



The 4th Dimension

Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC
Victoria Branch Newsletter
www.apeg.bc.ca/vic

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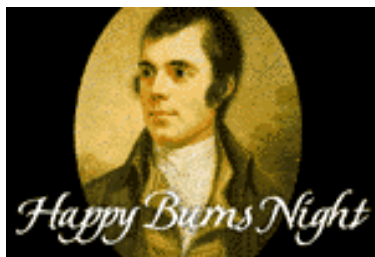
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January Dinner Meeting

You are cordially invited to a special party to honor Robbie Burns. Join us for a special Scottish celebration and a presentation of a Victoria technology success story on January 30, 2003! We are delighted to have two speakers from Carmanah Technologies to enlighten us with their story of how they carried their business from concept to commercialization.



Dress up for Robbie Burns Night!

Come to the celebration in style — Kilts, plaid shirts, bagpipes are welcome — to honor the celebrated Scottish poet and songwriter, Robbie Burns. This evening is a special occasion, complete with the piping in of steaming haggis (a pudding of sheep organs, oatmeal and savoury spices) and addressing it with the reading of the poet's brash Ode To A Haggis.

Success in the Making: Carmanah Technologies

Our January dinner meeting will feature a Victoria technology success story, Carmanah Technologies. Carmanah is a world leader in the design and manufacture of patented solar-powered lighting for industrial and commercial applications.

The company of approximately 45 staff is located at the Pacific Marine Technology Centre in downtown Victoria. Its main source of revenue is navigation lighting and marine hazard lighting. More recently, they have added products for highway, railway, aviation, and transit applications.

We are delighted to have two presenters from Carmanah: Art Aylesworth, CEO and Dr. David Green, Chairman, company founder and technical expert. They will discuss the evolution of the company from concept to commercialization, its present status, and where they hope to be in the next couple of years. Their presentation will cover not only the technology, but also the financing and marketing of the products, together with the various trials and tribulations that give a company its character.



Dinner Meeting Registration

Please register in advance via the telephone answering service at 721-8896 by **TUESDAY, January 28**. Provide the names of those whom you are registering and your telephone number. If you cannot attend after registering, please call 882-4482 by NOON the day before the meeting and give notice of cancellation on the answering service. The branch pays for dinners for the no-shows who do not cancel. Friends, associates and partners are always welcome! If you can not join us for dinner, please come and join us for the presentation. Cost is \$20.00 for advance registration, \$25.00 at the door, \$10.00 for students and \$5.00 for presentation only.

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Richard Talbot Memorial Scholarship

By Tom McLean P.Eng CFP, Talbot Fund Manager

Who was Richard Talbot?

Richard (Dick) Talbot believed strongly in the professionalism of Engineering, and was a strong supporter of the Victoria chapters of the EIC and the CSCE. He was also a mentor to many of our present members.

In recognition of his lifetime dedication to our association and other technical and community societies, in 1995 the APEGBC planned to present him with the Professional Service Award. Sadly, Dick died of cancer at the relatively young age of 64 that summer, just prior to the awards ceremony. The award was presented posthumously to his wife Chrissie.



The Talbot Award

The Victoria Branch has a mandate to honour Dick's contribution in perpetuity, by making an award available yearly to an appropriate University of Victoria Engineering student. We plan to make our inaugural award of \$500 at our **January 30, 2003** dinner meeting. That evening we will have the honour of having Chrissie Talbot present, to make this award. We hope you will be able to join us on this occasion.

Financial Status of the Fund

July 1, 2001	\$10,937.49	Balance, held in 3 GICs
	\$ 311.03	Gains/interest during the fiscal year
	\$ 1493.00	New contributions during year
June 30, 2002	<u>\$12,741.52</u>	Balance

Fund Management

On April 30, 2002 the Victoria Branch Executive mandated that The Talbot Memorial Fund be actively managed, with objectives similar to pension management, such as:

- Long-term sustainability
- Capital preservation
- Optimized growth vs. volatility
- Minimized / optimal tax implications

The evolution to an actively-managed fund is ongoing, and will be reported to the Executive and summarized in **The 4th Dimension**.

MathCounts: Call for Volunteers!

The Victoria Branch is hosting the annual regional MathCounts tournament on Friday, February 7, 2003 at the University of Victoria and we need you to help make it happen.

MathCounts combines the efforts of education, business, government and the technological community to promote math excellence among 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. It was developed as a positive and rewarding solution to reversing the current problem of math illiteracy, and as a way to make parents, educators and the public aware of career opportunities in math.

For more information about MathCounts, link to <http://www.apeg.bc.ca/students/mathcounts>

Those interested in helping out should contact James Bernaldez, P.Eng by email at jaba@pacificcoast.net or by phone at 881-2313.

Camosun College Spaghetti Bridge Contest

It is time to play with pasta again! This year's annual Spaghetti Bridge Contest is scheduled for Friday, March 7, 2003. High school students will be competing to build the strongest and most aesthetically pleasing bridge possible made with spaghetti. College students will compete to build the best bridge given a unique structural assignment.

We are seeking volunteers to help with the contest—organizers, "colour"



commentators, and individuals and teams to visit high schools and create interest in building bridges and learning about engineering. In addition, ideas for a structural challenge are also welcome!

For more information, check out our past Spaghetti Bridge contests at http://civil.camosun.bc.ca/spaghetti_bridge or contact Greg Beaveridge, P.Eng at (250) 370-4504.

Spirited Away at the November 2002 Dinner Meeting

By Joyce Liu, EIT

A successful and well-attended evening marked the last Victoria Branch dinner meeting of 2002. The evening was energized with 51 attendees from a variety of backgrounds and age groups. Men, women, the young and young at heart, engineers, geoscientists, teachers, wives of engineers and friends shared a delightful evening together.

The meeting opened with an exciting celebration of engineers as three members were awarded a well-deserved professional engineering license! Jan Buermans, P.Eng, our enthusiastic Branch Chair, presented license certificates to Cedric Marsh, Mark Sudul and Craig Gotfred. Congratulations to Cedric, Mark and Craig! The Victoria Branch wishes them all the best in their careers as Professional Engineers!

After delicious food with great company, we were entertained with an informative and inspiring presentation by Mr. Ken Baker, the Executive Director of Environment and Sustainability with the Vancouver 2010 Bid Corporation and our very own Branch member. Mr. Baker spread the Olympic spirit that night as he passionately explained why we should support the bid to host the 2010 Winter Olympics. His vision is to create



"17 days of Olympics could turn into 17 years of economic prosperity for BC"

sustainable legacies in BC. The Olympics would carry BC into the future by bringing many sustainability improvements to Vancouver and surrounding BC communities, including Victoria. He proved to us that 17 days of Olympics could turn into 17 years of economic prosperity for BC and closed with a short video about Vancouver's bid.

To learn more about Vancouver's bid for the 2010 Winter Olympics or to show your support, link to www.winter2010.com. This website contains the Bid Supporter form, which Mr. Baker encourages everyone to submit. A paper version of this form will be available at the next Branch meeting on January 30th, 2003.

Overall, the evening was a great success. We had good food, good company, we learned all about the Vancouver bid and we had fun!

To view pictures of this meeting, link to our web page at <http://www.apeg.bc.ca/branches/Branches/victoriapic.html>.

The Next Generation Meets Industry

By Irena Netik, EIT and Jan Buermans, P.Eng



Engineering as a field encompasses a spectrum of career paths and opportunities in the world. These career paths and experiences were well represented at the Industry Mixer held at the University of Victoria on November 7, 2002 by APEGBC. The speakers spoke on a variety of subjects and shared personal anecdotes, travel experiences and words of wisdom. The event was inspirational to the young and wise alike.

It was a casual evening that gave the engineering and geosciences students the means of connecting with the industry. More than 100 students took this opportunity to find out if they should pursue a career in the oil and gas industry, the Canadian Navy or work for a consulting firm to name just a few.

The success of the evening is attributed to not only all the speakers but also APEGBC for the excellent organization. If you missed it this year, don't miss it next time around because there are not many opportunities to influence the future of our profession and meet the next generation.

Thank you to the following individuals for donating their time to be part in this important event:

Pat Smithers, P.Eng.	Canadian Navy
Len Mar, P.Eng.	Engineering Data Solutions
Rob Hare, P.Eng.	Institute of Ocean Sciences
Colin Lennox, P.Eng.	Lennotech
Valerie Cameron, P.Geo.	Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection
Peter Davis, P.Eng.	Oil and Gas Commission
Craig Gibson, P.Eng.	Oil and Gas Commission
Ian Steele, EIT	PBA Engineering Ltd.
Vic Preto, P.Eng.	Preto Geological Inc
Ryan Mitton, BSc	-
Joshua Hayes, EIT	Victoria Branch Treasurer
Irena Netik, EIT	Victoria Branch Secretary
David Turner	UVIC GASEOS, President
Wayne Choi	UVIC Engineering Student Society, VP External
Shelley Lebar	APEGBC Student Program Coordinator

A Victorian Success: The 2002 Annual Conference and AGM

By Joyce Liu, EIT

I sat down with Bill Fraser, the key organizer of the successful 2002 AGM and Annual Conference, for Sunday morning tea at Moka House. Bill kindly shared his experience with the Conference with me. We chatted and sipped teas as I learned of great opportunities to learn, meet people and have fun!

The most successful Conference and AGM awoke on a foggy Thursday morning at the Victoria Conference Centre in beautiful Victoria, BC. Judith Reid, BC Minister of Transportation, shared a warm breakfast with everyone as this excellent and professional speaker spoke about the role of BC professional engineers and geoscientists in the field of transportation engineering and their influence on the BC economy.

Despite delayed attendees from the Mainland, over 750 people participated and help the Conference start with a bang! The first day offered five tracks of seminars, including engineering and geoscience in the forest sector, municipal engineering, management, project management, and computer and software systems.

Harriet Lemer, a speaker from the management style and communications seminar track, kindly stepped in as the keynote speaker and presented an informative talk about the human side of change. The seminars ended with a well-attended wine and cheese reception as over 35 trade exhibitors marketed their products and services.

The second day proved to be another success with five well-attended seminar tracks including engineering and geoscience in the forest sector, structural engineering, better business, personal development and sustainability in action. Everyone shared lunch with Mr. Ken Baker. This Executive Director of Environment and Sustainability with the Vancouver 2010 Bid organization gave a powerful and inspiring presentation about how the 2010 Olympics can bring Vancouver (and BC) to the future.

Friday evening closed with an opportunity for all to let their hair down at the Mardi Gras style fun night. This hugely successful and colourful event brought out the wild side of the engineers and geoscientists as every-

one partied and Latin danced the night away. The music and ambiance were infectious and the night was definitely one to remember. The record attendance of 280 people, and unforgettable attractive decorations were applauded by many including APEGBC's past president, John Watson, P.Eng.

As the AGM always follows the Conference, the AGM was held all day Saturday. This AGM gave regional representatives across all of BC to discuss major issues faced by APEGBC and BC engineers today. Representatives from various provinces were invited on behalf of the Canadian Council of Engineers (CCE) to attend the conference and learn of the issues faced Canadian engineers and geoscientists, in particular, whether to consider technologists independent or part of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists.



Bill and Elizabeth Fraser dance the night away at the Mardi Gras party.

The Annual Conference and AGM ended on Saturday night with the formal President's Awards and Gala. Our new APEGBC president, Dick Fletcher, was inducted and several engineers and geoscientists were awarded with honor for their many years of service at APEGBC.

Overall, the 2002 Conference and AGM were a great success! It was a wonderful joint effort of staff between the Victoria Branch executive and APEGBC headquarters. Everyone learned something and had fun while learning! As Colin Smith, the past president of APEGBC and a member of our very own Victoria Branch said

“(the Branch) has done itself proud!”

This tremendously successful event could not have happened with the many volunteers and speakers. A big THANK YOU and CONGRATULATIONS goes out to all these people, including:

Annual Conference Branch Committee

Bill Fraser, P.Eng., Dave Bevan, P.Eng., David Gibbs, P.Eng., Dick Chappell, P.Eng., Greg Ovstaas, P.Eng., Colin Smith, P.Eng., Joshua Hayes, EIT, and Jean McClennan of the Engineers Wives Association.

APEGBC Coordinator

Wayne Gibson, P.Eng.

APEGBC Conference Staff Support

Tracy Frazer, Janet Guscott, Shelley Lebar, Sandra Lee, Dale Lessoway, Glenn Martin, and Angie Freedman.

Meetings Around Town

APEGBC, Victoria Branch

Victoria Branch dinner meetings are held the last Thursday night of every month from September to May excluding December. Meetings are usually held at Caddie's Pub in University of Victoria and start at 5:30 p.m.

The next dinner meeting is on Thursday, JANUARY 30th, 2003 and then FEBRUARY 27th. The featured speaker for February will be announced in the next newsletter.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Branch Executive meetings held every first Tuesday of the month at 7:00am at Redd's Café in the Holiday Inn on Blanshard St and Finlayson Ave. The next meeting is scheduled for February 4th.

ASHRAE, Vancouver Island Chapter

The next dinner meeting is held on Thursday, February 13, 2003. Ken Sinclair will be just back from Chicago and will provide the highlights of Building Automation at this year's Expo plus a quick overview of his joint AHR Building Automation Sessions with David Branson. There will be a buffet dinner at the Cedar Hill Golf Course.

RSVP by email to Paul R Mazzulli at paul@burrmech.ca or call Paul at (250) 385-6234 to reserve your spot. Cost: \$25.00 for chapter members, society members, & guests of members, \$15.00 for students and \$30 for non-members. For more information, please link to: <http://www.ashrae.bc.ca/vi.htm>



Regular luncheon meetings take place on the last Thursday of the month at 11:45 a.m. at the Traveler's Inn - City Centre, 1961 Douglas, Victoria. The cost is \$15 for members and \$18 for non-members.

The next meeting is on Thursday, January 30th, 2003. The featured topic is titled CRD Regional Growth Strategy presented by Tracey Corbett, Senior Planner at CRD Regional Planning Services. She will review the current progress and future direction of CRD's regional growth strategy, focusing on transportation components.

Engineering Institute of Canada (EIC), Vancouver Island Branch

The group meets the first Friday of the month at the Traveler's Inn, 1961 Douglas at 12:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2003. For more information, please link to: <http://civil.camusun.bc.ca/vib-eic/>

Engineer's Wives Association

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, 2003 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at the Victoria Golf Club. The featured speaker for the luncheon is Dr. Tim Ball. For more information please call Caroline Hunter at 595-8658.

Institute of Transportation Engineers (CITE), Vancouver Island Section

To register, contact Sue Harrison by phone at 952-4479 or by email at Suzanne.Harrison@gems2.gov.bc.ca by Monday, January 27.

For more information, please link to: <http://www.citebc.ca>

2003 CITE Quad/WCTA Regional Conference Doing it Right - State of the Art

The Vancouver Island Section of CITE and the Western Canada Traffic Association (WCTA) are hosting a 1 1/2 day Regional Conference in Victoria on April 4 to 5.

The conference will be of interest to all those involved in the planning, design and operation of transportation facilities.

In addition to the Conference, five seminars are planned including SYNCHRO Traffic Signal Software (3 courses), a 2-day "Development Access - Approve it - Safely" seminar, and a 1-day Traffic Safety seminar.

The Preliminary Conference Program and registration form are now available on their website at <http://www.citebc.ca>.

Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS)

Luncheon meetings generally take place on the third Friday of each month at 12:00 p.m. at the Traveler's Inn - City Centre, 1961 Douglas St., Victoria.

Meetings run from September to May, excluding December. For more information, please link to: <http://www.cgs.ca/english/reg-div/vic-loc.html> or contact Steve Bean by email at sbean@thurberggroup.com or by calling (250) 727-3710.

Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (CSCE)

The local branch of the CSCE will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Friday, February 7, 2003 at the Traveler's Inn City Centre in Victoria following the regular EIC luncheon meeting. Anyone interested in letting their name stand for an executive committee should contact Gerry Buydens at 356-9449 or Gerry.Buydens@gems2.gov.bc.ca

The Lighter Side



Hole in One

Baltimore entrepreneurs Duncan Bland and Alonzo Decker have brought us a bottle-cap machine, a

shock absorber, and a cotton picker. Now their 5 year-old company has introduced an innovative electric drill. Its pistol-grid handle, inspired by the ergonomic design of the Colt .45 handgun, marks a significant improvement over older

drills—awkward tools that require two-man teams to operate. The trigger switch allows for lightning-fast startups, and beneath the sleek skin you'll find ball-thrust bearings, steel gears, and a forced-draft system that keeps the motor cool. Put simply, the new tool will change the way you think about electric drills.

Black & Decker pistol-grip drill: available 1916

Burns' Hog-Weighing Method

1. Get a perfectly symmetrical plank and balance it across a saw-horse.
2. Put the hog on one end of the plank.
3. Pile rocks on the other end until the plank is again perfectly balanced.
4. Carefully guess the weight of the rocks.

-- Robert Burns

Have Your Say!

Do you like our revised format? Do you have concerns or comments you would like to voice? We'd love to hear from you and welcome any contributions to this newsletter, humorous or otherwise. The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is February 7, 2003. Please send them to Joyce Liu, EIT at jliu@powelgroup.com.

Advertisements

While APEGBC-Victoria Branch is not in a position to endorse advertisements, we do provide them as a service to our members. The advertising rates are \$200 for eight continuous advertisements and \$30 for a single advertisement.

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