Committee managing on-going work between meetings.

In the spring of 2021 ACEC-BC supported renewal of the DMIIF governance, including development of Terms of Reference for the forum, Steering Committee, and Committees of the forum. The renewal allowed for clarification of the role of engineering consultants in infrastructure delivery and improved the forum's understanding of the role of engineering and architecture regulators. As a result of the renewal, Caroline was

added as a member of the Steering Committee and an additional representative to the forum was allocated to ACEC-BC. This new role was promoted to members, and Gurjit Sangha was appointed by the Board.

Over the past year the forum discussed procurement processes and contracts, CAMF, industry conditions, and major project updates. ACEC-BC presented to the forum on the topic of (municipal) permitting backlog, and the impact on the design and construction industries.

In addition to the forum, ACEC-BC members participate in two sub-committees.

Standard Consultant Agreements:

Neil Cumming, Tim Stanley (Caroline Andrewes, advisor)

In 2018, a sub-committee was formed to developed supplemental conditions to standard architecture and engineering contracts. The immense efforts of the committee members including industry representation from ACEC-BC, AIBC, and construction as well as provincial government representatives have move toward closure of work associated with RAIC Doc 6 and are moving forward with negotiation of an engineering contract based on CCDC 31.

Building Information Modelling:

François Atkinson, Kobus de Villiers, Vance Smith

The Ministry of Citizens' Services are considering if and how to implement BIM for projects across ministries delivering vertical infrastructure. ACEC-BC members are engaged for the purposes of advising the project and providing feedback on behalf of industry.

# **Client and Consultant Working Group**



Allan Russell
Chair
McElhanney

In March 2020, the Client and Consultant Working Group formed to address risks to team members and projects associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Following relaxation of lockdown, the group agreed to remain connected to work together to support efficient procurement, project delivery, and partnership.

Over the past year the group shared information regarding site and office health & safety, details on vaccination mandates and communicable disease safety plans, as well as market intelligence including supply chain, cost escalation, and labour availability.

During fall 2021 flooding, updates from members of the working group supported understanding of how resources were allocated in the emergency, and how the agencies were connected in response and recovery.

The connection between ACEC-BC member representatives and client engineering leaders supports familiarity with ACEC-BC, promoting our advocacy by reinforcing our position as a trusted industry advisor.



### **ACEC-BC Members:**

Francois Morton, Collings Johnston

Hannelie Stockenstrom, SNC-Lavalin

Harvie Buitelaar, Hatch

Jeff McLellan, BFL Canada

Scott Campbell, Binnie

Steve Fleck, Stantec

Tim Stanley, Stratice Consulting

### **Client Members:**

Cheryl Nelms, Metro Vancouver

Christoph Rufenacht, YVR

David Hubner, Infrastructure BC

Devan Fitch, Port of Vancouver

Ed Miska, BC Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure

lan Pilkington, BC Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure

Jeff Busby, TransLink

Kenedee Ludwar, BC Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure

Murray Kroeker, BC Hydro

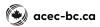
Sabrina Scalena, Metro Vancouver

Stephan Triendl, TI Corporation

### **Advisors:**

Caroline Andrewes, ACEC-BC

Martin Stegman, BC Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery, and Innovation





# **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion** Committee



Victoria Kilpatrick Committee Chair McElhanney



Katie Au Committee Chair BBA

### Significant work in the past year:

- 1. Working with Indigenous Communities for Successful Major Projects Event
- 2. Women in Leadership Panel Discussion
- 3. Builders Code Pledge input

### The Committee's work includes:

- Providing relevant educational seminars to support diversity initiatives that affect the engineering sector
- Providing guidance and support to other ACEC-BC committees on EDI principles

The EDI committee has been productive over the last year, making progress on several goals and delivering on the following initiatives:

### **Member Professional Development**

The committee organized two professional development events in the past year to support awareness of principles and tools to advance equity, diversity and inclusion in consulting engineering.

## Angel Ransom: Successful Partnerships - Working with Indigenous Communities for Successful Major Projects & **Meaningful Change**

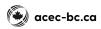
Presentation and Q&A followed by facilitated breakout rooms, organized and supported by members of the EDI committee.

### Women in Leadership Panel Discussion:

Panel discussion on the journey to becoming a successful women leader in the Consulting Engineering industry. Panel included: Erica Ellis, Jessica Steeves, Kirsten Peck, Sophie Warwick, Susan Davidson.

### Builders Code Pledge Input

The committee was asked to review and offer feedback on the Builders Code Pledge, an anti-bullying/ harassment initiative of the BC Construction Association. The committee reviewed the pledge and offered support for ACEC-BC signing the pledge, but also offered feedback for future consideration.



### **Looking Ahead**

The EDI committee will continue to advocate for EDI principles through education, guidance and support within ACEC-BC and the consulting engineering sector. Our current initiatives include:

- Ongoing EDI focused educational sessions, related to Indigenous Peoples, Women, LGBTQ2+ and Persons with Disabilities
- 2. Diversity toolkits with a focus on smaller firms and other committees regarding multiple EDI Topics

### **Committee Members**

Chunpreet Sahota, WSP

Dr. Katherina Tarnia-Lokhorst, Lokhorstgroup

Jay Rao, EXP Services

Joseph Boy, Associated Engineering

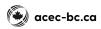
Marcie Cochrane, ACEC-BC

Peggy Chen, KWL

Raya Smertina, Hatch

Samuel Arulnathan, Stantec





# **Engineers and Geoscientists BC Consulting Practice Advisory Group**



Rodger Welch
ACEC-BC Representative
COWI North America



Nick Bevilacqua

ACEC-BC Representative

Fast + Epp

In 2019 Rodger Welch was appointed as the ACEC-BC representative to the Consulting Practice Committee, later renamed as the CPAG as a result of governance changes following implementation of the Professional Governance Act.

Over the past year the members of the CPAG together with Engineers and Geoscientists BC staff determined that the advisory group was no longer needed as consulting practice perspective was captured through other engagements. Rodger agreed with the recommendation and the CPAG was folded in March 2022

With the completion of Rodger's term, the ACEC-BC role was transitioned to the Professional Practice Advisory Group. After a member search, Nick Bevilacqua was appointed by the Board in April 2022. Nick will provide our member perspective on the PPAG, the primary advisor to the Professional Practice, Standards, and Development team.





# **Heath & Safety Roundtable**

### **Rob Dhillon**

Committee Chair

### McElhanney

### Significant work in the past year:

- Member support for the development of Proof of Vaccination Policies and the continuous improvement of COVID-19 safety plans.
- Collaboration, sharing, and learnings on matters related to workplace safety, pandemic response, hybrid working, and safety management systems and processes.

The Health and Safety (H&S) Roundtable was established in July 2021, with the specific intent for member firms to support each other through the very dynamic and challenging COVID-19 circumstances at that time. Since then, the H&S Roundtable has evolved and broadened its objectives to include topics spanning the occupational health and safety realm.

By virtue of these roots and its design, the H&S Roundtable has a predominately inward facing scope and limited formal structure.

The H&S Roundtable has continued to fill a void in the engineering consulting industry by creating a supportorientated forum for like-minded safety professionals representing firms that share common values, as well as common accomplishments and aspirations related to safety. The Roundtable provides a space to network and share ideas/learnings for the continuous improvement of safety within each respective participating firm and across the industry.

Participating members table topics related to current and foreseeable challenges, initiatives, high-risk hazards, and safety processes. At the time of this report 10 topics have been tabled and discussed by participating members with the remaining scheduled through to the end of 2022. These topics include:

- · Work-from-home regulatory obligations
- · Communicable disease plans
- · Organizational structure for HSE
- Managing natural risks: Wildfire safety planning
- · Driver training, driver safety incident management
- · Driver training competency assessment
- $\cdot$  Fatigue management and impact on performance
- · Consulting Engineer as Prime Contractor
- Competency assessments, new and young workers
- Management and supervisory engagement
- Multi-jurisdictional compliance: Unifying practices to comply across provincial borders and with federal regulations
- Monitoring and adapting to changing regulations



- Engaging Joint Health & Safety Committees in managing risk
- Health & Safety management tools: apps, software, etc.
- Improving organizational Health & Safety: sharing observations, practices, and discussing challenges.

The most significant accomplishment over the past year, beyond any specific value generated from the discussion of these important safety topics, was the initiation of this collective approach (further bridging member firms and their subject matter experts together) to improve safety for all people in this industry, our clients, and our partners, as well as all the people counting on them to get home each day.

### **Committee Members**

Allison Mumo, Associated Engineering Amy Tsou, Mott Macdonald Canada Angelica Lopez, Klohn Crippen Berger Mike Harroun, Mott Macdonald Canada Sarah Kimball, BGC Engineering Shirley McLaren, Klohn Crippen Berger Sumita Tayal, Kerr Wood Leidal Tanya Reedy, McElhanney



# **Master Municipal Construction Documents Association**

### **Dieter Diedericks**

**ACEC-BC** Representative

**Associated Engineering** 

### Joel McAllister

**ACEC-BC** Representative

**Onsite Engineering** 

The Master Municipal Construction Documents Association (MMCDA) was created in 1989 by the BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association, the Consulting Engineers of BC and the Municipal Engineers Division of Engineers and Geoscientists BC to create fair and equitable documents and practices for the municipal sector. Now, the Association operates from the collective perspectives of Government, Consultants, Contractors, and Owners. ACEC BC continues to work together with MMCDA on shared concerns, with members sitting on the MMCDA Board of Directors.

The MMCDA Tender Documents, Standards Specifications and Drawings are widely accepted and used throughout BC with over 90 municipalities using the documents on a regular basis. A range of design software compatible templates and software tools for municipal asset management, data transfer and asset registration are widely accepted as well. The MMCDA also provides training programs for Contract Administrators, Referees, Construction Superintendents, Inspectors and Foremen on an annual basis. There are 248 Certified Contract Administrators listed on the MMCDA website.

ACEC BC appoints two members to represent the industry on the MMCDA Board of Directors. Over the past year, ACEC BC member firms have been represented by Dieter Diedericks (Associated Engineering) and Joel McAllister (Onsite Engineering Ltd.).

Several volunteer committees manage the products and priorities for the MMCDA, including the Documents Committee (Civil and Electrical), the Marketing and Education Committee, the Asset Management

Committee and the Referee Committee. Most committees have volunteer representation from the Consulting, Contracting and Local Government Sectors.

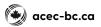
A new edition of the basic MMCDA products, comprised of Tender Documents, Standard Specifications and Drawings was published in 2021.

One challenge for universal documents is the addition of supplemental clauses which upset he balance of fairness among owners, contractors and consultants. Although supplementary specifications are critical to accommodate owner preferences and technological change, alternation which affect contract administration, including dispute resolution, are appearing with increasing frequency.

Although the MMCDA have not had any court challenges since inception in 1992, there are concerns that unbalanced clauses inserted by well-meaning owners may lead to more contract disputes. As a result, the MMCDA has planned several initiatives:

- · Changes to contract language in the new addition with clarifies potential grounds for disputes
- An education initiative, aimed at municipalities about the unwise addition of unbalanced contract language
- Offering specialized training for potential MMCD Referees
- · Creating ore YouTube videos on contract management for the "Contract Considerations" series
- Refining and expanding the Asset Management **Toolkit**

When registered as supporting members of MMCDA, consultants with ACECBC qualify for discounts on MMCDA products and training. ACEC BC member are among the most active sources of advice and suggestions for changes. This positive contribution is well recognized by the other MMCDA partners in municipalities, government and the consulting industry.





# **Membership Affairs Committee**



Jeff McLellan Committee Chair BFL Canada

The purpose of the Membership Affairs Committee is to support and advise the Association on actions that promote member engagement and to advise on matters related to Association Marketing and Communications including: member recruitment, on-boarding, annual renewal, and other member experiences.

Our main role relates to engagement of new members and supporting their application for review and approval by the Board. The Association membership remains 81 firms representing 9,500+ British Columbians in communities across the province. Our Associate membership includes 20 organizations, and we have 10 Client members.

Over the past year we welcomed six new Corporate members:

- · Arcadis Canada
- Basis Engineering
- Charter Project Delivery
- · David Nairne + Associates
- Elgabry Engineering
- · Entuitive Corporation

Increased collaboration through our virtual events, and inclusion of Associate members in some Committees assisted us in welcoming four new Associate members:

- · Hall
- Matchfield
- The Lokhorst Group Ventures
- · Torus Talent

The Committee is excited about our projects for the year ahead. We continue to seek new members for the Committee, particularly members representing the core of our Association – consulting engineers.

### **Committee Members**

Jessica Opeka, Mott MacDonald

Marc Winer, Dillon Consulting

Graham Lovely, MCW Consultants

Graham Anderson, UAviation

Tijana Smiljanic, McElhanney



### **Metro Vancouver Liaison Committee**



Ray Tarnai
Committee Chair
Jacobs

### Significant work in the past year:

- Supporting Metro Vancouver in the development of a local economic development metric to be used as an evaluation criterion in the selection of consultants
- Working with Metro Vancouver to find ways to improve the procurement process related to prescribed hours and financial evaluation
- Supporting Metro Vancouver to better define stakeholder expectations for each of the project milestone submissions

The mission of the Metro Vancouver (MV) Liaison Committee is to provide a mutually beneficial relationship between ACEC-BC and MV that:

- Improves the delivery and technical quality of consulting engineering services to MV; and
- Supports MV's efforts to improve program management and procurement efficiency.

The MV Liaison Committee moves into 2022 as a group of 14 industry representatives. Ray Tarnai continues as chair, along with Anthony Fuller as vice-chair. In addition

to its bi-annual meetings with MV directors and general managers, and organizing the very popular ACEC-BC MV Mixer, the committee has established three standing subcommittees to help organize the Liaison Committee's work with MV and address three key pillars of support for and collaboration with MV. These include procurement, project delivery and technical services, as described below:

- Procurement Subcommittee: Scope includes, but is not limited to, MV procurement processes, selection criteria, RFQ/RFP requirements, contract terms, and related issues.
- 2. Project Management Subcommittee: Scope includes, but is not limited to, project management and related cost / schedule / quality / scope / risk control issues, as well as working with MV to improve the management and delivery of their capital plan.
- 3. Engineering Subcommittee: Scope includes, but is not limited to, submission milestone expectations, design standards, stakeholder management, technical innovation, and related issues.

Over the past year, the subcommittees have been working with MV on the topics presented below.

### Prescribed Hours and Local Economic Development Metric

Prescribed hours often appear in MV RFPs to create a common basis for comparison on level of effort between proponents. From community feedback, it is recognized



that prescribed hours simplify RFP responses, but it can also put emphasis on rates and constrain innovation. The committee is seeking feedback from MV to determine if any changes to the evaluation process can address these issues.

The Local Economic Development Metric is an initiative by MV aimed at measuring benefit to the local economy from the consulting industry. It is proposed that the metric would be an evaluation criterion in MV RFPs, along with fees and technical aspects. This metric would capture a proponent's efforts that demonstrate a tangible benefit to the local economy, including workforce composition and diversity, and engagement with local community.

The Procurement Subcommittee has prepared an initial discussion paper on the Local Economic Development Metric, defining the term and discussing its implementation and potential issues to be resolved. Currently, this is in review with Metro Vancouver.

### **Procurement and Contract Terms**

The committee and MV continue to look for ways to improve the procurement process, what consultants can do better in our proposals, and what is working well. Work continues on contract language, building on the strides made in the past. With a renewed focus from MV, the committee intends to address longstanding MV contract issues, including unlimited liability, intellectual property, and extra work. The committee's work is being coordinated with parallel effort by ACEC and other organizations pursuing similar change.

### **Submission Milestones**

This initiative addresses project milestone requirements, interface with member municipalities, public-facing issues (utility conflicts, traffic management, permits, etc.), prevalence of contractor claims, and incomplete drawings issued for tender. Clarity on expectations is sought with the intent of improving efficiency.

### **ACEC-BC MV Mixer**

This year's MV mixer was hosted on May 18, 2022. The event kicked off with guest speaker from McDermott + Bull who discussed the Great Resignation topic.

Following the keynote presentation, MV General Managers provided an update on Water, Liquid Waste, Solid Waste, Major Projects.

### **Committee Members**

Afzal Waseem, Tetra Tech

Ali Azizian, Tetra Tech

Angus English, WSP

Anthony Fuller, Golder Associates

Connor Langford, Mott MacDonald

Cristina Fonseca, Stantec

Don McCallum, Morrison Hershfield

Doug Grimes, McMillen Jacobs

Gemma Dunn, GHD

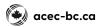
Greg McNeill, Ausenco

Jesse Unke, COWI

Michael Wrinch, Hedgehog Technologies

Quinn Crosina, Associated Engineering

Tim Phelan, AECOM





# **TRAN Bridge Subcommittee**



**Darryl Matson** Committee Co-chair cowi

The purpose of the TRAN Bridge Sub-Committee is to address issues related to Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (TRAN) bridge design and maintenance programs. The Committee works with the TRAN Joint Liaison Committee (JLC) and participates in the broader Committee at Large.

Our main mission is to meet with MoTI key decision makers in the Bridge group to discuss issues pertaining to the state of practice as well as working well together

The Subcommittee meets twice per year, and in the last fiscal, we met in November 2021 and again in May 2022. The group has doubled in size in the last several years (5 years or so ago, there was 5 or 6 representatives from ACEC and 5 or 6 from the Ministry). Collaboration and discussions continue to be collaborative and informative.

### **Committee Members**

Alfred Kao, Associated Engineering

Bruce Hamersley, BASIS Engineering Ltd.

Chad Amiel, McElhanney

Jianping Jiang, WSP

Jiansen Zhang, Klohn Crippen Berger

Lihua Zou, SNC Lavalin

Murray Johnson, Stantec

Parham Joulani, COWI

Rodger Welch, COWI

Ryan Taylor, Parsons

Scott Loptson, Morrison Hershfield

Tony Martin, Mott Macdonald



## **Municipal Engineering Committee**



Michael Florendo Committee Chair **McElhanney** 

### Significant work in the past year:

- Hosted 5 successful virtual mixers engaging 13 client organizations
- · Closer engagement with MMCD Association to support updates to Client/Consultant Agreement

#### Key information for members:

The MEC is focused on strengthening the relationships between the municipal engineering consulting industry and our municipal / local government clients through the use of fair contract language and qualification-based selection process.

Through the remainder of 2020 and 2021, the Committee continued to meet virtually in order to support its overall purpose and mandate to promote:

- Services provided by the municipal engineering consulting industry
- Use of Qualification Based Selection (QBS) for the procurement of engineering consulting services
- Use of standard agreement language and the removal of onerous clauses.

The committee includes 15 members with two additional regional liaisons to assist in knowledge sharing from other areas of the province, specifically the Okanagan and Prince George regions, as well as a YP representative.

Highlights of the Municipal Engineering Committee's work included:

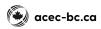
### **Municipal Mixers:**

Organizing and attending municipal mixers is still a key component of the Committee's work as this ties directly to the promotion of our services and development of strong relationships with our municipal clients. During 2021 the Committee hosted five virtual mixers providing engagement opportunities with Abbotsford, Burnaby, Chilliwack, Delta, Mission, New Westminster, North Vancouver (City and District), Richmond, Squamish, Surrey, Vancouver, and Whistler. The mixer schedule for 2022 looks to be just as busy with the potential for hybrid and in-person events close to the end of the year.

The committee also extends congratulations to the City of Richmond for winning the 2022 Client of the Year Award.

#### QBS and Procurement:

Following on the success of the three QBS workshops we co-hosted with the Regional Engineering Advisory Committee (REAC) in 2020, the Committee continues to engage with the participants of the workshops, specifically the BC Purchasing Managers to develop a



task force to review the use and adoption of QBS more widely in municipal procurement. This continues to be a focus for the Committee.

Members firms have also been proactive in providing feedback to ACEC-BC relating to contract language and procurement processes outlined in our municipal clients' contracts. This has resulted in correspondence from ACEC-BC to relevant client organizations outlining concerns and recommending solutions and changes to future practices. In some cases, response has been very positive and communication is continuing to make changes to language consistent with acceptable industry standard contracts.

#### **Standard Contracts:**

With the recent update of the Master Municipal Construction Documents (MMCD) to the 2019 edition, the Committee is working closely with the MMCD Association on the potential update of the Client / Consultant Agreement template. This will be one of our key initiatives for the coming year.

### **Committee Members**

Adrian Corlett, Parsons

Borg Chan, ISL Engineering

Colin Kristiansen, KWL

David Moschini, Tetra Tech

Donovan Klassen, AECOM

Gabriene Kaechele, Binnie

Joel McAllister, Onsite Engineering

Joel Thomson, Urban Systems

Jonathan Musser, Associated Engineering

Marc Winer, Dillon Consulting

Negin Tousi, David Nairne & Associates

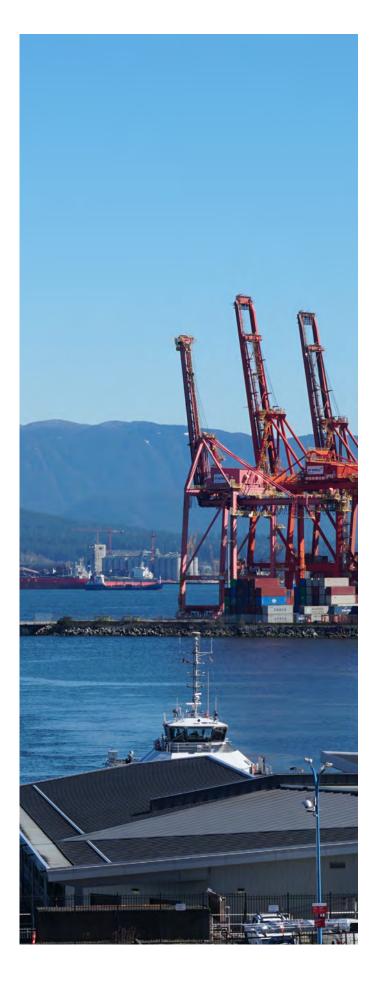
Paul Farguharson, GHD

Raya Smertina, Hatch

Will Eisbrenner, Binnie

Yariv Ben-Shooshan, Jacobs

Younes Rashidi, Hedgehog Technologies







## **Resource and Energy Committee**



**Dani Delaloye**Committee Chair

Mott MacDonald

Since the re-establishment of the Resource and Energy Committee (REC) in early in 2021, our membership has continued to grow. Over the past year the committee has focused clarifying our purpose and connecting with other organizations in the resource and energy sector.

Notable guests that have attended REC meetings this past year include:

- · Niilo Edwards, First Nations Major Project Coalition
- Tim McEwan, Mining Association of British Columbia
- John Gamble and Cathy Fritter, ACEC Canada Board Members
- Johanna Godt and Cailey Murphy, Canada LNG Alliance
- · Lorraine White, Clean Energy BC

Through guest presentations and discussions, we look for opportunities to partner with or support these organizations' initiatives. For example, based on the recommendation from the REC, the ACEC-BC Board elected to join the Canada LNG Alliance "Yes & Canada" coalition.

Most recently, our committee is working together to develop a white paper discussing the opportunities that may be presented by a national corridor and the engineering inputs that would be required to make this idea a reality.

The REC is also working to collaborate with other ACEC-BC committees such as the BC Hydro Liaison Committee and the Sustainability and Climate Change Committee.

The committee is actively welcoming new members. Please reach out to Dani Delaloye (dani.delaloye@mottmac.com) if you would like to get involved.

#### **Committee Members**

Alex Baumgard, BGC Engineering

Andrea Lougheed, BGC Engineering

Bruno Bagneres, Klohn

Christine Tschetter, Ram Consulting

Cole Mrak, Klohn

Lara Reggin, Tetra Tech

Malcolm Dixon, GHD

Mina Iskander, Stantec

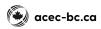
Monique Lal, Ram Consulting

Patrick Korner, Tetra Tech

Paul Wilson, MCW Consultants

Reighardt Van Enter, BD Hall

Travis Brown, BBA





## **Small Firms Council**



**Erin Martin-Serrano** Committee Chair **Hedgehog Technologies** 

**Significant work in the past year:** Key initiatives for 2022 are networking and addressing BC small firm challenges. A virtual event called "Creating Connections" was held in March 2022.

**Key information for members:** The council is currently planning an event to gather input on challenges BC small firms are experiencing post pandemic.

The council's purpose is to support the goals of small firms and the use of local companies in all manner of projects in the province. Networking, partnerships, and labour challenges continue to be important topics to support small firms. Therefore, the primary efforts of the council for 2022 are networking and addressing the challenges experienced by small firms throughout the province.

To support our networking initiative, the council hosted a virtual event called "Creating Connections" in March 2022. The purpose of this event was to connect large BC firms with smaller ones which resulted in over 60 interactions and multiple scheduled meetings between firms.

The council also reviewed and provided input to the Sustainability and Climate Change Mainline committee regarding the ACEC-BC Position Statement on Climate Change. The council was pleased to provide this input to support the ongoing initiative of sustainability within the organization.

The council remains in open dialogue about how to best support small firms with the published ACEC-BC rate guidelines and rate increases. In addition, to support small firms during labour shortages, it was actioned to contact EGBC for more information on how applications from engineers located outside North America are processed. Our goal is to increase registrations from countries outside of North America while contributing to the long-term addition of registered engineers within the province.

The council is currently planning an event to gather input from small firms on business challenges and identify ways to best support them in 2022 and 2023. The event is currently in the planning stages.

#### **Committee Members**

Charles Lewthwaite, Hedgehog Technologies Colin Commandeur, Great Northern Engineering

Francois Morton, Collings Johnston Graham Anderson, UAViation

Ian Steele, PBX Engineering

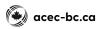
James Lee, Bunt & Associates

Joe DiPlacito, Ram Consulting

Mark Anderson, Bush Bohlman

Sean Fritzsimmons, Central Nervous Systems

Tim Stanley, Stratice Consulting





## Sustainability and Climate Change



Pia Abercromby
Committee Chair
McElhanney

#### Significant work in the past year:

- · Committee formed September 2021.
- Submitted ACEC-BC Position on Climate Change to the Board May 2022.

**Key information for members:** The Sustainability and Climate Change Committee (SCC) is committed to creating opportunities for members to share information on, advance, and advocate for best practices and resources relating to sustainability and climate change.

The Sustainability and Climate Change Committee is newly formed. Following a call for volunteers in May 2021, the first official meeting was held in September 2021. Since this point, the group has defined their purpose as noted above and confirmed their Terms of Reference. The group has also drafted a Climate Change Position for ACEC-BC which is currently being reviewed by the Board. The position statement is based on the existing ACEC Canada statement, with additions from EGBC's Climate Change Plan and FIDIC's Climate Charter. The statement was issued to all mainline committees for review ahead of being submitted to the Board.

A key action for the SCC committee has been outlining a

list of initiatives that the team would like to progress in the coming years. The first three initiatives to be undertaken will be:

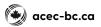
- Defining guidance questions for clients to help them include sustainability and climate change considerations in RFPs.
- 2. Writing a white paper on the definition of sustainability (an often misused and misunderstood term).
- Forming connections with academia to encourage knowledge sharing of new technologies and ideas as well as refining of their practical application.

The larger initiatives list will be reviewed as these three items are completed to prioritise the remaining actions.

The SCC Committee is off to a flying start and looking forward to making more progress in the coming year.

#### **Committee Members**

Afzal Waseem, Tetra Tech
Al Strang, Morrison Hershfield
Alex Minett, Thurber
Bernard Abelson, McElhanney
Craig Sutherland, KWL
Edwin Castrejon, Associated Engineering
Genevieve Brown, NHC
Ivan Lee, Morrison Hershfield
Jiansen Zhang, Parsons
Kristy McConnell, WSP
Robyn Casement, Associated Engineering





## **Transportation Committee**



Mark Byram
Committee Chair
Thurber Engineering

British Columbia's construction transportation sector is experiencing significant demand for consulting engineering services. Like most industries construction projects are facing supply chain issues. Labour shortages affecting all project partners (owners, contractors and consultants).

The major flooding that affected BC in November of 2021 has left lasting effects on residents and critical BC infrastructure. The loss of significant structures and sections of highway has put additional strain on project resources.

Our highways, bridges and roads are vital to communities across the province, connecting British Columbians to each other, facilitating the delivery of essential goods and services, and connecting our province to the rest of Canada.

The contractors and consultants that responded to the flood emergency should be commended for their dedication and efforts. ACEC-BC members have worked tirelessly to assist the Provincial and local governments by assessing the damage and providing rehabilitation designs to get our transportation corridors and infrastructure working and open for public use again.

The committee has provided support to the Sustainability and Climate Change Committee by provide input to the ACEC-BC Position on Climate Change related to the transportation sector.

Presently the group is working to update the Budget Guidelines for Engineering Services – Infrastructure and Transportation document. The diversity of the members of the group has served us well in this process which has brought varied perspectives and experiences into the discussions.

As we transition through the Covid 19 pandemic the group

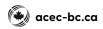
has worked to include a broad spectrum of infrastructure owners. Letter of introduction have been sent out to key stakeholders to support engagement where appropriate with the industry. The Committee members welcome the opportunity to work with industry partners to manage challenges or explore opportunities, collaborate on areas of common interest, and support broad communication through events or other forums.

Planning is currently in progress for a mixer with the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority which is scheduled for the Fall of 2022. The mixer will be a great opportunity to hear about recent changes at the Port Authority and to gain insights into capital projects and technical opportunities.

The committee members look forwarded to connecting with additional stakeholders and individual members through in person events in the future.

#### **Committee Members**

Amy Hunter, PBX Engineering Arman Shahnaz, Mott MacDonald Bernard Abelson, McElhanney Christopher Scollard, Kiewit Courtney Gosselin, GHD Emre Oruklu, WSP Gabriela Maciel-Jobb, Ausenco Jesse Unke, COWI Martin Devonald, BGC Engineering Neal Cormack, ISL Engineering Raya Smertina, Hatch Richard Bush, Binnie Rieghardt Van Enter, Hall Contracting Ryan MacPherson, SNC-Lavalin Ryan MacPherson, SNC-Lavalin Thomas Hoffschild, AECOM Vijay Kallur, Arcadis





**Transportation** Conference 2022







## **Transportation Conference Organizing Committee**



**Andrew Swift** Committee Chair **Binnie** 

Significant work in the past year: Delivery of the 2022 Transportation Conference - Fully Virtual, February 2022

The Transportation Conference Organizing Committee serves as a planning team that delivers the annual transportation sector conference in partnership with the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure (MOTI) and TransLink. Monthly meetings are held to generate programming, source speakers, and coordinate delivery requirements for the conference. The committee strives to incorporate topical messaging on key initiatives from MOTI and TransLink, along with relevant initiatives from other transportation agencies in BC. Working with the MOTI team, the committee supports integration of the annual BC Consulting Engineers Awards ceremony into the conference agenda.

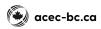
Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual conference was a large one day in-person event, with immersive networking and shared learning while exploring transportation trends with thought provoking presentations from industry leaders.

The conditions of COVID-19 presented both challenges and opportunities for delivering the conference in 2021 and again in 2022. Drawing on experience from the first fully virtual, four-day conference in 2021, the committee tuned the 2022 Transportation Conference back to a one-day event, utilizing refined tools and learning from other ACEC-BC virtual events delivered throughout the year. While in 2021, the global impact of the pandemic drew relevant content and speakers from around the world, the committee refocused the 2022 conference on topics specific to the transportation sector in BC.

Well into the development of the 2021 conference agenda, the destruction and consequent rebuild stemming from the November 2021 Atmospheric River event generated highly topical content to incorporate. The committee worked with speakers to reframe some of the agenda - including details of the devastation, the impressive response efforts, and to outline the recovery that will follow over the coming years.

The 2022 event delivered 8 sessions throughout the day, including presentations from 14 speakers.

Technical sessions and panel discussions covered how the local transportation sector is addressing climate change with plans to strengthen the resiliency of transportation networks while striving to integrate communities and build accessible, inclusive spaces for all. The striking relevance of the 2021 floods and the responsibility of the Province's transportation sector to support recovery and resiliency of vital transportation networks seemed to resonate with participants.



Registrations were significantly higher compared to the previous year. A more manageable one day format contributed to increased attendance and activity on the conference platform throughout the day. Virtual delivery continued to widen accessibility to the conference for many. There was high attendance from our partner organizations MOTI and TransLink. The return of the BC Consulting Engineers Awards ceremony drew interest from the consulting community and was well received.

The 2022 Transportation Conference provided the opportunity for the Association to showcase what we learned in 2021: refined utilization of virtual tools and skills, real-time networking, accessibility, and integration of sponsors. To that end, sponsorship response was strong and covered conference delivery costs. Conference feedback was very positive, and it continues to be a highlight event for the community.

As we look forward to 2023, the BC transportation sector community anticipates and welcomes the likely return to in person activities at the conference. Virtual delivery techniques developed over the past two years will also allow the committee to explore hybrid delivery options to maintain accessibility, and improved presentation tools.

#### **Committee Members**

Adam McKinnon, BCMOTI

Bob Bigelow, McElhanney Consulting Services

Brook Robazza, TY Lin

Chris Thurburn-Huelin, AECOM

Courtney Gosselin, GHD

Danielle Soloducha, BCMOTI

David Chin, SNC Lavalin

Joel Weiss, Infrastructure BC (Past Chair)

Katherine Miller, Mott MacDonald

Kenedee Ludwar, BCMOTI

Kristine Majlath, Kiewet

Kurtis Mayne, ISL Engineering & Land Services

Louis Cheung, TransLink

Melina Mascarenhas, Stantec

Patrick Stancombe, Associated Engineering





## **TransLink Liaison Committee**



**Aled Griffiths** Committee Chair **Mott MacDonald** 

### Significant work in the past year:

- Preparation and adoption of Terms of Reference
- Coordinated and supported the TransLink annual mixer – again through a virtual platform
- Maintained ongoing dialog regarding a number of procurement related matters, including feedback on timeliness and scheduling of opportunities.

Over the past year, the TransLink liaison committee has continued to support TransLink in providing consultant feedback on 1) evolution of remote and hybrid working practices, 2) timeliness and scheduling of TransLink opportunities, 3) industry capacity and constraints that may affect members to respond to major TransLink programs.

The primary purpose of the committee is to provide a mutually beneficial relationship between ACEC-BC and TransLink that builds on open communication, allows dialog to improve delivery and quality of consultant services that supports TransLink to deliver its annual capital and maintenance programs that underpin the efficient and effective operation of the regions transport network.

The committee has maintained a virtual platform throughout 2021 and indeed also arranged for the annual TransLink mixer to take place virtually to great success. The committee was pleased to have the April 2022 committee meeting in person, hosted by TransLink at their Sapperton offices – this was a great opportunity to reconnect in person, to share the benefits of such and to reflect on the changes to working practices we've all needed to embrace since the start of the pandemic. Of note, the annual mixer (hosted virtually) was considered a great success – feedback was extremely positive about the quality and content of the presentations and the range and volume of questions during the moderated Q&A was excellent. It was pleasing to see over 185 participants join us virtually during the mixer.

The Terms of Reference for the committee was prepared and adopted by the Board in 2021. The committee is due for rotation as of December 2022. A new Chair will be sought from existing committee members and a call for new members will be made sometime during the next few months. The current Chair will move to the role of past-Chair. While the committee membership from both ACEC-BC and TransLink remained unaltered through the past 12 months, 2021 saw TransLink appoint a new Chief Executive in Kevin Quinn. Kevin joined TransLink in July 2021, moving from serving as CEO of Maryland Transit Administration. Kevin's focus is leading TransLink's postpandemic recovery, with an emphasis on rebuilding ridership, achieving financial sustainability, supporting employees, and continuing to deliver a reliable and thriving transportation system for Metro Vancouver.

Significant dialog has continued on the topic of procurement practices and the scheduling of major opportunities. TransLink is very much aware of the pressures on the consulting industry presently given how much competing opportunities exist within the public domain. Recognizing this, TransLink are looking at ways of improving the sharing of major opportunities with industry, in particular the timing of such reaching market. In support of TransLink's desire to incorporate sustainability and EDI matters into their procurement practices, members shared examples of such from other public agencies.

### **Committee Members**

Adam Christian, EXP
Bernard Abelson, McElhanney
Ian Steele, PBX Engineering
Samuel Arulnathan, Stantec
Scott Campbell, Binnie
Tamsin Silvester, WSP





### TRAN Ligison Committee



**Christian Babuin** Committee Chair **Tetra Tech** 

Transportation Infrastructure has and will continue to play an important role to ACEC-BC member firms and the overall BC economy. With the unprecedented damage to the BC highway network this past winter, a number of member firms mobilized personnel on very short notice to assist the Ministry in assessing the initial damage and providing input to the emergency repairs to and reopening of these damaged highways. Many of these services were engaged through the Ministry's robust roster of professionals on their As-and-When contracts. The Ministry is currently in the process of restoring these vital links in the transportation network to longer term solutions, involving more robust repairs and upgrades to the damaged infrastructure. Key leadership at ACEC-BC member firms were invited to discussions on the proposed procurement of the repairs for flood damage on Highways 1, 5 and 8, and had the opportunity to provide feedback to Infrastructure BC through the ACEC-BC President and CEO, prior to RFQs being issued. While the delivery method of these projects is relatively

new in BC, ACEC-BC has been able to provide ongoing feedback in support of member firms with respect to the procurement process relating to these projects. The Ministry had indicated that the flood repair work will be "new" work, and other Ministry programs are anticipated to continue as planned.

The TRAN Joint Liaison Sub-Committee had met several times through the past year, and recently have been able to return to in person meetings (for a portion of the attendees) with additional connectivity through online platforms. Significant work in the TRAN Liaison Committee in the past year included:

- Adopting the updated Committee Terms of Reference – the terms of reference for the TRAN committee went through major revisions in prior years and have been adopted by the Board.
- Engagement with Major Projects as part of the Joint Liaison Committee – Representation from the Major Project section of the Ministry are now providing a representative to participate directly in the Joint Liaison meetings. Representation from Major Projects on the JLC has been a request from the ACEC Committee members for a significant time, and it is appreciated that they are now represented and participating directly in the JLC meetings. We look forward to the opportunity to promoted QBS directly with the Major Projects team.

- Continued support for QBS for Ministry contract procurement – A number of contracts that included a price component (non-QBS) were identified by member firms, and forward to the TRAN committee chair for action. In all cases these RFPs were forwarded to the Chief Engineer for attention. Addendums were issued in some cases to remove the pricing component, but not all. Member firms should be encouraged to continue to identify these contract issues and raise them to the TRAN Committee to forward and discuss with the Ministry. Promotion of QBS is one of this committee's highest priority, ongoing objectives and remains in the discussions with every meeting of the JLC.
- The BC Bid Replacement project has now moved to the implementation phase. Instruction were sent out to all registered member of BC Bid. Transportation specific issues should be provided back to this committee for feedback to the Ministry.
- An election was held this past year, and new representatives from ACEC were elected to serve on the TRAN committee

#### **Committee Members**

Amanda Pellam, ISL Engineering Jasmine Smith. Mott MacDonald Jonathon Borch, Urban Systems Kevin Leggett. McElhanney Paul Evans, Thurber Engineering Shane Cook, Associated Engineering





## **Young Professionals Group**



**Raya Smertina** Committee Chair Hatch

### Significant work in the past year:

- Expansion of the 3 Year Strategic Plan continued planning for the YPG and its role within ACEC-BC
- Drafting of the Hybrid Events Proposal, including a Safety Plan and trial events for the future
- Largest 5th Annual YP Conference held in September 2021, with over 230 participants virtually

The YPG involved 62 volunteers (an all-time high of active engagement of members) in the 2021-2022 year across numerous committees:

- The Provincial Steering Committee
- Five (5) Regional Committees
- **YP Conference Committee**
- YP Representatives on other ACEC-BC Mainline and Liaison Committees (17 total)

The YPG kicked off the year with an engaging retreat in Fall 2021 where the 3 Year Strategic Plan was expanded to include specific action items and success metrics for

the group as well as individual committee members. The focus areas of the 3 Year Strategic Plan continue to be:

- Improve diversity
- Effective virtual engagement
- Cohesive and clear communication

The YPG's biggest challenge in the past year has been continuing to adjust to the COVID-19 pandemic and keep committee members, Company Champions, volunteers and general YP members engaged while staying relevant in a virtual environment. Leading the way to transitioning to the "new normal", the YPG created a comprehensive Hybrid Events proposal this year for approval by the ACEC-BC Board, including a comprehensive Safety Plan. Through a few trial events over the coming months, the YPG hopes to provide ACEC-BC with valuable lessonslearned for all association hybrid events to come.

Overall, the YPG accomplished significant milestone achievements in the past year:

- Largest YP Conference to-date, held virtually in September 2021 with 230+ registrants.
- Continued growth of the Leadership Circle of sponsoring member companies that support the YPG directly.
- 15 virtual events throughout the year, including Professional Development presentations, networking social events and student outreach events.



The following lead committee members' individual summaries provide more details.

#### YPG Vice Chair (Donovan Klassen, AECOM)

The YPG Vice Chair not only contributes to overall governance of the Provincial Steering Committee but holds coordination calls with the YP Representatives on ACEC-BC's mainline and liaison committees. These calls provide information sharing of many of the association's activities and gives YP's a seat at the table and an opportunity to contribute to our industry of consulting engineering.

#### Communications Director (Kristina Kwong, McElhanney)

The Communication Director's role on the Provincial Steering Committee is to lead marketing and communications within the YPG as well as externally to members, participant attendees, parallel organizations, post-secondary institutions and community programs while working closely with ACEC-BC marketing staff.

Key improvements to building on our communication strategy within the 3 Year Planinvolved creating templates and resources for event organizing, YPG newsletters, event posters and reaching out to Company Champions at member firms. Increasing the YPG's presence on social media (via LinkedIn) as well as building on the specific YPG newsletter mailing list (increasing it by 26% more subscribers from Fall 2021 to Spring 2022 for a total of 443 and counting) were achievements of note.

# Professional Development Director (Director: Arman Shahnaz, Mott MacDonald)

The PD Director's role on the Provincial Steering Committee is to help organize and bring about a diverse portfolio of events throughout the year, covering important topics such as EDI, leadership skills and First Nations engagement. The past year allowed the different geographic regions an opportunity to think outside the box to collaborate on virtual events and pool resources to make them successful and engaging.

For the 2022-2023 year, the YPG will undertake preparing an annual calendar of events in advance, allowing crossregional events through virtual and hybrid formats.

### **Events Logistics Director (Peggy Chen, KWL)**

The Event Logistics Director's role on the Provincial Steering Committee was new this year, providing logistical support for hosting virtual events on Zoom and Hopin. This role was integral in ensuring consistency and support for event organizers, including conducting postevent surveys

In the coming year, the YPG will host the 6th annual YP Conference and any larger events on the Hopin platform, following in the footsteps of the success of the 2022 ACEC-BC Transportation Conference and continuing to make our events accessible and inclusive for our member YP's across British Columbia while providing opportunities for networking and industry connections.

#### Sponsorship Director (Genevieve Brown, NHC)

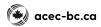
The Sponsorship Director's role on the Provincial Steering Committee was new this year, providing additional support to the YPG Chair and Vice Chair to facilitate the Leadership Circle Program, which directly contributes to events and opportunities for member YP's across the province.

In 2021-2022, the Leadership Circle grew to include 18 member firms, with 5 new firms contributing to the fund, for a total 30% increase. This will allow the YPG to continue to offer great opportunities in the coming year, such as the first hybrid format YP Conference in September 2022 which will harness the ease of access and inclusivity of virtual presentations with the network growth opportunities of in-person events within all 5 geographic regions in BC that have active YPG groups.

## Lower Mainland Regional Subcommittee (Chair: Brett Oystensen, McElhanney)

The Lower Mainland continues to have strong engagement from its 13 committee members as well as member firm Company Champions and event participants.

The diverse committee hosted a range of professional development, networking and student outreach events throughout the year. Members at Large on the committee were able to help other committees with developing resources, strategic planning and revamping the YPG's



transition report system to facilitate succession planning and future growth. Key achievements in the past year include increasing collaboration with other regions, actively engaging non-engineer member YP's and SMART goal planning. Although the second year of the pandemic was more challenging to maintain momentum and keep up engagement, the committee looks forward to transitioning to multiple formats (virtual, hybrid or in-person as per ACEC-BC's new GBA+ framework) for events in the coming year.

# ∨ancouver Island Regional Subcommittee (Chair: Darren Gervais-Harrison, PBX)

The Vancouver Island committee grew to a record 9 committee members in the 2021-2022 year. Due to the significant geographical spread between member firm offices from Victoria, Nanaimo and adjoining regions, the virtual format allowed more participation in the past year.

Some landmark events in the past year include a Virtual Holiday Movie Trivia and an Ugly Sweater Contest as virtual networking social events and a presentation on Indigenous Inclusion.

Virtual fatigue was evident on all YPG committees towards the end of the year, but for those that are able to continue being involved on the Vancouver Island committee, there is much enthusiasm about returning to in-person and hybrid format events.

## Okanagan Regional Subcommittee (Chair: Jordan Beach, Aplin Martin)

The Okanagan committee's 7 members made large contributions to the YPG's Hybrid Events Proposal in 2022, channeling their enthusiasm for returning to in-person events into creating a safety plan and structure for facilitating the hybrid format and using the best of both virtual and in-person events to increase engagement in events in the future.

Although the "burnout" phase of virtual events was evident in the Okanagan in the past year, a positive outcome was fostering collaboration with other regions, which will be an asset when supporting future events. The new YPG calendar and resources will help to keep each of the committees on track to provide quality events that can be shared with members YP's across BC.

## Kamloops Regional Subcommittee (Chair: Robert D'Amours, Urban Systems)

The Kamloops committee is relatively young, having formed in 2019. Having 5 committee members in the 2021-2022 year, the past two years have had varied levels of success through the pandemic with virtual events and strong response from the consulting engineering community in the region to return to in-person events when possible.

For the coming year, to pool resources and facilitate impactful events, the Kamloops regional committee plans to combine with the Okanagan region to build some new momentum and revitalize engagement. The group aims to hold a trial hybrid event and student outreach with TRU as well as grow its participation from multiple firms in the region.

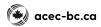
## Northern (Prince George) Regional Subcommittee (Chair: Will Eisbrenner, Binnie)

The Prince George committee was able to participate in-person at the UNBC mentorship event in early 2021, receiving great feedback from students and mentors and getting a much-needed morale boost after two years of virtual events. The committee is also spearheading the Jackbox tournament on June 2nd as the YPG's first trial hybrid format event, to have in-person components in 4 geographical regions for members.

Plans for the future months include a City of Prince George mixer and a seminar on the topic of contractor relations in Fall 2022.

## YP Conference Subcommittee (Co-Chairs: Hadi Aghahassani, Entuitive & Brook Robazza, TY Lin International)

Drawing on the success achieved in September 2021 with the 5th annual (and second virtual) YP Conference, the organizing committee is in the thick of planning the next conference for September 14-16th, 2022. The conference is planned in a hybrid format, allowing for in-person networking opportunities in all 5 geographic regions in BC while providing inclusive and diverse presentations virtually, featuring industry leader presentations and panel discussions on relevant topics on this year's conference theme: Embracing Change through Transformation, Creativity and Resiliency.



## **Young Professionals Group Organization Chart**

rovincial Steering Committee	Northern Region	Kamloops Region	Okanagan Region	Vancouver Island Region	Lower Mainland Regio
YPG CHAIR Raya Smertina, Hatch PAST CHAIR & ACEC Canada Rep: Pia Abercromby, MCElhanney	Northern Region CHAIR Will Eisbrenner, Binnie	Kamloops Region CHAIR Robert D'Amours	Okanagan Region CHAIR Jordan Beach, Aplin Martin PAST CHAIR: Donovan Klassen, AECOM	Vancouver Island Region CHAIR Darren Gervais-Harrison, PBX	Lower Mainland Region CHA Brett Oystensen, McElhanney PAST CHAIR: Kristina Kwong, McElhanne
Reports to: ACEC-BC Board of Directors & Association CEO/President	VICE CHAIR Vacant	VICE CHAIR Vacant	VICE CHAIR Jasmine Smith, Urban Systems	VICE CHAIR Vacant	VICE CHAIR Winnie Zhuang, McElhanney
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR Kristina Kwong, McElhanney	COMMUNICATIONS Hameed Dagher, McElhanney	COMMUNICATIONS Greg Jones, Binnie	COMMUNICATIONS Paige Cullingworth, KWL	COMMUNICATIONS Alex Minett, Thurber	COMMUNICATIONS Kyra Ching, Binnie
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR Arman Shahnaz, Mott MacDonald	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Jennifer Dowden, Binnie	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Isobel Irvine, McElhanney	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Jasmine Smith, Urban Systems	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Vacant	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPM Adeela Sidhu, Hatch
EVENT LOGISTICS DIRECTOR leggy Chen, KWL	NETWORKING Vacant	NETWORKING David Gerein, Stantec	NETWORKING Whitney Roe, WSP	NETWORKING Jill Usher, Thurber	NETWORKING Afzal Waseem, Tetra Tech
SPONSORSHIP DIRECTOR Genevieve Brown, Northwest Hydraulics	STUDENT OUTREACH Meghan Metke, McElhanney	MEMBER(S)-AT-LARGE Erik Stevenson, Thurber	MEMBER(S)-AT-LARGE Bryce Buryska, McElhanney Michelle Piper Kulak, Stantec	STUDENT OUTREACH Nathan Valsangkar, NHC	STUDENT OUTREACH Martina Riessner, Hatch
	MEMBER(S)-AT-LARGE Temi Oduborisha, Binnie		Joshua Richardson, Aplin Martin	MEMBER(S)-AT-LARGE Rebeka Brykajlo, Binnie	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT Kendrick Carnes, Urban Systems
VICE-CHAIR Donovan Klassen, AECOM	MAINLINE COMMITTEE — YP REPRESENTATIVES: BC Hydro Liaison — Ailsa McCulloch, Stantec Business Practices — Max Lauretta, Associated Engineering Human Resources — Osama Moin, RAM Metro Vancouver — Afzal Waseem, Tetra Tech Professional Development — Arman Shahnaz, Mott MacDonald Small Firms — Charles Lewthwaite, Hedgehog Technologies Transportation — Raya Smertina, Hatch Transportation — Roya Smertina, Hotch Transportation — MoTI Joint Leadership Committee — Jasmine Smith, Urban Systems  Building Engineering — Sonny Bharaj, Binnie Equity, Diversity & Inclusion — Peggy Chen, KWL Membership Affairs — David Lu, Aplin Martin Municipal Engineering — Sonny Bharaj, Binnie Equity, Diversity & Inclusion — Peggy Chen, KWL Membership Affairs — David Lu, Aplin Martin Municipal Engineering — Sonny Bharaj, Binnie Equity, Diversity & Inclusion — Peggy Chen, KWL Membership Affairs — David Lu, Aplin Martin Municipal Engineering — Sonny Bharaj, Binnie Equity, Diversity & Inclusion — Peggy Chen, KWL Membership Affairs — David Lu, Aplin Martin Municipal Engineering — Sonny Bharaj, Binnie Equity, Diversity & Inclusion — Peggy Chen, KWL Membership Affairs — David Lu, Aplin Martin Municipal Engineering — Sonny Bharaj, Binnie Equity, Diversity & Inclusion — Peggy Chen, KWL Membership Affairs — David Lu, Aplin Martin Municipal Engineering — Sonny Bharaj, Binnie			Mina Iskander, Stantec Brandon Johnson, KWL Breanne McLean, McElhanney Eric Neil, KWL	VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT Fujiou Lu, Urban Systems MEMBER(S)-AT-LARGE John Dick, Hatch Nicola Van Der Mark, AE Ailsa McCulloch, Stantec Sahib Mroke, Aplin Martin
NFERENCE COMMITTEE CHAIRS li Aghahassani, Entuitive & ok Robazza, TV Lin International IT CHAIRS: Parham Joulani, COWI & e Kirkland, Urban Systems		e – Jasmine Smith, Urban Systems & Arman Sha.	hnaz, Mott MacDonald	Krystal Lee, Urban Systems	MBERS AT LARGE: Amy Russell, Thurber Deva Gurung, SNC Lavalin David Lu, Aplin Martin Bryant Ward, Thurber



## **Events 2021-2022**

Date	Event Name		
April 2021	<ul> <li>2021 Awards for Engineering Excellence Gala</li> <li>ACEC-BC YPG Escape Room Social</li> <li>Virtual Client Mixer with the City of Vancouver</li> </ul>		
May 2021	<ul> <li>Virtual Client Mixer with City of Surrey</li> <li>The Effects of Conflict in the Workplace</li> <li>Virtual Client Mixer with Metro Vancouver</li> <li>Get Involved with your Industry Organizations to Grow your Career</li> <li>Discovering Your Values to Unlock Meaningful Career Growth</li> <li>Project Risk Analysis</li> </ul>		
June 2021	<ul> <li>Successful Partnerships with Indigenous Communities</li> <li>2021 ACEC-BC Annual General Meeting</li> <li>ACEC-BC Small Firms Council Member and Regulator Roundtable</li> </ul>		
August 2021	Inclusive Environments: Taking Individual Action to Drive Change		
September 2021	<ul><li>Managing Construction Phase Risks</li><li>Young Professionals Conference</li></ul>		
November 2021	<ul> <li>Virtual Client Mixer with BC Hydro</li> <li>Virtual Client Mixer with City of Richmond and City of Delta</li> <li>Virtual Client Mixer with Whistler and Squamish</li> <li>Inclusive Environments: Taking Action as a Young Professional</li> </ul>		
December 2021	<ul> <li>Career Journey with lain Ward: How did I get here?</li> <li>Leaders Event: Effective Leadership</li> </ul>		
January 2022	Virtual Client Mixer with City of Burnaby and New Westminster		
February 2022	<ul> <li>Virtual Client Mixer with TransLink</li> <li>Indigenous Inclusion: The Responsibilities of Engineers</li> <li>Small Firms Council Connections Networking Event</li> <li>Women in Leadership Panel Discussion</li> <li>Leadership Program Celebration</li> <li>Transportation Conference 2022</li> </ul>		

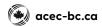




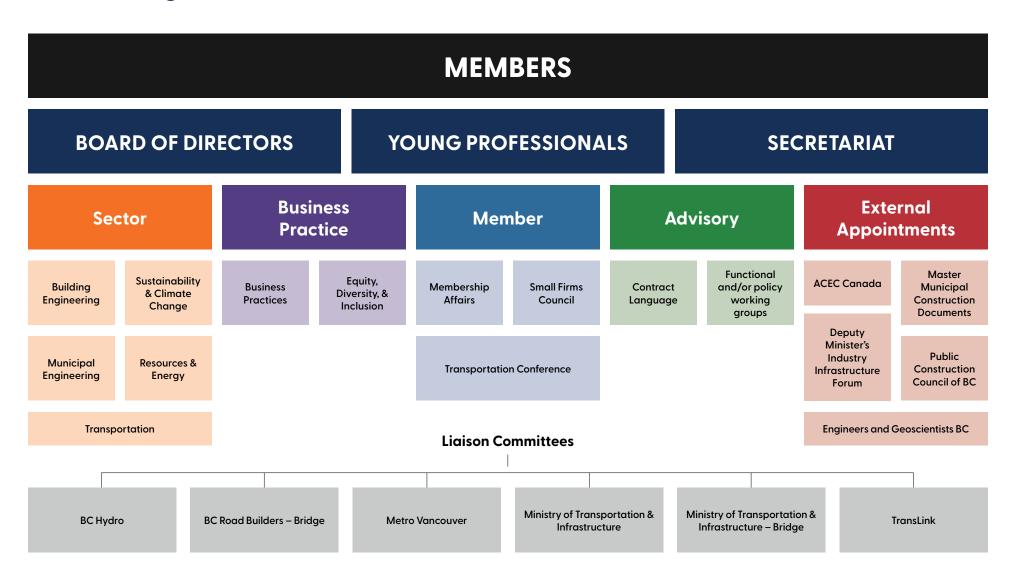
## **Sponsors**

- **AECOM**
- Aplin & Martin
- **Associated Engineering**
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- BFL Canada
- **BGC**
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- **Thurber Engineering**
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## **ACEC-BC Organization Chart**





## **Corporate Members**

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Hatch Ltd

**HDR** Corporation

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Stantec

Stratice Consulting
StructureCraft

T.Y.Lin International Canada Inc

Tetra Tech Canada Inc.
Thurber Engineering Ltd.
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Urban Systems Ltd.

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TransLink

