

2025

# ACEC-SK Brian Eckel Awards Guidelines



ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING  
ENGINEERING COMPANIES | SK

## ACEC-SK Brian Eckel Awards

### Categories for Submission

The Brian Eckel project awards are intended to recognize exceptional projects completed by ACEC-SK member firms. While categories are provided below to be illustrative of the types of projects ACEC-SK member firms typically submit. However, if a member firm has an exceptional project that does not appear to fit within the categories below, the project should still be submitted. Projects are considered based on the strength of the submission and the exceptional nature of the project, not based on the categories.

### Small Firm/Project

- Project must have:
  - a maximum construction value of \$5M and/or
  - been completed by an ACEC-SK member firm with an N of 24 or fewer
- Project can be submitted from any area of practice/discipline

### Buildings

- includes all engineering related to buildings such as electrical, mechanical, structural; engineering and geoscience related to foundations and related systems engineering, including systems to control heating, lighting, and energy management, communications, seismic, life safety, geotechnical and all other services done for the construction of buildings and facilities.
- This project may be submitted as a single-discipline project or as a multi-discipline project to encourage recognition of innovative, impactful elements of a single discipline on the entire project.

### Environmental

- includes all engineering related to contamination site clean-ups, solid-hazardous waste handling and treatment, environmental assessment, and other special projects.

### Municipal Infrastructure & Water Resources

- includes all engineering related to water supply, wastewater, drainage, solid waste; municipal and systems engineering related to municipal infrastructure (but **excludes** transportation related projects); urban land engineering and related services provided during the planning and development of residential, commercial, recreational, major community parks, and revitalization development projects, irrigation and drainage.

### Natural Resources and Energy Production

- includes all engineering related to mining, metallurgy, petrochemical, geoscience, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, power and transmission, industrial and related systems.

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**Studies and Soft Engineering**

- includes all engineering for non-construction projects such as training projects, computer software, research and development, geomatic, pilot projects, development of emerging technologies (which includes new technology or new applications of existing technologies), studies and reports.

**Transportation**

- includes all engineering related to transportation projects including roads, rail, bridges, airports, transit systems, ports and marine engineering.

**Project Management**

- includes all projects that demonstrate consulting engineering firm's particular skills in managing and coordinating services on a client's project.

**Geotechnical Engineering and Geohazards**

- includes all engineering related to foundations, dykes and dams, slope stability, earthworks and excavations, seepage and drainage, tunnels and ground improvements.

**BRIAN ECKEL PINNACLE AWARD**

The Brian Eckel Pinnacle Award will be selected based on the highest scoring project submission. The Panel of Judges will award the Pinnacle Award to the project that receives the greatest number of points across all project categories. **Note: no separate project submission form is necessary to be considered for the Pinnacle Award.**

## ACEC-SK Brian Eckel Awards

### Rules of Entry

- Open to ACEC-SK Member Firms only
- **Entries must be approved by the owner/client of the project prior to project submission**
- An entry must be of engineering/geoscience work done predominantly in Saskatchewan by Saskatchewan-based engineers/geoscientists **with the engineer of record located in Saskatchewan.**
- Projects must have been substantially completed in the previous five year. The determination of 'substantially complete' is at the discretion of the submitter.
- Member firm may indicate the categories under which they are submitting the project.
- Submissions involving non-ACEC-SK members are acceptable only if ACEC-SK members did more than 50% of the engineering or geoscience work.
- Entries shall conform to the "Competition Submissions – The Specifications" in this Guide
- A non-refundable fee of \$750 (plus GST) will be charged for each entry upon receipt of the Intent to Submit or Official Entry form. ACEC-SK will invoice the Member Firm.

### Other Notes

- Award(s) of Excellence in any category may be given at the discretion of the Judges.
- Award(s) of Merit in any category may be given at the discretion of the Judges.
- There will not necessarily be an Award given in each category.
- All judging results are confidential until the Awards presentation.
- Nominees are strongly encouraged to submit their entries to the National Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards.
- ACEC-SK reserves the right, at the discretion of the judges and with the Member Firm's approval, to nominate up to three recipients of an Award of Excellence to the Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards.
- Judges reserve the right to disqualify any entry.
- ACEC-SK may create a short video summarizing the merits of each project submission selected for an award. A copy will be provided to the submitting company following the Awards Ceremony. Additional copies will be made available for an additional fee.
- ACEC-SK retains the right to use all promotional materials, including but not limited to the videos, posters and photos, to elevate the profile of the Saskatchewan consulting engineering/geoscience industry.
- **All Brian Eckel Award project submitters are entitled to a debriefing after the Event. Contact the ACEC-SK office at 306.359.3338 or [events@acec-sk.ca](mailto:events@acec-sk.ca) to schedule.**

### SUBMISSION TIPS:

- Proponents should ensure that submissions are of high professional quality with care and attention provided to correct spelling, proper punctuation and grammar, and appropriate formatting.
- Proponents shall address all five (5) judging criteria components clearly and concisely in their submissions.
- Note that judges may only adjudicate submissions based on material provided by the proponents.

## ACEC-SK Brian Eckel Awards

### Competition Submissions

#### The Specifications

Each submission shall consist of two separate items: an Exhibition Poster and a coil bound project presentation folder. It is important that you adhere to the specifications as indicated below.

#### Exhibition Poster

The engineering/geoscience component of the project submitted must be clearly identified on the panel. Someone unfamiliar with the project should be able to understand the essential nature of the project through text, graphics, and photos. The title of the project should be clear to non-engineers/geoscientists.

#### Poster Dimensions (must be adhered to as outlined below)

Size: 27 inches wide x 30 inches high in vertical (portrait) format.

Paper: Satin premium coated paper designed for a large format printer.

Finish: Matte laminate on both sides to protect the poster and accommodate Velcro strips to hang the poster on the Road Show Display.

#### Presentation Folder Specifications

Each submission shall include **5 coil bound** project presentation folders with no more than 10 single sided pages of 8.5" x 11" (**12pt font**) size as follows:

##### a) Title Page

A Project Title / Data Page (Official Entry Form) signed by the Authorized representative giving ACEC-SK permission to use the project submission materials, including the poster and photos for promotional purposes including, but not limited to, the Road Show, video production, website promotion, annual report etc.)

##### b) Tab I

i) **Owner's Letter** – A one page letter from the owner of the project giving permission to enter the project into the competition and certifying the design and construction (or the assignment) was completed within the specified time frame of the competition period.

ii) **Prime/Main Consultant's Letter** – A one page letter from the prime consultant, giving permission to enter the project into the competition and verifying the role played by the submitting firm (not required if either the owner or the submitting firm is the prime/main consultant).

iii) **Executive Summary** – One page summary of the project specifying the role of the submitter(s) in the project; what was expected; and what was achieved. Please note that the Executive Summary is used for promotional purposes (i.e. video production, project descriptions).

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### Competition Submissions (continued)

#### c) Tab II

A maximum of six (6) pages (8 x11 inch), covering:

- i) Project objectives, solutions and achievements
- ii) Technical excellence and innovation
- iii) Environmental, economic, and social sustainability and aesthetic aspects

*Refer to the Judging Criteria for additional details.*

Please note that the writing in this section should be concise and clearly indicate what the role of the submitter was in the overall project. It may include photos of the project.

#### d) Tab III

i) One pouch containing:

- one flash drive (**ONE ONLY** for ACEC-SK purposes) including:
  - **minimum of 12 photo images** included in the description of the project - high resolution photos (300-600 dpi, 4" x 6" minimum); please identify which photo best represents the project which can be used as the official photo for promotional purposes. A minimum of 4 photo images are required for Studies and Soft Engineering. Small video clips are also welcomed
  - **Please label the photos in a way that is sequenced to best tell the story of your unique project.**
  - an electronic copy of the Presentation Folder, Executive Summary, Poster, and a 100 word abstract that may be used by ACEC-SK for promotional purposes along with photos supplied.

#### Other

The **authorized representative's signature** on the **2025 Official Entry Form** permits ACEC-SK to use all images provided for the purpose of promoting the Association, its Members and the consulting engineering/geoscience industry in Saskatchewan.

## ACEC-SK Brian Eckel Awards

### Judging Criteria

This section is a guide to the kinds of things that the judges will be looking for but is not a definitive list. However, there are **FIVE COMPONENTS** to the judging process (see below) and the judges require descriptions that clearly point to these components. If the narrative does not describe how these components contributed to the project, the submission will lose marks. If any of the components are not applicable, this needs to be stated. The judges cannot make assumptions. They can only judge based on the submission content.

1. Application of Technology (25% weighting)
  - How does the entry demonstrate rigorous application of engineering principles?
  - Does the entry reflect a thorough search for and evaluation of options?
  - Does the entry represent some kind of advancement in technology or science?
  - Does the entry represent any innovation in application, technology or science?
  - Does the entry represent a unique mix of different techniques, materials or equipment?
  
2. Social / Economic / Environmental Impact (25% weighting)
  - How does the entry provide for advancement of social, economic or environmental benefits?
  - Does this entry include an assessment of the triple (social/economic/environmental) bottom line impact?
  - Did the project involve innovative construction techniques or procurement methods?
  - Does the entry represent a notable benefit to society?
  - How did the entry contribute to the development of highly qualified people in Saskatchewan?
  
3. Complexity (25% weighting)
  - Does the entry involve very complex criteria or types of problems?
  - Does the entry represent a notable degree of difficulty?
  - Did the project involve coordination of multiple disciplines?
  - How did the project involve the use of advanced modelling, analysis and design software programs?
  - Were there site problems, regulatory constraints, scheduling difficulties or other elements to be overcome?

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## ACEC-SK Brian Eckel Awards

### Judging Criteria (continued)

4. Owner's / Client's Needs (20% weighting)
  - Is the project an economical and cost effective solution?
  - How did the final cost relate to the original / contracted budget? Please share as much non-proprietary budget information as is appropriate to assist the judges make their determination
  - How closely did the project meet the overall requirements of the Owner/Client?
  - Did the project meet the contract schedule?
  - Were quality management principles and risk analysis applied?
  - What role did project management play in successfully completing the project?
5. Quality of Submission (5% weighting)
  - Attention will be given to adherence to the panel and binder specifications
  - Attention will be given to adherence to submission deadlines
  - Attention will be given to the quality of the narrative and relevance of photographs and illustrations

### SUBMISSION TIPS:

- Proponents should ensure that submissions are of high professional quality with care and attention provided to spelling, proper punctuation, grammar and formatting.
- Proponents should be conscious of addressing all five (5) judging criteria components clearly and concisely.
- Again, please note that judges may only adjudicate submissions based on the substance and quality of the material submitted.

### Judging Process

- Judges are chosen from professional associations, universities and/or eminent professional engineers not primarily engaged in consulting practice to avoid conflicts of interest. There is also movement towards involving individuals in the judging process representing related sectors.
- Winners are kept confidential until announced at the Awards of Distinction. There will be a confidential notification to entrants that their submission will be recognized without defining the extent of recognition.
- Judges reserve the right to disqualify any entry. Award(s) of Excellence and Award(s) of Merit are given to deserving entries, according to the judges' discretion.



**2025 ACEC-SK Brian Eckel Awards**  
INTENT TO SUBMIT

This form must be completed and submitted to ACEC-SK on or before **April 25, 2025**, to indicate your intention to submit a project.

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NAME OF MEMBER FIRM SUBMITTING

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ADDRESS

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TEL

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FAX

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EMAIL

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CONTACT NAME

---

PROJECT TITLE

---

LOCATION OF PROJECT

---

CATEGORY OF ENTRY (Must be specified)

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SECONDARY CATEGORY OF ENTRY (If applicable)

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JOINT SUBMITTERS (IF ANY) OPTIONAL

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PROJECT OWNER

---

PROJECT CLIENT

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SUBCONSULTANTS INVOLVED

Return this completed form by April 25, 2025, to:

Email: [events@acec-sk.ca](mailto:events@acec-sk.ca)

**2025 ACEC-SK Brian Eckel Awards**  
**OFFICIAL ENTRY (Project Title Page)**

The information on this page must appear on the title page of your submission. Information may be formatted to match the page style of your entry submission and must be signed. Mail Official Entry with all supporting materials to **ACEC-SK, 418A McDonald Street, Regina SK S4N 6E1**, on or before **June 20, 2025**.

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NAME OF MEMBER FIRM SUBMITTING

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ADDRESS

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TEL

FAX

EMAIL

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CONTACT NAME

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PROJECT TITLE

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LOCATION OF PROJECT

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CATEGORY OF ENTRY (Must be specified)

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SECONDARY CATEGORY OF ENTRY (If applicable)

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JOINT SUBMITTERS (IF ANY) OPTIONAL

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PROJECT OWNER

---

PROJECT CLIENT

---

SUBCONSULTANTS INVOLVED

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SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

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Authorized representative signature

*This project involved non-ACEC-SK members, but I certify that ACEC-SK member firms did more than 50% of the engineering or geoscience work required. Permission is given to ACEC-SK to use the project submission materials, (including the poster and photos) for promotional purposes including, but not limited to the Road Show, video production, website promotion, annual report etc.*

*By way of affixing my signature above I hereby certify that this project is not subject to circumstances that may otherwise result in embarrassment or undue harm to ACEC-SK or its members, including but not limited to litigation, investigation, disciplinary review, or negative public or media attention.*