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**Chair's Message**

Rishi Gupta, Ph. D., P.Eng., *Chair*

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As the newly elected Chair of the Burnaby/New West branch of APEGBC, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire team of branch volunteers (including Past Chair- Carl Wong) for their relentless efforts in planning and organizing the various branch events and activities last year. I also take this opportunity to introduce my new team of elected executives and volunteers of the branch (names on the following page).

During my four years as a branch volunteer and two years as the Vice Chair, I have not only enjoyed my interaction with many young and energetic volunteers in our branch but also with many members of our branch that have participated in events organized by the branch.

Moving forward, I envision organizing many events to cater to the needs of our Burnaby/New West membership and also to reach out to our future engineers and geoscientists by building on our secondary and high school outreach program. Please refer to "[Branch's calendar of events](#)" on the last page for a tentative schedule of events planned for this year.

The first ever popsicle stick bridge competition was organized for the elementary and secondary school students in Burnaby and New West in 2010. We hope to organize this ever so popular competition for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive time this year on a much larger scale. We are looking for industry sponsors to support this event and invite interested parties to contact me at bn@apeg.bc.ca. We are kicking-off this year's events with a special winery tour on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. I would encourage members to join us at this fun event



Professional Engineers  
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**BURNABY/  
NEW WESTMINSTER  
BRANCH**

[www.apeg.bc.ca/bn](http://www.apeg.bc.ca/bn)

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**[bn@apeg.bc.ca](mailto:bn@apeg.bc.ca)**

at Lulu Island Winery. Many executives from the branch will also be in attendance. So don't miss out on meeting the newly elected executives over some great tasting wine! More information about this event is under ["Branch Events."](#)

We are always looking for energetic volunteers to help out with branch activities. If anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact me at [bn@apeg.bc.ca](mailto:bn@apeg.bc.ca). I am very excited to take on the role of the Chair this year and look forward to meeting and hearing from many members of the branch this year!



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**Newly Elected 2011-2012 Executive Committee & Volunteers**

**A**fter years of dedication to Burnaby/New Westminister Branch, our previous chair, Carl Wong passed on the torch to Rishi Gupta to build on the branch's recent success. We thank Carl Wong for his great leadership and enthusiasm that resulted in various wonderful activities in the past few years and wish him a promising future.

Other changes in the formation of the new Executive Committee are: Mike Samilski takes on the role of being the Vice Chair, Gary Lin has kindly agreed to assist the Branch Treasurer Naimesh Vadhwana with financial matters this year; Denver Maharaj has stepped down as the branch Secretary and is now being replaced by Stuart Nash; Stanley Li and Stuart Nash take charge of Event Coordinating. Jean Zhou will continue to be the newsletter coordinator. Other volunteers of the branch include: Mohsen Ghafgazi, Ron Finch, Erie Okada, Jon Minkvich, Ali Habibi, Denver Maharaj, and newly recruited volunteer Jim Chen.

**Burnaby/New Westminister Branch Executive & Volunteers**

**Rishi Gupta, Ph.D., P.Eng.**  
*Chair*

**Mike Samilski, P.Eng.**  
*Vice Chair*

**Naimesh Vadhwana, EIT**  
*Treasurer*

**Stuart Nash, EIT**  
*Secretary*

**Stanley Li, EIT**  
**Stuart Nash, EIT**  
*Event Coordinators*

**Jean Zhou**  
*Newsletter Coordinator*

*Members at Large*

**Ali Habibi, GIT**  
**Erie Okada**  
**John Minkvich, EIT**

**Denver Maharaj, P.Eng**  
**Gary Lin, P.Eng**  
**Mohsen Ghafgazi, EIT**

**Ron Finch, EIT**



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**Branch Events (upcoming)**

**Lulu Island Winery Tour**

**Saturday September 10, 2011**

**Time: 10:45AM**

**Location: 16880 Westminster Hwy, Richmond V6V 1A8, BC Canada**

**Fee: \$5**

**RSVP: Please register on-line at “<http://www.apeg.bc.ca/event>” as space is limited.**

**Meet and Greet on a Winery Tour!**

**E**njoy great tasting wine and meet the newly elected executives of APEGBC's Burnaby/NewWest Branch!!

Do you enjoy tasting great wine and social interaction? Do you like to learn more about wine and how it was made? Did you know there are some great wines being produced in the Greater Vancouver Region? Look no further because you are all invited to join us for a wine tasting tour at Lulu Island Winery.

Lulu Island Winery is the newest and largest winery in Richmond! It produces many quality wines including red and white table wines, fruit wines, and Canada's very own ice wines. All of Lulu Island's quality wines are produced on site, shipping in the best grapes from the Okanogan, and the best berries from the Fraser Valley. They claim to be dedicated to the production of flavorful and aromatic wines, and are proud to sport the VQA stamp on all of their bottles.

Photos below were taken at the Winery tour last year.





**Seminar for Foreign Trained Professionals**

**Monday, October 24, 2011**

**Time: 6:30 pm**

**Location: Burnaby Public Library (Metrotown Branch)**

**Register: Online <<http://www.bpl.bc.ca/events/apegbc-seminar-for-foreign-trained-engineers-and-geoscientists-0>>**  
**or call the Metrotown information desk at 604-436-5400**

**A** special workshop covering detailed instructions for internationally trained engineers or geoscientists on how to register with the association will be hosted by the Burnaby/New West branch in collaboration with the Metrotown branch of the Burnaby Public Library. The presentation will focus on the GIT/EIT/P.Eng./P.Geo. registration process, which is the key to starting a professional career in Canada. Time permitting, there will also be an opportunity to ask specific questions about the registration process to the presenter.

*Photos showing the seminar in progress last year.*





**President's Dinner & Presentation**

**November 17, 2011 (TBC), Time/Location/Fee: TBA**

**A** dinner meeting to welcome the APEGBC President/Vice President will be held this coming November. In addition, we will also invite a senior professional working in the engineering field to provide a technical speech. Watch out for the next newsletter for detailed information about this event and the registration procedure.

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**APEGBC EIT/GIT Logbook Seminar**

**December 2011, Date/Time/Location: TBA**

**E**very year, our branch organizes a seminar to inform the EITs and GITs about the procedure involved in getting registered as a P.Eng/P.Geo with APEGBC. This informative seminar provides in-depth information about maintaining a log of your work experience, writing the professional practice exam, attending the law and ethics exam. The seminar also gives an insight into the evaluation and interview process. This year, the seminar will be held in December.





**Branch's Calendar of Events  
September 2011-March 2012**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
Branch Executive Meeting	<b>Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011</b>
Winery Tour	<b>Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011</b>
Branch Executive Meeting	<b>Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011</b>
Seminar for Foreign Trained Professionals	<b>Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011</b>
Exhibit at BCIT Big Info (TBC)	<b>Wednesday, November 2, 2011</b>
Branch Executive Meeting	<b>Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011</b>
President's Dinner Seminar (TBC)	<b>Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011</b>
Branch Executive Meeting	<b>Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011</b>
EIT/GIT Logbook Seminar (TBC)	<b>December, 2011</b>
Branch Executive Meeting	<b>Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012</b>
Site Visit (TBC)	<b>January, 2012</b>
Site Visit (TBC)	<b>February, 2012</b>
Branch Executive Meeting	<b>Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012</b>
Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition (TBC)	<b>March, 2012</b>