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Cover photograph courtesy of
Eckersley O'Callaghan



Message from the President



David Harvey, P.Eng.
SEABC President

Adapt or Die

We have all been through very unusual times for the past 400 days – most of us having to adapt to distanced conditions, in many cases, working from home. At last, it appears that ‘normal’ working will be restored by the fall which will be a welcome, long-overdue change. However, working at home had quite a few advantages, which I, for one, will miss.

This poses the question of what the new normal will look like. I think we were all surprised at how effective working from home could be and I expect we will see people building some work-from-home into their future plans. But, there is no long-term substitute for building face-to-face relationships, especially when working with clients or new colleagues.

The recent pandemic, combined with demands for a better, smarter and leaner industry means that the world we will face is likely to be quite different from what we have been used to. Consultancies are preparing by aggressive expansion, by diversifying or by clinging to a niche market. However, to survive and thrive, we will need to adapt our way of working.

The key adaptation pointers include ‘flexibility’. As an example, green construction has been building for a decade or more while sustainability has been added as a consideration only recently. As governments commit to carbon reduction targets, we will see more demand for the consultants and suppliers to be prepared. Aware of the shortcomings of traditional models, governments also desire better project delivery systems, many requiring the consultant to take a different role than the typical design engineer. Flexibility about project relationships, materials, risk, and repurposing existing structures will be required.

Successful engineering consultancies will find better ways to usefully fit into new models – not least to prevent others from assuming our traditional territory. Proficiency in a new world of BIM models and digital documents being handled by every project participant will be necessary.

Opportunities will emerge in technological development, in producing designs with greater accuracy and efficiency using new digital tools, and in advanced critical thinking. The latter extends far beyond routine designs, requiring diverse ideas and experience and embracing deep understanding of procurement, fabrication, and construction to produce optimal solutions to unique problems. To excel, individuals, teams and most firms will need to specialize in one business area.

Evolution will need to be rapid as change is quickly coming upon us, and no one wants to be left behind. Successful consultants will carry forward lessons learned from projects into the next, while always maintaining diversity of thought. That will bring the confidence to try new ideas or extending previous successful concepts into new territory. It is important to make good choices: discard things that did not work well and build on those which do – a smart way to win repeat business in the new market where design and delivery are seamless, and a consultant’s success is judged by project outcome rather than a high-quality report or drawing.

So, we will see exciting opportunities as our markets expand to fill the vacuum created by the pandemic, and governments stimulate stagnant economies. Opportunities for innovation will be abundant and the delivery speed demanded will short-circuit the pedestrian progress that was common in past years. Risk will be measured and seen as an opportunity to improve rather than something to be avoided. There will be more room for testing and experimentation, less focus on a guaranteed outcome.

In one sense, this is nothing new! Think of the great age of engineering that accompanied the industrial revolution and created much of the world’s infrastructure. There were plenty of lessons learned in those days, but a great deal more success. Are we ready for it? I am certainly looking forward to exciting opportunities ahead.

SEABC Legacy Awards



Adrian Gygax P.Eng.
Struct, Eng.

SEABC Legacy Awards Application Deadline Only Six Months Away

This year the Peter R Taylor Grant for Structural Engineering Advancement (PRTG) and the Young Members Meritorious Achievement Award (YMMAA) were awarded for the first time. During this year's Keynote Dinner, the Peter R Taylor Grant was awarded to a team from Ausenco led by John Sherstobitoff and the YMMAA went to Adam Gerber at Aspect Structural Engineers.

We hope that this year's winners will inspire more SEABC members to come forward and submit a grant proposal and nominate an outstanding young member before next January's deadlines. Since applications/nominations close in January 2022, it is now time to start thinking about what you or your team could do with the \$10,000 PRTG and which young member merits being recognized for notable achievement in their career to date.

The Peter Ridgway Taylor Grant for Structural Engineering Advancement winning proposal – SFRS Example Database

The grant encourages SEABC members to advance and promote the field of structural engineering through an undertaking related to the field. Recognizing that "advancement" and "promotion" can take many forms, some of which can be quite serendipitous, the grant selection process is kept as free as possible of prescriptive criteria that would unduly restrict the applicants' imagination. However, the successful project undertaking must clearly demonstrate ingenuity, be of value to SEABC

members, and underscore the contribution that structural engineering makes to society.

Applications close: 17:00 PST 10 January 2022.

The SEABC Young Member Meritorious Achievement Award Winner – Adam Gerber, P.Eng.

Meritorious achievement is usually recognized near the end of an engineer's career. These are fitting tributes to a person who has spent a lifetime enhancing our profession. However, some engineers demonstrate significant professional achievements early in their careers and recognizing these achievements at mid-career will serve to motivate others.

Any SEABC member under 35 years of age on 1 January of the year the award is given can be nominated by at least three current SEABC members.

The award reimburses the winner's airfare, conference or workshop fees, hotel and pay a \$75 per diem allowance, up to the award amount cap of \$3500.

Nominations close: 17:00 PST, 31 January 2022

Details for both awards can be found on the SEABC website: seabc.ca/legacy-awards



*Adam Gerber YMMAA
Winner*



*John Sherstobitoff, PRTG
Team Leader*

Committee Report

On the Web



Stephen
Pienaar, P.Eng.
Webmaster

Our volunteers are taking a break from organising evening seminars and young member's events during the summer months. But that does not mean that there is nothing of interest on the SEABC website...

Current activities on the website

- **September 2021 Term of the Certificate in Structural Engineering Program:**
Registration is open for the upcoming term. It offers four courses via live interactive webcast and (as soon as Provincial health regulations allow) in classroom:
 - C12 Practical Design of Reinforced Concrete
 - E13 Computer Software Applications in Structural Engineering
 - E15 Applications of Dynamic Analysis for Seismic Design of Structures
 - E16-1 Introduction to Cables and Cable Systems 1

Courses will run between September 7 and December 2. Registrations close on September 6.
seabc.ca/current-term

- **Struct.Eng. Resources:**
We recently expanded the archive of IStructE exams with April 2021 exam papers and examiner's report for September 2020.
seabc.ca/struct-eng
- **Recordings of past seminars:**
Members can log in to watch video recordings of seminars.

seabc.ca/category/events-archive

- **Be first the first to know:**
Follow us on Twitter for announcements of SEABC events.
twitter.com/seabc

We want to hear from you

We welcome your comments for improving the SEABC's website and other online services. Please send your suggestions to webmaster@seabc.ca

Young Members Group



Amr Farag, E.I.T. M.Eng

This summer newsletter edition highlights BCIT's engineering teams as well as the introduction of a new project showcase event initiated by the SEABC YMG.

British Columbia Institute of Technology Engineering Teams Highlights

With the financial and moral support from SEABC, the British Columbia Institute of Technology Engineering Team had great success over this 2020-2021 academic year despite the challenges posed by COVID-19. Highlights of the year include: hosting the annual BCIT CSCE Professional Night (virtually), providing a 5-day Civil3D training seminar, gaining Indigenous Awareness certification, and emphasis on mental and physical health.

BCIT 2021 Professional Night

The 15th annual BCIT Virtual Professional Night was a huge success. Online networking platform Hopin was chosen which required an immense amount of time and learning, though the effort paid off in an event that was unique and exciting despite being online. The event gives the BCIT Civil Engineering students a casual atmosphere to socialize and

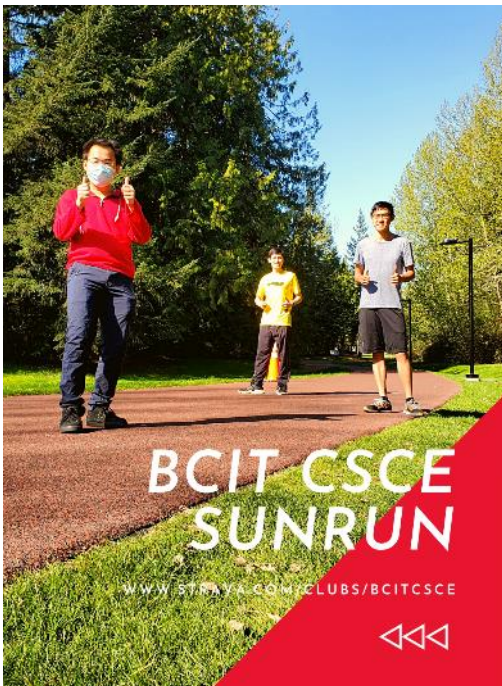
establish connections with industry professionals. A club member explains the success behind this year's event:

"Having never faced such daunting challenges, it was difficult for us BCIT Civil Students to know what could still be done for this year. Only with the support of this great industry did we succeed, and we thank them for it."

SEABC YMG Mingle and Project Showcase (MAPS)

The SEABC Young Member's Group (YMG) was pleased to host the inaugural YMG Mingle and Project Showcase (MAPS) on May 20, 2021. The MAPS event began with a well-received presentation from a fellow SEABC YMG member, Arman Shahnaz from Mott Macdonald, who showcased some of his recent work on the Harrison River Bridge- Timber Fender Renewal. This presentation was followed by casual networking, providing an opportunity to connect virtually with fellow SEABC peers.

Going forward, more YMG MAPS sessions will be held, and the committee is always looking for presenters. If you would like to showcase some of your recent project work, please do not hesitate to contact Gregory Gislason (gislason@ae.ca) to discuss presentation opportunities.



Runners from the BCIT CSCE SunRun Team

Communications Committee



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

Director SEABC

Reminding myself that no news is good news, I am pleased to report that the Communications Committee, consisting of Stephen Pienaar, myself, Mark Budd and Newsletter Editor, Catherine Porter, receives little to no feedback. If I am correct, we are getting at least a passing grade! You may not be aware, but the committee has rarely met, conducting its routine business remotely. That has proven to work well for us, consuming the minimum time to do the work which has been carved out between us with roles clearly defined.

Our products are the website, the newsletter and email communication system. The website has received several updates since the launch 13 years ago and appears to be working well at providing information to members and the public; and helping us run the organization. The newsletter is published quarterly in electronic format and has never missed a publication date. The email system enables us to broadcast emails to the membership and interested groups that needs more immediate attention. We are delighted that most comments we do receive point to all of our communications systems remaining popular and doing a good job. Clearly, the systems are serving our needs.

While we may not need to rethink a strategy that is already working, please remember that we do need your input to keep going. So do keep sending us interesting articles. Local structural engineering is intensely interesting, and we want to hear about it from you.

Ideally, we like to see full- or half-page articles which should be illustrated. Abbreviated research papers are welcome. You can also send in photos with a description. What you send us should be newsworthy and/or inform our readers on structural engineering. We love feedback, so please let us know how we are doing. Kindly send information for publication to: newsletter@seabc.ca

IStructE News



David Harvey, P.Eng.
Struct.Eng

I recently attended (on-line) the July meeting of the IStructE Council. On-line meetings are proving to be convenient as they cut out a considerable amount of travel as the delegates are domiciled across the world. As expected, attendance was high.

Council members were provided with a comprehensive report on Institution activities by IStructE CEO, Martin Powell. In common with individuals and businesses, the pandemic has had a considerable impact, but the Institution staff and volunteers have continued to operate in the best way possible and were remarkably successful. This response was considerably eased by IStructE's prior shift to e-learning and the associated technology upgrades. With a lot less expenditure taking place,

the Institution's financial position was favourable, enabling other member services improvements to take place. Overall, membership is up, reflecting the importance that over 30,000 members attach to their professional credentials during uncertain times. The clearly emerging picture is that the Institution is much sought after as the professional body of choice for structural engineers across the world.

The Council meeting included two lively break-out sessions where matters of interest were discussed. One of the prime topics was finding ways of better engaging with and serving members and the wider engineering community. Viewpoints from different regional representatives were hotly debated.

The Institution was able to keep examinations going during the pandemic by adjusting the dates. In **On the Web**, we report that the September 2020 Examiners' Report and the April 2021 Chartered Membership exam paper have been uploaded to the website. This will be of interest to those preparing to take the exam in the near future. Kindly note that the next available exam sittings are Monday September 27th 2021, and Thursday March 3rd, 2022.

The SEABC Photo Competition is Back!

Put your great summer photos (past favourites) to good use by entering them in the SEABC Photo Competition.

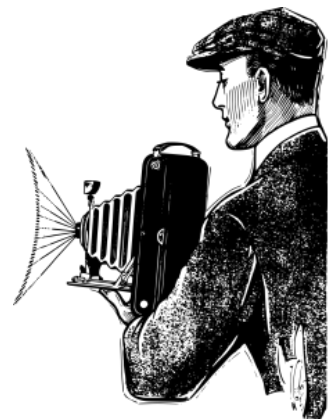
We welcome photo submissions with a **structural engineering theme** – an exciting new structure, a familiar or not-so-familiar older structure, close-up of a structural component, a structural system in an architectural context, people or traffic carrying, water retaining, post-construction or mid-construction stage, inspection or maintenance, etc.

Up for grabs is a **cash prize of \$500** for the winner. We will use the winning photo and other great submission on the SEABC website, e.g., as the featured **photo of the month**.

Members can **enter up to five photos**.

The closing time for submissions is **10 PM on October 29**.

For the competition rules and entry instructions, please see seabc.ca/photo-competition.



Continuing Education Webinar Review



Mark Budd, P.Eng.

On June 24, 2021, EGBC presented a webinar on the Professional Practice Guideline for Structural Condition Assessments of Existing Buildings. This webinar provided an opportunity for familiarization for the new professional practice guideline that was developed with SEABC. The guideline outlines a general procedure for the assessment.

The webinar began with a land acknowledgement statement, and then continued with a review of the regulatory requirements and the process with which the guideline was developed. Each speaker then provided an overview of each section of the guideline.

Understanding an existing building requires time and careful preparation by the team of professionals. This webinar highlighted the guideline's value in preparing the professionals who will carry out the necessary assessment activities. It was noted that clearly defined scope and recommendations can improve the reliability of the submitted assessment report.

The webinar gives attendees 1.5 Continuing Education Hours of Technical Learning, while also helping introduce the activities required to perform condition assessments of existing buildings.

The City of Vancouver's New VanMap

The City has updated the VanMap platform and now Legacy VanMap is being replaced with the new VanMap, which includes a new VanMap Viewer (all-in-one viewer that is coming soon) and new apps that are faster and mobile friendly.

If you used Legacy VanMap in the past, please shift to the new VanMap, as Legacy VanMap will be retired and no longer available as of **October 31, 2021**. The new VanMap will enable you to view all the same datasets available in Legacy VanMap.

To try VanMap, visit the **VanMap page**. If you're new to VanMap or would like to contact the City, please check out the **VanMap Help page**.

Ron DeVall and Jim Mutrie Memorial Prize in Structural Engineering Awarded

SEABC is pleased to share the news that the inaugural UBC Ron DeVall and Jim Mutrie Memorial Prize in Structural Engineering has been awarded.

Ron DeVall and Jim Mutrie were proud UBC Engineering alumni who both made significant contributions to the practice of structural engineering in Canada. Ron and Jim's close friendship spanned more than 50 years. They first attended UBC together, then worked alongside one another as colleagues at Read Jones Christoffersen (RJC). During the course of their 40 year careers, they also collaborated and devoted much time to developing building codes for use in Canada.

Ron and Jim were both known for their expertise and dedication to the advancement of the engineering profession and the safety of all Canadians through their contributions to the National Building Code of Canada. Their efforts and commitment to excellence will serve as an important part of their legacies and will continue to contribute to the world in which we live for many years to come.

The Ron DeVall and Jim Mutrie Memorial Prize in Structural Engineering supports engineering students following in Ron and Jim's footsteps and was made possible thanks to generous donations from family, friends and colleagues. To contribute to the endowment that funds this award, please follow the link: ubc.ca/memorial/devall-mutrie



*John Mutrie and
Ron DeVall*

Surfside Condo Failure



David Harvey, P.Eng.
SEABC President

On June 24 at about 1.24 am EDT, the twelve-storey south wing of the beachfront Champlain Towers condominium building in Surfside Florida collapsed with little warning. Only 12 survivors were pulled from the rubble, and 35 escaped from the standing portion of the building. That portion was later demolished to enable debris to be removed and the forensic investigation to take place safely. This catastrophic event cost 98 lives and ranks as one of the deadliest structural failures in US history.

Reportedly, the failure followed shortly after the swimming pool ‘disappeared’ into the basement parking structure and it seems likely to have been a progressive collapse. There were reports of structural defects and waterproofing deficiencies being discovered some time earlier, but no repairs appeared to have been attempted, possibly because of funding limitations. In the 1990s, the building was said to have been settling. The building was completed in 1981 and becoming due for its mandatory 40-year recertification report.

There had been speculation that a sinkhole could have opened up in the limestone bedrock, but no such evidence was discovered when the basement slab was exposed. Other suggestions included corrosion triggered by the marine environment; while field observations noted ‘insufficient’ reinforcing steel in the debris. It is important that we do not jump to conclusions at this stage and wait until the forensic report is published. This will be important to the many millions of Americans that live in condominiums and are rightly concerned about the safety of their homes. Building owners will likely need better guidance on safely maintaining older buildings.

This is just the latest of a series of structural failures that have taken place across the world which are concerning for structural engineers. With the distinct

potential that a progressive collapse occurred, ASCE has opened up its collection of related publications for free viewing until September 15th. The ASCE announcement follows.

ASCE’s Progressive Collapse and Structural Health Monitoring (SHM) Collection

In response to collapse of the Champlain Towers South in Surfside, Florida, ASCE Library has assembled the following papers highlighting the importance of condition assessment of existing buildings. This collection is available for free through September 15, 2021.

ASCE-ASME Journal of Risk Uncertainty in Engineering Systems, Part A: Civil Engineering

Systematic Reliability-Based Approach to Progressive Collapse

Túlio R. C. Felipe; Vladimir G. Haach; and André T. Beck

Practical Resilience Metrics for Planning, Design, and Decision Making

Bilal M. Ayyub, Ph.D., P.E., F.ASCE

Journal of Architectural Engineering

Medical Records for Building Health Management

Chih-Yuan Chang, Ph.D.; Shyh-Meng Huang; and Sy-Jye Guo, M.ASCE

Nonparametric Structural Damage Detection

Algorithm for Ambient Vibration Response: Utilizing Artificial Neural Networks and Self-Organizing Maps

Osama Abdeljaber and Onur Avci, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE

New Building Scheme to Resist Progressive Collapse

Muhammad N. S. Hadi, M.ASCE; and Thaer M. Saeed Alrudaini

Journal of Performance of Constructed Facilities

Investigation of Modeling Strategies for Progressive Collapse Analysis of RC Frame Structures

De-Cheng Feng, Ph.D.; Si-Cong Xie; Chao-Lie Ning, Ph.D.; and Shi-Xue Liang, Ph.D.

Effect of Structural Redundancy on Progressive Collapse Resistance Enhancement in RC Frame

Mohammad R. Ameri, S.M.ASCE; Ali Massumi; and Hassan Masoomi, S.M.ASCE

Structural Degradation Assessment of RC Buildings: Calibration and Comparison of Semeiotic-Based Methodology for Decision Support System
Valentino Sangiorgio; João Costa Pantoja; Humberto Varum; Giuseppina Uva; and Fabio Fatiguso

Journal of Structural Engineering

Assessment of Building Robustness against Disproportionate Collapse
Floriana Petrone, M.ASCE; Li Shan; and Sashi Kunnath, F.ASCE

Resistance of Flat-Plate Buildings against Progressive Collapse. I: Modeling of Slab-Column Connections
Jinrong Liu; Ying Tian, M.ASCE; Sarah L. Orton, M.ASCE; and Aly M. Said, M.ASCE

Damage Identification in Reinforced Concrete Beams Using Spatially Distributed Strain Measurements
Yiska Goldfeld and Assaf Klar, M.ASCE

Early Damage Detection Based on Pattern Recognition and Data Fusion
João Pedro Santos; Christian Cremona; André D. Orcesi; and Paulo Silveira

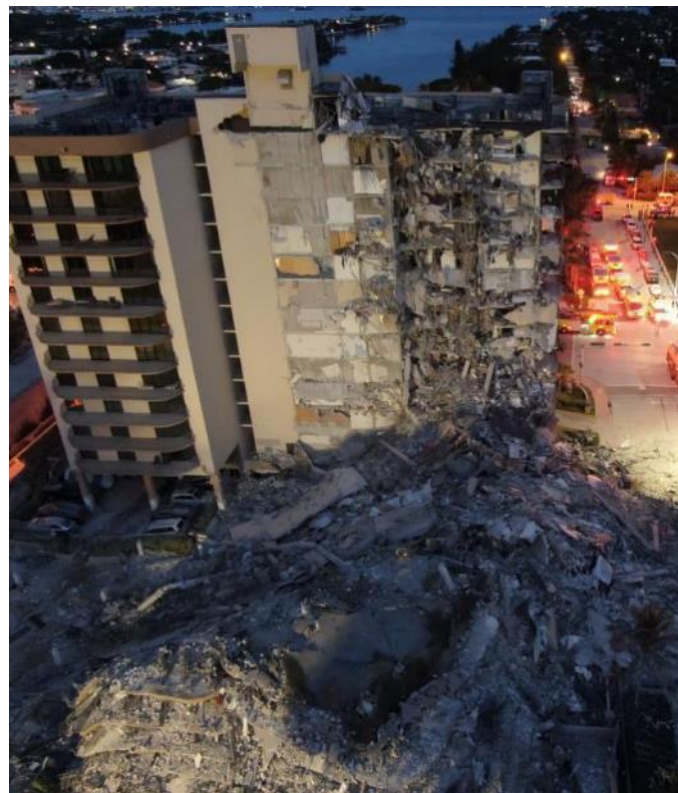
Advances in Computational Simulation of Gravity-Induced Disproportionate Collapse of RC Frame Buildings
Sashi K. Kunnath , F.ASCE ; Yihai Bao , A.M.ASCE ; and Sherif El-Tawil , F.ASCE

Practice Periodical on Structural Design and Construction

Structural Failure of Building's Walkway: Case Study
Soliman Khudeira, Ph.D., P.E., M.ASCE

Building Facade Inspection Process: Administration and Management Matters
Jamshid Mohammadi, M.ASCE

The ASCE publication collection can be accessed at:
ascelibrary.org



Champlain Towers Shortly After the Failure



Careful Removal of Building Debris

Certificate in Structural Engineering Program



Shannon Remillong,
CSE Program
Co-ordinator

Registration for the **September 2021 term** is currently open through the SEABC website:

seabc.ca

The following courses will be offered in the **September 2021 term**:

- C12 Practical Design of Reinforced Concrete
- E13 Computer Software Application
- E15 Application of Dynamic Analysis for Seismic Design of Structures
- E16-1 Introduction to Cables and Cable Systems 1

Course details are available through Certificate in Structural Engineering Program website:
seabc.ca/certificate-program

Registration is now open until Monday, September 6th. SEABC members will receive a discounted rate.

Course delivery:

The September 2021 term currently plans to return to both in-person classroom (at UBC Robson) and on-line version.

Note: UBC Robson classrooms will re-open week of September 14.

All 4 courses first week of classes (September 7 & 9) will be **ONLINE ONLY**.

Courses are once a week for 2 hours at either 4:00-6:00 PM or 6:30-8:30 PM PST.

Courses are 13 consecutive weeks.

Courses are \$650+GST

Important Dates:

- Registration open: Monday, July 12.
- Early-bird deadline: Friday, August 13.
- Registration close: Monday, September 6.
- First lecture: Tuesday, September 7 and Thursday, September 9 (first class: ONLINE ONLY).
- UBC Robson re-opening: Monday, September 13
- Last lecture: Tuesday, November 30 and Thursday, December 2.
- Withdrawal Deadline: Monday, September 20 (minus administration fee).

Courses fill up fast so make sure to register early and take advantage of the savings!

Registration Inquiries and Requests/Suggestions: Please contact Shannon Remillong, Certificate Program Executive Assistant, at email: courses@seabc.ca

CSE Board of Directors

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Carlos Ventura, Ph.D., P.Eng., University of British Columbia

Mark Your Calendar

Upcoming Seminars, Webinars and Events

Conflict Resolution: How to Respect, React, Respond, and Resolve Conflict

Date: Thursday, September 16, 2021

Time: 8:15 AM-8:30 AM Pacific Time:

Registration/Login

8:30 AM-12:30 PM Pacific Time: Webinar

Location: Webinar

For more info: egbc.ca/Events

Forensic Engineering and Failure Analysis

Date: Thursday September 23, 2021 – Friday 24 September, 2021

Time: Registration/Login: 8:00 AM–8:30 AM Pacific Time

Course: 8:30 AM–4:30 PM Pacific Time

Location: Webinar

For more info: egbc.ca/Events

Negotiations: Prepare, Engage and Aim for the Win-Win

Date: Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Time: 8:15 AM–8:30 PM Pacific Time:

Registration/Login

8:30 AM–12:30 PM Pacific Time: Webinar

Location: Webinar

For more info: egbc.ca/Events

Strategic Networking

Date: Tuesday, October 5, 2021

Time: 8:45 AM-9:00 AM Pacific Time:

Registration/Login

9:00 AM-11:00AM Pacific Time: Webinar

Location: Webinar

For more info: egbc.ca/Events

Coaching for Performance

Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021

Time: 8:45 AM–9:00 AM Pacific Time: Registration

9:00 AM–12:30 PM Pacific Time: Webinar

Location: Webinar, 23 seats available

For more info: egbc.ca/Events

Advanced Modelling and Water Master Planning

Date: Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Time: 8:15 AM-8:30 AM Pacific Time: Registration

8:30 AM-4:30 PM Pacific Time: Webinar

Location: Webinar 18 seats available

For more info: egbc.ca/Events

CPD Opportunities

Keep an eye on the Resources section of the website.

We are adding a list of webinar and on-line event provider links useful for professional development.

Note that many of the opportunities are available at no cost.

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.

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

- Committee Chair: David Harvey
- Newsletter Editor: Catherine Porter
- Editorial Assistant: Mark Budd
- 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.

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.

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Advertising

Pre-paid rates per edition:

- \$270 (quarter page), \$360 (half page) or \$450 (full page) plus GST. Rates include a banner advert on the Events page of the SEABC website.
- 50-word "Available for Employment" ads are free.

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Please support our advertisers!