



# Newsletter

Volume 26 • May 2014

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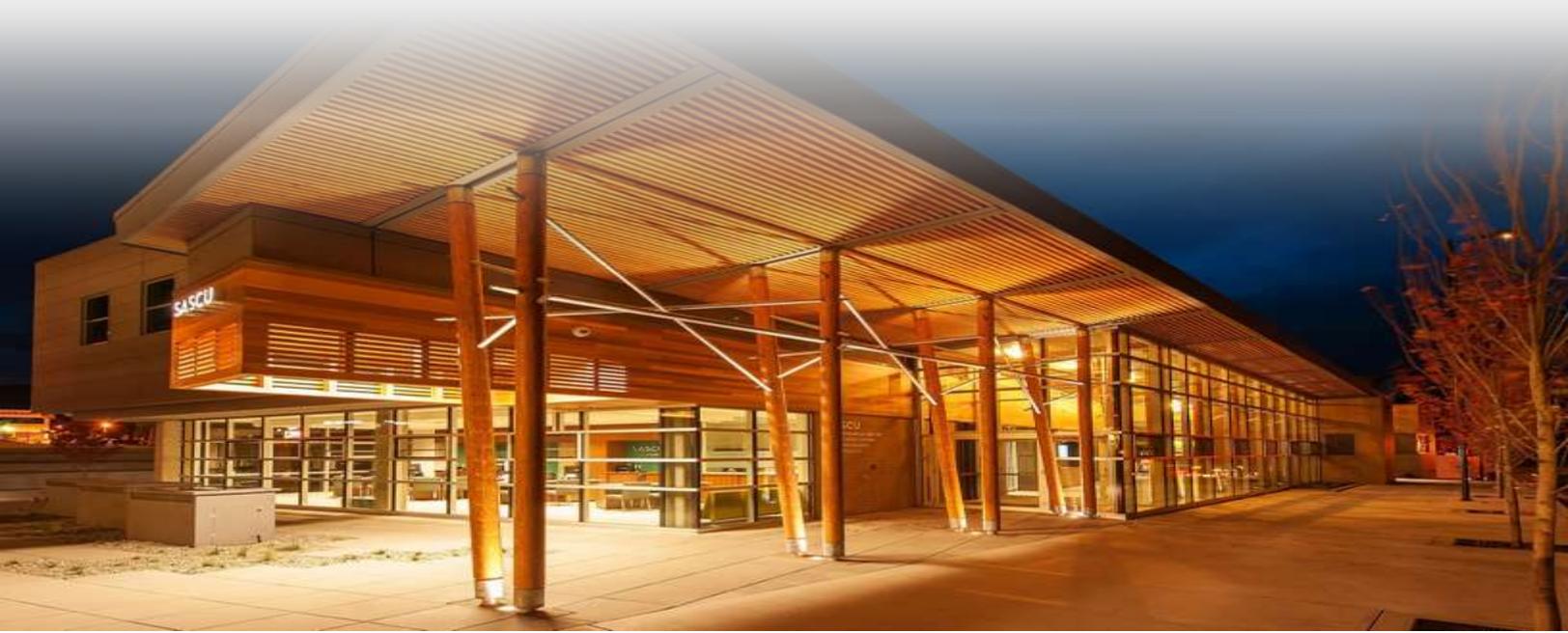
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Cameron Kemp, P.Eng.  
SEABC President

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## Message from the President

### The Boiling Frog Syndrome (except the water isn't getting warmer slowly!)

I am not sure if the Boiling Frog Syndrome is a real phenomenon or not or just an urban myth but it is an apt metaphor for the world we now find ourselves in. The syndrome goes something like this; if you put a frog in a pool of water and very slowly increase the temperature of the water the frog's physiology is such that it does not perceive its changing environment and will stay in the water until it boils to death.

While somewhat gruesome the syndrome describes what can happen if you are not continuously aware of your environment, assessing how it is changing and determining how best to adapt to it to survive.

While not couched in quite so dire a fashion the keynote speech by Mr. Glenn Bell at our recent AGM had a "boiling frog syndrome" message embedded in it. The title of his keynote speech was "Developing the Next Generation of Structural Engineers" in which Glenn talked about how our profession is needing to adapt to a rapidly changing external environment.

Specifically he identified the following environmental changes:

- Populations and economies of developing countries are rising at an enormous rate
- Our globe is shrinking and societies are increasingly interconnected
- The Earth's critical resources are becoming increasingly scarce

- Climate change is impacting the environment to which our constructed works are exposed
- Technological systems are becoming increasingly complex
- Interconnectivity and knowledge exchange are enabling the development of high quality engineers around the globe
- Technology is replacing human effort in calculation, simulation, knowledge management, and manual fabrication and labour techniques

This message was fairly simple; if we don't take the appropriate steps to ensure that we continue to provide valuable expertise, services and, more importantly, *solutions* to society's challenges we will find ourselves becoming increasingly commoditized and irrelevant.

While sobering, his message was also upbeat in the sense that we don't have to find ourselves in the same plight as the poor boiling frog. He maintains that if we provide leadership in the following key areas we, as a profession, can continue to thrive:

- **Become a Global Practitioner:**  
Become more knowledgeable, competent and confident in operating in an international setting.
- **Become a Collaborative Leader:**  
Leadership will always be required on projects. We should seek opportunities to take on leadership roles within them in a collaborative manner.
- **Become the Creator/Innovator:**  
North America has a history of innovation and creativity. We need to maintain that lead and use it to create new opportunities.
- **Become the Integrator**  
Increasingly projects are becoming more complex and sophisticated. As the designers of a buildings skeleton to which cladding materials are applied and mechanical/electrical systems and finishes are installed within we are in a unique position to play the role of the project integrator.

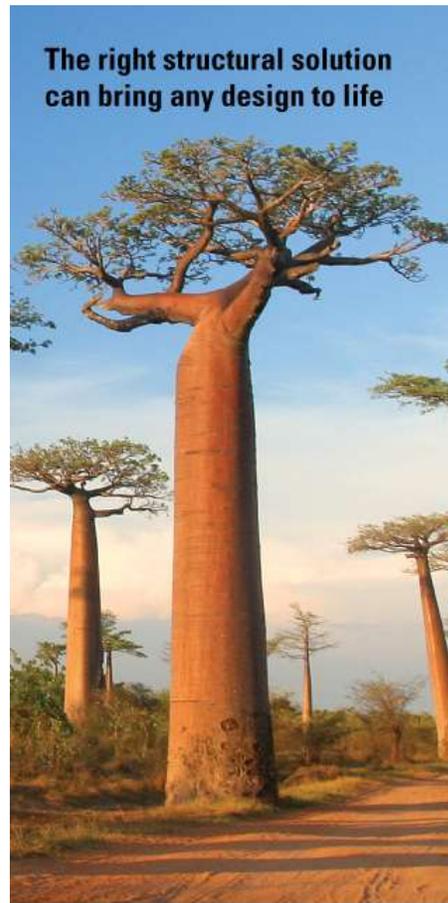
- **Become the Master of Uncertainty**  
We all live and work in an era of increasing uncertainty. If we can use our scientific training to understand/manage risk and uncertainty we can make better decisions in the face of them
- **Become the Expert of Technical Fundamentals**  
Increasingly we find that computers and software can automate the analysis and design process. The risk is that these tools become “black boxes” with little or no understanding of what is happening within them. We must resist the seduction of these technologies and keep reminding ourselves that we need to remain experts in the technical fundamentals.

Glenn maintains that if the universities, professional associations (like APEGBC and SEABC) and structural engineering employers work together to train our current and future structural engineers in these key skill sets we will develop a generation of engineers that will be successful in the face of these changing external environmental factors.

Since this thought-provoking talk the SEABC Board is beginning a conversation amongst ourselves and with other key stakeholders to take tangible steps to ensure that our future members are well trained and equipped to succeed in this new environment.

Encouragingly Glenn stated that the SEABC, with its innovative and active programs and initiatives, was well ahead of those corresponding organizations within his own country.

I, for one, do not relish the prospect of becoming a boiled frog. Do you?



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## 2014 AGM Report and Keynote Speaker Address

The 2014 Annual General Meeting of SEABC took place on March 5<sup>th</sup> at the Sutton Place hotel. Addressing the 90 members attending SEABC's flagship event, President Cameron Kemp highlighted the various reports which had been distributed to the membership earlier by email and confirmed that membership in the Association had remained strong over the past year.

Bill Alcock then introduced the keynote speaker, Glenn R Bell. Based in Boston MA, Glenn is CEO of prominent engineering consultancy Simpson Gumpertz & Heger. Glenn is also a Fellow of ASCE's Structural Engineering Institute and a Fellow of the Institution of Structural Engineers.



*Bill Alcock Introducing the Keynote Speaker*

Glenn has been with Simpson Gumpertz & Heger throughout his career, and had the distinct advantage of working directly with each of the company's founding principals. In his presentation to SEABC, entitled Developing the Next Generation of Structural Engineers, Glenn outlined a crisis of opportunity. Glenn notes that in a rapidly-changing world, connectivity and knowledge exchange are enabling the development of high-quality engineers across the globe while at the same time, technology is replacing human effort.

Glenn believes that structural engineering needs to adapt to the changing world. He foresees the future

successful structural engineer having a different skill set, in particular:

- Global practitioner
- Collaborative leader
- Creator / innovator
- Integrator
- Master of uncertainty
- Expert of technical fundamentals

Glenn then outlined the required development steps through the Undergraduate, Graduate, Internship, and Ongoing Learning and Professional Development stages. He noted that, while other professions have significantly increased their educational requirements, engineering has remained essentially unchanged since 1900. ASCE believes in raising the bar to the Master's degree educational level, but there is considerable inertia to be overcome among the many industry stakeholders bent on maintaining the status quo.



*Keynote Speaker Glenn Bell*

Glenn is keen to develop a closer relationship between practice, education and research and believes everyone – academia, managers, industry leaders, and young professionals have a role in capturing the opportunity presented by global change. Glenn is keen to be contacted by anyone with an interest at [grbell@sgh.com](mailto:grbell@sgh.com)

The members attending the AGM greatly appreciated hearing Glenn's viewpoint and a lively exchange followed his presentation. On behalf of the Association, David Harvey thanked the speaker who was then given a gift of First Nations artwork by Cameron Kemp.

A selection of Pictures from the Annual General Meeting:



*Thor Tandy and Stephen Pienaar.*



*SEABC Life member Dave Davey savouring the moment!*



*Bob Sexsmith and Adam Lubell.*



*David Harvey and Bill Alcock enjoying the occasion.*



*SEABC Reception Staff Melanie Fung and Cecilia Bernabe.*

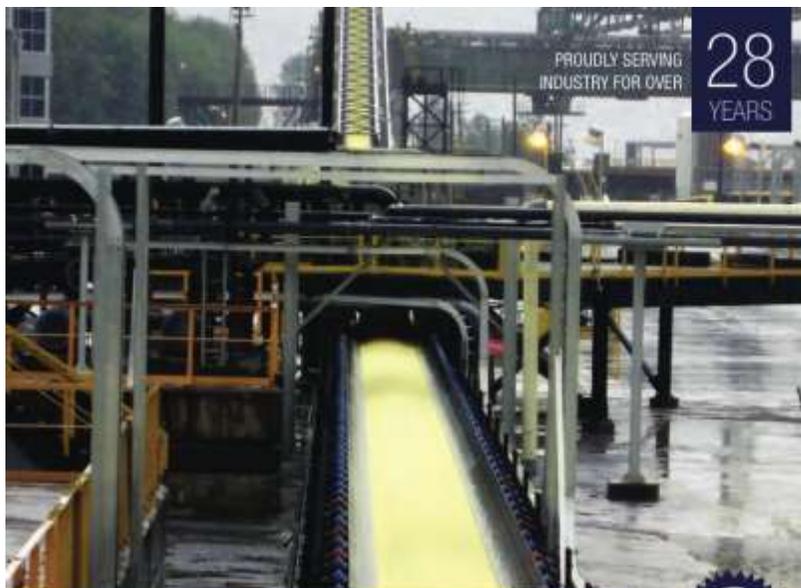


*David Chen and Richard Annett.*

## Thank you to our Sponsors

SEABC's Annual General Meeting is our flagship event, which features a keynote presentation by a leading international structural engineer with an interesting story. The event is affordably priced and we encourage our members to attend. This is made possible thanks to the generosity of our event sponsors, which we have recognized by including their advertisements in this edition of the newsletter. The organizations who sponsored our 2014 AGM are:

Glotman Simpson Consulting Engineers  
Gygax Engineering Associates Ltd.  
Sacre Davey Engineering  
Thomas Leung Structural Engineering Inc.  
Masonry Institute of BC  
Prokon Software Consultants (Canada) Ltd.  
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**Experience** – Sacré-Davey Engineering is a mid-sized industrial engineering firm, located in North Vancouver, with specialized expertise in the Ports, Oil and Gas, and Materials Handling fields. Our primary objective in any project is to bring value to our clients beyond the cost of our services.

In our 28 years, we have worked for many industrial clients in western Canada and the USA. Over 80% of our work is with repeat customers. With our current staff levels of approximately 100, we are large enough to provide exceptional service, but not large enough that we carry significant overhead. We have a strong civil / structural group of 15 engineers, EIT's and technologists.

**Innovation** – Our technology innovation group S2G, has developed a proprietary hydrocracking and hydrogenation process to convert C5 and C6 sugars into glycols. We have a pilot plant currently running and are very close to commercialization of this technology. In addition we have developed extensive experience in the generation and handling of hydrogen through a subsidiary company, HTEC.

**The Team** – At Sacré-Davey Engineering, we strive to create a work environment based on inclusivity and longevity. The culture that we have created attracts some of the best available people and creates long term loyalties.

From our customer's point of view this creates consistency. The team that works together on a project today will most likely be the same team that works on the next project... and the next. This creates not only cost efficiencies, but also project continuity and consistency.

**Quality and Safety** – SDE was one of the first 14 companies to receive OOM certification from APEGBC. We are very safety conscious and conduct a weekly meeting for all staff at which safety issues are discussed.

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## Wood Design Awards 2014

On March 3, 2014, 10 years of Wood Design Awards in B.C. were celebrated by more than 350 distinguished design and building professionals at the Vancouver Convention Centre (West), including architects, structural engineers, project teams, local government, industry sponsors and guests. Nominees and winners of the Wood *WORKS!* BC 2014 Wood Design Awards were honoured and recognized, as were those who have participated in the Wood Design Awards in B.C. during the past decade.

Wood *WORKS!* is a national industry-led initiative of the Canadian Wood Council, with a goal to support innovation and provide leadership on the use of wood and wood products. Wood *WORKS!* BC provides education, training and technical expertise to building and design professionals involved with non-residential construction projects throughout B.C. The annual Wood Design Awards evening recognizes leadership and innovation in wood use, while being an opportunity to publicly honour and encourage continued excellence in the building and design community.

There were 113 nominations in 12 categories for the 2014 awards from all over the province, as well as some national and international project submissions, including projects in Qingdao, China and the Yukon Territory. All projects showcase distinctive and unique qualities of wood such as strength, beauty, versatility, and cost-effectiveness. The evening included a 10 year retrospective video journey which gave those who attended a glimpse of how wood design and building innovation has advanced over the past decade. Wood Champion award winners from the past 10 years credited the awards program for pushing innovation in design and building with wood and encouraging new types and sizes of buildings, beautiful aesthetics, increased structural performance and scale, and environmentally responsible design.

Mary Tracey, executive director of Wood *WORKS!* BC has been at the helm of the B.C. awards evening since its inception. "We are truly in awe of the innovative and unique ways that wood has been used both architecturally and structurally this past decade and this year is a milestone, as we celebrate

and reflect on 10 years of excellence."

Notable points about this year's nominations were the range of projects submitted and the variety of wood use - ranging from mid-rise light-frame wood construction to mass timber as a structural material.

The [Wood Champion Award](#) was presented to Peter Busby of Perkins + Will. Mr. Busby was recognized for championing and pioneering the use of wood in many prominent public buildings in B.C. He was the driving force behind the implementation of wood in projects such as the Earth Sciences Building and Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability in Vancouver, the Brentwood and Gilmore Skytrain Stations and the Kingsway Pedestrian Bridge. Under the leadership of Mr. Busby, the Perkins + Will Vancouver office has strived to improve the built environment, with a strong dedication to the practice of sustainability.

Gerald Epp of Fast + Epp Structural Engineers, known and respected internationally, and whose name is synonymous with innovative engineering solutions, was the recipient of the [Engineer Award](#). His project, the Bow River Bridge in Banff, Alberta, is one of the longest timber bridges of its kind. This beautiful structure was carefully designed, given the highly visible and historically significant location, and through design and construction detailing, thoroughly addressed durability and longevity. The Town of Banff desired natural materials for environmental and aesthetic reasons, and timber was the chosen material.

The [Architect Award](#) was presented to Mike Mammone of Ratio Architecture - Interior Design - Planning. The use of wood was instrumental in his project, Salmon Arm Savings and Credit Union - Uptown Branch, Salmon Arm, B.C. Innovative wood structural systems and 100 per cent wood framing fit a design solution focused on sustainable principles and are transferable to projects of varying scale and typology. The architect met challenges to permit the use of wood by utilizing a strong collaborative relationship with all project stakeholders and shared a common vision to maximize the use of traditional and contemporary wood systems to fulfill project goals.

The **Wood Innovation Award** recognizes creative and innovative approaches in the use of wood in building design, product design and/or processes. The winner of this category was Gord Macdonald, Macdonald & Lawrence Timber Framing, for his project WildPlay, in Kelowna, B.C., an impressive and fun structure made from local wood. This high ropes adventure course explores the limits of the structural potential of timber.

The former Green Building category has been renamed and redefined. Now called the **Environmental Performance Award**, it was presented to John Wall, PUBLIC: Architecture + Communication for his project Centennial Beach Boundary Bay Regional Park Pavilion in Delta, B.C. The award recognizes how wood products played a significant role in improving the overall environmental performance of a structure. Projects nominated for this award must demonstrate that through the deliberate use of wood from the outset, the wood products were integral in achieving a measureable lower environmental impact such as lower carbon footprint, reduced energy use, less pollution and higher efficiency.

Winners in the wood design categories include:

- **Residential Wood Design:** David Hewitt, Hewitt + Company Architecture - Silver Lake House, Silver Lake, WA
- **Multi-Unit Residential Wood Design:** Andreas Kaminski, aka architecture + design inc. - Red Sky Townhomes, Whistler, B.C.
- **Commercial Wood Design:** Mike Mammone, Ratio Architecture - Interior Design - Planning - Salmon Arm Savings and Credit Union - Uptown Branch, Salmon Arm, B.C.
- **Interior Beauty Design:** James Tuer, JWT Architecture and Planning - Forest House, Bowen Island, B.C.
- **Institutional Wood Design - Small:** Dave McIntyre, David Nairne + Associates Ltd. - Yunesit'in Health Centre, Hanceville, B.C.
- **Institutional Wood Design - Large:** Jennifer Marshall, Urban Arts Architecture - T'it'q'et Community Hall + Health Centre, Lillooet, B.C.

- **Western Red Cedar:** Alfred Waugh, Formline Architecture + Urbanism - Liard River Hot Springs Facility, Liard River, B.C.

There were two honourable mentions:

- Peter Busby, Robert Drew, Perkins + Will - Samuel Brighthouse Elementary School, Richmond, B.C.
- Karen Marler, Hughes Condon Marler Architects - UniverCity Childcare Centre, Burnaby, B.C.

"We are pleased and proud to be celebrating a decade of Wood Design Awards in B.C. and look forward to another," added Mary Tracey. "We sincerely thank the architects, structural engineers, project teams, academics, industry sponsors and many others who have supported and participated in our awards program during this past decade."

"Wood Design Award nominees and winners have left a meaningful legacy in our communities including sustainable human-centred buildings and streetscapes; structures that are true to our wood heritage; employment for people in forestry and wood products; and advancement of innovation in wood design and building which has put B.C. on the forefront nationally and indeed globally," concluded Ms. Tracey.



*Mary Tracey,  
Executive Director,  
Wood WORKS! BC*

Below are some of the winning designs.



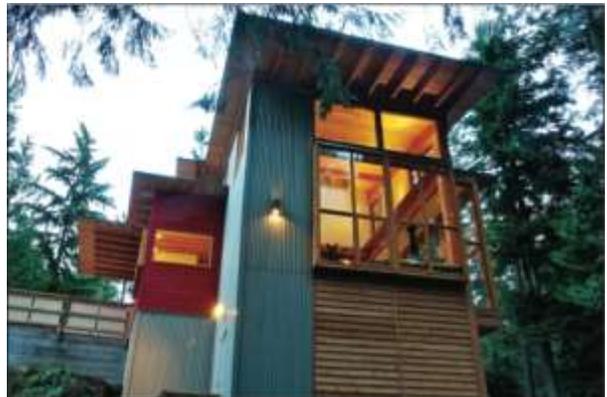
*Jennifer Marshall, Urban Arts Architecture T'it'q'et Community Hall + Health Centre, Lillooet, BC.*



*Mike Mammone, Ratio Architecture - Interior Design – Planning, Vancouver, BC Salmon Arm Savings and Credit Union – Uptown Branch, Salmon Arm, BC*



*Gord Macdonald, Macdonald & Lawrence Timber Framing WildPlay, Kelowna, BC*



*James Tuer, JWT Architecture and Planning Forest House, Bowen Island, BC*



*Andreas Kaminski, aka architecture + design Inc. Red Sky Townhomes, Whistler, BC*

*Photo credit: Wood Works! BC*

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# Committee Reports

## Technical Committee



Renato Camporese, P.Eng.,  
Struct.Eng.

Director SEABC

The Task group investigating the Seismic Design of Basement Walls is currently the only active task group. The paper prepared by Dr. Mahdi Taiebat based on the non-linear analysis performed by graduate students at UBC has been published by the Canadian Geotechnical Journal on the web on 02 April 2014. The paper is titled “Seismic design of basement walls: evaluation of the current practice in British Columbia.” The abstract for the article is as follows:

The current state of practice for the seismic design of basement walls in Vancouver is based on the Mononobe-Okabe (M-O) method using a Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA)=0.46g mandated by the National Building Code of Canada (NBCC). A series of dynamic numerical analyses are conducted to study the seismic performance of basement walls designed for the M-O earth pressures derived from different fractions of the current building code mandated PGA. The walls are subjected to seven ground motions spectrally matched to the Uniform Hazard Spectrum prescribed by the NBCC for Vancouver. The analyses show that current engineering practice for designing basement walls based on the M-O method and using the PGA=0.46g is too conservative. The analyses suggest that a wall designed using 50-60% PGA will give acceptable performance in terms of drift ratio. The results of sensitivity analyses on input parameters are also presented and discussed.

The task group will be meeting shortly to review the paper, with the expectation of providing guidance to structural and geotechnical engineers for design requirements for basement retaining walls.

## Communications Committee

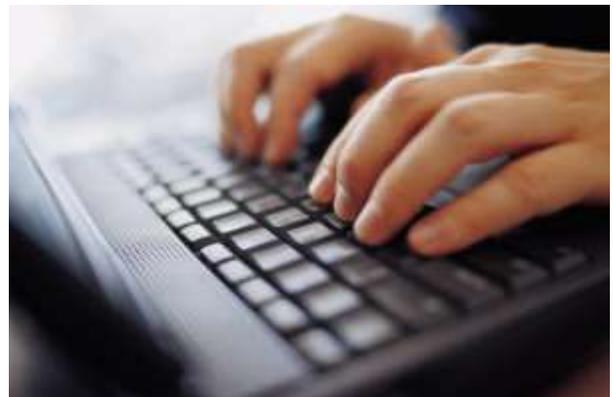


David Harvey, P.Eng., Struct.Eng.

Director SEABC

I hope you are enjoying the new newsletter format as much as I am! It is a real pleasure to create a newsletter, which contains useful information and looks so good. I am much indebted to Webmaster Stephen Pienaar and Editor Catherine Porter for their ongoing efforts to improve the readability and relevance of the newsletter to our members.

However, we can achieve little without our members' strong support and the articles or photographs for publication we receive describing the activities or interests of our members. We routinely feature our President's thoughtful message along with reports from our committees, branches and groups, our IStructE News feature, and an article by our webmaster. We try to include news items and event reports, project descriptions, up-to-the-minute technical articles, and current research reports. Articles outlining engineering designs or research help to raise our profession's profile, so please forward your submissions to: [newsletter@seabc.ca](mailto:newsletter@seabc.ca) – we look forward to hearing from you.



## Young Members Group



Nick de Ridder,  
Fast +Epp

This January saw the third instalment of the annual Young Engineer Presentation Competition "So you think you can give a Seminar." Each year the competition has continued to improve with young members from throughout the structural engineering field presenting on their experience, projects and research.

This year saw 7 people compete:

1. Poureya Bazargani, PhD Candidate, Ausenco: Estimating the Rotation of Shear Wall Foundations due to Earthquake Loads
2. David Chen, P.Eng, Associated Engineering: Inspection of Timber Bridge Structure
3. Tobias Fast, UBC: Engineering Project—Lessons Learned
4. Yuri Kulikov, P.Eng, Wicke Herfst Maver: What You Need to Know to be a Successful Engineer—Besides all that Technical Stuff
5. Anna Lemaire, M.Eng, ÉTS (Montreal): Even Québec's Bridges Need a Seismic Vulnerability Evaluation Procedure
6. Iranga Ratnayake, M.Eng, P.Eng, Hatch: Accepting the Challenge
7. Dorian Tung, P.E., UBC: Introduction to Hybrid Simulation

The three volunteer judges, Andrew Seeton, Iain Ward and Perry Adebar, representing both industry and academia did not have an easy time deciding on a winner. After much deliberation they awarded a tie between the two competitors Yuri Kulikov and David Chen.

The judges provided feedback that both winners had done an excellent job of using their topics as a vehicle for the ultimate purpose of the competition – to showcase the young member's presentation skills.

A runner-up award was given to Iranga Ratnayake for her engaging talk about her experiences in different climates.

While the judges were deciding on a winner, Eric Karsh of Equilibrium Consulting gave a very interesting talk entitled "Engineering — a privileged profession," in which he discussed past projects, with a focus on mass timber structures, that he has engaged in throughout his career.

We hope next year to continue with the competition and encourage all young structural engineers to participate and compete, both for the experience and also the prize money!



*Presenters, judges and speaker!*



*Socializing at the Lennox Pub after the event.*

## On the Web



Stephen Pienaar, P.Eng.

Webmaster

Given that structural engineers like numbers, you may appreciate to see (in numbers) how the SEABC website fared in 2013:

- Total number of website page views: 144,272
- Average number of website visitors per month: 1,727
- Bandwidth used by website: 747 GB
- Number of seminar recordings added to online repository in 2013: 4
- Number of active listings in the Directory of Structural Firms: 66
- Number of tweets on Twitter during the year: 28
- Number of email broadcasts to members: 58
- Total number of email messages sent to members: 66,501

Back to the current... Things to look out for on the SEABC website:

- New Seminar recordings:  
**Professional Practice Lessons from the Christchurch Earthquake** (February evening seminar)  
  
**Developing the Next Generation of Structural Engineers** (2014 Annual General Meeting Keynote Presentation)  
  
**Public-Private Partnerships from the Structural Engineer's Perspective** (April evening seminar)  
[www.seabc.ca/videos](http://www.seabc.ca/videos)
- Certificate in Structural Engineer (CSE) Program:  
Preparations for the September 2014 Term is underway; registration will open mid-July.  
[www.seabc.ca/cse](http://www.seabc.ca/cse)
- Be in the know:  
Join our **Twitter feed**: announcements for SEABC events and other interesting structural engineering snippets.  
[www.twitter.com/seabc](http://www.twitter.com/seabc)

## Suggestions

We welcome your comments for improving the SEABC website and other online services. Please send your suggestions to [webmaster@seabc.ca](mailto:webmaster@seabc.ca)



Structural Design for Infrastructure

## IStructE News



Bill Alcock, P.Eng. Struct.Eng.  
MISTructE.

Director SEABC

### Vancouver Visit of IStructE President and CEO

Kindly note that IStructE President Nick Russell, and Chief Executive Martin Powell will be visiting Vancouver from Friday September 12 through to Tuesday September 16, 2014. Members will have the opportunity to meet the visitors on the Tuesday evening. Information will be circulated nearer the event.

**S-FRAME Software Inc.** is a global engineering software solution provider for Structural Analysis, Steel Design, Concrete Design, Foundation Design and Engineering Productivity tools for over 30 years.

We specialize in developing easy-to-use, reliable, and innovative structural engineering simulation products for both industrial and commercial applications. Our software solutions enable engineers to efficiently model, analyze and design robust structures regardless of geometric complexity, material type, loading conditions, nonlinear effects, or design-code requirements. Our Steel, Concrete, and Foundation solutions are integrated for efficient data sharing and include powerful two-way Revit™ and Tekla™ BIM links as well as comprehensive DXF file import capabilities.

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## Recent Seminars and Events

### Kate Thibert Awarded a Housner Fellowship!

Kate Thibert, structural engineer, from Ausenco's office in Vancouver BC, has been awarded a two-year 'Housner Fellowship' by the [Earthquake Engineering Research Institute](#) (EERI). The EERI's Housner Fellows leadership program is aimed at early- to mid-career professionals involved in earthquake safety. Its objective is to "Recognize and equip promising and motivated professionals with the confidence, skills and sense of responsibility needed to become lifelong leaders and advocates of earthquake risk reduction."

Kate has worked at Ausenco since 2008 and has a Masters of Applied Science in earthquake engineering from the University of British Columbia. During her time at Ausenco, Kate has been heavily involved in the BC Ministry of Education's Seismic Mitigation Program. She has carried out detailed design for the seismic upgrade of school buildings, and performed seismic studies for over 150 public and private school buildings. She is currently serving as Project Discipline Lead for a seismic study, leading a team of five structural engineers completing assessments of 12 individual school buildings.

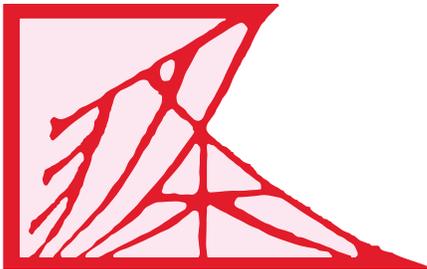
As a Fellow, Kate will attend a leadership retreat and annual meeting concurrent with the 10th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering in Anchorage, Alaska this July. She will also be participating in a two-year group and individual project and will receive mentoring for this duration.

The Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) is an international, non-profit, technical society of engineers, geoscientists, architects, planners, public officials, and social scientists headquartered in Oakland, California. EERI members include researchers, practicing professionals, educators, government officials, and building code regulators. The objective of EERI is to reduce earthquake risk by advancing the science and practice of earthquake engineering; improving understanding of the impact of earthquakes on the physical, social, economic, political, and cultural environment; and advocating comprehensive and realistic measures for reducing the harmful effects of earthquakes. Congratulations Kate!



*Kate Thibert*

**Thomas Leung Structural Engineering Inc.** is a Vancouver-based 20-strong consulting firm specializing in structural design, field inspections, seismic assessment and expert witness work. In business for over 25 years, the company services the residential, institutional, industrial, commercial and specialty structures sectors.



### **THOMAS LEUNG STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING INC.**

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## New MIBC Structural Masonry Details Released



The primary mandate of the Masonry Institute of BC (MIBC) is to enhance the development of masonry in BC through technical support to designers, educators and building officials. This is done through:

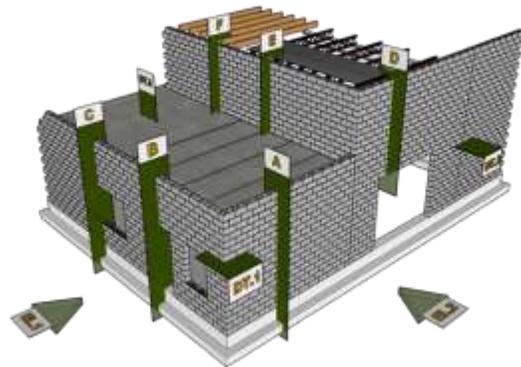
- Our on-line Technical Manual, including the "MIBC Design Details"
- Responding to daily inquiries by phone and email
- Visits to design offices, presentations, seminars and courses
- Being a resource for design textbooks, literature and software
- Representation in industry groups, codes & research

The **MIBC Design Details** include two sections:

- **Veneer Details** – a wide range of architectural and envelope images and models
- **Structural Details**
  - o Just released in March
  - o Examples of masonry reinforcing and connection details

- o Includes PDF and AutoCAD drawings, and 3D models of a wide range of wall sections and elevations
- o The 3D models can be rotated and zoomed with "Sketch-Up" software
- o The elevations can be built-up on screen in layers to illustrate construction sequencing

The MIBC Structural Details are free for downloading, just click on the icon on the right side of our homepage at [www.masonrybc.org](http://www.masonrybc.org).



Bill McEwen, P.Eng., Executive Director  
[info@masonrybc.org](mailto:info@masonrybc.org)  
604-291-1458

## News Update From New Zealand

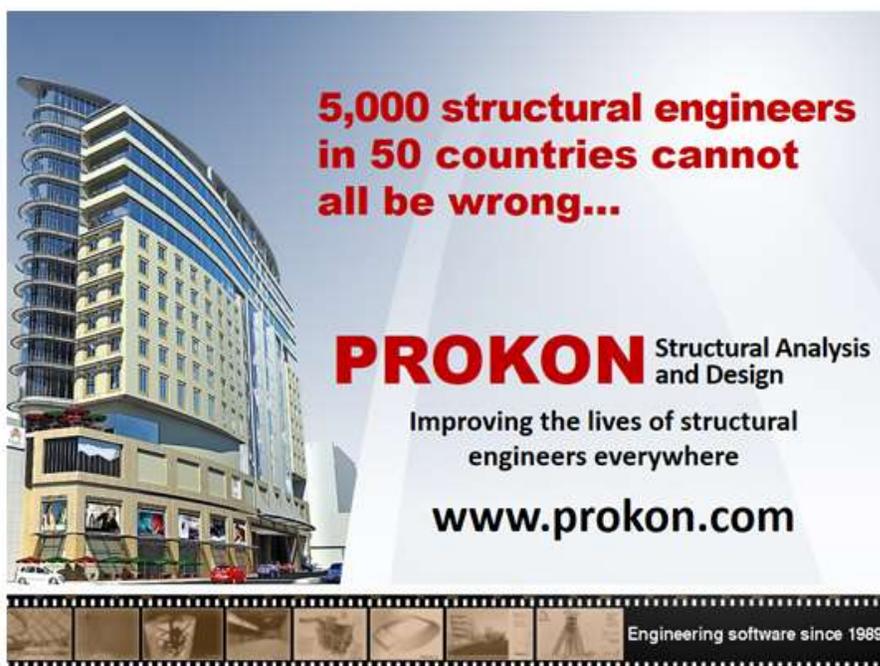
The Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Bill 2103 has been introduced into Parliament. The aim of the Bill is to amend the Building Act 2004 to improve the system for managing earthquake-prone buildings, specifically:

- ❖ Territorial Authorities will need to complete a seismic assessment of all non-residential and multi-unit, multi-storey residential buildings in their areas within five years of changes to new legislation taking effect
- ❖ Building owners will receive the results of assessments and this information will be entered onto a publicly accessible national (provincial) register of earthquake-prone buildings established by the Ministry of Building, Innovation and Employment
- ❖ Following assessments, earthquake-prone buildings will have to be strengthened or demolished within 15 years

- ❖ Certain buildings will be prioritized for assessment and strengthening, such as buildings that are likely to have a significant impact on public safety and strategically important buildings
- ❖ Owners of some buildings will be able to get exemptions from, or extensions to, the national (provincial) timeframe for strengthening.

The Local Government and Environment Committee is seeking submissions on the Bill by 17 April. IPENZ is collaborating with the Structural Engineering Society, New Zealand Society for Earthquake Engineering and the New Zealand Geotechnical Society in preparing its submission on the Bill. They have prepared a draft submission, which is available for review in the Members' Area.

Tim Davin Director External Relations  
dir-er@ipenz.org.nz



**5,000 structural engineers in 50 countries cannot all be wrong...**

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### PROKON Structural Analysis and Design

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- Steel member design
- Steel connection design
- Reinforced concrete and post-tensioned concrete design
- Concrete rebar detailing
- Geotechnical foundation and stability analysis
- Building Information Modelling (BIM)
- Collaboration with AutoCAD® and Revit®
- International codes of practice
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# Mark Your Calendar

## Upcoming Seminars

### Seminar: Writing Effective Proposals and Reports

Date: May 28 2014

Presenter: Eric Tung, MA

Venue: Vancouver BC

Time: 8.30am – 4.30pm

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

### Seminar: How to Create a Killer Presentation

Date: May 30 2014

Presenter: Darci LaRocque

Venue: Vancouver BC

Time: 8.30am-11.30am

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

## Upcoming Industry Events

### SEA Northwest Conference: Connecting Cities: Structures: People

Date: September 18-20 2014

Venue: Seattle, Washington

More information: See Flyer at the end of newsletter

Registration: Coming soon

2014

# CONNECTING

CITIES :: STRUCTURES :: PEOPLE

SEA NORTHWEST CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup>  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Structural engineers contributing to the creation and renewal of vibrant areas in our built environment.

[WWW.SEAW.ORG](http://WWW.SEAW.ORG)

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# Final Words

## Editorial Information

The SEABC Newsletter is published by the Structural Engineers Association of British Columbia. The current and past issues are available on the SEABC website at [www.seabc.ca](http://www.seabc.ca).

The Newsletter is edited and managed by the SEABC Communications Committee.

- Committee Chair: David Harvey
- Newsletter Editor: Catherine Porter
- Webmaster: Stephen Pienaar

Submissions are welcomed and all SEABC members are encouraged to actively contribute to the Newsletter. Submissions, letters to the Editor, questions and comments can be sent to: [newsletter@seabc.ca](mailto:newsletter@seabc.ca).

The Committee reserves the right to include or exclude submitted material and in some cases edit submitted material to suit overall space requirements. If content is not to be edited, please advise so at submission time.

## SEABC Board of Directors

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