

# 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING  
ENGINEERING COMPANIES | SK





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACEC-SK At a Glance.....1

Our Vision.....1

Our Mission.....1

Strategic Goals (2019-2022).....1

ACEC-SK Code of Consulting Practice..... 02

2021-2022 ACEC-SK Board of Directors.....03

Chair’s Report.....04

Executive Director’s Report.....06

2020-2021 ACEC-SK Annual General Meeting Minutes.....09

Awards Committee Report.....17

Buildings Committee Report.....18

Careers in Consulting Committee Report.....19

Environment/Water Resources Committee Report.....20

Industry/Resources Committee Report.....21

Risk Mitigation Committee Report.....22

Transportation Committee Report.....23

Women in Consulting Committee Report.....24

ACEC-Canada Liaison Report.....26

Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists (APEGS) Liaison Report.....28

Young Professionals Group Liaison Report.....30

Associate Member Liaison Report.....32

2021 ACEC-SK Awards.....33

Nominations Committee Report.....39

Treasurer’s Report.....41

ACEC-SK  
Members.....49

## ACEC-SK at a Glance

The Association of Consulting Engineering Companies - Saskatchewan (ACEC-SK) is the voice of consulting engineering firms in the province. Think of ACEC-SK as the “chamber of commerce” for consulting engineering firms. A non-profit association, supported by its members, ACEC-SK is the link between private industry, government, purchasers, decision makers, and owners. Consulting engineers and geoscientists can assist owners with technical aspects of capital investment decisions.

As of March 31, 2022, ACEC-SK represented 64 Corporate member firms that collectively employ approximately 1590 people, as well as 18 Associate member firms. Consulting engineers and geoscientists serve as trusted advisors to society on the planning, development and management of our natural and built environment. The consulting engineering industry in Saskatchewan directly or indirectly contributes some \$2.0 billion annually to the provincial economy, and in Canada overall is a \$27.7 billion a year industry that employs over 75,000 Canadians.

## OUR VISION:

A strong, vibrant and respected Saskatchewan consulting engineering and geoscience industry

## OUR MISSION:

- ✓ Enhance the image of our industry
- ✓ Positively influence decision makers
- ✓ Provide valuable member services

## STRATEGIC GOALS (2019-2022):

### Advocating Effectively

Advocate to Government, key Clients and Industry associations to influence decisions that benefit Saskatchewan’s business climate in particular, and our provincial economy more broadly

### Enhancing Public Profile

Measure impact on ACEC-SK Members brand recognition by key decision-makers and stakeholders, including the public.

### Engaging Members

Understand and deliver to member needs and value-expectations.

## ACEC-SK Code of Consulting Practice

Members of the **Association of Consulting Engineering Companies - Saskatchewan (ACEC-SK)** and the **Association of Consulting Engineering Companies – Canada (ACEC)** shall fulfill their duties with honesty, justice and courtesy towards Society, Clients, other Consulting Engineers/Geoscientists and Employees.

### SOCIETY

- (a) Members shall practice their profession with concern for the health, safety and social and economic well-being of Society
- (b) Members shall conform to all applicable laws, by-laws and regulations
- (c) Members shall satisfy themselves that their designs and recommendations are safe and sound and, if their engineering/geoscience judgment is overruled, shall report the possible consequences to the clients, owners, and, if necessary, the appropriate public authorities
- (d) Members expressing engineering/geoscience opinions to the public shall do so in a complete, objective, truthful and accurate manner, and
- (e) Members should participate in civic affairs and work for the benefit of their community and should encourage their employees to do likewise.

### CLIENTS

- (a) Members shall discharge their professional responsibilities with integrity and complete loyalty to the terms of their assignments
- (b) Members shall accept only those assignments for which they are competent or for which they associate with other competent experts
- (c) Members shall disclose any conflicts of interest to their clients

- (d) Members shall respect the confidentiality of all information obtained from their clients, and
- (e) Members shall obtain remuneration for their professional services solely through fees commensurate with the services rendered.

### OTHER CONSULTING ENGINEERS/GEOSCIENTISTS

- (a) Members shall relate to other consulting engineers/geoscientists with integrity, and in a manner that will enhance the professional stature of consulting engineering and geoscience.
- (b) Members shall respect the clientele of other consulting engineers/geoscientists and shall not attempt to supplant them when definite steps have been taken towards their employment
- (c) Members shall compete fairly with their fellow consulting engineers/geoscientists, offering professional services on the basis of qualifications and experience, and
- (d) Members engaged by a client to review the work of another consulting engineer/geoscientist, shall inform that engineer of their commission, and shall avoid statements which may maliciously impugn the reputation or business of the engineer/geoscientist.

### EMPLOYEES

- (a) Members shall treat their employees with integrity, provide for their proper compensation and require that they conform to high ethical standards in their work
- (b) Members shall encourage their employees to enhance their professional qualifications and development, and
- (c) Members shall not request their employees to take responsibility for work for which they are not qualified.

## 2021-2022 ACEC-SK BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Sean Bayer, P.Eng.**  
**Board Chair &**  
Environment/Water  
Resources Committee  
Liaison



**Patrick Lalach, P.Eng.**  
**Past Board Chair &**  
Transportation Committee  
Liaison



**Nick Wright, A.Sc.T.**  
**Board Vice Chair &**  
Equity, Diversity &  
Inclusion Liaison



**Ryan King**  
**Secretary-Treasurer &**  
Awards Committee  
Liaison



**Jeff Horan, P.Eng., PMP**  
**Director & Incoming**  
Transportation Committee  
Liaison



**Ian Walker**  
**Director & Regina**  
Buildings Committee  
Liaison



**Brett LaRoche,**  
**P.Eng.**  
**Director & Careers in**  
Consulting Committee  
Liaison



**Marc Bourassa,**  
**P.Eng.**  
**Director & Saskatoon**  
Buildings Committee  
Liaison



**Scott Neurauter, B.Sc.**  
**Director &**  
Industry/Resources  
Committee Liaison



**Trent Nelson, P.Eng.**  
**APEGS Liaison**



**Nancy Inglis, P.Eng.,**  
**PMP**  
**ACEC-Canada**  
Liaison



**Olagoke Rufai,**  
**P.Eng., PMP**  
**Young Professionals**  
Liaison



**Andrew Doyle,**  
**B.Comm(Hon) Associate**  
Member Liaison



**Beverly MacLeod**  
Executive Director





It is time to reflect on another successful year. Association of Consulting Engineering Companies – Saskatchewan (ACEC-SK) member companies had working with public and private drivers of infrastructure renewal and economic development in Saskatchewan.

ACEC-SK represents private sector engineering firms that provide professional technology-based consulting services to government and private sector clients in Saskatchewan, across Canada and in numerous countries world-wide.

Nearing the end of year 2 of the pandemic cannot be ignored, nor should it be our prime focus as our society attempts to transition to a new normal, both at work and at home. Recognition and respect for the continued sacrifices made by our frontline workers must always be there, and for that we say THANK YOU!

As an integral part of the Engineering and Geoscience industry, ACEC-SK member firms respond to the challenges of our ever day world, keeping the industry active and focused as an essential service, always with the priority mandate to protect the public. Through time the profession has used science and technology to advance civilization by providing sound planning, innovative designs, advanced construction techniques, analysis and reduction of life-cycle costs. More than ever, rapidly emerging climate and health challenges will need engineering solutions, and engineering will continue to play a crucial role in our province's economic growth.

ACEC-SK applauds the focus on capital investment as the path to pandemic economic recovery, and prides itself on being a partner to government and the private sector as a valued added contributor to maximizing that investment. Long term infrastructure (renewal and expansion) spending takes planning and peripheral vision

to optimize investment opportunities, skills that are enhanced by having ACEC-SK as a partner.

With the extent of capital investment planned for Saskatchewan, our members as well as the industries related to the investment (from construction to operations) need to be creative in ensuring local talent from all demographics is developed (through enhanced connection to existing educational and immigration programs), accessed when available, and empowered.

Over the last year members have been working at a heightened pace in response to the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the provincial public infrastructure stimulus program as well as a recent influx of private sector capital investments. This is leading to multiple consequences for our industry, including procurement bottlenecks and increased workloads because of increased demand-side pressures. The search for talent is again becoming an industry priority.

Please continue to stay kind, safe, positive, and inclusive as we all navigate through this challenging period and remember that those challenges are also inevitably filled with long term opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

**Sean Bayer, M.Eng., P.Eng., PMP**

2021-2022 Chair ACEC-SK Board of Directors



The industry focus of 2021-2022 moved away from navigating business in the new COVID environment to managing responses to increased public and private sector capital investment.

### ADVOCACY

One focus of the advocacy file this year was communicating the value of measured release to the market of capital projects. Our members' response to the second year of the provincial government's Infrastructure Stimulus program required significant effort, particularly when multiple competitions of similar sector-specific opportunities were released at the same time. Our concern is if this continues indefinitely, our members are on a path to burn-out not experienced in this industry for at least a decade.

This challenge was compounded by delayed award decisions, adding additional stress to pursuit opportunities because of limited awareness of availability of resources for subsequent competitions.

Our industry has been scrutinized for available capacity to respond to demand. We continue to communicate that capacity exists, and whatever perceived challenges experienced by the client can be remedied through improved client planning of capital programs, and the reduction of unnecessary procurement processes to streamline our industry's ability to respond.

### MEMBERSHIP

The number of member firms has remained stable with 64 corporate member firms and 18 associate member firms participating in our association in 2021-22. What has increased recently is the number of full-time employees, with firms reporting an aggregate staff complement of approximately 1650 entering 2022. We

are also seeing an increase in individuals moving between companies, and smaller company start-ups in reaction to the current economic climate. We have yet, however, to see a large influx of new firms from outside the province seeking membership as we did in response to the "potash boom" of a decade ago. It is possible we could see this again soon, however, as private sector investments continue to increase in Saskatchewan.

### MEMBER SERVICES

The ever-changing COVID landscape made it challenging for staff to respond to government-imposed constraints around in-person event delivery. The association erred on the side of virtual delivery for the majority of professional and business development opportunities.

We were pleased to host the 2021 ACEC-SK Golf Tournament at Moon Lake in August in Saskatoon, with members excited to be able to see one another again after a significant absence of association in-person networking opportunities. ACEC-SK also grappled with the decision to hold our 2021 Awards of Distinction in-person at a time when the Delta variant was running rampant through the province, but we ultimately hosted a successful in-person event in November in Saskatoon. It was the weather that reduced attendance somewhat, not COVID, and again many members and stakeholders responded positively to the opportunity to celebrate this industry's successes in-person.

While many have keened for opportunities to meet in-person because of recent restriction, there is a growing recognition that virtual learning opportunities also have benefits that include reduced travel time and costs. The association will continue to learn how our members wish to receive future professional development and business opportunities, as participants balance their valuable time with the value of in-person networking.

## COMMITTEES

I repeat this message annually, but it makes it no less true. ACEC-SK continues to lean on a core group of very dedicated, knowledgeable, and informed volunteers. These are the subject matter experts that help this association make a difference, the ones that contribute to the association's strategic goals of advocating effectively and enhancing our public profile.

We recognize participation can be a double-edged sword – sometimes it is challenging for our members to find time to volunteer at the height of the market because delivery is the priority, but without your voice the industry would not be making the strides that it is. Your voices allowed us to gain a significant advocacy foothold, but just as quickly there is opportunity to lose momentum without us having a place at the table.

We need new “blood”, new energy, new perspectives. We have leaned on many of the same volunteers for multiple years. We are seeking new faces with a passion for our industry. Reach out to the association to find out where you can make a real difference. We need you now more than ever as we face a cross-roads of volunteer turnover.

One way to contribute is to participate on one of ACEC-SK many standing committees. Details about this year's committee activities are available as separate reports in this publication, divided between sector committees and membership committees. ACEC-SK is also now putting a greater emphasis on forming Task Groups that require a more targeted focus and finite participation requirements.

Sector Committees: Although each sector committee has an individual mandate, they all work to strengthen the consulting engineering and geoscience industry through advocating positions about industry issues with clients and important industry stakeholders. As an ex-officio participant, it is my role to identify common

themes that arise from these committees. Current sector committees include the Regina and Saskatoon Buildings, Environment/Water Resources, Industry/Resources, and Transportation Committees.

Member Services Committees: ACEC-SK also operates a number of committees that work to benefit ALL consulting engineering and geoscience firms, regardless of the sectors in which they practice, supporting the interests of the association as a whole. These include the Awards, Careers in Consulting, Risk Mitigation, Equity/Diversity/Inclusion (including the active Women in Consulting Committee), and Young Professionals Group.

This year a Fees Guideline Review Task Group was formed to review the relevance of this document to the industry.

## PROFILE

We continue to prioritize the promotion of the professionalism and integrity of the consulting engineering and geoscience industry, and its impact on all segments of society. Individual clients who encourage the consultant role of “Trusted Advisor” greatly benefit from the unique knowledge engineers bring to the table. However, gaining that respect requires consultants to be visible and available to decision makers. ACEC-SK supports this role through interaction with affiliated organizations and associations and by coordinating meetings for our volunteers to meet with various levels of government.

ACEC-SK continued to work to raise the industry profile in many ways:

- Regular meetings with more with senior government officials responsible for provincial capital budgets
- Regular access to several ministers that hold portfolios that impact this industry



- Participating as a member of the Saskatchewan Business Council, a collection of like-minded business organizations, to ensure politicians understand the economic impacts of shutting down specific sectors, and how industry can mitigate these risks
- Increased activity on a number of social media platforms (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn)
- Participating in Association of Consulting Engineering Companies – Canada (ACEC) Federal Roundtable of Executive Directors meetings,
- Participation in virtual student information sessions hosted at university campuses, as well as pairing students with industry mentors

to this association. Her attention to detail, and genuine desire to support each and every individual she connects with in this industry is invaluable and is very much appreciated. Her efforts have not gone unnoticed, not only by me, but by the Board and all our members.

Respectfully submitted,

**Beverly MacLeod**

Executive Director

### EVENTS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Association undertook another ambitious event program this year, and as referenced earlier in this report, the vast majority of which was delivered virtually.

Many of these opportunities originate from standing committee work plans and are supported by volunteers that offer insight into what may benefit the membership as a whole.

We did start to observe the ‘busyness’ of the industry impacting both the organization of, and the attendance, at these sessions. We believe this is in part a result of workload demands of our members. Our goal is to deliver relevant material that adds value. We will continue to seek feedback to ensure that we offer opportunities that benefit all.

### STAFFING

This year ACEC-SK operated with two full-time staff. I recognize Darlene Leamon, our Operations Manager, for her continuing customer-service-based contributions



# MINUTES OF 2020-2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## 1. WELCOME

The Chair, Patrick Lalach, called the meeting to order at 10:24 am., and welcomed those in attendance at ACEC-SK's 2021 virtual AGM.

Members were reminded they must be authorized as a "Voting" Member Firm Representative of a firm in good standing to vote at the ACEC-SK Annual General Meeting. All authorized representatives received a "Voting" card upon registration.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA OF JUNE 11, 2021 AGM

**MOTION:** Moved by Brett LaRoche, Catterall and Wright, seconded by Eleah Gallagher, JCK Engineering, that the ACEC-SK 2020-21 Annual General Meeting Agenda, be approved as presented. Carried.

Beverly MacLeod, Executive Director and Nick Wright, Secretary-Treasurer, were appointed scribes for the 2020-21 AGM.

## 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF OF June 2, 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Minutes of the June 2, 2020 Annual General Meeting were published in the previous year's ACEC-SK Annual Report. No errors or omissions were noted.

**MOTION:** Moved by Ian Walker, Stantec, seconded by Mel Leu, Ritenburg and Associates., that the Minutes of the June 2, 2020 Annual General Meeting be approved as circulated. Carried.

## 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM JUNE 2, 2020 AGM

As there was no business arising from the previous AGM, the Chair moved on to present the 2020-2021 Association Chair's report.

## 5. CHAIR'S REPORT – P. LALACH, P.ENG.

Highlights from the 2020-2021 Board Chair's Report:

- Chair through outbreak of COVID pandemic provided unique set of challenges and opportunities.
- Pivoting to working remotely happened quickly and isolating led to some mental health challenges.
- Members stepping up to infrastructure stimulus spending was heartening
- Service delivery changes became an opportunity
- Extremely engaged board
- Easier access to government decision-makers through virtual meetings
- Reported capacity/ability to absorb new work, advocating for infrastructure stimulus package
- Industry's visibility has increased
- Benefited from market sounding opportunities
- "Thank you" to ACEC-SK Board of Directors, Committee/Sub-committee members, Task Groups, Office Staff and the Member Firms for their participation and support throughout the year, particularly as we faced the unknown consequences of COVID together
  - It is another step in advocacy.
  - Encouraged all to participate in future MLA days.

**MOTION:** Moved by Patrick Lalach, Stantec CIMA+, seconded by Daryl Rinas, Associated Engineering, to accept the 2020-21 Chair's Report as presented. Carried.

## 6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - B. MACLEOD

Beverly MacLeod provided highlights of the Executive Director's Report, highlighting the following:

- Despite COVID challenges, it has been one of the most satisfying years of her tenure because our



ability to influence has been more successful than in many years; our 'seed planting' exercises finally came to fruition

- ACEC-SK regularly had the ear of government this past year.
- Market sounding opportunities assisted local firms compete for an increased number of competitions.
- Economic emergency reinforced need for all industry associations to work more closely together garnering significant benefits to our industry
- We retained 64 member firms, dedicated committees and an engaged board who formed a strong team to advance our industry's concerns in these uncertain times
- COVID also forced an immediate pivot to virtual delivery of many member services; thank you to member firms that responded to our call for continued support through turbulent waters
- Thank you to Darlene Leamon for her herculean efforts to ramp up virtual delivery

**MOTION: Moved by Terry Werbovetski, . Machibroda, seconded by Nancy Inglis, Associated Engineering, to accept the 2020-21 Executive Director's Report as presented. Carried.**

## 7. ACEC-SK COMMITTEE REPORTS

All reports were introduced individually as published in the 2020-2021 Annual Report. Committee chairs or liaisons were introduced if they were in attendance and invited to speak to their report. The Chair reminded everyone that there would only be a call for one motion to receive all sector reports after all were reported.

### a. Buildings Committee

**Regina Buildings Committee- Mel Lue, P. Eng.**

The Regina Committee was focused on City of Regina permitting, including hosting a permitting educational session, changes to the National Energy Code, relationships with stakeholders such as Central Services and Saskatchewan Architects Association, as well as

sector issues such as increased liability insurance issues.

**Saskatoon Buildings Committee- Jeremy Hall, P.Eng.**

Topics of discussion this year primarily centered around, procurement issues and wading through the complexities of COVID's impact on the building industry.

### b. Environment/Water Resources Committee – S. Bayer, P.Eng. (Chair)

Sean noted the EWR Committee attempted to meet every 2 months outside of a summer recess. During this 12-month reporting period, annual committee meetings were held with the Ministry of Environment, the City of Saskatoon and the City of Regina, with semi-annual meetings being held with SaskWater and the Water Security Agency. Water, wastewater, landfill, drainage, and infrastructure spending-related issues continued to be the primary interest during stakeholder meetings. In addition to the semi-annual meetings with the Water Security Agency a forum was again held this year, the first virtual event after the pandemic was declared

### c. Industry/Resources – Bryan MacFadden, P. Eng. (Chair)

The Industry and Resource (I/R) Committee is focused on helping member companies prepare for what is hoped to be a long, sustained recovery of the resource sector post-Covid 19. It is also actively communicating with clients in the I/R space to better understand their future plans and provide advice on how best to include our members' expertise over the long term.



**d. Transportation Committee – Robin Christopher, P. Eng.**

The current TEC members are Robin Christopher, P. Eng. (Chair), representing Associated Engineering, Patrick Lalach, P. Eng. (Board Liaison) representing CIMA+, and Members at Large, Nathan Ruecker, P.Eng. (SNC Lavalin then Soli Solutions), Kevin Paul, P. Eng. (Stantec), Brian Stang, P. Eng. (WSP and then Prairie Road Solutions) and Ali Al-Mahdawe (Allnorth).

Issues raised by the Transportation Committee regarding policy and procurement with Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure (MHI) continue to be the primary focus of the TEC, with multiple volunteers participating in multiple meetings at various levels to put forward ACEC-SK's positions.

**MOTION: moved by Stormy Holmes, AECOM, seconded by Ian Walker, Stantec, to receive the ACEC-SK Sector Committee reports. Carried.**

The Chair then turned attention to the Member Service Committee reports.

**e. Awards Committee**

Transition is happening in this committee as we rebuild its roster, and focus on opportunities to change.

**f. Careers in Consulting Committee – Jasmine Ostepowich**

Jasmine pointed the audience to the written report and offered to answer any questions.

The Chair noted that this is the end of Jasmine's term as chair and thanked her for her contributions to the association.

**g. Risk Mitigation Committee – D. George, P.Eng. (Chair)**

No report was included this year because the committee remained dormant. However, the Board chair wished to thank Don George for his contributions as Chair of the Risk Mitigation Committee as he was stepping down because of his retirement.

**h. Women in Consulting Committee - Bia de Frietas, P.Eng.(Chair)**

Bia de Frietas was not in attendance to present her report.

**MOTION: Moved by Nancy Inglis, Associated Engineering, seconded by Adam Gmeinweser, Thurber, to accept the 2020-2021 Member Service Committee Reports as presented. Carried.**

## 8. ACEC-SK LIAISON REPORTS

**a. Young Professionals Group – Nicholas Kaminski, P.Eng.**

Nicholas spoke to a strong YP program this year, offering leadership series, growing volunteer contributions, seeking networking opportunities, and moving forward with additional sponsorship.

**b. ACEC Liaison – Lawrence Lukey P.Eng.**

Lawrence Lukey was not in attendance to present his report. He was thanked for his service, and it was noted that Nancy Inglis will take over the role in October of 2021 at the next ACEC-Canada AGM>

**c. APEGS Liaison – Gavin Jensen, P.Geo.**

Gavin congratulated ACEC-SK for maintaining operations through COVID, and for the opportunity to learn more about the consulting



industry. He believes its members are well served by this dedicated group of individuals leading the board.

- d. **Associate Membership – Andrew Doyle**  
Andrew was not in attendance to present his report.

**MOTION: Moved by Adam Gmeinweser, Thurber, seconded by Nancy Inglis, Associated Engineering, to accept the 2020-2021 Liaison Reports as presented. Carried**

## 9. TREASURER'S REPORT

Nick Wright, A.Sc.T., presented the Treasurer's Report, highlighting the following:

- ACEC-SK continues to have a sound financial position with a solid reserve fund
- ACEC-SK finished the fiscal year after year-end adjustments with a \$6,754 surplus
- It navigated COVID by taking advantage of several government support programs
- Thank you to every member for their continued support and participation.
- "N" numbers held steady

**MOTION: Moved by Robin Christopher, Associated Engineering, seconded by Brett LaRoche, Catterall & Wright, to accept the 2020-2021 Treasurer's Report as presented. Carried.**

The 2021-2022 budget was then presented, with a substantive surplus of \$26,000 projected, largely due to one-time government supports.

## 10. NOMINATIONS REPORT – Nancy Inglis, P.Eng. – Nominations Chair

Nominations were sought to fill two voting Director positions to the board for 3-year terms. There were four nominations received by the Nominations Committee by the closing deadline, with the candidates indicating their consent to have their names.

The four nominees are:

- Brett LaRoche, P.Eng.
- Jeff Horan, P.Eng.
- Reza Moazed, P.Eng., and
- William (Bill) Heywood, P.Eng.

The nomination for Associate Member Liaison is Andrew Doyle.

Outgoing Directors are Nancy Inglis, Associated Engineering and Brett LaRoche, Catterall & Wright. Outgoing Liaisons are APEGS Liaison Gavin Jensen, P.Geo., Young Professional Liaison Nicholas Kaminski, P.Eng., and ACEC-Canada Liaison Lawrence Lukey, P.Eng. and Vacant Liaison is the Associate Member Liaison.

In addition to the slate of nominees, the Chair also introduced returning directors who together will represent the 2021-2022 ACEC-SK Board of Directors:

Patrick Lalach, CIMA+  
Sean Bayer, KGS Group  
Nick Wright, Engcomp  
Ryan King, AECOM  
Marc Bourassa, ISL Engineering & Land Services  
Scott Neurauter, Allnorth  
Ian Walker, Stantec

The results were scrutinized by the Secretary-Treasurer, who verified the results of the vote. Brett LaRoche and Jeff Horan were the successful candidates.



# MINUTES OF 2020-2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The slate of candidates was accepted through a show of voting representatives' hands. Carried.

## 11. INSTALLATION OF 2021-2022 CHAIR

New Chair Sean Bayer thanked the Board for the opportunity to lead, as well as reinforced his faith in committed board team to lead the industry through significant anticipated industry challenges.

## 12. NEW BUSINESS

Sean indicated that the upcoming year's priorities will focus on:

- Client planning
- Stronger relationships with government and sister organizations
- Procurement process issues at SaskBuilds
- Equity Diversity and Inclusion
- Forming a Task Group to examine the Fee Guidelines document

Members wished to discuss:

- Government RFP requirement for unreasonable levels of liability insurance
- Limit of liability clauses
- The need to describe what's in a fee

No agenda items were added at the beginning of the meeting. Therefore, the Chair asked incoming Board Members to remain for a few minutes after adjournment of the AGM for a short board meeting to assign this year's officers.

## 13.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was called.

**MOTION: Moved by Brett LaRoche, Catterall and Wright, to adjourn ACEC-SK's 2020-2021 Annual General Meeting. Carried.**



## AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT



The Awards Committee supports ACEC-SK's Awards of Distinction program honouring outstanding achievements in the Saskatchewan consulting engineering industry through:

- the Brian Eckel project awards
- multiple awards recognizing individuals at various stages in their careers, and most recently
- the Community Initiative Award that recognizes member firms' volunteer participation in the communities they serve.

The Brian Eckel Awards highlight Engineering or Geoscience projects and in Saskatchewan and/or performed by Saskatchewan firms elsewhere. In 2021-22 ACEC-SK recognized projects in the following categories:

- Buildings
- Environmental
- Municipal Infrastructure & Water Resources
- Natural Resources and Energy Production
- Studies and Soft Engineering
- Transportation
- Project Management

The Brian Eckel Pinnacle Award is awarded to the highest achieving project, regardless of which category in which it was submitted.

The Committee also recognizes individual employees, past or present, of member firms for their outstanding achievements in the Engineering and Geoscience Consulting industry. Individual awards include:

- Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan Meritorious Achievement Award
- Mentor Award
- Young Professionals Award

The Community Initiatives Award recognizes member firm volunteer efforts to benefit local communities.

The Committee annually reviews the criteria established by the ACEC-SK Board of Directors for each award and makes recommendations for any modifications to ensure

the spirit of each award is being captured in the submissions.

After receiving a reduced number of submissions the year prior, ACEC-SK was very pleased to have received so many submissions across all categories for the November 2021 Awards program. Over 10 projects competed for recognition, as well as multiple candidates for individual projects as well as the Community Initiative Award.

To continue the success of our awards, we reviewed the categories for the Brian Eckel Awards. We determined a Small Firm/Project category would be a valued addition for the 2022 program. This category will allow companies to submit projects with a construction value below \$5M or a member firm with a number of 24 or fewer. A project can be submitted from any area of practice/discipline. Additionally, we revised the wording for the building category to inform those submitting that it can be a single discipline project or multi-discipline.

The 2021 Panel of Judges for the 2021 Brian Eckel Awards included Ken Linnen, Debora Rolfes, Rick Kullman, Don George, and supported by the Board Liaison Ryan King, whose contributions are sincerely appreciated.

I also recognize the good work done by standing committee members:

- Deb Rolfes
- Terry Werbovetski,
- Ashley Thorson, as well as
- Marc Bourassa who brought Buildings sector insight to the revamped buildings category criteria discussion

This committee is actively seeking volunteers. If you wish to be involved with highlighting the good work done by the Saskatchewan consulting engineering industry, please contact the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

**Ashley Thorson**  
Awards Committee Chair



## SASKATOON



The Saskatoon Buildings Committee convened 4 times in the last year. Building on progress of previous years' work, topics of discussion included procurement, COVID complexities, and building permitting. A summary of topics is as follows:

- City of Saskatoon RFP content and quality – committee members provided feedback to ACEC Executive on recent RFP's and consultant contracts issued by the City of Saskatoon to assist in their recent meeting with City of Saskatoon management. The focus of committee member feedback was given to uninsurable and unbalanced contract clauses.
- The committee met with City of Saskatoon Building Standards to discuss a variety of topics around building permits and energy code requirements.
- Committee members provided feedback to ACEC Executive on recent SaskBuilds and Procurement RFP's, negotiating processes, and contracts.
- Individual committee members attended SaskBuilds webinars including COVID stimulus projects.
- The committee has begun dialogue with the newly formed Architects Advocacy Committee and has tentatively planned an inaugural meeting with the AAC and the Saskatoon & Regina Building Committees.
- Electrical Members of the Saskatoon Buildings committee sit on a liaison committee involving the electrical construction aspects in the province. This covers all aspects of the electrical trade with senior members in attendance from: TSASK Electrical Inspections, SaskPower Utility, Saskatoon Light and Power, Electrical Contractors Association of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Building Standards and Licensing

Branch and more. The committee addresses concerns within the industry and works together to provide cohesive and unified application of the code and licensing as well as discuss important issues facing our province and how to deal with them locally. Essentially anything revolving around the art of Electrical Engineering, Design, supply Installation, Life Safety and Journeyman licensing in the province is discussed.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the committee members for their continued work and service, including:

- Jeremy Hall
- Brent Wolfater
- Graham Baxter
- Trevor Knoll
- John Kosteroski
- Marc Bourassa
- Doug Normand
- Beverly MacLeod

I believe this committee has an important role to offer the consulting engineers in Saskatchewan and look forward to the year ahead.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Doug Normand, P.Eng.**

Saskatoon Buildings Committee Chair



### REGINA



The Regina Buildings Committee used monthly online meetings to discuss topics affecting consulting engineers including City of Regina permitting and major stakeholders such as SaskBuilds (formerly Ministry of Central Services) and the Saskatchewan Association of Architects (SAA). We hope in

person meetings can begin in the fall.

Some of the highlights of this year's activities are summarized below:

- The Committee met with the City of Regina to discuss the building permit process and create better lines of communication. A task group was created where ACEC-SK was asked to participate in future discussions on updates to existing buildings and the complications they bring with regards to current Code requirements.
- The task group established to meet with the City of Regina regarding the Aquifer Protection Overlay Zone is still arranging a follow up discussion.

- Discussion items such as liability insurance, procurement of professional engineering services, and Request For Proposal trends were eagerly discussed.

The Regina Buildings Committee plans on working and communicating with the Saskatoon Buildings Committee to ensure messages and concerns with both areas are consistent.

The Committee will continue to engage guests and speakers to provide updates as discussion topics arise from the group. Katelyn Sebastian will be taking over as Chair of the Committee later in the fall. The Committee is in great hands!

The group is very strong will continue to advocate for ACEC-SK. New membership with the group is encouraged!

Respectfully submitted,  
**Mel Leu, P.Eng., FEC**  
Regina Buildings Committee Chair





Progressing the strategic priorities of the past years, the Careers in Consulting Committee is happy to report the successful achievement of our goals for the year. These goals have not been easily achieved, and the members of the group have continued to deliver despite

continued challenges due to COVID. This has been possible through the excellent planning from previous years and past Chairs, as well as the support of the committee from ACEC-SK staff.

Established in 2008, this committee focusses on identifying opportunities for growth within the industry of existing consultants, and opportunities to attract new talent to the industry. This Committee provides and fosters an active network for mentorship, career and professional development, and an evolving industry capacity platform to enhance our industry's profile and engage government's support. We continue to work collaboratively with other committees and see great opportunities for future collaboration.

Highlights from 2021/2022 include:

- Industry Capacity Report "Lite" completed – Published date TBD
- Professional Development Series– Growth Career Planning Series
- Continued Student Outreach events (classroom and career fairs)

Working our plan to deliver on the ACEC-SK Strategic Objectives, the Careers in Consulting Committee met monthly, and has achieved the following during the past year through modified virtual and in-person events:

## ACEC-SK STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1 – EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY

*ACEC-SK builds healthy government, key client and Industry Association relationships and is influencing effective policy and priority investment decisions*

## Consulting Engineering Industry Capacity Report Lite

2022 Survey has been completed, results being published shortly after this report

## Liaise with SaskBuilds, Saskatchewan Ministry of Trade and Export Development & Specific Clients

The Careers in Consulting Board Liaison will meet with SaskBuilds, Saskatchewan Ministry of Trade and Export Development and specific clients to keep them apprised of our industry's capacity. Current focus is on the labour shortage.

## Anticipated Work in 2022-23: Develop Solutions for Industry Shortage of Qualified Professionals

In conjunction with the attraction of new talent outlined in Objective 2 below, the committee has proposed an ACEC-SK led "Exit interview" for any members that are leaving consulting for other sectors of the industry (government, contracting, etc.) to help determine if any systemic issues exist. This objective is still in early days and further details will be refined in 2022/2023.

## ACEC-SK STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2 – ENHANCED PROFILE

*Consulting engineering and geoscience member companies are recognized and respected for the value they deliver to their clients and our Province's communities*

## Website & Social Media

Through the ACEC-SK website and Social Media accounts, this committee has undertaken the "Profiling Consulting Careers" objective to promote Consulting Engineering Industry in Saskatchewan. These postings highlight consulting careers, and often expand on how individuals found the consulting industry and what they enjoy about this career opportunity. The most recent posting highlighted Jessica Cutter from Pinter & Associates.

## Student Outreach:

We continue to see demand and success of the Classroom Information Sessions which have been completed virtually



over the past year. These sessions have been very well received, and we continue to see requests from UofS and UofR.

Career Fairs have surfaced again, with virtual opportunities in 2021, with the most recent in-person event occurring at Sask Polytech in March. Members from our committee attended events this year both virtually for UofS and UofR, and in person at Sask Polytech.

A recent update from APEGS policy has provided clarity on a shift of High School and Elementary outreach priorities for APEGS, with opportunity for ACEC-SK to lead more Engineering Month and outreach sessions at schools. This would be a shift from APEGS leading and ACEC-SK supporting, to be ACEC-SK leading with APEGS supporting. Our committee is excited about this opportunity and propose to explore expanding this scope over the 2022/2023 year.

## ACEC-SK STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3 – MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

*Increased levels of engagement by Members in ACEC-SK events, programs, Committees and Board*

### Mentoring

Our committee continues to support the mentoring program launched by ACEC-SK in 2021-22; however, demand is low currently. Working with the YP committee, this offering is currently meeting the demand.

### Member Engagement Event

COVID made member engagement events challenging this past year. In-person events are being planned for spring of 2022, with a close eye on the COVID situation. The next event is a “May Mingler” in Saskatoon, which proposes to connect members over food and music.

### PD – Growth Career Planning Series

A professional growth series was investigated in 2021 with the goal of offering it to member firms to enhance their employees’ personal and professional development while serving as a non-dues revenue generator for the association. The first session is scheduled for May 2022.

The members of the Committee for 2021/2022 volunteered their time and expertise to this committee and I am very thankful to them and to the ACEC-SK Staff. The contributors included:

- Michael Walker, Associated Engineering (Chair)
- Carolyn Mathison, Catterall & Wright (Vice Chair)
- Jasmine Ostapowich, Walker Projects Inc. (Past Chair)
- Mel Leu, Ritenburg & Associates
- Chad Bialobzyski, WSP
- Darran Stamm, Alfa Engineering Ltd.
- Chelsey Knibbs, Wood Engineering
- Devon Holmes, KGS Group
- Travis Inglis, Soli Solutions
- Brenna Lozinsky, Associated Engineering
- Brett LaRoche, Catterall & Wright (Board Liaison)
- Darlene Leamon, ACEC-SK
- Beverly MacLeod, ACEC-SK

I wish the ACEC-SK board, staff and member firms all the best and success in the coming years.

Respectfully submitted,

**Michael Walker, P.Eng., PE, PMP**  
Careers in Consulting Committee Chair



# ENVIRONMENT/WATER RESOURCES (EWR) COMMITTEE REPORT



The Committee pursues market opportunities, and reviews relevant consulting engineering issues with environmental and water resource sector stakeholders, including: provincial ministries, crown corporations, municipal governments and municipal

organizations. Municipal committees continue as subcommittees of the Environment /Water Resources Committee and their activities are also included as part of this report.

The EWR Committee attempts to meet every 2 months outside of a summer recess. During this 12-month reporting period, annual committee meetings were held with the Ministry of Environment, the City of Saskatoon and the City of Regina, with semi-annual meetings being held with SaskWater and the Water Security Agency. Water, wastewater, landfill, drainage, and infrastructure spending-related issues continue to be the primary interest during stakeholder meetings. In addition to the semi-annual meetings with the Water Security Agency a forum was again held this year, likely the last time this will be offered as a virtual event. The focus was on anticipated capital projects in addition to regular municipal water/wastewater discussions and the anticipated activities for the upcoming years.

Throughout the year, observation and comments were offered by this committee through the association regarding changes to procurement processes by several stakeholders as well as the advent of new contributors to the municipal infrastructure space.

The 2021-2022 group based on ability to participate in committee activities and meetings included:

Bev MacLeod (Ex-officio)	ACEC-SK
Chad Bialobzyski, P.Eng.	WSP

Bill Heywood, P. Eng.	Clifton
Ryan King	AECOM
Cory Wihlidal, P. Eng.	Associated Engineering
Sean Bayer, P.Eng. (Chair)	KGS Group
David Tratch, P. Eng.	WaterMark Consulting Ltd
Jason Stusick, P.Eng.	MPE
Shaun McLeod, P.Eng.	Catterall & Wright
Omar Lopez, P.Eng.	AECOM
Sarah Keith, P.Eng.	TetraTech
Jeff Halliday, P.Eng.	CIMA +
Matt Feige, P.Eng.	BCL Consulting
Rodger McDonald, P.Eng.	KGS
Doug Thomson, P.Eng.	Associated Engineering
Sean Mc Garry, P.Eng.	Walker Projects

Applicable information or comment requests to ACEC-SK are handled through the Environment/Water Resources Committee. The committee appreciates the continued excellent participation of Bev MacLeod and encourages members to provide items of concern or information to the committee for any necessary action.

Respectfully submitted,

**Sean Bayer, M.Eng, P.Eng, PMP**

Environment/Water Resources Committee Chair



Saskatchewan's Industrial and Resource sector is experiencing a rapid increase in activity with several major projects announced for the province over the last 12 months. ACEC-SK member companies are intent on playing a key role, having the unique opportunity to develop some of the world's most innovative and high-profile projects of their kind in Mining, Oil & Gas and Agriculture.

As approved by the Board of Directors, the I/R Committee is guided by the following mandate:

- Pursue market opportunities and consulting engineering issues with Saskatchewan based Industry, Resource and Crown – and related associations as appropriate.
- Perform as a stakeholder function, on behalf of ACEC-SK, regarding Industry/Resource issues through identification, participation or response.

The I/R Committee work plan for 2021-2022 progressed well, with increased engagement from SaskPower's procurement team. Our team has worked diligently over recent years, advocating for a "rebalancing" of commercial terms and highlighting the barrier to entry this creates for many member firms. During our quarterly calls SaskPower shared their concerns about low participation in RFP's, even after they implemented procurement seminars and improvements to some commercial terms. The committee took the opportunity to share the typical "go/no-go" assessment process, the investment required to provide a high-quality RFP response and some suggestions on KPI's that may help measure improvements to the process over time. To meet SaskPower's project delivery schedules, some forward looking information sharing through ACEC-SK to member firms was deemed appropriate. This will be actioned on the 2022-2023 work plan.

ACEC-SK has also aggressively pursued the SMR space, recognizing this is a critical opportunity for this industry. The association wishes to understand what will be

expected from this industry to be able to proactively prepare for this opportunity.

Member firms also expressed an interest in understanding the process for getting involved in the Federated Co-Op's planned Canola Crushing / Biodiesel project with AGT in Regina. Communication around this project, specifically around the opportunities that may exist for local consultants and the procurement process, was not well understood. Thanks to the persistence of one of our committee members, it was arranged for all interested members to present. Six firms took advantage of the opportunity, many of their first opportunities to speak directly with FCL's decision makers.

We are in the process of developing our plans for 2022-2023, anticipating the challenges for member volunteers as project commitments take priority. Keeping the momentum going on our initiatives from 2021-2022 will be top of mind.

We would like to recognize Phil Bruch, who retired at the end of January 2022. Phil was a key member of the team, most recently leading our initiatives around improving commercial terms with SaskPower. These were not easy discussions, but Phil continued to drive the issue, firmly and professionally. Thank you, Phil.

Respectfully submitted,

**Bryan MacFadden, P.Eng.**

Industry/Resources Committee Chair



# RISK MITIGATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The ACEC-SK Board of Directors chose not to call on the Risk Mitigation Committee in 2021-22.

The association anticipates re-populating this committee in the coming year.

This is the Committee's current mandate:

Risk mitigation in the context of the association is defined as an approach that incorporates strategies for recognizing and confronting any threat or danger that may cause harm and hinder ACEC-SK from fulfilling its mission.

The role of the Risk Mitigation Committee is to support and advise the Board of Directors on the implementation and monitoring of a risk management strategy. The Committee coordinates and prioritizes risk management work. As a baseline, it is anticipated the risk management strategy will focus on:

- Organizational and Strategic risks and control deficiencies in the organization
- Geopolitical risks and government relations
- Helping the Board define the organization's risk appetite
- Ensuring that risk awareness culture is pervasive throughout the organization.

The ACEC-SK Board will undertake regular evaluation (timeframe to be recommended by the Risk Mitigation Committee) of the organization's appetite for risk through the Risk Mitigation Committee. The Committee will determine processes to monitor organizational risk.

Risk tolerance levels will be created for identified categories to be monitored.

If anyone has an interest in supporting ACEC-SK from a risk mitigation perspective, please contact the ACEC-SK office.

Respectfully submitted,

**Beverly MacLeod**

Executive Director





The Transportation Committee is tasked with advocating for the ACEC-SK transportation sector member firms. The Transportation Executive Committee (TEC) is elected by the Transportation

Committee member firms, which averages approximately 20 year-over-year. The TEC is the primary voice advocating in this sector. The current TEC members are Robin Christopher, P. Eng. (Chair), representing Associated Engineering, Patrick Lalach, P. Eng. (outgoing Board Liaison) representing CIMA+, Jeff Horan (incoming Board Liaison) from Associated Engineering, and Members at Large, Nathan Ruecker, P.Eng. (Soli Solutions), Kevin Paul, P. Eng. (Stantec), Brian Stang, P. Eng. (Prairie Road Solutions) and Ali Al-Mahdawe (Allnorth).

As I mentioned in my report last year, issues raised by the Transportation Committee regarding policy and procurement with Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways continues to be the primary focus of the TEC. This year was a busy year as we have been working with MHI and SaskBuilds on new procurements policies for MHI work, the impacts of the pandemic and the additional stimulus funding from the Government of Saskatchewan. We have also restarted Bi-lateral meetings with MoH to discuss other issues of our sector with the Ministry. The TEC has worked with volunteers from the member companies to engage MoH at their various Tri-Party Committee and Sub-committee meetings. As summary of this engagement is provided below:

- Tri-Party Executive Committee – June 2021, October 6, 2021, and March 4, 2022
- Tri-Party Roadways Technical Sub-committee – July 9, 2021, October 2021
- Tri-Party Contracts Sub-committee – September 7, 2021, November 3, 2021, and February 15, 2022

- Tri-party Bridges Sub-committee – May 5, 2021, August 11, 2021, and November 3, 2021
- Tri-Party Safety Sub-Committee – September 29, 2021, and December 15, 2021
- Workzone Signing Committee sub-committee – April 5, 2021, December 8, 2021 and March 15, 2022

We had the opportunity to have a meet and greet with the new Deputy Minister on September 3, 2021. Participated in MLA Days on April 30, 2021, May 3, 2021, May 4, 2021, and May 18, 2021.

As mentioned above, the TEC has been busy working with MHI and SaskBuilds on the procurement policies for MHI work. The TEC met with MHI and SaskBuilds on April 20, 2021, July 22, 2021, and December 7, 2021.

In conjunction with procurement policy negotiations, the TEC also arranged meetings with the larger ACEC Transportation Group members on November 19, 2021.

TEC members also met with MoH for Bilateral meetings on January 14, 2022, and March 30, 2022.

The TEC also met 5 times –April 6, 2021; April 14, 2021, August 18, 2021, November 18, 2021, and January 13, 2022.

I would like to thank all the volunteers that are taking part in the various engagement committees for their time and effort and to Bev McLeod for her support of the TEC and myself this year as Chair. Please feel free to engage any of the TEC members with any issues and questions that you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

**Robin Christopher, P. Eng.**

Transportation Executive Committee, Chair

# EQUITY DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI) COMMITTEE REPORT



The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Committee was established by the Board of Directors of ACEC-SK in May, 2021. The purpose of the EDI Committee as stated in the Terms of Reference is: “To provide strategic advice to the Board on matters related to how to

*prioritize and increase diversity and inclusion in the consulting engineering industry. The committee’s vision centers on utilizing analysis and consultation to formulate recommendations and best practices to foster overall growth in the representation and participation of under-represented parts of society in the profession. The committee will also provide on-going guidance supporting member firms’ moral, intellectual, cultural, social and economic well-being with respect to diversity and inclusion. Consultation results and analysis will also be used to develop best practices for life-work balance and inclusion concerns that are relevant to all industry professionals – male and female - as well as to provide a better understanding of the issues pertaining to diversity and sustainability in engineering.”*

The EDI Committee will include 4 sub-committees, including the existing Women in Consulting Committee, to focus on the different demographic segments that are a focus of ACEC-SK. The four sub-committees and the chairs of the sub-committees are:

- Women in Consulting – Kerri Walker -Chair (Associated Engineering)
- LGBTQ2+ - Jessica Cutter – Chair (Pinter Associates)
- Indigenous Peoples – ???
- New Canadians – No Candidate

The Women in Consulting Committee has remained active over the past year. However, the other sub-committees are not yet active. The EDI Committee is

also showing its growing pains trying to get moving forward on a number of initiatives. EDI and the sub-committees are all actively trying to recruit members to push forward with some of the initiatives.

For the leaders of ACEC-SK member firms, we would like to ask that you encourage your staff that may have an interest in one of the sub-committees, to please contact either Leon Botham or the ACEC-SK office. We hope to get the committee more active in the coming weeks but need your support.

Thank-you to the ACEC-SK Board of Directors, including Committee Liaison Nick Wright (Engcomp), and the ACEC-SK staff for the support in establishing the committee.

Respectfully Submitted

**Leon C. Botham, MSCE, P.E., P.Eng., FEC, FGC(Hon).**

Chair, EDI Committee





The Women in Consulting committee within ACEC Saskatchewan has been an entity for the past 8+ years and is an active group supporting women in the industry. They have been responsible for planning conferences in the past which

support women and diversity in the STEM and consulting field.

## PURPOSE:

Our goal for this committee is to represent and provide support for women in the consulting engineering companies of Saskatchewan. To shake up some of the old school dialogue around gender in the industry and provide attainable and measurable goals as a group. The committee has been busy planning and focusing on initiative goals for 2022.

## 2022 MEMBERS:

The Women in Consulting Committee consists of the following ACEC-SK members:

- Chair: Kerri Walker, P.Biol EP (Associated Environmental, Regina)
- Vice-Chair: Katherine Godwin, P.Eng. MBA (Stantec, Regina)
- Board Liaison Member: Nick Wright, A.Sc.T. (EngComp, Saskatoon)

## ACTIVITIES:

**Parental Leave Luncheon:** In the process of setting up for industry personnel who are on and/or about to be on parental, maternity or paternity leave, a monthly luncheon, virtual for now, will be held for those who would be interested in meeting and talking with other parents in the industry going through a similar time.

**Survey - Maternity/Paternity/Parental Leave Policy and Top-up:** Each member firm to be surveyed on what type of policy they have.

**Onsite Discrimination:** The committee recognizes that even in 2022 there are still inappropriate comments which are said to women onsite, and the group is looking at coming up with some solutions to stop this. This important action item will join forces with the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee as whole to combat this issue and assist people throughout the industry to provide support and resources.

**Community and School Outreach:** Committee members have reached out to schools in their regions to discuss the possibility of presenting to students on STEM, consulting and women in the industry.

**Women and the Pandemic:** Keeping the dialog open on the effects of the pandemic on our industry members is extremely important. We hear throughout the industry that the pandemic has especially been hard on women, but we have little to no solutions or idea on what this entails.

**Women of ACEC-SK Networking Event:** In continuing on with the last bullet point, coming out the pandemic with a networking event with women in the industry as the focal point. Details TBD.

I would like to thank ACEC-SK and all committee members who have taken the time to attend meetings and be a part of the group. Great discussions have ensued, and I look forward to the initiatives mentioned above and the implementations in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kerri Walker, P.Biol EP**

ACEC-SK Women in Consulting Committee Chair





At the October 2021 ACEC-Canada Annual General Meeting, I was honoured to be appointed the ACEC-SK Liaison to the ACEC-Canada Board of Directors. I want to thank Lawrence Lukey for acting as our provincial association's liaison from 2016-2021, including

serving as the Chair of the ACEC-Canada Board of Directors.

## ACEC-CANADA YEAR IN REVIEW 2021

It was another busy year for the ACEC team and our government relations partner Impact Public Affairs. Our team worked hard to ensure the voice of our industry was heard by elected officials and senior bureaucrats of the federal government. Below is a recap of our activities and efforts over the past year on behalf of our industry and your firm.

### Timelier and Focused Infrastructure Investments

We continued to work with *Building for Recovery*, a coalition of industry associations, to strengthen our industry's voice on this important issue. In the early months of 2021, the group actively engaged government with a shared message that investing in infrastructure will help Canada emerge from the pandemic stronger than before and ensure we are ready to tackle the societal and environmental challenges of the future. We engaged a grass-roots approach with an electronic letter writing campaign to MPs by our members to pressure the government and the opposition parties to get construction projects started and remove delays to infrastructure investments. The coalition also offered solutions and recommendations directly to the Minister of Infrastructure to address the concerns around investment lag, namely the acceleration of program funding through a rapid response stream for all types of projects introduced under the Investing in Canada plan. These activities were further enhanced with a [national op-ed](#) highlighting *Building for Recovery's* topline messages and a [full page ad](#) in *The Hill Times*, a publication widely read by Members of Parliament and senior political and government staff. Our efforts garnered attention from Infrastructure Canada and the Minister's office; ACEC met with the Minister's Office and Assistant Deputy

Minister to discuss data and reporting of infrastructure funding commitments and projects approvals. The development of stronger and more open communication with the department was a successful outcome of the coalition's efforts that ACEC plans to build on with the new Minister of Infrastructure and Communities and his team in the next Parliament session.

ACEC also had the opportunity to meet directly with then Minister of Infrastructure Catherine McKenna and senior members of her team on several occasions to reiterate the need for focused investment on core infrastructure to generate the economic capacity for some of the government's more transformative infrastructure goals. These meetings also allowed us to offer our expertise and support to help her achieve key aspects of her mandate, whether by providing input on the National Infrastructure Assessment Consultation or sharing best practices and industry expertise on tools for developing sustainable infrastructure that delivers social, economic, and environmental benefits to Canadians.

### National Infrastructure Assessment Consultation

In the spring and early summer, our focus turned to preparing submission for the government's consultation process on the National Infrastructure Assessment, the first ever such consultation in Canada. With the support of a Working Group and following feedback from the Association of Consultancy and Engineering in the UK where a similar Assessment was implemented, the main message of our submission focused on developing an integrated environmental and economic vision to guide the Assessment and provided considerations related to its governance, the mandate and scope, and stakeholder engagement. These recommendations included the following:

- Establishing a permanent, independent, and arms-length National Infrastructure Agency that would house and support the Assessment. This model would benefit not only the Assessment but could also serve as a larger repository of best practices and industry expertise. This Agency should also be mandated to outline clear responsibilities to the National Infrastructure Assessment. These responsibilities should be ongoing on a cyclical basis to include development, regular updates, monitoring, and progress reports on the Assessment.



- Understanding a shared goal of the Assessment to map out the Canada we want to build in 2050, it is certain that this initiative will require a carefully considered scope. To support the Agency in fulfilling their mandate, the scope of the Assessment should include a vision for the next 30 years of infrastructure, a review of the current state of Canada's infrastructure, a clear roadmap forward for the next 10 years, and a consistent cycle of evaluation and improvement to ensure that the Assessment continues to support Canada's infrastructure goals for 2050 and beyond.
- Developing this long-term vision and plan for Canada's infrastructure will require broad stakeholder engagement with involvement from industry, municipalities, Indigenous communities and civil society. Part of this engagement would be achieved through the composition of the National Infrastructure Agency however, ensuring the involvement and participation of those who are not on the Agency itself will also be critical to ensuring that all the appropriate stakeholders are engaged in the Assessment.

Read our full submission, *[Strong Governance to Achieve Canada's Vision: ACEC Submission to the National Infrastructure Assessment Consultation](#)*.

ACEC President and CEO John Gamble also participated in a roundtable discussion with the Minister of Infrastructure and Communities in late April to discuss the National Infrastructure Assessment and the ongoing consultation process. This demonstrated how ACEC is already being viewed as a key stakeholder in this initiative, while allowing ACEC to share some of our initial feedback on the National Infrastructure Assessment.

On July 29, the federal government responded to the feedback they received from stakeholders with a paper titled, *[Building Pathways to 2050: Moving Forward on the National Infrastructure Assessment](#)*, that summarizes and responds to the 310 submissions received by Infrastructure Canada for this consultation. The recommendations which were particularly aligned with our submission included:

- That the Government of Canada create an independent advisory body to carry out the

Assessment and provide the Government with impartial, expert and evidence-based advice.

- That a long-term vision and clear mandate be established for the independent advisory body.
- That the independent advisory body leverage global best practices and consult and work closely with all levels of government, Indigenous communities, investors, experts, stakeholders, industry, and Canadians more broadly to define key gaps and areas of historical underinvestment.
- The Assessment should include a clear set of investment recommendations, including proposed timelines, and an infrastructure investment roadmap for Canada that is based on the results of the independent advisory body's work and a clear understanding of the collective investment capacity.

The close alignment of these recommendations with our submission is indicative of how our feedback and recommendations were heard and considered in this initial process. Since the election was called a few weeks after the response's publication, a key post-election priority for ACEC will be reigniting advocacy on the National Infrastructure Assessment and remaining a core partner in the next steps of developing the Assessment. Our aim will be to ensure that this initiative moves forward according to plan and with support across party lines.

### Adoption of Climate Change Position

Consulting engineering firms are leaders in climate change adaptation and mitigation. The work of our member organizations and member firms is of critical importance to the development of a more sustainable world. The design life of infrastructure is inherently long. Service requirements for buildings, roads and bridges, sewage and water treatment and other engineered infrastructure are typically decades. Decisions we make as engineering firms today will be felt for years.

This led the Board to develop and release a [position on climate change](#) and the work of our member organizations and member firms play to the development of a more sustainable world.



## Construction Sector Roundtable

ACEC is proud to have continued to engage with the Construction Sector Roundtable and with government at large, in collaboration with industry partners, to develop a comprehensive, economic recovery agenda for the construction industry. The Roundtable, led by Public Services and Procurement Canada, is comprised of a select group of industry partners including ACEC and provides relevant data, advice, and recommendations to the government as part of its recovery efforts. The Roundtable's participants also include Parliamentary Secretaries from Employment and Social Development Canada, Infrastructure Canada, and Labour. During these meetings, industry and government representatives have discussed a host of topics, including the Investing in Canada Plan, the consultation on the National Infrastructure Assessment, funding opportunities for the skilled trades with Employment and Social Development Canada, supply chain disruption, and the need for further discussion on prompt payment.

## Pre-Budget Consultations

As the Standing Committee on Finance was developing their report on pre-budget consultations, our team met with several committee members to brief them on our [pre-budget recommendations](#) that were submitted in August 2020. We also participated in a new pre-budget consultation process launched by the Minister of Finance for this year which occurred in addition to the usual parliamentary process at the Finance Committee. The federal government held virtual roundtables and invited organizations and individual Canadians to submit their feedback on the budget through written briefs and an online questionnaire.

In the rapidly changing environment of the pandemic, this additional budget consultation process allowed us to revise and update our August 2020 submission to the Finance Committee. In this updated submission, three key recommendations were emphasized for Budget 2021:

- Prioritizing investments that will close the infrastructure deficit and enable economic prosperity, productivity and a stable recovery.
- Adopting best practices that achieve sustainability, innovation and life cycle savings from infrastructure investments.

- Reinstating and reenergizing the *National Guide to Sustainable Municipal Infrastructure*.

View our full [ACEC Pre-Budget Submission 2021 to the Minister of Finance](#).

ACEC President John Gamble and Vice-President Martine Proulx followed up ACEC's submission with a series of virtual meetings with both government and opposition members of the House of Commons Finance Committee to outline our recommendations and respond to any questions the members may have had.

The Minister of Finance tabled [Budget 2021](#) on April 19th. While infrastructure was not a centerpiece of the Liberal's proposed fiscal plan, there were many investments included to spur national infrastructure development across Canada. They include funding to support the first National Infrastructure Assessment, a one-time investment to address infrastructure priorities in municipalities and First Nations communities through the federal Gas Tax Fund, and a doubling of the federal government's regular funding for municipalities and First Nations communities in 2020-21 through the Gas Tax Fund to be renamed the Canada Community-Building Fund. The federal government also proposes recapitalizing the National Trade Corridors Fund over the next four years to develop transport-related projects. These projects lent hope to the possibility of a national right-of-way to enhance both domestic and international trade.

## Presentation at the Standing Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure and Communities

In the spring, ACEC President John Gamble also appeared before the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure and Communities as a witness during their study on targeted infrastructure investments. The purpose of the study was to look at the ability of targeted infrastructure investment to influence social economic and environmental outcomes and improve the lives of Canadians – particularly those underserved in vulnerable communities. The Committee was also studying the socio-economic profile of where infrastructure funding has flowed historically and best practices both in Canada and abroad for ensuring infrastructure investments reach the communities that are most in need.



The remarks Mr. Gamble delivered highlighted how targeted infrastructure investments based on asset management planning provide the most value to communities and how targeting investments are most effective when we help communities to develop, grow their capacity and make best practices available to them. This appearance offered ACEC the opportunity to highlight the following key recommendations to the Committee on targeted infrastructure investments:

- That the federal government strike a balanced approach between investing in the strong core infrastructure in order to provide the capacity to invest in transformative projects.
- That the federal government create a suite of infrastructure programs that serve the varied needs of communities across Canada with programs that are flexible and scalable. ACEC recommended that this be done, in part, by ensuring that the eligibility criteria focus on the outcomes of the project and that project screening is appropriate and proportional to both the size and nature of the project.
- That the federal government consider providing support for the implementation of robust and well-considered asset management plans that outline the strategic infrastructure goals and local needs of municipalities and First Nations communities, rather than having them constantly re-apply on a project-by-project basis.
- That the federal government support the growth of community capacity by reinstating and updating the National Guide to Sustainable Municipal Infrastructure, also known as InfraGuide, as highlighted in ACEC's pre-budget submission.

The recording of ACEC's appearance at the Committee is available [here](#).

## Federal Election

During the federal election, another major advocacy activity for ACEC in 2021 was the launch of [Infrastructure: Prosperity by Design](#), an engagement campaign to promote to the major parties and candidates across the country the need for a strong integrated economic and environmental vision for Canada's

recovery. Through the microsite Invest in Infrastructure, the campaign shared ACEC's key messages and election priorities with all parties, provided members with tailored information about the party platforms, and generated awareness among candidates and stakeholders on our priorities through social media and grassroots digital engagement. The microsite included detailed information about ACEC priorities and policy recommendations, key facts on the benefits of infrastructure investment, party platform analyses, responses to the questionnaire that was distributed to all parties, a candidate contact tool which allowed members to write to their local candidates in support of our recommendations, and more information on ACEC's government and media engagement. During the campaign period, a total of 46 letters were sent to local candidates and there were 478 visits to the website. Creating awareness about our association and our priorities at the local level with an avenue for members to engage with their candidates, ensured that the impact that our members have in communities across the country was heard at a grassroots and party level throughout this election. This proactive engagement during the election provides a strong foundation for our advocacy in the next Parliament. Creating awareness about our association and our priorities at the local level with an avenue for members to engage with their candidates, ensured that the impact that our members have in communities across the country was heard at a grassroots and party level throughout this election.

With Parliament now back in session, we are turning our government relations strategy towards ensuring that those newly placed in key decision-making roles post-election are briefed on ACEC and our priorities. This includes reaching out to and securing meetings with the new Ministers, Shadow Cabinet Ministers, and Members of Parliament sitting on relevant committees.

## Changes to Contract Security Program Screening Process Successfully Delayed

In June, Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) announced changes to its Contract Security Program. While the intent of the changes was to improve the process for federal securities and reduce the current backlog of applications, the new rules would have potentially made it difficult for smaller consultants and contractors to participate on government projects. In collaboration with our industry partners the Canadian



Construction Association (CCA), National Trade Contractors Council of Canada (NTCCC) and the Facilities Operations & Maintenance Association of Canada (FOMAC), ACEC acted immediately upon learning of the proposed changes. We reached out directly to the Minister of PSPC to express concern not only over the impact of the proposed changes to industry but also with the lack of consultation with impacted stakeholders and the insufficient time for industry to prepare for these changes. Our intervention with the Minister led to a roundtable discussion between industry experts from ACEC, CCA, NTCCC and FOMAC and senior government officials during which a one-month implementation delay was secured. Additionally, PSPC agreed to continue to meet with industry associations and proposed a phased implementation approach to allow for possible adjustments to address industry concerns. Information of the proposed changes and the new timeline can be found [here](#).

### **Promoting Qualifications Based Selection (QBS)**

We also continued to actively promote the use of QBS to private and public-sector clients as the procurement method of choice for consulting services.

Along with our stakeholder partners, we successfully convinced Public Services and Procurement Canada to use QBS in a pilot program. To date, they have procured five projects using QBS. We hope that this will lead to the expanded use of QBS by the federal government. In partnership with Consulting Engineers of Alberta, we are also financing a national study by the University of Alberta that will capture important data that we strongly believe will quantify the benefits of QBS and thus encourage more jurisdictions to follow suit. The final study is expected in early 2022 and will be shared with ACEC members via our website and newsletter.

### **Looking Ahead**

With the current Parliament being another minority government, advocating on both sides of the aisle of the House of Commons will be more important than ever. Our government relations strategy will continue to promote and support sound policy that benefits a strong, integrated economic and environmental vision for Canada. We encourage you to support our efforts by taking part in a virtual Parliament Hill Day we are planning for February 2022; your participation will help

us brief as many Members of Parliament as possible on key issues in advance of Budget 2022. We hope to also give you the opportunity to engage directly with the new Minister of Infrastructure and Communities in the coming months with a virtual Town Hall style event. Finally, 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.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Nancy Inglis, P.Eng., PMP**

ACEC-Canada Liaison



# ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND GEOSCIENTISTS OF SASKATCHEWAN LIAISON REPORT



The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists (APEGS) regulates our practice in Saskatchewan for the protection of the public, the environment and the benefit of society. APEGS has been working towards increasing its effectiveness as a regulator through its governance projects.

The Governance Review project that APEGS commenced in 2019 was completed in 2021. The past year was spent progressing recommendations and getting adjusted to the modernized governance structure. Moving to a modern governance structure has increased APEGS transparency and the public's confidence in APEGS role of self-regulation and inherent public protection.

APEGS saw an increase of 525 new members in 2021 to increase our total member count to 15349. The number of Certificate of Authorization holders reduced slightly to 1329 in 2021 from 1340 the previous year.

The Association has been modernizing and improving their communication platforms and information technology systems. This communication project included the launch of a new APEGS website, and three APEGS social media account created for LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook in 2021. Also released this past year was a member survey tool called APEGS Connect. APEGS Connect has provided member surveys on topics including: APEGS award nominations; topic preferences for PD days; understanding CPD reporting requirements; and preferences for law and ethics seminar. This tool has been incredibly useful for APEGS as it has provided thoughts and feedback from 1000 members on a variety of topics.

The past year saw the retirement of an institution at APEGS. Bob MacDonald announced his retirement in mid-2021 from the role of Executive Director and Registrar. APEGS council wishes Bob a happy and fulfilling retirement, and thanks him for his many years

of service to the Association. A new Executive Director and Registrar was announced in Stormy Holmes who took on the role at the start of this year. Council is very excited and privileged to work with Stormy in the coming years as she navigates the modernized governance structure.

The 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting and Professional Development Conference is set for May 5<sup>th</sup> to May 7<sup>th</sup> in Saskatoon with virtual attendance available. Also occurring during this time is the Past President Reception as well as the Awards Banquet.

I'd like to thank the ACEC-SK Board and Executive Director for allowing me to attend the board meetings, events and strategic planning session that occurred over the past year. It was great to be involved in the discussion and was also apparent to me that ACEC-SK is in an excellent position of leadership to continue advocating for the consulting engineering and geoscience profession in Saskatchewan. I wish the ACEC-SK board, staff and member firms continued strength and success in the coming years.

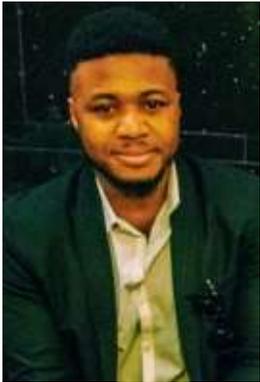
Respectfully submitted,

**Trent Nelson, P.Eng.**

APEGS Liaison



ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING  
ENGINEERING COMPANIES | SK



The Association of Consulting Engineering Companies - Saskatchewan (ACEC-SK) Young Professionals (YP) delegate for 2021-2022 was Vice-Chair, Travis Inglis. Along with Chair, Olagoke Rufai, and the rest of the Saskatchewan executive team, the ACEC YP group remained active and engaged with a variety of events

organized by our local ACEC YP group as well as the broader country wide ACEC YP Network.

Highlights from the past year include the following:

## I. *ACEC YP Leadership Series*

The Leadership Series is aimed at providing knowledge of and insight into the careers and experiences of some of our leading experts in the consulting engineering industry within Saskatchewan. The YP group would like to extend our gratitude and thanks to Brett LaRoche (Caterall & Wright), Andrew Lockwood (BHP), Michael Walker (Associated Engineering) and Katelyn Sebastian (Driftstone Consulting Ltd.) for volunteering their time by partaking in the series, sharing their unique success stories as well as providing useful tips for navigating career journeys.

## II. *ACEC YP Mentorship Program*

The mentorship program is setup to provide mentorship to students, new graduate engineers and immigrants interested in the consulting engineering industry in Saskatchewan. This mentorship program is intended to provide participants with a 1 on 1 relationship with someone in their field to gain insights, advice, and experience.

The group's objectives in 2022 were to promote increased networking, promote career development, and raise awareness among young professionals and engineering students in Saskatchewan. Some of these objectives were addressed through the following events:

### **Networking:**

- Monthly YP Meetings

### **Career Development:**

- PMP Information Session with Straite Canada Ltd.
- Leadership Series, "Entrepreneurship, Setting Goals and Community Involvement" with Brett Laroche.
- Leadership Series, "Risk and Engineering" with Andrew Lockwood.
- Leadership Series, "Business Development" with Michael Walker.
- Leadership Series, "Entrepreneurship" with Katelyn Sebastian

### **Raise Awareness among New Grads and students:**

- ACEC YP Mentorship Program

The Association of Consulting Engineering Companies - Saskatchewan Young Professional Award recipient for 2021 was Cosme Loi. After being awarded this distinction, Cosme has continued to be an avid participant within the association, actively advertising and recruiting his colleagues to be a part of the YP group.

The executive group is very excited to begin planning and brainstorming ideas for the 2022-2023 year, as we continue to emerge stronger from the pandemic. We look forward to planning more in-person speaker events, career development seminars, industry tours and networking sessions.

The ACEC YP group would like to thank the past chairs and executives for their dedicated efforts over the last year.

The ACEC YP group would also like to thank our sponsors, Clifton, EngComp, KGS Group and AECOM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Olagoke Rufai, P.Eng., MEng., PMP**

Chair, Young Professionals Group

## ASSOCIATE MEMBER LIAISON REPORT



Associate Membership is extended by ACEC-SK to enlist the cooperation of industry allies in pursuing matters of mutual interests such as:

- companies who directly benefit from an understanding of the Consulting Engineering and Geoscience Industry
- firms that provide technical support, products or expertise to engineers and geoscientists
- companies that do not directly compete with ACEC-SK corporate member firms.

Organizations that meet these criteria may join the association.

Associate Members have historically seen value through participation and contribution to industry related networking events, forums, and technical exchanges.

The following were Associate members during the 2021-2022 fiscal year:

- Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of Saskatchewan (APEGS)
- Brock White Construction Materials
- Canadian Concrete Pipe and Precast Association (CCPPA)
- Concrete Saskatchewan
- Eco Concrete Levelling Ltd.
- Engineered Pipe Group
- Henderson Insurance Inc.
- Ipex Inc.
- Levene Graduate School of Business, University of Regina
- Morsky Construction Ltd.
- Saskatchewan Construction Association (SKCA)
- Saskatchewan Environmental Industry & Managers Association (SEIMA)
- Saskatchewan Heavy Construction Association (SHCA)
- Saskatchewan Masonry Institute (SMI)

- Saskatchewan Trade & Export Partnership (STEP)
- Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA)
- University of Regina, Faculty of Engineering & Applied Science
- Xylem Canada LP

By working together, we are able to raise the value of membership to both the Corporate and Associate Members.

We continue to receive inquiries from more companies exploring Associate member opportunities with ACEC-SK.

From all Associate Members and I, thank you for continuing to allow us to work with the Board of Directors and the Staff. If any Corporate members have suggested Associate member candidates that they would like to see ACEC-SK working with, please reach out to the staff and we will be happy to approach the firm to put in an application.

Respectfully submitted *on behalf of,*

**Andrew Doyle, B.Comm(Hon)**

Associate Member Liaison

## Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan Meritorious Achievement Award



The Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan Meritorious Achievement Award was established to honour a Consulting Engineering or Geoscience professional's industry leadership and societal contributions.

Photo (L to R): The Honourable Russ Mirasty, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, presenting Thomas Robert Atkins, B.Sc., P.Eng., LEED® AP the prestigious Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan Meritorious Achievement Award.

## Mentor Award

The purpose of the Mentor Award is to recognize the sustained and inspirational mentorship efforts of those who are employed by an ACEC-SK Member firm.

Photo (L to R): Nick Wright, A.Sc.T., ACEC-SK Vice Chair presents 2021 Mentor Award to Jeff Osborne, P.Eng.



### Young Professional Award



The Young Professional Award acknowledges the achievements of a young professional who demonstrates excellence in: his/her field of expertise; the business of consulting engineering /geoscience; contributions to both ACEC-SK and his/her community.

Photo L to R): Sean Bayer, P.Eng., ACEC-SK Chair presents the 2021 Young Professional Award to Cosme Loi, EIT.

### Brian Eckel Memorial Scholarship

The Brian Eckel Memorial Scholarship recognizes academic performance and community volunteer work of students pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree in the College of Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan.

Photo (L to R): Sean Bayer, P.Eng., ACEC-SK Chair; Garret Churchill, 2021 Brian Eckel Memorial Scholarship Award recipient and Terry Fonstad, P.Eng., Associate Dean Research and Partnerships & Associate Professor Civil Geological and Environmental, University of Saskatchewan.



### Community Initiatives Award



This award provides an opportunity to recognize the good work being done in communities by Saskatchewan consulting engineering firms. It is presented for a company's role in donating their time and/or services for the benefit of a community or group in Saskatchewan or on the national or international stages.

PINTER & Associates Ltd. received ACEC-SK's 2021 Community Initiatives Award for their Fond Du Lac & Hatchet Lake COVID-19 Relief Initiative.

Photo (back row L to R) Sean Bayer, P.Eng., ACEC-SK Chair, Diane McDonald, Dustin Hicke, A.Sc.T., Cassidy Salik, EIT, Ty Van Camp, P.Eng., Rylan Gareau, EIT, Joyce Stenne (front row l to right) Dylan Smith, GIT, Bennet Awume, P.Eng.

### Consulting Engineer of the Year Award Presented by the Ministry of Highways & Infrastructure

This award recognizes the ACEC-SK firm with the highest average Performance Evaluation score from November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2021, while meeting the following award criteria:

- Minimum Contract Value - \$75,000
- Minimum # of Performance Evaluation scores in MHI database - 3

Associated Engineering was the 2020-2021 recipient. Photo L to R): Sean Bayer P.Eng., ACEC-SK Chair, Ian Farthing, P.Eng., Paul Pinder, P.Eng., Karl Lehmann, P.Eng.



## Brian Eckel Project Awards

### PINNACLE Award & Award of Excellence: Municipal Infrastructure & Water Resources Category

# AECOM



#### AECOM Canada Ltd

##### M1 Canal Rehabilitation

##### **PINNACLE AWARD & AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

##### *Project Description:*

The M1 Canal is one of the most important water supply canals in Saskatchewan. At 22.5 kilometres long, it provides irrigation for more than 55,000 acres of farmland and water for seven communities, three potash mines, and thirteen wildlife habitat and wetland projects.

By the early 2000s, the M1 was nearing the end of its service life. Beginning in 2008, AECOM worked closely with the Government of Saskatchewan over 10 years to upgrade the canal and related structures. The result was less water loss, greater irrigation capacity and safer conditions for operators.

### Buildings Category

# DANIELS WINGERAK



#### Daniels Wingerak Engineering Ltd

##### Jim Pattison Children's Hospital

##### **AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

##### *Project Description:*

The mechanical systems of the hospital are essentially mission-critical and were carefully designed to comply with the applicable standards and current best practices in the industry. Hidden away in equipment rooms and above ceiling tiles, the mechanical systems of the hospital provide clean fresh air to patients, careful humidity and temperature control, dependable plumbing, and medical gas for procedures and patients. Infection prevention and control is critical to the health and safety of the patients and staff. The mechanical systems play a key role in this. Air change rates, filtration, pressurization, laminar flow hands-free faucets and more all enhance infection control.

## Brian Eckel Awards (cont'd)

### Buildings Category



#### WSP Canada Inc.

##### Royal University Hospital Generator Plant

##### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

###### *Project Description*

An emergency power generator plant is the epicenter for ensuring a hospital remains operational during crisis. At the Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon, the previous generators were undersized for current and future electrical loads, past their useful life, and unreliable. WSP Canada Inc. led this project providing engineering consulting services to the Saskatchewan Health Authority for a new emergency power generator plant. This project included multiple studies to consider all stakeholder needs, detailed design and coordination for the new facility, construction contract administration, commissioning and turnover. The result is a new, fully operational generator plant meeting current and future needs.

### Transportation Category



#### CIMA Canada Inc. and Catterall & Wright

##### The Saskatoon Interchange Project

##### AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

###### *Project Description*

CIMA Canada Inc. (CIMA+) and Catterall & Wright designed the Saskatoon Interchange Project for the City of Saskatoon from 2016 to its 2019 completion. The multi-million-dollar project was a critical transportation priority for the continued growth and development of Saskatoon's East Side.

As the Lead Designer for the project, CIMA+ worked alongside the Contractor, PCL Construction Management Ltd., and Catterall & Wright for their drainage design services. The team worked together on the construction of two important interchanges that had a significant contribution to improve traffic flow, while reducing the negative trends at two of Saskatoon's busy intersections.

## Brian Eckel Awards (cont'd)

### Transportation Category



#### Stantec Consulting Ltd

##### Senator Sid Buckwold Bridge Rehabilitation

##### **AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

##### *Project Description*

Sid Buckwold Bridge underwent a major rehabilitation, ~\$18M, to increase its intended service life by 50+ years. The high volume of daily traffic, the monumental importance of the structure and its surrounding, unique repair needs, and the unique structural elements made this a complex project. The success of the project was mainly due to the following:

- Innovative investigations and technologies were utilized to reduce the economic impacts, and better understand the structure and rehabilitation needs; and
- The continuous analytical approach was taken throughout all phases to refine the rehabilitation process including the entire project team.

### Project Management Category



#### Associated Engineering

##### Wanuskewin Heritage Park Bison Facilities Project

##### **AWARD OF MERIT**

##### *Project Description*

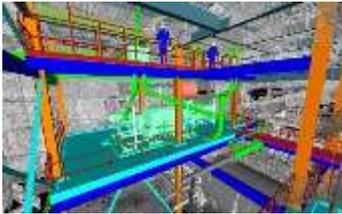
Wanuskewin Heritage Park has become a world-renowned center to research, honour and educate others about the Indigenous tribes of the Northern Plains. In 2017, Associated Engineering was contracted to manage a project that would return a resident bison herd to Wanuskewin, starting with construction of facilities to manage and care for the animals.

This project involved a cultural journey for AE's engineers, as they participated in awareness activities set out by Wanuskewin and its elders. The success of this initiative highlights the unique collaborative effort that became a shared vision, echoing Indigenous collaborations of centuries past..

## Brian Eckel Awards (cont'd)

### Buildings Category

#### KGS Group



#### Mosaic K2 XLR Centrifuges Replacement

##### *Project Description*

The structure supporting the crystallizer centrifuges at Mosaic's Esterhazy K2 potash facility needed to be replaced due to excessive vibration and deterioration. This replacement work also provided an opportunity to make process engineering, access, maintenance and operator safety improvements. KGS Group's structural and mechanical engineers applied extensive industrial expertise to develop custom solutions to meet these objectives.

The project was successfully completed on schedule thanks to close collaboration between KGS, the owner and construction manager, as well as detailed planning and the use of advanced technologies. The final installation improved reliability, life expectancy, access, maintainability and safety, while increasing production output.

### Buildings Category



#### Stantec Consulting Ltd

#### Sacred Heart Community School Rebuild

##### *Project Description*

Working with the Regina Catholic School Division and the Sacred Heart School staff, students, and community, the team designed a facility that accommodated a variety of needs. The facility was designed for the future with a capacity of 700 students with a 51-space childcare centre, creating a 21st century learning environment that was flexible, accommodated students' needs, achieved a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) Gold designation. The new school facility includes the typical classrooms, library, gymnasium, administration, mechanical and electrical utility spaces, as well as shared use space that could be used by the students and the community.

## Brian Eckel Awards (cont'd)

### Municipal Infrastructure & Water Resources Category

#### Associated Engineering



#### Greens on Gardiner Community Development

##### *Project Description*

The Greens on Gardiner project exemplifies what can be achieved when a visionary developer and passionate team of engineers are determined to “think differently” in the creation of a new urban subdivision. With over 60 design contracts administered, involving more than 160 engineering staff and over \$110 million in infrastructure, this project brought innovative thinking that truly changed the face of development in Regina. The resulting unique community welcomes residents from different socio-economic backgrounds. It brings a diverse offering of housing, with commercial services within walking distance and streetscapes that are more pedestrian friendly, creating a real sense of community.

### Studies & Soft Engineering Category

#### ENGCOMP Engineering & Computing Professionals Inc.



#### DX Sylvinite Prefeasibility Study

##### *Project Description*

Kore Potash was considering a small-scale sylvinite solution mining project in the Republic of Congo for which a scoping study had been completed and engaged Engcomp to execute a Pre-Feasibility Study. The project involved a selective solution mining process and Engcomp completed the design and engineering portions of the dry end of the process as well as overall process layout. Engcomp was the main provider of process and support engineering for this project and was responsible for integrating the work of several world-class firms. Engcomp’s expertise and experience in potash processing, developed in Saskatchewan, was brought to a global stage.



The Nominations Committee meets annually to review nominations for candidates for the ACEC-SK Board of Directors, as well as to address any Director openings that may occur through the electoral year. This report summarizes the deliberations of this committee.

Four (4) positions will be vacant as of the 2021-22 AGM to be held on May 27, 2022, including three (3) Directors-at-Large positions and the Associate Member Liaison position. The nominations committee searched for candidates based on a skills matrix approved by the Board of Directors to complement the existing board makeup and facilitate geographical and engineering-discipline continuity.

Nominations were sought to fill the vacant voting Director positions for a 3-year term to the Board and the non-voting Associate Member Liaison for a 1-year term. Five (5) eligible nominations were received by the closing deadline, with all candidates indicating their consent to have their names stand. This year's nominees are:

#### Directors:

- **Marc Bourassa, P.Eng., ISL Engineering & Land Services Ltd**
- **Scott Neurauter, B.Sc., Allnorth**
- **Stephen Marcia, M.A.Sc., P.Eng., PMP, March Consulting and**
- **Bennet Awume, P.Eng., PINTER & Associates**

#### Associate Member Liaison:

- **Andrew Doyle – Engineered Pipe Group** for a second term

#### Returning Directors for 2022-23 are:

- Sean Bayer, P.Eng. - KGS Group
- Nick Wright, A.Sc.T. – Engcomp
- Ryan King, AECOM
- Brett LaRoche, Catterall & Wright
- Ian Walker, Stantec
- Jeff Horan, Associated Engineering

The Nominations Committee would also like to acknowledge the contributions of the Board's non-voting Liaison representatives:

- ACEC-Canada Liaison(s):
  - Outgoing Liaison Lawrence Lukey, BCL Consulting, and
  - Incoming Liaison Nancy Inglis, P.Eng. of Associated Engineering
- Young Professionals Group Liaison: Olagoke Rufai, P.Eng., M.Eng., PMP
- APEGS Liaison: Trent Nelson, P.Eng..

The Nominations Committee continues to proactively work with the Board, ACEC-SK staff, and representatives of our member firms to identify future candidates that will allow us to maintain a balanced and qualified Board.

The success of our organization is directly attributed to the dedication and enthusiasm of the Board members and the support of their respective member firms. Your participation in representing the consulting engineering industry is very much appreciated.

I will be stepping down from the Board on May 27, 2022 after completing my final year on the board in the roles of Past Chair of the Board and Chair of the Nominations Committee.

It has been an interesting dynamic seeing the industry from a broader perspective than just the transportation sector in which I practice. I have learned a lot about the industry during my tenure, and I am proud of the work that our Association and our Membership do across all industry sectors. Thank you to my fellow board members, member firm representatives, and the ACEC-SK staff who have supported me and helped me make the most of this opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

**Patrick Lalach, P.Eng.**

Chair of the Nominations Committee

## TREASURER'S REPORT



I am pleased to present the financial report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022.

ACEC-SK continues to be on sound financial footing despite the impact of reduced non-dues revenue resulting from switching to virtual event delivery.

ACEC-SK maintains investments in a reserve that totals approximately half the year's operating budget. We have staggered investment maturity dates to facilitate cash flow should this become necessary. As reported last year, the Association also took advantage of the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) as a precaution to ensure cash flow to sustain the association as it faced the unknown. The organization is well positioned to repay this loan within the time constraints so as not to incur any interest while still taking advantage of the \$20,000 forgivable portion of the loan.

As well, government support programs such as CEWS contributed to the sustainability of the organization as all industry associations adapted to restrictions to in-person events.

ACEC-SK again engaged RDS, Professional Chartered Accountant to undertake a full review of ACEC-SK's financial position.

As a result of this review, I am pleased to share that the association is reporting surplus of \$13,846 after year-end adjustments. For more detailed information the reviewed statements are included in this report.

In terms of our membership, this year's total N number (a member firm's total number of employees) was approximately 1650 which reflects the growth in the industry as a whole as a consequence of provincial infrastructure stimulus spending and an improved private sector investment climate.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, ACEC-SK extends thanks to our Member and Associate Member Firms for their continued support of ACEC-SK programs and activities. Without this support, the association could not continue advocating about issues of importance to our members.

Respectfully submitted,

**Ryan King**

Secretary-Treasurer

**Association of Consulting Engineering Companies - Saskatchewan**  
**Financial Statements**  
*March 31, 2022*  
*(Unaudited)*

## Association of Consulting Engineering Companies - Saskatchewan Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2021  
(Unaudited)

### 1. Nature of operations

The Association of Consulting Engineering Companies - Saskatchewan (the "Organization") is incorporated under The Non-profit Corporations Act of Saskatchewan. The principal activity of the Organization is to be the leading "business" advocate for consulting engineering and geoscience firms in the province.

### 2. Significant accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations using the following significant accounting policies:

#### *Cash and cash equivalents*

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and short-term investments with maturity dates of less than 90 days from the date of purchase.

#### *Revenue recognition*

The Organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions and grants. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when they are received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Memberships and sponsorships are recorded as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

#### *Income taxes*

The Organization is exempt from income tax as a not-for-profit organization.

#### *Measurement uncertainty (use of estimates)*

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the reporting date, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses for the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates. Significant financial statement items that require the use of estimates are as follows:

Accounts receivable are stated after evaluation as to their collectability and an appropriate allowance for doubtful accounts is provided where considered necessary.

These estimates are reviewed periodically and adjustments are made, as appropriate, in the statement of operations in the year they become known.

#### *Financial instruments*

The Organization recognizes its financial instruments when the Organization becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. All financial instruments are initially recorded at their fair value. If subsequently measured at its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Financial assets subsequently measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable. Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable.

#### *Impairment*

For financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost, the Organization determines whether there are indications of possible impairment. When there is an indication of impairment, and the Organization determines that a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows, a write-down is recognized in income. If the indicators of impairment have decreased or no longer exist, the previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement. The carrying amount of the financial asset may not be greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in income.

**Association of Consulting Engineering Companies - Saskatchewan**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
*For the year ended March 31, 2021*  
*(Unaudited)*

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**3. Canada Emergency Benefit Account**

In May 2020, the Organization received \$40,000 of Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) loan from the Government of Canada. The CEBA loan was launched to ensure small businesses and charitable organizations have access to the capital they need to see them through the current challenges, and better position them to quickly return to providing services to their communities and creating employment. The Organization received an additional \$20,000 loan in December 2020 when the loan program was expanded to a total of \$60,000.

The CEBA loan has no specified repayment terms and is at 0% interest until December 31, 2022. The remaining balance is then converted to a 3-year term loan at an interest rate of 5% per annum. If the balance of the loan is fully repaid on or before December 31, 2022, the result is loan forgiveness of \$20,000.

**4. Prior period adjustment**

During the year, errors were discovered related to accounts payable that were not reversed when paid as well as deferred revenue related to dues collected on behalf of ACEC not reversed after being submitted. The effect of this correction was a decrease in prior period accounts payable of \$14,150, a decrease in prior period deferred revenue of \$11,890, and an increase to opening net assets of \$26,020.

**5. Financial Instruments**

The Organization, as part of its operations carries a number of financial instruments. It is management's opinion that the Organization is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risk arising from these financial instruments except as otherwise disclosed.

**Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Organization may not be able to meet a demand for cash or fund its obligations as they come due. The Organization is exposed to liquidity risk with respect to its accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The Organization manages this risk by holding assets that can be readily converted into cash. There has been no change in liquidity risk from the prior year.

**Credit risk**

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial asset will cause a financial loss for the company by failing to discharge an obligation. The organization's main credit risks relate to its accounts receivable and grants receivable.

**6. Impact of COVID-19**

In March 2020, there was a global outbreak of COVID-19 which has had a significant impact on organizations through the restrictions put in place by the Canadian, provincial and municipal governments regarding travel, business operations and isolation/quarantine orders. At this time, it is unknown the extent of the impact the COVID-19 outbreak may have on the Organization as this will depend on future developments that are highly uncertain and that cannot be predicted with confidence. These uncertainties arise from the inability to predict the ultimate geographic spread of the disease, and the duration of the outbreak, including the duration of travel restrictions, business closures or disruptions and various international measures that are currently, or may be put, in place by Canada and other countries to fight the virus.

**7. Comparative figures**

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with current year presentation.

## Corporate Members

AECOM  
ALFA Engineering Ltd.  
Allnorth  
Arcadis Canada Inc.  
Arrow Engineering  
Associated Engineering  
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