



# Structural Engineers Association of B.C.

*President: David Davey, P.Eng. Secretary Treasurer: Surinder Parmar, P.Eng.*

## Annual General Meeting: 2011 March 7

### Minutes

**Time** 6:00 P.M.  
**Venue** Sutton Place Hotel, 845 Burrard Street, Vancouver, B.C.  
**Present** **President:** David Davey  
**Secretary/Treasurer:** Surinder Parmar  
**Directors:** David Harvey, Cameron Kemp, Andrew Seeton, Paul Fast, Adrian Gygax, Stephen Pienaar, Rob Simpson, Carlos Ventura, Bill Alcock (newly elected)  
**SEABC members and guests:** 82

**Master of Ceremonies** Andrew Seeton

**1.0 Welcome:** President Dave Davey opened the meeting by welcoming all members and guests to the third Annual General Meeting of the SEABC. He noted that the minutes from the March 17, 2010, AGM along with the committee reports were given to each member as they checked in for this evening's meeting. Some people were also given the Financial Statement for year ending December 31, 2010 however if anyone did not receive a copy and wished to get one, there are more copies at the front or contact the treasurer Surinder Parmar directly.

#### **2.0 Minutes: 2010 AGM**

**Motion to adopt the minutes:** Cameron Kemp proposed that the minutes from the 2010 SEABC AGM be adopted. Seconded by David Harvey. Carried.

#### **3.0 Financial Report: Year ending December 31, 2010**

At the end of 2010, the SEABC was in a strong financial position with a surplus.

**Motion to adopt the Financial Report:** Year ending December 31, 2010  
Bill McEwen proposed that the reports be adopted. Seconded by Cameron Kemp. Carried.

#### **4.0 Committee Reports (attached)**

The overall direction of the SEABC is driven by the Directors and carried out by the committees and their volunteer members.

##### **4.1 Committee Chairs:**

**Technical:** Renato Camporese, P. Eng., Struct. Eng.

**Education:** Cam Smith, EIT

**Communications:** David Harvey, P. Eng., Struct. Eng.

**Webmaster:** Stephen Pienaar, P. Eng.

**Corporate Members:** Paul Fast, P. Eng., Struct. Eng.

**Young Members Group:** Ilana Danzig, EIT

**Structural Practice:** Leonard Pianalto

#### **4.2 Education Committee:**

Pleased to announce that all of the monthly seminars are now being recorded and will be posted as soon as they are available to the SEABC website in an effort for all members to benefit from these valuable seminars even if they aren't able to attend in person.

#### **4.3 Members Forum:**

The Members Forum on the SEABC website which is moderated by Tejas Goshalia needs more activity. If anyone has topics to discuss or questions for the members at large, please sign and initiate a conversation.

#### **4.4 Roster of Firms**

At this time, the SEABC exists mostly to provide our members with professional development options however we are working on creating a roster of firms organized by specialty and location to assist the public with locating structural engineers.

There will be a mail out to members about this shortly and listing your firm here will be a free service for now.

#### **4.5 Structural Practice**

Leonard Pianalto will be replacing Thor Tandy in this position. Responsibilities include liaising with APEGBC, SEA's in the North West region of the United States and other Associations such as IStructE. We are hoping that the IStructE webinars in particular will soon also be available to SEABC members.

#### **4.6 Corporate Committee**

The committee is now active and has already had one event in 2010. Their goal is to address issues that would concern firms such as insurance, human resources, etc.

#### **4.7 SEABC Branches**

Vancouver Island headed by Thor Tandy  
Kelowna headed by Dr. Solomon Tesfamariam. This chapter was created in 2010 and has already organized 2 seminars for their members.

### **5.0 Membership as of March 7, 2011:**

**Individual: 587**

**Associate: 15**

**Student: 249**

Membership is down slightly from the previous year. This is likely due to people not renewing on time causing their memberships to be cancelled as of January 31, 2011. However we have experienced an increase in student memberships.

### **5.1 Special Resolution to amend the Bylaws of the society by adding the following clauses:**

**4.6 The directors, at their discretion, may upon application from a member in good standing, confer retired membership of the society. The directors shall establish the criteria to be met by applicants for retired membership. Retired members of the society shall retain voting privileges.**

**4.7 The directors, at their discretion, may confer life membership of the society to any member in good standing who meets the criteria to be established by the directors. Life members of the society shall not be required to pay membership dues but shall retain voting privileges.**

Moved by David Harvey and seconded by Stephen Pienaar.

No discussion on this motion, none opposed. Motion carried.

## 6.0 Other Business

None proposed.

## 7.0 Presentation to Fran Abbuhl

Fran started out as the Secretary for the Vancouver Structural Engineers Group Society (VSEGS). She was essential to setting up the SEABC. In recognition of her years of service and dedication, Fran was presented with a gift and certificate.

## 8.0 The following Executive were elected by acclamation:

**President:** Cameron Kemp, P.Eng.

**Past President:** David Davey, P.Eng.

**Treasurer:** Surinder Parmar, P.Eng.

### **Directors:**

Bill Alcock, P.Eng.

Renato Camporese, P. Eng

Paul Fast, P.Eng.

Adrian Gyax , P. Eng.

David Harvey, P.Eng.

Stephen Pienaar, P. Eng.

Andrew Seeton, P.Eng.

Rob Simpson, P.Eng.

Cameron Smith, EIT

Carlos Ventura, P.Eng.

## 8.1 Resignation of Directors

Thor Tandy

David presented Cameron Kemp with IStructE's Presidential medal.

Cameron paid tribute to David Davey for his guidance, leadership and ability to amalgamate three separate groups into one cohesive SEABC organization. He was also the first president of this newly formed group. He oversaw the development of the current SEABC programs and is leaving the SEABC in a financially strong position. Thank you, David for your efforts and announced that David will be the SEABC's first lifetime member.

Cameron presented David with a gift for his years of dedication and service.

## 8.2 Nomination of New Directors

Bill Alcock and Cameron Smith were welcomed to the Board by the President.

## 9.0 Presentation by John Pao-Developments in the UBC M. Eng. Program with the SEABC Certificate in Structural Engineering Program (see attached)

Background: M.Sc. takes 2 years vs. M.Eng. takes 1 year and covers more advanced courses in structural engineering.

Problems: First, M.Eng. was often looked at as a short cut and perhaps students were not as dedicated. Second, the unavailability of courses for students who were looking to fasttrack their M.Eng. degree.

- This is a visionary move by UBC to join forces with the SEABC CSE program. It makes the most of the strength of the CSE program (which is in its 10<sup>th</sup> year of operation) while utilizing the UBC infrastructure.
- Planning to offer a more superior program than what's currently available
- Hoping to increase the value of an M.Eng. so it's more dependable and recognizable by the industry. Employers will have a better idea of what they are getting in these graduates.

- It is also an effort to teach classes in a more practical sense and aim to bring the academia and industry closer together.
- This is another opportunity to offer education to the practicing professionals.
- Hoping to attract students from across Canada
- This new program has to be run as a no net loss program to the Civil Engineering Department at UBC and the fee structure is still being developed. It may turn out that overseas students will end up paying more.
- Proposed details:
  - 30 credit program: 8 courses at 3 credits each plus 6 credits for 15-week internship
  - 15 week paid internship/co-op. The sponsoring company will pay the intern \$2,000/month.
  - Program can be completed in 12 months but probably 15 months or longer
  - Governance: Administration will be done by UBC. There will be a program advisory committee where industry will be represented.
  - Official opening is likely September 2012 but hoping for 2011 start.
  - There is strong support for this program from UBC and a survey questionnaire to member firms will be sent out for their opinions, feedback in hopes of creating an internship program that the industry will accept.
- SEABC contribution:
  - Fill in by offering courses that UBC doesn't
  - Internship/Co-op: SEABC Corporate Committee can contribute by presenting opportunities for these students. There will be an evaluation portion of the internship conducted by the employer and the program co-ordinator.
  - Need at least 30-40 companies willing to take in internship students.

Questions from the floor:

Q: Will there be seismic courses provided?

A: Yes, seismic will be an essential.

Q: Can the name of the degree be M.Eng. Structural rather than Civil?

A: That is the hope but it takes 3-4 years for both UBC and the government to approve a name change.

Q: Cost of the CSE programs-will they remain the same?

A: There will be a new change in that there will now be 2 streams of CSE students. Those who are in the M.Eng. program and those who are not.

Q: Will the CSE courses continue to be DT or at UBC?

A: Not looking to move the location or change how things are currently being done with the CSE program.

**10.0 D.** Davey declared the business section of the meeting closed.

**11.0 Keynote Presentation: BC Place Roof Replacement Project by David Campbell, P.Eng., Geiger Engineers**

**12.0 Door Prizes:**

Prokon Software License for 1 year-Tom Abbuhl

Complimentary SEABC 2011 Seminar Registration-Shannon King

Complimentary SEABC 2011 Seminar Registration-Scott Lopton