



**THE CANADIAN  
GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY**  
**LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE  
DE GÉOTECHNIQUE**

**2025**  
**Annual Report / Rapport annuel**  
**(July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025)**

## Table of Contents

BOARD OF DIRECTORS .....	3
President's Annual Report .....	6
Vice-President Technical Annual Report.....	8
Vice-President Finance Annual Report .....	10
Vice-President Communications and Member Services Annual Report .....	17
Young Professional Representative Summary Report.....	18
SECTION REPORTS .....	21
Sections Representative Annual Report .....	21
Vancouver Island BC (Victoria) Section .....	22
Southern BC (Vancouver) Section .....	23
Northern BC (Prince George) Section.....	26
Interior BC (Kelowna) Section.....	27
Northern Alberta & Territories (Edmonton) Section.....	27
Southern Alberta (Calgary) Section .....	29
Northern Saskatchewan (Saskatoon) Section.....	30
Southern Saskatchewan (Regina) Section .....	32
Manitoba (Winnipeg) Section .....	34
Northwestern Ontario (Thunder Bay) Section .....	36
Northeastern Ontario (Sudbury) Section.....	36
Southwestern Ontario (London) Section .....	37
Southern Ontario (Toronto) Section .....	38
Southeastern Ontario (Kingston) Section.....	39
Eastern Ontario (Ottawa) Section .....	40
Ouest-du-Québec / Western Québec (Montréal) Section .....	42
Est-du-Québec / Eastern Québec (Québec) Section .....	43
New Brunswick (Fredericton) Section .....	45
Nova Scotia (Halifax) Section.....	46
Newfoundland and Labrador (St. John's) Section.....	46
DIVISION and COMMITTEE REPORTS.....	47
Divisions and Committees Representative Summary Annual Report.....	47
DIVISION REPORTS .....	47
Cold Regions Geotechnology Division.....	47
Engineering Geology and Geological Engineering Division.....	49
Geoenvironmental Engineering Division .....	52
Geosynthetics Division .....	53
Groundwater Division .....	55
Rock Mechanics Division .....	57
Soil Mechanics and Foundations Division.....	59
COMMITTEE REPORTS .....	61
Education Committee .....	61
Heritage Committee .....	62
Geohazards Committee .....	64
Mining Geotechnique Committee .....	66
Professional Practice Committee .....	67
Sustainable Geotechnics Committee .....	69
Transportation Geotechnique Committee .....	71
Membership Committee .....	72
Young Professional Committee.....	73
OTHER REPORTS .....	77
Geotechnical Research Board .....	77
Canadian Geotechnical Journal .....	79
Canadian Geotechnique / Geotechnique canadienne Magazine .....	79
CANADIAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY - AWARDS AND HONOURS 2025.....	80
LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE GÉOTECHNIQUE – PRIX ET DISTINCTIONS 2025.....	81
APPENDIX .....	83



CANADIAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY  
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE GÉOTECHNIQUE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS / CONSEIL DE DIRECTION

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OTHER POSITIONS AND NATIONAL OFFICE

MEMBRES DU CONSEIL DE DIRECTION ET DU PERSONNEL DU BUREAU NATIONAL, ET PERSONNES OCCUPANT D'AUTRES  
POSTES EN 2025

Terms end December 31 in the year shown, unless otherwise indicated.

Les mandats se terminent le 31 décembre de l'année indiquée.

**Executive Committee / Comité exécutif**

**President / Président**

Craig Lake, PhD, FEIC, P.Eng.

[president@cgs.ca](mailto:president@cgs.ca) / [craig.lake@dal.ca](mailto:craig.lake@dal.ca)

2026

**Engineering Geology and Geological Engineering**

**Géologie de l'ingénieur et génie géologique**

Nicholas Vlachopoulos

[vlachopoulos-n@rmc.ca](mailto:vlachopoulos-n@rmc.ca)

2027

**Vice President Technical**

**Vice-présidente technique**

Jean Hutchinson

[vptech@cgs.ca](mailto:vptech@cgs.ca) / [hutchinj@queensu.ca](mailto:hutchinj@queensu.ca)

2026

**Geoenvironmental**

**Géoenvironnement**

Mamadou Fall

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2027

**Vice President Financial**

**Vice-présidente aux finances**

Daniel Bertrand, P.Eng.

[vpfinance@cgs.ca](mailto:vpfinance@cgs.ca) / [DBertrand@klohn.com](mailto:DBertrand@klohn.com)

2026

**Geosynthetics**

**Géosynthétiques**

Sam Bhat

[sam@titanenviro.ca](mailto:sam@titanenviro.ca)

2026

**Vice President Communications & Member**

**Services / Vice-présidente Communications et services aux membres**

Marie-Lin Bréard Lanoix

[vpcomm@cgs.ca](mailto:vpcomm@cgs.ca) / [Marie-Lin.BreardLanoix@glencore.ca](mailto:Marie-Lin.BreardLanoix@glencore.ca)

2026

**Groundwater**

**Eaux souterraines**

Sonny Sundaram

[sonny.sundaram@englobecorp.com](mailto:sonny.sundaram@englobecorp.com)

2027

**Young Professional Representative**

**Représentante des jeunes professionnels**

Chelsey Yesnik

[yprep@cgs.ca](mailto:yprep@cgs.ca)

2025

**Rock Mechanics**

**Mécanique des roches**

Jonathan Aubertin, P.Eng.

[Jonathan.Aubertin@etsmtl.ca](mailto:Jonathan.Aubertin@etsmtl.ca)

2026

**Divisions and Committees Representative**

**Représentante des divisions et comités**

Jennifer Day, P.Eng., PGeo

[divcomrep@cgs.ca](mailto:divcomrep@cgs.ca) / [day.jennifer@queensu.ca](mailto:day.jennifer@queensu.ca)

2025

**Soil Mechanics and Foundations**

**Mécanique des sols et des fondations**

Cheng Lin, Ph.D., P.Eng.

[chenglin918@uvic.ca](mailto:chenglin918@uvic.ca)

2026

**Section Representative**

**Représentante des sections**

Lillian Landry-Paré, P. Eng.

[secrep@cgs.ca](mailto:secrep@cgs.ca) / [lillian.landry-pare@hatch.com](mailto:lillian.landry-pare@hatch.com)

2025

**Section Directors**

**Directeurs des sections**

*Vancouver Island Geotechnical Group*

**Caleb H. Scott, P.Eng.**

[cscott@thurber.ca](mailto:cscott@thurber.ca)

2025

**Division Chairs**

**Présidents des divisions**

**Cold Regions Geotechnology**

**Géotechnologie des régions froides**

Ryley Beddoe

[ryley.beddoe@rmc.ca](mailto:ryley.beddoe@rmc.ca)

2025

*Vancouver Geotechnical Society*

**Marc Bossé, P.Eng.**

[mbosse@thurber.ca](mailto:mbosse@thurber.ca)

2025

*Prince George Geotechnical Group*

**Warren Lemky, P.Eng.**

[warren.lemky@gov.bc.ca](mailto:warren.lemky@gov.bc.ca)

2025

<i>Interior BC Section</i> <b>Kevin Bodnar, P.Eng.</b> <a href="mailto:bodnar@geopacific.ca">bodnar@geopacific.ca</a>	2026	<i>Nova Scotia Section</i> <b>Justin Matthew</b> <a href="mailto:Justin.Matthew@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca">Justin.Matthew@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca</a>	2024
<i>Geotechnical Society of Edmonton</i> <b>F. Albert Liu</b> <a href="mailto:fa6@ualberta.ca">fa6@ualberta.ca</a>	2027	<i>Newfoundland (St. John's Section)</i> <b>Shawn Russell</b> <a href="mailto:shawn.russell@gemtec.ca">shawn.russell@gemtec.ca</a>	2024
<i>Calgary Geotechnical Society</i> <b>Lianne Landry-Pare, P.Eng.</b> <a href="mailto:llandrypare@outlook.com">llandrypare@outlook.com</a>	2025	<b>Chairs of Committees</b> <b>Présidents Comités</b>	
<i>Saskatoon Geotechnical Group</i> <b>Adam Leik</b> <a href="mailto:aleik@srk.com">aleik@srk.com</a>	2025	<b>Education Committee</b> <b>Comité sur l'éducation</b> <b>Ashutosh Dhar</b> <a href="mailto:asdhar@mun.ca">asdhar@mun.ca</a>	2025
<i>Regina Geotechnical Group</i> <b>Rashed Chowdhury</b> <a href="mailto:rashed_chowdhury@clifton.ca">rashed_chowdhury@clifton.ca</a>	2024	<b>Geohazards Committee</b> <b>Comité sur les géorisques</b> <b>Megan van Veen, P.Eng.</b> <a href="mailto:MVanVeen@bgcengineering.ca">MVanVeen@bgcengineering.ca</a>	2026
<i>Manitoba Section</i> <b>David Kurz, P.Eng.</b> <a href="mailto:dkurz@kgsgroup.com">dkurz@kgsgroup.com</a>	2024	<b>Heritage Committee</b> <b>Comité sur le patrimoine</b> <b>Heinrich K. Heinz, P.Eng.</b> <a href="mailto:geohhcan@gmail.com">geohhcan@gmail.com</a>	2025
<i>Thunder Bay Section</i> <b>Colin Hunter</b> <a href="mailto:chunter@lakeheadu.ca">chunter@lakeheadu.ca</a>	2026		
<i>Sudbury Section</i> <b>André Bom, P. Eng.</b> <a href="mailto:andre.bom@wsp.com">andre.bom@wsp.com</a>	2024	<b>Membership Committee</b> <b>Comité des membres</b> <b>Justyna Kos-Fairless, P.Eng.</b> <a href="mailto:jkosfairless@suncor.com">jkosfairless@suncor.com</a> <b>Vincent Castonguay, P.Eng.</b> <a href="mailto:vincent.castonguay.consultant@gmail.com">vincent.castonguay.consultant@gmail.com</a>	2025
<i>London Section</i> <b>Philips Aby</b> <a href="mailto:philips.aby@exp.com">philips.aby@exp.com</a>	2024		
<i>Southern Ontario Section</i> <b>Masoud Manzari</b> <a href="mailto:director5@cgs-sos.ca">director5@cgs-sos.ca</a>	2026	<b>Mining Geotechnique Committee</b> <b>Comité sur la géotechnique minière</b> <b>Vincent Boulanger-Martel</b> <a href="mailto:vincent.boulanger-martel@uqat.ca">vincent.boulanger-martel@uqat.ca</a>	
<i>Kingston Section</i> <b>Juliana Reinert</b> <a href="mailto:juliana.reinert@queensu.ca">juliana.reinert@queensu.ca</a>	2026	<b>Professional Practice Committee</b> <b>Comité sur la pratique professionnelle</b> <b>Storer Boone</b> <a href="mailto:sjboone@groundrules.ca">sjboone@groundrules.ca</a>	2026
<i>Ottawa Geotechnical Group</i> <b>Mohammed Al-Khazaali</b> <a href="mailto:maturki1980@gmail.com">maturki1980@gmail.com</a>	2025	<b>Sustainable Geotechnics Committee</b> <b>Comité sur la géotechnique durable</b> <b>Sumi Siddiqua</b> <a href="mailto:sumi.siddiqua@ubc.ca">sumi.siddiqua@ubc.ca</a>	2025
<i>Section régionale Ouest-du-Québec</i> <b>Vanessa Di Battista</b> <a href="mailto:Vanessa.Di.Battista@usherbrooke.ca">Vanessa.Di.Battista@usherbrooke.ca</a>	2026	<b>Transportation Geotechnique Committee</b> <b>Comité sur la géotechnique des transports</b> <b>Harpreet Panesar, P.Eng.</b> <a href="mailto:sales@soilrocks.ca">sales@soilrocks.ca</a>	2023
<i>Section régionale Est-du-Québec</i> <b>Vincent Castonguay</b> <a href="mailto:vincent.castonguay.consultant@gmail.com">vincent.castonguay.consultant@gmail.com</a>	2027		
<i>New Brunswick Section</i> <b>Christopher McQueen, P.Eng.</b> <a href="mailto:Christopher.McQueen@englobecorp.com">Christopher.McQueen@englobecorp.com</a>	2024	<b>Young Professionals Committee</b> <b>Comité sur jeunes professionnels</b> <b>Chelsey Yesnik</b> <a href="mailto:Cyesnik@trekgeotechnical.ca">Cyesnik@trekgeotechnical.ca</a>	2026

<b>Geotechnical Research Board</b> <b>Conseil de la recherche en géotechnique</b> Marolo Alfaro <a href="mailto:Marolo.Alfaro@umanitoba.ca">Marolo.Alfaro@umanitoba.ca</a>	2025	<b>CGS National Office /</b> <b>Bureau national de la SCG</b> 2167 166 Street, Surrey, BC V3Z 0V6 Tel: 604 277 7527 <a href="mailto:info@cgs.ca">info@cgs.ca</a>
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<b>Editor, Canadian Geotechnique</b> <b>Directeur de rédaction, Géotechnique canadienne</b> Nicholas Beier, P.Eng. <a href="mailto:nabeier@ualberta.ca">nabeier@ualberta.ca</a>	2025	<b>Administrator / Administrateur</b> Karma-Link Management Services
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<b>REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER ORGANIZATIONS /</b> <b>REPRÉSENTANTS AUPRÈS D'AUTRES ORGANISATIONS</b>		
		<b>Representative to EIC Council</b> <b>Représentant sur le Conseil de l'ICI</b> (CGS President /Président de la SCG) Rob Kenyon Ph.D., P.Eng., FEIC <a href="mailto:president@cgs.ca">president@cgs.ca</a> / <a href="mailto:rkenyon@kgsgroup.com">rkenyon@kgsgroup.com</a>
		<b>Representative to CFES Council</b> <b>Representant sur le Conseil de la FCST</b> Jennifer J. Day, P.Eng., PGeo <a href="mailto:day.jennifer@queensu.ca">day.jennifer@queensu.ca</a>
		<b>Representative to CSCE Board</b> <b>Représentante sur le Conseil de la SCGC</b> (CGS President /Président de la SCG) Craig Lake, PhD, FEIC, P.Eng. <a href="mailto:president@cgs.ca">president@cgs.ca</a> / <a href="mailto:craig.lake@dal.ca">craig.lake@dal.ca</a>

This is my first annual report as CGS President, and my intention is to provide you with a high-level overview of our activities and initiatives over the past year. In my initial address as President-Elect, I anticipated that 2025–26 would be a period of continuous improvement and change for the CGS. My general priorities as President were:

1. Continuing to promote the benefits of membership and volunteerism to young professionals.
2. Improving the overall diversity of our Society.
3. Developing a sustainable model for updating and renewing the Canadian Foundation Engineering Manual (CFEM).
4. Managing change within the CGS organization.

I will expand on these priorities throughout my report.

The year 2025 has brought many new activities and initiatives within CGS, detailed in the annual reports prepared by our Sections, Divisions, and Committees. I want to thank all CGS members for their outstanding engagement and dedication to our Society. The CGS is now an organization of more than 1500 members and we hope this growth in membership will help to continually fuel more of these activities in the future.

Members can read about technical activities in the report prepared by **Vice President Technical, Jean Hutchinson**. Technical work is the “foundation” of the CGS, and I would be remiss not to acknowledge the many achievements over the past year. A special thank you goes to the **GeoMontreal** team, led by **François Duhaime** and **Daniel Verret**, for hosting a successful 2024 conference. This year, our **78th Canadian Geotechnical Conference, GeoManitoba**, is being led by **Kent Bannister** and the Local Organizing Committee. The event will take place at the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba, from September 21–24, 2025, in partnership with the **Canadian Permafrost Association**. I look forward to gathering in Manitoba and meeting many of you there.

Immediately before **GeoManitoba**, the **Young Professionals (YP) Conference** will be held in Wasagaming, Manitoba. This event provides an excellent introduction to the CGS community for emerging geoprofessionals. Nearly 50 delegates are expected, with a program featuring tours, presentations, and workshops. Thank you to **Jack Park, Jenna Roadley**, and the entire team for their efforts. Looking ahead, our **79th Canadian Geotechnical Conference** will be held in **Quebec City**, chaired by **Julie Therrien**, from **September 12–16, 2026**. Also planned for 2026 is **GeoHazards**, scheduled for June in Edmonton and chaired by **Corey Froese** and **Renato Macciotta**. These events require an enormous amount of effort, and on behalf of CGS, I extend my thanks to every volunteer who contributes to the excellent technical and social programs, workshops, and short courses. I also thank our corporate sponsors and exhibitors—your support is critical to the success of these events and to CGS activities overall.

The Society continued its long-standing tradition of the **Cross Canada Lecture Tour (CCLT)**. **Prof. Jocelyn Haley (University of Calgary)** delivered the 2024 Fall Tour, and **Dr. Jason DeJong (UC Davis)** toured our Sections this past spring. **Dr. Paul Dittrich (WSP)** is scheduled for the Fall 2025 Tour, and **Prof. Jie Han (University of Kansas)** will present in Spring 2026. Many thanks to Lisa Reny and the Karma-Link team for managing logistics and ensuring these tours remain successful.

Under the leadership of the VP Technical, the errata for the *Canadian Foundation Engineering Manual, 5th Edition* (2023) is being finalized with chapter authors. Jean is also developing a process for future revisions, a stated priority of my presidency (Priority 3). Work on the French translation of the CFEM is ongoing.

Our Sections across the country remain healthy and active, with most returning to normal activities this past year. **Lilianne Landry-Paré** provides details of their work in her report. I thank Lilianne for her leadership with the Sections. She will be stepping down at year's end to become Chair of the Calgary Section, and I look forward to her continued contributions.

Likewise, our Divisions and Committees have been active in offering technical workshops, webinars, and short courses, while also supporting conference programming. **Jenn Day** provides details in her report. Jenn is completing her term as Division and Committee Representative, and I sincerely thank her for her contributions to CGS.

This year, CGS strengthened connections with partner organizations, which provide valuable opportunities for exchanging ideas and learning. Our Executive Director attended the **ASCE Geotechnical Frontiers 2025** conference in Kentucky, and ASCE will reciprocally attend our Winnipeg conference. I attended the **CSCE** conference and Board Meeting in Winnipeg, learning more about their operations and fostering links with their Board. On behalf of CGS, I signed a new MOU with the **Canadian Dam Association** to facilitate collaboration, and another with **Canadian Science Publishing** to strengthen our relationship with the *Canadian Geotechnical Journal*. I look forward to welcoming international partners at our Annual Conference, including **IAEG President Vassilis Marinos** and **ISSMGE Vice President for North America, Walter Paniagua**. Discussions will no doubt include recent and upcoming international conferences, including the **ISSMGE Pan-American Conference on Unsaturated Soils in Ottawa** and the **21st International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering in Vienna**.

The **Professional Practice Committee**, under **Stoorer Boone**, has continued to strengthen ties with the **Geoprofessional Business Association (GBA)**, which will also participate in our Winnipeg conference. CGS remains committed to maintaining relationships with other societies to address common issues and share resources.

We are also grateful for the support of the **Canadian Foundation for Geotechnique (CFG)**. The CFG provides funding for many awards, the **CGS Colloquium**, and the CCLT. My thanks go to **CFG President Suzanne Powell** and her team for their continued support. I encourage members interested in contributing to contact Suzanne directly.

Your **VP Communications and Membership Services, Marie-Lin Breard**, has overseen several key initiatives. She finalized the work of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Task Force, chaired by **Sumi Sudhiqua**, which engaged members and developed guidelines for embedding EDI principles into CGS operations. CGS hosted several EDI webinars this year, with more workshops planned. At the Winnipeg BOD meeting, Marie-Lin will present a proposal to establish a new EDI Committee—another of my stated priorities (Priority 2). In 2026, members will also see the launch of our new membership management system and website (IMIS), which will provide improved interaction between members and the Society (Priority 4).

**VP Finance, Daniel Bertrand**, has been highly effective in managing our finances, supported by Bill Reny of Karma-Link. While reinvesting in the Society through the 2026 budget, Daniel has worked to keep costs manageable. The external audit for 2025 has been completed, and CGS remains in good financial health despite broader economic uncertainties. Daniel will present the audited report and 2026 budget at the annual conference.

The breadth of our activities would not be possible without the support of **Executive Director Ian Moore** and the **National Office team at Karma-Link—Lisa and Bill Reny, Emily Fournier, Lesia Beznaczuk, and Bree Sharp**. Their efforts enable CGS volunteers to focus on delivering value to members.

The YP Committee, chaired by **Chelsey Guenther (née Yesnik)**, has been particularly active, running the Mentorship Program, monthly webinars, the GeoWall competition in Winnipeg, YP socials with local sections, and more. As mentioned earlier, the YP Conference is another excellent example of their contributions. Our young members are vital to the future of CGS and supporting them remains a top priority (Priority 1).

The year 2025 has also been one of transition. At the end of 2024, we bid farewell (though not goodbye) to former Executive Director **Michel Aubertin**, who served in that role for a decade after many years of leadership. His “retirement” project was updating the CGS Administration Manual, last revised in 2012. With this new version, to be approved by the Board of Directors in 2025, we are better positioned for efficient operations going forward (Priority 4).

**Jean Hutchinson** is the sole candidate for **President-Elect** and will be voted on at the Winnipeg BOD meeting. Having worked closely with Jean, I am very confident that CGS will be in excellent hands moving forward. I encourage you to support her as she continues to make CGS one of the best organizations to volunteer with.

In closing, it is truly an honour to serve as President of this Society and to witness the incredible work of CGS members. Many of these contributions will be recognized at our Annual Awards Banquet during the Winnipeg conference. I look forward to celebrating with you there.

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### ***Vice-President Technical Annual Report – D. Jean Hutchinson***

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The main technical activities undertaken in the past year are summarized below.

#### **Canadian Foundation Engineering Manual (CFEM)**

The CFEM sales have been going well, and a French version of the Manual is scheduled for release at the time of the GeoQuebec conference in 2026.

Errata are being compiled and will be published in GeoNews in due course.

A sub-committee chaired by Henrik Kristiansen is examining best practices to continue the work to update the CFEM on a regular and continuous basis.

#### **Cross Canada Lecture Tour (CCLT)**

The CCLT is highly sought after by local sections and provides the speakers with a wonderful opportunity to meet people all across the country.

- The Fall 2024 speaker, Dr. Jocelyn Hayley, University of Calgary, toured across the country, giving a record number of talks – 16! She visited St. John's, NL, Halifax, NS, Fredericton, NB, Winnipeg, MB, Thunder Bay, ON, Ottawa, ON, Quebec City, QC, Toronto, ON, Regina, SK, Saskatoon, SK, Prince George, BC, Vancouver, BC, Victoria, BC, Edmonton, AB, Calgary, AB, and Yellowknife, NT, addressing over 500 people. The titles of her talks were: i) Shifting Ground: Permafrost Challenges in a Changing Canadian North and ii) Shifting Tracks: Permafrost Thaw along the Hudson Bay Railway.
- The Spring/Summer speaker, 2025, generally an international speaker, was Dr. Jason DeJong, from UC Davis, USA, who completed his tours in April. He offered talks with the titles: i) Gravels: Evaluating Liquefaction of Gravelly Soils - The Influence of Soil Gradation on Penetration Resistance and the Dynamic Response of Level and Sloping Ground; ii) Dams: Evaluation and Remediation of Embankment Dams – Insights and Advances Enabled by Centrifuge Modeling; and iii) Biogeotechnics: Biogeotechnics as a Catalyst for Innovation – Biocementation Soil Improvement and Its Application to Liquefaction Hazard Mitigation.
- The Fall speaker, 2025, generally a Canadian speaker, is Dr. Paul Dittrich of WSP. He will be visiting western stops during the week of October 13<sup>th</sup> and eastern stops during the week of October 27<sup>th</sup>. He also plans to visit several southern Ontario stops at a later date, which are relatively easily accessed by ground transportation. He is offering talks with the titles: i) Influence of Exsolved Gases on Slope Performance at the Sarnia Approach to the St. Clair River Tunnel; ii) Geotechnical Challenges in Barbados; and iii) Geotechnical Lessons Learned.

- For 2026, the speakers will be Dr. Jie Han from the University of Texas in the Spring and Dr. Andy Take from Queen's University in the Fall.

The CCLT speaker's travel is funded by the Canadian Foundation for Geotechnique with the generous support of industry. Several companies provided double sponsorships covering both tours in 2025: Conetec, Klohn Crippen Berger and Thurber Engineering. For the Spring Tour 2025, the sponsors included BGC Engineering, Clifton Engineering, and TetraTech Canada Ltd. For the upcoming Fall Tour 2025, the sponsors include Reinforced Earth Company of Canada, Trek Geotechnical and WSP.

The CGS wishes to thank everyone involved in the planning, sponsoring, and hosting of these talks each year. One talk given by each speaker is video recorded, and will be made freely available through the CFG web page. This will permit CCLT sponsors to post links to the videos of speakers they have sponsored, and members of the global public who are not CGS members to access and view this excellent content. Previously, the recorded CCLTs were available for members on the CGS website under their member login.

The CGS Board approved a new selection process for the CCLT speaker in 2023, which will be implemented in 2026 Q1 to select the CCLT speakers for 2027 and 2028.

### **Colloquium Lecture and Tour**

The Colloquium Lecture Series is given by exceptional young professionals: first at the Annual Conference and then at a number of other locations over the following year. Funding is provided by the CGS and the CFG for the speakers' travel costs. Generally focussed on building awareness and knowledge amongst younger professionals, the talks are often given at Universities, to address students as well as local practitioners.

The 2025 Colloquium speaker was Dr. Ryley Beddoe from the Royal Military College. Ryley has given the following Colloquium Lectures: Halifax and Quebec City in April; Victoria, Edmonton and Calgary in May; Vancouver in September, and Yellowknife, Whitehorse & Kingston, dates still be determined.

The 2026 Colloquium speaker will be Dr. Jennifer Day from Queen's University, as selected by the Geotechnical Research Board. The selection process for the 2027 CGS Colloquium has been completed with the 2027 Colloquium Speaker to be announced at GeoManitoba 2025.

### **CGS/SCG Sponsored, Co-Sponsored and Supported Conferences**

#### **Sponsored:**

**GeoMontreal 2024** - Resilient geosciences for future generations - was held between 9 and 15 September, 2024. <https://www.geomontreal2024.ca/> The final conference report has been completed and accepted by the CGS.

**GeoManitoba 2025** – Stronger Together – will be held between 21 and 24 September, 2025. An excellent and effective organizing team have been working hard to make the conference a success. <https://www.geomanitoba2025.ca/>

The **CGS YP Conference 2025** will be held just prior to GeoManitoba at Riding Mountain Park, between 18 and 20 September. The CGS YPC begins with a day-long technical tour to highlight local geology, industry, and infrastructure. The technical tour is then followed by two days of delegate presentations, technical workshops, keynote presentations, panel discussions, and social events. . The organizing committee has been working very hard to create a unique conference with excellent networking and technical content and opportunities to highlight YP members of the CGS. <https://www.cgsypc2025.ca/>

**GeoQuebec 2026** planning is underway.

## **Co-Sponsored:**

**Geohazards9** – Planning is well underway for the Geohazards9 conference, to be held in Edmonton from June 1 to 3, 2026 (<https://www.geohazards9.ca/>). Abstract submission is open until October 15, 2026, and registration for the conference will open later this fall.

## **Supported:**

The **4th Pan-American Conference on Unsaturated Soils** was held in Ottawa, ON between June 22-25, 2025.

Although a conference supported by the ISSMGE, CGS members chaired and organized the conference.

<https://www.panam-unsat2025.ca/>

RockEng 2025 was held in Montreal between August 17 and 19, 2025. The conference is hosted by CARMA, which brings together members of the CGS and the CIM interested in rock mechanics and engineering.

<https://www.rockeng2025.com/>

## **MOUs, Conference Report Review**

- The MOU for GeoOttawa 2027 has been finalized and signed.
- A proposal for GeoVancouver 2028 will be presented at the Council meeting at GeoManitoba, by LOC Chair Marc Bosse.

## **Other Activities**

- Three CGS YP members have been selected to attend the ISSMGE YP conference in Austria in 2026. The travel for two members will be co-funded by CGS and CFG. Congratulations to: Dr. Jonathan Aubertin, Dr. Kelvin Sattler and Chelsey Yesnik.
- A review is underway of the benefits CGS members receive from selecting International Society membership(s) during the registration process, to ensure maximum benefit to CGS members, and to streamline communications.
- A review is underway of the selection process for Division and Committee awards, to standardize nomination package components, and to include EDI best practices in the selection process.

Reports by: **Divisions and Committees** by Dr. Jennifer Day, **CGS Local Sections** by Lilianne Landry-Pare, the **Geotechnical Research Board** by Dr. Marolo Alfaro and the **Canadian Geotechnical Journal** by Dr. Andy Take are included elsewhere in this annual report.

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## ***Vice-President Finance Annual Report – Daniel Bertrand***

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### **Introduction**

The following is a statement of the CGS finances for 2024-2025. Unless stated otherwise, all numbers are in thousands (000s) of dollars. CGS acknowledges the work of Karma-Link, who provided the main numbers below and coordinated with the Auditors.

This report is organized in the following sections:

1. 2024 Financial Statements (audited) with comparisons to 2023 and 2025 Budget and YTD Actuals
  - a. Income / Revenue Highlights and Commentary

- b. Expense Highlights and Commentary
- c. Balance Sheet Highlights and Commentary
- 2. CGS Membership Statistics
- 3. 2026 Budget (proposed)

## 1. FY 2024 Financial Statements (\$000s)

### a. 2024 Revenue Compared to 2023 and 2025 Budget and Year-to-Date

Revenue / Expenses (000s)	FY 2023 (restated)	FY 2024 (audited)	FY2025		
			Budget	FY Forecast	FY Forecast % Budget
<b>Revenues:</b>					
- Membership Dues	271	309	325	309	95%
- Publications	106	167	75	70	93%
- Conferences	155	27	40	45	113%
- Corporate Sponsorships	15	8	25	27	108%
- Miscellaneous	17		15	2	13%
- Division and Committee Income	27	29		3	
- Other income (including Interest)		35		7	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>96%</b>

### Revenue Notes

- Dues from members continue to grow year over year.
- 2024 was the first full year CFEM V5 was available for sale, both to individuals and institutions. Sales slowed considerably in 2025 and will continue to decline in future years. The French edition is expected to be released late in 2025 or early in 2026 but the sales volume will be much less than the English edition.
- CGS's profit from GeoMontreal was just over \$27 K. This was in line with expectations as the previous EC and the GeoMontreal LOC decided to invest in enhanced delegate experience to offset what was perceived as excess profits in the 2022 and 2023 conferences.
- Division and committee income is a new category and includes income from D&C activities including YP fund raising and paid seminars.
- FY 2025 revenue is forecasted close to budget with the exception of membership dues which was overestimated in last year's budget.
- Johnsen & Archer (auditor) had restated 2023 due to a bookkeeping error. See note 2 in the Audited Financial Statements for more information.

## 1. FY 2024 Financial Statements (\$000s)

### a. 2024 Expenses (audited) compared to 2023 (audited and restated) and 2025 Budget

Revenue / Expenses (000s)	FY 2023 (restated)	FY 2024 (audited)	FY2025		
			Budget	FY Forecast	FY Forecast % Budget
<b>Society Expenses:</b>					
- Int'l. Memberships	13	6	15	8	53%
- Conferences/CCLT	6	3	15	25	167%
- Publications	133	135	129	125	97%
- Division and Committee Expenses	21	11			
- Section Support					
- Awards					
<b><i>Subtotal - Society Expenses</i></b>	<b><i>173</i></b>	<b><i>155</i></b>	<b><i>159</i></b>	<b><i>158</i></b>	<b><i>99%</i></b>
<b>Wages &amp; Staff Fees:</b>					
- Executive Director Fees	76	78	78	75	96%
- Admin (KL Fees)	116	123	120	112	93%
- Admin Manual (non-recurring)			39	35	90%
- NO Support for annual conferences					
<b><i>Subtotal - Wages and Staff Fees</i></b>	<b><i>192</i></b>	<b><i>201</i></b>	<b><i>237</i></b>	<b><i>222</i></b>	<b><i>94%</i></b>
<b>Society Operations Fees:</b>					
- Website	12	10	12	6	50%
- Audit Fees	28	24	25	23	92%
- Telpay, Bank & Credit Card Fees	6	10	15	11	73%
- Translation	4	4	5	5	100%
- Travel	29	10	15	35	233%
- Accounting and Bookkeeping Fees	7	9	10	8	80%
- Other general admin expenses	2	3	13	2	15%
<b><i>Subtotal - Society Operations</i></b>	<b><i>88</i></b>	<b><i>70</i></b>	<b><i>95</i></b>	<b><i>90</i></b>	<b><i>95%</i></b>
<b>New / Special Initiatives:</b>					
- IMIS Implementation (non-recurring)			50	40	
- IMIS Subscription Fees (recurring)			-	-	
- EDIA			5	-	
<b><i>Subtotal - New/Special Initiatives</i></b>			<b><i>55</i></b>	<b><i>40</i></b>	<b><i>73%</i></b>
<b>Financing Expenses:</b>					
- CFEM V5 Amortization	11	22	22	22	100%
- Miscellaneous					
- Bad Debt					
<b><i>Subtotal - Financing Expenses</i></b>	<b><i>11</i></b>	<b><i>22</i></b>	<b><i>22</i></b>	<b><i>22</i></b>	<b><i>100%</i></b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>Revenue over Expenses</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>-88</b>	<b>-69</b>	<b>78%</b>

## Expense and Profit/Loss Notes

- Society operating and administration expenses are in line with expectations.
- For the fiscal year 2024, CGS generated a surplus of \$127 K in revenues over expenses. Coincidentally, this was almost the same amount as in 2023.
- The approved budget for 2025 was projected at a loss of \$88 K, however, we are forecasting a smaller loss that anticipated at \$69 K. Keep in mind that this is on an accrual basis and the cash draw is lower due to amortization (a non-cash expense).

## 1. FY 2024 Financial Statements (\$000s)

### c. 2024 Balance Sheet with 2023 Comparison

		2024	2023
<b>Assets</b>	Cash	319.4	121.5
	Term Deposits	205.6	75.0
	Accounts Receivable & Prepaid Expenses	56.7	321.9
	Advances receivable (seed funds)	69.4	50.0
	Loans to CFG	335.0	335.0
	Intangible Assets (CFEM V5 capitalization)	76.7	96.9
	Equipment	-	-
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$1,062.9</b>	<b>\$1,000.3</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	62.1	98.8
	Deferred revenue	70.8	98.1
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>\$123.9</b>	<b>\$196.9</b>

<b>Net Assets</b>	Unrestricted	788.2	641.4
	Internally Restricted – Divisions and Committees	65.1	65.1
	Invested in Intangible Assets (CFEM V5)	76.7	96.9
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>\$930.0</b>	<b>\$803.4</b>

<b>Total Liabilities &amp; NA</b>		<b>\$1,062.9</b>	<b>\$1,000.3</b>
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## Notes and significant factors impacting the Balance Sheet

### Seed Funds:

- Seed Funds Repaid in 2024:
  - GeoMontréal 2024: \$20 K
  - ICOP 2024: \$10 K
- Outstanding Seed Funds (as of Dec 31, 2024):
  - GeoManitoba 2025: \$20 K
  - YP Conference 2025: \$9.4 K
  - GeoQuébec 2026: \$20 K in seed funds + \$20 K special loan (due Oct 15, 2025)
- Outstanding Seed Funds (as of Sep 11, 2025):
  - GeoManitoba 2025: \$20 K
  - YP Conference 2025: \$9.4 K

- GeoQuébec 2026: \$20 K in seed funds + \$20 K special loan (due Oct 15, 2025)
- Geohazards9: \$10 K

**CFEM 5<sup>th</sup> Edition:**

- Value of CFEM 5<sup>th</sup> Edition Capitalization: \$76.7 K (as of Dec 31, 24)

**2. CGS Membership Statistics**

Member Class	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
CSCE 2nd Society	14	5	4	-	-
Honourary Member	3	4	4	4	6
IAH 2nd Society	7	7	4	8	2
Regular (Canada)	817	900	1,074	1,102	1,077
Regular (International)	71	62	66	63	73
Retired (Canada)	63	67	61	57	64
Retired (International)	16	13	13	15	14
Student (Paid)	89	105	108	91	104
Student (Comped)	120	151	92	101	191
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,314</b>	<b>1,426</b>	<b>1,441</b>	<b>1,531</b>

### 3. Proposed Budget 2026

Revenue / Expenses (000s)	FY 2024 (audited)	FY2025	2026 Proposed	
		FY Forecast	Budget	YOY Change \$
<b>Revenues:</b>				
- Membership Dues	309	309	310	1
- Publications	167	70	24	-46
- Conferences	27	45	50	5
- Corporate Sponsorships	8	27	28	1
- Miscellaneous		2	2	-
- Division and Committee Income	29	3	10	7
- Other income (including Interest)	35	7	5	-2
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>-34</b>
<b>Society Expenses:</b>				
- Int'l. Memberships	6	8	8	-
- Conferences/CCLT	3	25	5	-20
- Publications	135	125	122	-3
- Division and Committee Expenses	11		10	10
- Section Support			5	5
- Awards			5	5
<b>Subtotal - Society Expenses</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>-3</b>
<b>Wages &amp; Staff Fees:</b>				
- Executive Director Fees	78	75	80	5
- Admin (KL Fees)	123	112	139	27
- Admin Manual (non-recurring)		35	-	35
- NO Support for annual conferences			13	13
<b>Subtotal - Wages and Staff Fees</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Society Operations Fees:</b>				
- Website	10	6	3	-3
- Audit Fees	24	23	24	1
- Telpay, Bank & Credit Card Fees	10	11	12	1
- Translation	4	5	5	-
- Travel	10	35	30	-5
- Accounting and Bookkeeping Fees	9	8	10	2
- Other general admin expenses	3	2	3	1
<b>Subtotal - Society Operations</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>-3</b>
<b>New / Special Initiatives:</b>				
- IMIS Implementation (non-recurring)		40	7	-33
- IMIS Subscription Fees (recurring)		-	8	8
- EDIA		-		
<b>Subtotal - New/Special Initiatives</b>		<b>40</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-25</b>
<b>Financing Expenses:</b>				
- CFEM V5 Amortization	22	22	22	-
- Miscellaneous			5	5
- Bad Debt			-	
<b>Subtotal - Financing Expenses</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>-16</b>
<b>Revenue over Expenses</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>-69</b>	<b>-87</b>	<b>-18</b>

## 2026 Budget Commentary & Discussion Points

### Income and Revenue

- Revenue from membership dues is stable and given the fees are unchanged since 2024, we set the budget in line with the 2024 full year forecast.
- Conference contribution is projected as \$30 K from GeoQuebec and \$20 K from Geohazards 9. The baseline for annual conference's profit share to CGS is \$30 K and was established by the last EC.
- CFEM V5 sales are expected to decline further and given we do not have an expected delivery date for the French version, we are being conservative for 2026.
- Division and Committee and other minor sources of income are in line with previous years.

### Operating and Administration Expenses

Operating and administration expenses are in line with previous years with a few notable exceptions:

- We have created new budget items to refresh our awards and provide support to smaller sections (\$5 K respectively).
- The EC and National Office are committed to reinvesting any income or revenue derived from Division and Committee sources into programs for those groups. Therefore, we have matched the expense budget with the project income.
- The Karma-Link contract was recently renewed for another 3-year term. The contract is slightly higher than the previous agreement due to increasing workload as membership continues to grow and the additional effort to support the new iMIS membership management platform.
- We also agreed to provide Karma-Link with additional funding to support the additional work required in years LOC's do not select Karma-Link as their conference management company. This arrangement retains the current model of allowing sections/LOCs to choose their own conference manager but also reflects the inefficiencies on the KL team to support a conference manager with little understanding of CGS.

### Revenue over Expenses and Equity Coverage

- Similar to last year, we are budgeting for a small period loss of \$87 K for 2026. It is important to note that this period's loss is not a cash loss. The impact on cash will be negative \$67 K as the period loss includes non-cash expenses such as CFEM V5 amortization.
- The CGS continues to be very strong financially, with an enviable cash position.
- Our Total Expense as of percentage of Net Assets is 1.5 based on this proposed budget which is within the audit guidelines of less than two times operating budget.

**2024/2025 Year Report**

**July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025**

**Position: VP Communications and Member Services**

**Section 1: General**

Date of report: August 29, 2025

Prepared by: Marie-Lin Bréard Lanoix, VP Communications and Member Services

End of Term: December 2026

**Section 2: Membership**

The Membership Committee (MC), chaired by Justyna Kos-Fairless & Vincent Castonguay since January 2023, continued to meet virtually throughout the year (July 2024-July 2025). Since January 2025, a total of 8 members, including the chairs are involved.

There were 1,516 members as of August 26, 2025, which is an increase of approximately 2% (32 members) members compared to October last year (1,484 members). For the first time, the CGS total members have reached the 1,500-member mark.

The VP communication and member services wants to acknowledge the MC's commitment and efforts for the work done regarding the Website Task force for the 2023-2024 mandate. These efforts have led to the selection of the new platform (IMIS) who will give more opportunities for the CGS members. For next year (July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026), the MC wants to contribute to the development of the new website and develop a platform to make volunteering within the organization more accessible to members.

**Section 3: Communication**

The E-News were issued every month in the past year (except during the summer period) and continues to be an effective communication tool, with an average open rate of 59%, and reaching 72% in May 2025.

Social media followers (Instagram and LinkedIn) continued to increase throughout the year, especially for LinkedIn CGS main page which saw an increase of 1,519 followers (12%) in a year with a total of 13,322 followers (August 29, 2025). Following the successful YP Committee LinkedIn group created in October 2022 and monitoring for a year, the Divisions and Committees are now allowed to submit a request to the VP Communications and member services to create their own LinkedIn private group. The CGS Rock Mechanics Division, the CGS Soil Mechanics and Foundations Division, and the CGS Geosynthetics Division now have their own LinkedIn group.

**Section 4: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)**

The EDI task force final report, led by Sumi Siddiqua, was submitted on April 4, 2025. The summary of the report, recommendations and conclusion were presented to the EC during the EC Spring meeting by the VP Communication and member services. Following the meeting, it was suggested by the EC to move forward with an EDI Committee who will be able to lead the recommendations of the EDI task force. Since April 2025, the VP Communication and member services has worked on the terms and references of the new committee and has prepared a proposal to present at the BOD in September 2025.

At GeoMontréal 2024, in collaboration with the local EDI Committee of GeoMontréal, the EDI task force organized and supported three events: a mentoring session, the Women in Geotechnique Breakfast and an EDI special session. The

EDI special session was very interactive. The participants were afforded the opportunity to engage in constructive discourse with a panel (Janet Mark (UQAT), Alain Bédard (IDDPNQL), and Richard Boudreault (Polytechnique Montréal)) following Dr. Sumi Siddiqua's talk on "Power, Privilege, and Positionality."

In March and June 2025, two online webinars were held to celebrate the International Women's Day (IWD) and the International Women in Engineering Day (INWED). The presenters and presentation titles are summarized below:

- International Women's Day (IWD)
  - Megan Van Veen, BGC Engineering, March 18, 2025: 3pm-4pm EST
  - Title : The importance of mentoring and allyship in developing our geo-professional workforce
- International Women in Engineering Day (INWED)
  - Justyna Kos-Fairless, Suncor, June 27, 2025, 2pm-3pm EST
  - Title: My Leadership Journey

## **Section 5: Website**

Looking at the Google Analytics data between June 30, 2024, and August 29, 2025, the CGS website had about 31,000 users visit its pages, which is similar compared to the previous year. Approximately 3% were returning visitors and about 14% logging into the Member's site. Some of the top pages visited are the Home page, Calendar of Events, Overview, as well as the CGS Annual Conference and the Canadian Geotechnical Journal.

Visitors came from around the world; however Canada, United States, and China represent 83% of all the users. Approximately 9% of all the users were French-speaking.

## **Section 6: Planned Initiatives 2025-2026**

The VP Communication and member services will focus on the following tasks for the months to come:

- Support the Membership Committee and Karma-Link in the new website implementation.
- Support the creation of an EDI Committee.
- Review the French content of the CGS E-News.

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## ***Young Professional Representative Summary Report – Chelsey Yesnick***

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### **Section 1: General**

- **Report Submission Date:** September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- **Report Prepared by:** Chelsey Yesnik, Young Professional (YP) Representative and Chair of YP Committee
- **Reporting Period:** September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025
- **End of YP Term:** December 31st, 2027

### **Section 2: Report on Young Member Events**

#### **Section 2.1: Conference Activities**

##### CGS Young Professionals Conference 2025

- **Registrants:** 49 delegates
- **Conference Organizers:** Co-Chairs, Jenna Roadley and Jack Park, with fellow committee members - Jordan Antunes, Savanna Herman, Robyn Starycki, Colton Wooster, Amanda Johnston, Rita Wang, Sareena Mohammad, and Joshua Taningco.
- **Where:** Wasagaming (Riding Mountain National Park), Manitoba.

- **When:** Thursday September 18, 2025, to Saturday September 20, 2025, inclusive.
- **Conference Theme:** “Collective Impact,” which conveys the idea that by working together and leveraging the strengths of different stakeholders, we can address complex challenges and create a more equitable, resilient, and prosperous future for our communities and society.
- **Presentation Style:** participants provided a short “PechaKucha” Style presentation on a research topic or project, to generate interest for the poster sessions to follow. Non-technical topics related to the fields of geotechnical engineering or geosciences will also be accepted and are encouraged. This is the first time that a PechaKucha presentation style was used in the YP conference series.
- **Keynote Speakers:** Dr. Kathryn Dompierre, Jasyn Henry, Dr. D. Jean Hutchinson, Dr. Craig Lake, and Ken Skafeld.

#### Canadian Geotechnical Student Competition (CGSC):

At GeoMontreal 2024, the **2<sup>nd</sup> annual CGSC** introduced a new challenge where student teams designed and built small-scale embankment dams using clay, sand, and till.

- The dams were tested under hydraulic loading until failure, with performance judged on height, water retention, construction quality, and material use.
- Université Laval claimed first place, with \$1,000 in prizes awarded and support provided by ETS, Polytechnique Montréal, CGS National, and the Local Organizing Committee.
- Teams participated from across Canada and the world, including Germany.

The **3<sup>rd</sup> annual CGSC** will be held on Wednesday, September 20th, 2025, GeoManitoba 2025. Teams of 4–5 students will design and construct small-scale MSE retaining walls using paper reinforcement taped.

- The walls must withstand a surcharge load without failure, with prizes awarded to the top three most efficient designs.
- The judging panel includes Richard Bathurst, Ian Fleming, and Arjan Jianfar.

#### **Section 2.2: Local Section Activities**

##### YP Socials (Pilot Year)

The CGS YP Committee is excited to offer YP Socials across eastern Canada and the Maritimes in 2025 after a successful start in the prairies and west coast in 2023 and 2024. The YP Socials get young people engaged with the CGS at the local section level, and provide young members with accessible networking opportunities.

The CGS YP Committee is offering a kickstart funding to each interested Section. One Social has already taken place in May 2025 in Thunder Bay, Ontario – with over 25 people in attendance. More socials are anticipated to be hosted in winter of 2025.

#### **Section 2.3: Virtual Activities**

##### Technical Webinars

The “Geotech 101 for Young Professionals” monthly technical webinar series continues to be popular, with up to 10 speakers slated for 2025. Six speakers have presented to date, with attendance ranging from 55 to 118 attendees nationwide.

The technical webinar series is about the many specializations within geotechnical engineering with '101' style content designed to broaden your understanding of the specialization, and potentially the career aspirations of YPs.

### Non-Technical Webinars

The quarterly "Strong Foundations: Professional Development for Geotechnical Engineers" non-technical webinar series has two more webinars planned for 2025, with three already delivered earlier this year on the following topics:

The non-technical webinars aim to educate geotechnical engineers on topics surrounding soft-skills, business development, and many other aspects - while introducing them to new perspectives they may not have considered.

### **Section 3: Website and communications**

- LinkedIn: CGS Young Professionals Committee group (349 followers).
- Mailing List (email): in progress, collecting during virtual events and QR code sign-up at conference.
- Canadian Geotechnique: articles published each issue to showcase young professionals initiatives.

### **Section 4: Finances**

Finances are no longer managed within the YP Committee. There is budget reserved under the Divisions and Committees budget for Young Professional or Student Initiatives.

### **Section 5: Affiliations with Other Organizations**

- The CGS YP Representative was regularly in contact with other YP representatives from other countries through the ISSMGE, including regular meetings with the Engineering and Geology group in New Zealand.
- *Geo-Institute Young Members Committee x CGS YP Committee - virtual networking and collaboration event between committee members in America and Canada.*

### **Section 6: Young Professionals Awards**

- The CGS Early Achievement award was awarded to Matthew Lato at GeoMontreal 2024.
- The ISSMGE 2024 Bright Spark Lecture Award was awarded to Kshama Roy.

### **Section 7: CGS Student Chapters**

We support the registration of CGS Student Chapters across Canada, by helping them establish a constitution, executive committee and integration plan into their local section. We recently assisted in establishing and providing financial support to the newly registered CGS Student Chapter at the University of Victoria (UVic) in July 2025.

### **Section 8: Additional Information and New Initiatives**

#### **Section 8.1: YP Committee Members**

Future Growth of the YP Committee: we have recently seen a bit of movement in the group due to new job opportunities (and time availability) by existing members; if you know anyone interested in joining, please let us know!

#### **Section 8.2: YP Short Course (NEW)**

The YP Committee will be launching an Online Short Course in January or February 2026, aimed at providing accessible technical and professional development opportunities for early-career geotechnical professionals across Canada:

- Delivered virtually, the inaugural course will take place over two 4-hour live sessions, totaling approximately eight hours of content.
- The course will include live technical webinars, interactive panel discussion, and real-world case studies - allowing participation from CGS regions across the country.

The course aims to become an annual event, offered at a low cost is to maintain accessibility - with remaining costs covered through existing YP Committee budget and potential partnerships with the CGS Education Committee. The goal is to establish the short course as a flagship, recurring CGS initiative.

In August 2025, the CGS YP Committee met with the CGS Education Committee to discuss potential topics and has tentatively decided on: ***Best Practices in Geotechnical Site Investigation***.

We endeavor to build a panel of speakers, rich with both academic and industry professionals, with EDI consideration.

## SECTION REPORTS

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### ***Sections Representative Annual Report – Lilianne Landry-Paré***

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[SEE APPENDIX: [CLICK HERE TO GO TO REPORT](#)]

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**Vancouver Island BC (Victoria) Section**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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Formal Section Name: **Vancouver Island Geotechnical Group (VIGG)**

**Report Prepared By:** Caleb Scott

**Section Director:** Caleb Scott

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** Indefinite

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
Chair	Caleb Scott, Thurber Engineering
Program Director	Don Kaluza, WSP
Treasurer	Jeff Ferraby, BC Ferries
Registrar	Vicki Lindstrom, Thurber Engineering
Mid/North Island Rep	Jessica Dhami, Thurber Engineering
Member At Large	Shane Haxton, Ryzuk Geotechnical

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
September 26, 2024	Lucinda J. Leonard, Ph.D., and Theron Finley, M.Sc., University of Victoria	Crustal seismic hazard on Vancouver Island: the Leech River and Xeolxelek-Elk Lake faults	30	\$25
October 31, 2024	Jocelyn L. Hayley, PhD, PEng, FEIC, FCAE, University of Calgary	Shifting Ground: Permafrost Challenges in a Changing Canadian North	25	\$25
November 27, 2024	Warren Wunderlick, P.Eng., Thurber Engineering	Viaduct foundation design for geohazards in kicking horse canyon	35	\$25

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
February 19, 2025	Tuna Onur, Ph.D., Onur Seemann Consulting, Inc.	Probabilistic treatment of site factors in NBC 2020 and implications for site response analyses	45	\$25
March 14, 2025	Cheng Lin, Ph.D. and Hannah Wang, University of Victoria	AI-powered geotechnical assistant: transformative prospects for automated data analysis and collaborative knowledge sharing	35	\$25
April 14, 2025	Jason T. DeJong	Evaluating liquefaction of gravelly soils - the influence of soil gradation on penetration resistance and the dynamic response of level and sloping ground	40	\$25
May 22, 2025	Dr. Ryley Beddoe	Built to last? The geotechnical challenges of infrastructure on thawing permafrost	20	\$25
June 18, 2025	University of Victoria Graduate Students	Research Presentations	20	\$25

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**Southern BC (Vancouver) Section**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Formal Section Name:** Vancouver Geotechnical Society

**Report Prepared By:** Marc Bossé (Thurber)

**Section Director:** Marc Bossé (Thurber)

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** Dec. 31, 2025, to be succeeded by Yoshi Tanaka (Kontur)

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

Section Position	Name	Affiliation
Chair	Tyler Southam	Tetra Tech
Past Chair	Intisar Ahmed	GeoEngineers
Programming	Aya Bayoumi	WSP
	Thushara Jayasinghe	WSP
Secretary	Alison Harason	GEI
	Aline Ljubichich	Kontur
Treasurer	Ibrahim Kawasme	Kiewit
Registrar	Karina Stapleton	KCB
	Simon Wong	UBC
Web Manager	Mohammad Ali Khodabandeh	Qualitest
	Muin Ahmed Alif	AECON
CGS Director	Marc Bossé	Thurber
Student Rep.	Atharva Gujar	UBC
Symposium Chair	Prajakta Jadhav	Ecora
	Sounik Bannerjee	Stantec
Member at Large	TJ Singh	Thurber
	Jason Edgar	Clifton Engineering Group Inc.
	Jared Whitehead	Kontur
	Masood Meidani	BBA
	Fariba Yavari	AtkinsRealis
	Ana Valverde	WSP
	Ali Jahanfar	Stantec
	Mahdi Shahrabi	WSP
	Eryn Alexander	BGC
	Andrea Lougheed	BGC
	Aran Thurairajah	Stantec
	Anjamjot Singh	Stantec

## Section Activities:

Annual registration fee is \$25 which covers regular lectures. The cost to attend major events is for regular registrants, the student registration fee is usually about one-third to one-half.

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
2024.09.12	Paul Wilson, Scott McDougall	Terrain hazard, retrospective of Oldrich Hungr	~60	-
2024.09.26	Ross Boulanger	Liquefaction	78	-
2024.10.30 (CCLT)	Jocelyn Haley	CCLT, permafrost	36	-
2024.11.15 (short course)	John Clague	Glacial landforms and sediments of BC	~100	\$350 to \$450
2024.11.19	Armin Stuedlein	Seismic, rigid inclusions	61	-
2024.12.05	Alireza Javanbakht	Liquefaction, Metro Vancouver	37	-
2025.01.21	Shermi Molnar, Jamal Assaf, Alireza Javanbakht	Seismic microzonation	43	-
2025.01.23 (social)	John Howie, Julia Steele, Sophie Bainbridge, Manuel Monroy, Ross Holmes	Wings of wisdom (hot wing challenge panel discussion)	-	\$5
2025.02.07 (short course)	Dov & Ben Leshchinsky	Geosynthetic reinforced walls/slopes	< 100	\$400 to \$500
2025.02.10	Ozgun Numanoglu	Liquefaction case study	53	-
2025.03.13 (social)	Anne Clayton, Maggie Smith, Laura Fidel, Salina Yong	Women in VGS	~100	\$5
2025.04.14 (CCLT)	Jason DeJong	CCLT, liquefaction	81	-
2025.04.29	Andrew Mitchell, Marten Geertsema, Brian Menounos	Landslide response	-	-

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
2025.05.29	Thava Thavaraj	Plastic cut-off wall	~40	-
2025.06.06 (Symposium)	VGS Symposium (various)	Foundations	~225	\$245 to \$350

The operating year was balanced (i.e.  $\pm \$3k$ ) with revenue and expenses being about \$150k.

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***Northern BC (Prince George) Section***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Formal Section Name:** Prince George Geotechnical Group

**Report Prepared By:** Warren Lemky

**Section Director:** Warren Lemky

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** TBD

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
Chair	Warren Lemky
Vice Chair	Liam MacPhail
Past Chair	Dave McDougall
Treasurer	Megan Lavoie
Secretary	Shiloh Carlson
Members at Large	Joaquim Pereira, Tarun Bibra, Mark Dresen (transitioning out)

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
Oct 30, 2024	Dr. Jocelyn Hayley (CCLT)	Shifting Tracks: Permafrost Thaw along the Hudson Bay Railway	22 (in-person)	\$30 with lunch provided
Apr 24, 2025	Brendan Miller (Local)	Rapid landscape changes in the Fraser and	19 (in-person) 10 (virtual)	Free with no lunch

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
		Nechako River valleys resulting from rapid draining of glacial Lake Fraser, central British Columbia		

**Additional Information or Comments.** Feel free to ask any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Section Representative on the CGS Executive Committee, the CGS National Office or fellow Board Members:

No comments

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***Interior BC (Kelowna) Section***  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Formal Section Name:** BC Interior Geotechnical Group

(Not available)

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***Northern Alberta & Territories (Edmonton) Section***  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Formal Section Name:** Geotechnical Society of Edmonton (Northern Alberta, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Western Nunavut)

**Report Prepared By:** F. Albert Liu and Ken Froese

**Section Director:** F. Albert Liu

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** December 31, 2027

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
President	Vincent Huang, Trans Mountain
Vice President	Amelia Kulmatyski, KCB
Past President	Michael Sampson, KCB
Treasurer	Lulu Zhang, BGC
Secretary	Chao Kang (WSP)

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
Program Coordinator	Colin Dreger, Tetra Tech
Communications	Raymond Xu (BGC)
Registrar	Don Lewycky, City of Edmonton (Retired)
Website	Ken Froese, Thurber
UAlberta Representative	Renato Macciotta, UAlberta
NAIT Representative	Jeff Chapin, NAIT
UAlberta Student Representative	Prabin Acharya, UAlberta
Members-At-Large	Paul Lach (City of Edmonton), Shelly Bratke (ARKK), Jared Beloin (WSP), Mandeep Raj Pandey (AECOM), Fernanda Imamura (Thurber), Leanne McLaren (Thurber)

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
5/27/2025	Ryley Beddoe (2025 CGS Colloquium)	Built to Last? The Geotechnical Challenges of Infrastructure on Thawing Permafrost	70	Students: \$20  CGS/GSE Members: \$40  Non-GSE Members: \$50
4/16/2025	Jason DeJong (2025 CCLT)	Evaluation and Remediation of Embankment Dams – Insights and Advances Enabled by Centrifuge Modeling	59	\$15/\$30/\$40
3/12/2025	Arazoo Patel	Learning from Quick Clays: Implications for Long-Term Behaviour of Young Geomaterials	32	\$10/\$25/\$30
2/27/2025	U of A Student Chapter of the Canadian Geotechnical Society (UACGS)	Annual Applied Geotechnical Reinforced Wall Design Competition	65	Free
2/12/2025	Pooneh Maghoul	Role of Geotechnical Engineering in Human	45	\$15/\$30/\$40

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
	(2023 CGS Colloquium)	Settlement on the Moon and Beyond: Challenges and Opportunities		
1/23/2025	Vicki Nguyen	In-situ Strength and Stiffness Calibration of a Bedding Plane Shear at Site C	52	\$15/\$30/\$40
12/10/2024	Mohammad (Mamun) Al-Mamun	Application of Quantitative Risk Assessment to Alberta Dams	32	\$15/\$30/\$40
11/4/2024	Jocelyn L. Hayley (2024 CCLT)	Shifting Ground: Permafrost Challenges in a Changing Canadian North	65	\$15/\$30/\$40
10/23/2024	Alistair James	Alberta Dam Safety – The Regulatory Directive and Its Implications for Practitioners	31	\$15/\$30/\$40

**Additional Information or Comments.** Feel free to ask any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Section Representative on the CGS Executive Committee, the CGS National Office or fellow Board Members:

F. Albert Liu will be stepping down from the role of the Section Director for Northern Alberta and Territories on July 31, 2025, as he will be joining McGill University in August 2025. He will continue his affiliation with the Geotechnical Society of Edmonton as well as the University of Alberta as an Adjunct Professor.

Ken Froese will serve as the interim Section Director until the next GSE AGM when a new Section Director will be selected to serve out the remainder of the term.

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***Southern Alberta (Calgary) Section  
Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Formal Section Name: Southern Alberta**

Calgary Geotechnical Society 2025-2026 Executive Committee

As we wrap up a successful year, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the 2024–2025 CyGS Executive Committee for their dedication and contributions. Your efforts set a high standard and helped foster a vibrant, collaborative community.

We're excited to announce the 2025–2026 Executive Committee, who will continue to build on that momentum:

- ◆ Chair: [Lianne Landry-Paré](#)

- ◆ Co-Chair: [Scott Riege, P. Eng.](#)
- ◆ Past Chair: [Jack Park](#)
- ◆ Treasurer: [Jarret MacDonald](#)
- ◆ Event Coordinator - In-Person: [Rocky Cho](#)
- ◆ Event Coordinator - Online: [Ward Algar](#)
- ◆ Announcement Coordinator: [Erin Stewart](#)
- ◆ Webmaster: [Alex Lowe](#)
- ◆ Social Media Manager: [Zaran Patel](#)
- ◆ Secretary: [Amin Hasani Motlagh](#)
- ◆ Student Representatives: [Patrick Machibroda](#)
- ◆ SAR Director: [Lilianne Landry-Paré](#)
- ◆ Members-at-Large: [Daniel G. Bertrand](#), [Susanne Ouellet](#), [Maulik Upadhyay](#), [Evan Sieben](#), [Behnam Fonouni](#), Sivarajan Varatharajan, M. Sc., P.Eng., [Remco Kleinlugtenbelt](#), [Casey Vanderwerff](#)

After a summer filled with mountain adventures, travel, fieldwork, and the occasional construction meeting, we're recharged and ready to kick off another exciting season this September!

- 🌐 Whether you're a geotechnical engineer or geoscientist, CyGS remains committed to delivering high-quality technical talks and professional development opportunities.
- 🎤 We've already lined up some fantastic speakers—but we still have a few open slots! Have a topic or speaker in mind (or want to nominate yourself)? We'd love to hear from you: [announce@cgygeosociety.org](mailto:announce@cgygeosociety.org)
- ✉️ Stay in the loop by subscribing to our mailing list: <https://lnkd.in/gKhbDCpC>

Let's make 2025–2026 another incredible year for our geotechnical community!

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***Northern Saskatchewan (Saskatoon) Section***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Formal Section Name: Saskatoon Geotechnical Group (SGG)**

**Formal Section Name:** Saskatoon Geotechnical Group (Northern Saskatchewan)

**Report Prepared By:** Adam Leik

**Section Director:** Adam Leik

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** May 2026

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
Chair	Kyle Bryce
Past Chair	Vanessa Heilman
Treasurer	Dallin Ferbey
Secretary	N/A
Communications/Media	Ivanna Montani
U of S Student Chapter Representative	Ethan Landry
Short Course Coordinator	Sachin Patel
Member At Large	Adam Gmeinweser
Member At Large	Nicole Zacharias
Member At Large	Sara Seabrook
Member At Large	Mike Amos
Member At Large	Karleigh Gurniak
Member At Large	Ian Adams

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
10/2/2024	Misc U of S Students	U of S Graduate Student Presentations	21	\$15 (Student) \$25 (Regular)
10/29/2024	Jocelyn L. Hayley	Cross Canada Lecture Tour - Shifting Tracks: Permafrost Thaw along the Hudson Bay Railway	34	\$15 (Student) \$25 (Regular)
11/14/2024	Calvin Boese, Ryan MacEwan, and Michael Andree	The Rainy River Tailings Management Area"	37	\$15 (Student) \$25 (Regular)
12/17/2024	Nicole Thiemann	Case Studies of Pile Quality Assessment using Pile Integrity Testing and Foundation	31	\$15 (Student) \$25 (Regular)

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
		Optimization using Dynamic Load Testing		
1/22/2025	Kent Bannister	Daly Overpass Bridge Replacement in Brandon, Manitoba	33	\$15 (Student) \$25 (Regular)
2/26/2025	Jorge Rodriguez	Presentation: Implementing UAVs in Geotechnical Practice	38	\$15 (Student) \$25 (Regular)
3/26/2025	Vanessa Heilman	Municipal Engineering featuring Melville Street Storm Sewer Micro-tunnelling Installation	30	\$15 (Student) \$25 (Regular)
4/23/2025	Laurie Stang	Giant Mine Remediation Project	48	\$15 (Student) \$25 (Regular)
5/8/2025	Dave Elwood	<b>Short Course:</b> Advanced In Situ Techniques: CPT & PMT for Geotechnical Design and Analysis	22	\$30 (Student) \$450 (Early Bird) \$500 (Regular)

**Additional Information or Comments.** Feel free to ask any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Section Representative on the CGS Executive Committee, the CGS National Office or fellow Board Members:

**Southern Saskatchewan (Regina) Section  
Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

## **Formal Section Name: Regina Geotechnical Group**

**Report Prepared By:** Rashed Chowdhury

**Section Director:** Rashed Chowdhury **Clifton Engineering Group**

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** September 2025

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
Chair	Jenae Nixon, Water Security Agency
Director of Finance	Kim Doran, AtkinsRéalis
Director of Communications	Ahmed Bukhury, AtkinsRéalis

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
Program Director	Jobie Taylor, Clifton Engineering Group
Outreach Director	Jenna Backer, Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure
Member-at-large	Chelsey Yesnik, Trek Geotechnical
Member-at-large	Ilyas Akram, Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure
Member-at-large	Brandon Lang, SaskPower
Member-at-large	Matthew Buchynski, Clifton Engineering Group

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
October 28, 2024	Jocelyn L. Hayley, University of Calgary	Fall 2024 CCLT: Shifting Tracks – Permafrost Thaw along Hudson Bay Railway	30	\$25
November 18, 2024	Nevin Cross, Clifton Engineering Group	An Estimate of PWP Dissipation and Consolidation in a Clay Till Foundation	32	\$25
January 21, 2025	Kent Bannister, Trek Geotechnical	Geotechnical Design and Performance Monitoring of the Daly Overpass	26	\$25
February 27, 2025	Carlos Gonzalez Herrera, AtkinsRéalis	Advanced Geotechnical Laboratory Testing	20	\$25

**Additional Information or Comments.** Feel free to ask any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Section Representative on the CGS Executive Committee, the CGS National Office or fellow Board Members:

Regina Geotechnical Group, with the support of the University of Regina and the local geotechnical community, aims to host the 2030 CGS Annual Conference in Regina. We will provide more details by the end of 2025.

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***Manitoba (Winnipeg) Section***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Formal Section Name:** Manitoba Section of The Canadian Geotechnical Society.

**Report Prepared By:** Jenna Roadley

**Section Director:** David Kurz (outgoing), Jenna Roadley (incoming)

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** end of 2025

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

<b>Section Position</b>	<b>Name and Affiliation</b>
Chair	Arjan Jianfar (Hatch)
Past Chair	
Treasurer	Amanda Johnston (Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure)
Secretary	Colton Wooster (AECOM)
Section Director	David Kurz (outgoing) - KGS, Jenna Roadley (incoming)
Program Director	Jenna Roadley (outgoing) - Sequent
Special Initiative Coordinator	Matt Klymochko (TREK)
Special Events Coordinator	Katrina Carter (Hatch)
Event Coordinator	Silvia Nobre (Dillon Consulting)
Webmaster	Ravinder Khakh (Stantec)
Member at Large	David Anderson (KGS)

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker/Other</b>	<b>Topic/Subject</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Cost to Attend (approx.)</b>
Sept 5, 2024	Marvin Malonzo and Amanda Johnston	CGS Conference Presentations	24	\$30
Oct. 21, 2024	Jocelyn Hayley	CCLT- Shifting Ground: Permafrost Challenges in a Changing Canadian North	28	\$30

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
Nov. 22, 2024	Reza Jamshidi Chenari	Short Course: Risk and Reliability	28	\$30
Dec. 12, 2024	Ryan Dobson	Winter Roads and Climate Change – The Strategy to Transition our Winter Road Networks to All Season	23	\$30
Feb. 5, 2025	Pooneh Maghoul	Role of Geotechnical Engineering in Human Settlement on the Moon and Beyond: Challenges and Opportunities	26	\$30
March 12, 2025	Kent Bannister	Geotechnical Design and Performance Monitoring of the Daly Overpass	41	\$30
April 17, 2025	Jason DeJong	Evaluation and Remediation of Embankment Dams – Insights and Advances Enabled by Centrifuge Modeling	23	\$30
May 29, 2025		Golf Tournament	60	\$125

**Additional Information or Comments.** Feel free to ask any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Section Representative on the CGS Executive Committee, the CGS National Office or fellow Board Members:

We're proud to have a thriving CGS Manitoba chapter, supported by strong local engagement and a dedicated community. This September, we're looking forward to hosting **GeoManitoba 2025** and the **CGS Young Professionals Conference** — two cornerstone events that will bring together geotechnical professionals, researchers, and students from across the country.

GeoManitoba 2025, in particular, is expected to generate a welcome financial influx for our chapter, enabling us to expand future programming, enhance student involvement, and strengthen outreach efforts.

We also want to acknowledge an upcoming leadership transition: **David Kurz** will be stepping down as Section Director, and **Jenna Roadley** will be stepping into the role. As we continue to grow and evolve, we welcome your comments and feedback on our chapter's direction and activities.

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***Northwestern Ontario (Thunder Bay) Section***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Formal Section Name:** *Northwestern Ontario (Thunder Bay)*

(Not available)

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***Northeastern Ontario (Sudbury) Section***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Formal Section Name:** Northeast Ontario (Sudbury)

**Report Prepared By:** Andre Bom

**Section Director:** Andre Bom

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** when someone volunteers to replace me

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

<b>Section Position</b>	<b>Name and Affiliation</b>
Chair	See above
Past Chair	n/a
Treasurer	n/a
Secretary	n/a

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker/Other</b>	<b>Topic/Subject</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Cost to Attend (approx.)</b>
January 23, 2025, at Laurentian University Sudbury	Dr. Pooneh Maghoul	2023 Colloquium - Lunar	40 in person	0
January 24, 2025, at Ministry of Transportation Office, North Bay			20 in person (100 online between both days)	0
April 29, 2025	5 speakers	Young Professionals/Geo-Mentor	20 in person, 165 online	0

**Additional Information or Comments.** Feel free to ask any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Section Representative on the CGS Executive Committee, the CGS National Office or fellow Board Members:

Would like to host Paul Dittrich as my mentor for 20 yrs for CCLT if not this fall then early in 2026 in either Sudbury or North Bay

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***Southwestern Ontario (London) Section***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Formal Section Name:** London & District Section of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (CSCE) and Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS)

**SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: August 19, 2025

Prepared by: Philips Aby

Section Chair: Philips Aby

End of Section Chair's Term: 2026

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your Section?**

**2) List a few specific things that your Section will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, this year.**

- YP program Expansion
- Higher student attendance
- More field tours

**SECTION 2: Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Khalid Backtash MTO

Past Chair: Julian N. Novick, [Wastell Homes](#)

Vice Chair: Paul Choma, City of London

Secretary: Heidi Vanheule, Dillon Consulting Ltd.

Treasurer: Grant Strachan, AECON

John Gawley, Dillon Consulting Ltd.

Communications: Azmi Hammoud, Professor at Fanshawe College.

CGS Section Director: Philips Aby, EXP

Marketing: Philips Aby, EXP

Khalid Backtash MTO

City of London Representative: Paul Choma, City of London

MTO Representative: Khalid Backtash MTO

Western Faculty Representative: Mike Bartlett University of Western Ontario, Jon Southen, University of Western Ontario

**SECTION 3: Number of Section Members (as of June 30, 2025)**

Executive Committee Members:

1<sup>st</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa):

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa):

Comments:

- 24 Members in total
- 

#### **SECTION 4:**

**Is your Section affiliated with other organizations?** The London & District Section is a joint local section of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (CSCE) and the Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS).

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)
- International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

Comments:

- 

#### **SECTION 5:**

##### **Section Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): \$2550

Comments:

- 

#### **SECTION 6:**

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division & Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee or the CGS National Office?** Not at this moment

Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? N

#### **Section 7:**

##### **Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

- Planning ongoing, 7 events in total

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*Southern Ontario (Toronto) Section  
Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025*

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**Formal Section Name:** Southern Ontario Section – Toronto Group

(Not available)

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**Southeastern Ontario (Kingston) Section**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Section 1: General**

**Formal Section Name: Kingston Section**

**Report Prepared By:** Dylan Hill

**Section Director:** Dylan Hill (interim)

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** n/a - interim

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

<b>Section Position</b>	<b>Name and Affiliation</b>
Chair/Section Director	Dylan Hill – Malroz Engineering
Past Chair	N/A
Treasurer	David Hodgson – Malroz Engineering
Secretary	Martin Burger – Groundwork Engineering
Member at Large	Brad Forbes – BCG Engineering
Member at Large (student)	Luigi Burjato
Member at Large (student)	Antara Arif

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker/Other</b>	<b>Topic/Subject</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Cost to Attend (approx.)</b>
March 27, 2025	Annual Michael Bozozuk Student Forum	Various	Approx. 50	Free
April 1, 2025	Spring CCLT – Jason DeJong	Gravels: Evaluating Liquefaction of Gravelly Soils - The Influence of Soil Gradation on Penetration Resistance and the Dynamic Response of Level and Sloping Ground	Approx. 30	Free

**Additional Information or Comments.** Feel free to ask any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Section Representative on the CGS Executive Committee, the CGS National Office or fellow Board Members:

The Section hosted the 2025 fall CCLT and hosted the Annual Michael Bozozuk Student Forum in Kingston, with participation from Queen's, RMC, Carleton, and the University of Ottawa.

Looking ahead for 2025–2026, the Section intends to expand its programming with hosting additional technical talks, with a priority will be to strengthen the executive team with new volunteers from both the student and professional community, ensuring the sustainability and growth of the Section.

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***Eastern Ontario (Ottawa) Section***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Formal Section Name:** (please add here) Ottawa Geotechnical Group

**Formal Section Name:** Canadian Geotechnical Society – National Capital Region

**Report Prepared By:** Mohammed Al-Khazaali

**Section Director:** Mohammed Al-Khazaali

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** Dec. 2025

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

<b>Section Position</b>	<b>Name and Affiliation</b>
Chair	Imad Alainachi, Englobe Corp
Past Chair	Matt Kennedy, Thurber Engineering
Vice Chair	Rober Edde, Terraconsults
CGS Regional Director	Mohammed Al-Khazaali, WSP Canada Inc.
Treasurer/ Student Representative	Misagh Khanlarian, Carleton University
Secretary	Aparna Sagade, GHD Group
Advisor	Garry Webb, Retired Consultant
Executive Member	Mamadou Fall, University of Ottawa
Executive Member	Zubaida Al-Moselly, Paterson Group
Executive Member	Sean Sterling, Geofirma
Executive Member	Paul Simms, Carleton University
Executive Member	Ramin Ghassemi, Stantec
Executive Member	Hicham Salem, SACL Scientific Applied Concepts Ltd.

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
Student Representative	Desmond Sunkpal, University of Ottawa

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
2024-09-24	Dr. Kaveh Zehtab, Independent consultant	Current State of Geotechnical Laboratory Investigation Methods: Leveraging the Latest Technologies to Reduce Risk and Increase Profitability	35	\$30 (members) \$50 (non-members) \$20 (students)
2024-10-25	Dr. Jocelyn L. Hayley, University of Calgary	Fall CCLT: Shifting Tracks: Permafrost Thaw along the Hudson Bay Railway	43	\$30 (members) \$50 (non-members) \$20 (students)
2024-11-14	Dr. Hamid Batenipour, Kiewit	Navigating geotechnical challenges, Ottawa stage 2LRT, Confederation Line Extension (CLE)	31	\$30 (members) \$50 (non-members) \$20 (students)
2024-12-12	Dr. George Koerner. Geosynthetic Institute (GSI)	The History of Geosynthetics	31	\$30 (members) \$50 (non-members) \$20 (students)
2025-02-13	Dr. Sai Vanpalli	Simple tools for implementation of the unsaturated soil mechanics into geotechnical engineering practice	32	\$30 (members) \$50 (non-members) \$20 (students)
2025-04-17	Dr. Ramy Saadeldin, Portage Power	Dam safety in hydropower: protecting energy, environment, and communities	34	\$30 (members) \$50 (non-members) \$20 (students)

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
2025-05-29	Michel Aubertin	OGG Annual Banquet: Mining Geotechnique and CGS	74	\$50 (Regular) \$40 (Students)

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**Ouest-du-Québec / Western Québec (Montréal) Section**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Formal Section Name: Western Québec (Montréal) Section**

**Formal Section Name: Section Ouest du Québec**

**Report Prepared By:** Vanessa Di Battista

**Section Director:** Vanessa Di Battista

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** Dec. 2027

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
Chair	Jonathan Aubertin
Past Chair	Reza Saghaei
Treasurer	Mohamed Benromdhan
Secretary	

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
2025/4/2	CCLT – Jason DeJong	Evaluation and Remediation of Embankment Dams Insights and Advances Enabled by Centrifuge Modeling	70	35
May 2025	Pooneh	Colloquium	40	

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
June 2025	Carlos Ovalle	Mining Geotech	40	
March 2025	Banko Ladanyi Competition	6 grad student competitors	70	
December 2024	Annual Dinner		100	50

**Additional Information or Comments.** Feel free to ask any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Section Representative on the CGS Executive Committee, the CGS National Office or fellow Board Members:

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***Est-du-Québec / Eastern Québec (Québec) Section***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Formal Section Name:** Eastern-Québec

**Report Prepared By:** Vincent Castonguay

**Section Director:** Vincent Castonguay

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** December 2027

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
Chair	Sarah Bouchard
Treasurer	Thomas Fournier
Treasurer	Jonathan Leblanc
Secretary	Cynthia Vigneault
Communications	Sandra Veillette
LinkedIn	Jean-Philippe Séguin
Scholarships	Vincent Carrier
Logistics	Geneviève Lessard
Logistics	Philippe Morin
Logistics	Zackary Picard
Technical committee	Olivier Juneau
Technical committee	Pierre-Olivier Dionne
Student representative	Willideman Tobón-Sánchez

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
2024-09-12	Pooneh Maghoul	Role of Geotechnical Engineering in Human Settlement on the Moon and Beyond: Challenges and Opportunities	39	0
2024-10-25	Jocelyn Hayley	CCLT: Shifting Tracks: Permafrost Thaw along the Hudson Bay Railway	30	0
2024-11-14	Maxim Bolduc	Trenchless techniques: can geotechnical engineers make a difference in risk management?	96	0
2024-12-04	Juliette Blanc & Olivier Chupin	Overview of accelerated testing methods on pavements at Gustave Eiffel University: From testing to modeling	?	0
2024-12-18	Scholarship recipients	Varied	?	0
2025-02-26	Mourad Karray	Assessment of the degree of destruction and its impact on geotechnical parameters using shear wave velocity measurements	43	0
2025-04-09	Ryley Beddoe	"Built to Last? The Geotechnical Challenges of Infrastructure on Thawing Permafrost"	29	0
2025-05-01	Marc Smith	Geotechnical risk assessment during the design and construction of a project to increase the discharge capacity of an operating hydroelectric facility	39	0
2025-06-05	Michel Aubertin	Issues and prospects related to mining geotechnics and SCG	28	20\$ for non members / free for members

**Additional Information or Comments.** Feel free to ask any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Section Representative on the CGS Executive Committee, the CGS National Office or fellow Board Members:

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**New Brunswick (Fredericton) Section**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Formal Section Name:** New Brunswick Section

**Report Prepared By:** Christopher McQueen

**Section Director:** Christopher McQueen

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** Undetermined

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
Chair	Christopher McQueen
Past Chair	-
Treasurer	Rochelle Staples
Secretary	Christiane Levesque
Vice Chair	Samuel Oshati

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
October 3, 2024	Jocelyn Hayley	SHIFTING GROUND: PERMAFROST CHALLENGES IN A CHANGING CANADIAN NORTH	20	\$300 (flights covered by CGS)
April 28, 2025	Fathi Mohamed	Advanced QC/QA Technology and Testing of Deep Foundations for Measurement of Geo-Capacity and Assessment of Structural Integrity of Piles	15	\$900

**Additional Information or Comments.** Feel free to ask any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Section Representative on the CGS Executive Committee, the CGS National Office or fellow Board Members:

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***Nova Scotia (Halifax) Section***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Formal Section Name:** Nova Scotia (Halifax) Section

(Not available)

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***Newfoundland and Labrador (St. John's) Section***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Formal Section Name:** Newfoundland and Labrador (St. John's)

**Report Prepared By:** Shawn Russell, Section Chair

**Section Director:** Shawn Russell (Chair)

**End Date of Section Director's Term:** Spring 2026

**Executive Information (add rows as needed):**

Section Position	Name and Affiliation
Chair	Shawn Russell (GEMTEC)
Past Chair	Andrew Peach (Hatch)
Treasurer	Andrew Peach (Hatch)
Secretary	Jin Chen (C-Core)
Vice Chair	Ashutosh Dhar (Memorial U of NL)
Executive Member	Ripon Karmaker (Stantec)
Executive Member	Kshama Roy (Memorial UN of NL)

**Section Activities (add rows as needed):**

Date	Speaker/Other	Topic/Subject	Attendance	Cost to Attend (approx.)
2024/10/01	Jocelyn Haley	CCLT Permafrost	20	Free
2025/04/03	Jason DeJong	CCLT Dams	20	Free

## DIVISION and COMMITTEE REPORTS

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### *Divisions and Committees Representative Summary Annual Report – Jennifer Day*

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#### Divisions and Committees Representative Summary Report

Year End Report

Jul 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

(Not available)

## DIVISION REPORTS

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### *Cold Regions Geotechnology Division Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025*

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**Division Name: Cold Regions Geotechnology**

#### SECTION 1: General

Date of this report: August 10<sup>th</sup> 2025

Prepared by: Ryley Beddoe

Division Chair: Ryley Beddoe

End of Division Chair's Term: December 31 2025

#### **1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your division?**

The main purpose of our division is to promote and facilitate the advancement, exchange and transfer of knowledge, skills and experience in the field of Cold Regions Geotechnology for the benefit of division members and the profession. We support members working on geotechnical challenges related to cold regions (e.g., permafrost, frozen ground, snow, and ice) by fostering knowledge sharing, professional development, and networking among engineers, earth scientists, and related practitioners across Canada.

#### **2) List a few specific things that your division will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, this year.**

- Encourage active participation of members in GeoMontreal and GeoManitoba which is co-hosted by the Canadian Permafrost Association
- Change our Division name, as the term Geotechnology seems to be dropped almost always already.
- Promote and encourage discounted membership for CGS members to the Canadian Permafrost Association
- 

#### **SECTION 2: Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Ryley Beddoe, Royal Military College, Kingston, ON

Past Chair: Jack Seto, BGC Engineering Inc., Edmonton, AB

Vice Chair: Simon Dumais - Université Laval, Québec City, QC

Secretary:

Members: Ed Hoeve – HoevEng Consulting Ltd., Yellowknife, NT

Biao Li – Concordia University, Montreal, QC

Heather Brooks – BGC, Edmonton, AB

Thomas Bradshaw – Tetra Tech, Edmonton, AB

Lydia Charbonneau – Englobe, Québec City, QC

### **SECTION 3: Number of Division Members (as of June 30, 2025)**

Executive Committee Members: 8

1<sup>st</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa):

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa):

Comments:

- 

### **SECTION 4:**

#### **Is your division affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- The Canadian Permafrost Association (CPA) was established in 2018, represented by Lukas Arenson as Past President and currently by Jocelyn Hayley as incoming President.
- The Canadian National Chapter for International Permafrost Association (CNC-IPA), represented by Ed Hoeve on the Executive Committee of CNC-IPA who is also an Executive member of the Cold Regions Geotechnology Division (CRGD).

North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- The ASCE Cold Regions Division Liaison, represented by Heather Brooks (also a member of the CRGD executive committee)

International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- International Permafrost Association, represented by Lukas Arenson as Vice President, and Richard Fortier on Permafrost Engineering Interest Group

### **SECTION 5:**

#### **Division Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Comments:

- We understand that seed money was given for ICOP, and that it can't be returned to the Division, but rather it goes to the Society as a whole. However, we have been asked by division members if we can understand what that financial contribution was in order to evaluate how we support future conferences (for example there is a call for the next international cold regions conference host).

### **SECTION 6:**

#### **Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division & Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee or the CGS National Office?**

**Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y / N - Yes**

### **Section 7:**

#### **Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

- Our goal is to finalize changing the name of the Division and support GeoManitoba.
- Further promote and integrate the engineering cohort within the CPA with our Division.

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**Engineering Geology and Geological Engineering Division**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**DIVISION NAME: Engineering Geology & Geological Engineering Division (EG&GE Div)**

**SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: 15 July 2025

Prepared by: Nicholas Vlachopoulos, Reviewed by Div Exec

Division Chair: Nicholas Vlachopoulos

End of Division Chair's Term: 31 Dec 2027

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your division?**

To advance the practice and understanding of engineering geology and geological engineering in Canada and internationally through collaboration, knowledge sharing, outreach, and professional development initiatives aligned with the goals of CGS.

**2) List a few specific things that your division will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, this year.**

- Organizing and confirmed a technical session at GeoManitoba 2025 (Winnipeg) entitled "*Application and Examples of Ground Risk Management and Mitigation in Different Engineering Sectors*", with a panel of industry leaders. Working with the conference organizing committee in order to ensure a successful event. Main organizer of this on the executive is Renato Macciotta Pulisci.
- Continue to Promote nominations for the Thomas Roy Award. Selected a recipient for 2025. The Divisional Awards Committee was spear-headed by Renato Macciotta Pulisci. Award will be presented at GeoManitoba.
- Planning for EG&GE Div participation in World Tunnelling Congress (WTC) 2026 (Montreal) and future workshops.
- Divisional Executive was approached by Professor Shahid Azam from the University of Regina. This will be discussed at the next Divisional Meeting to be held on 24 July 2025.

**SECTION 2: Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Nicholas Vlachopoulos, Royal Military College of Canada

Past Chair: Andrew Peach, Hatch Ltd

Vice Chair: Renato Macciotta Pulisci, University of Alberta

Secretary: Lucie Kijak, ARUP

Member-at-Large: Eliane Cabot, BBA Consultants

Member-at-Large: David Wood, D. F. Wood Consulting

Member-at-Large: Stephen Butt, Memorial University

Promotion, Communication & Outreach: Julian Solan & Sophia Becerra, University of Alberta

**SECTION 3: Number of Division Members (as of June 30, 2025)**

Executive Committee Members: 9

1st Choice members: ~111 (to confirm with CGS National)

2nd Choice members: ~265 (to confirm with CGS National)  
Comments: Membership figures approximate and pending confirmation.

#### **SECTION 4:**

##### **Is your division affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s):

- Association of Geohazard Professionals
- Canadian Federation of Earth Scientists (CFES)

North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s):

- Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists (AEG)
- Geological Society of America - Environmental & Engineering Geology Division

International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s):

- International Association for Engineering Geology & the Environment (IAEG)

Canadian National Rep for IAEG: Nicholas Vlachopoulos  
IAEG VP for North America: pending elections in 2027

Comments:

- Current Chair is interested in fulfilling the IAEG VP for North America as it will be Canada's turn to provide a representative.

#### **SECTION 5:**

##### **Division Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): ~\$8,836 (to be confirmed)

Comments:

- Seeking clarity from CGS National on processes for utilizing funds to support students, workshops, and outreach.

#### **SECTION 6:**

##### **Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division & Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee or the CGS National Office?**

- Very appreciative of the efforts and support provided by the current CGS National Executive.
- Would like to add more relevant content and information on our CGS Webpage.

##### **Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y / N**

Yes, the current Chair will be in attendance in Winnipeg for the BOD.

#### **Section 7:**

##### **Additional information or comments about activities this year: N/A**

- Successfully finalized and circulated the definition of Engineering Geology, updated the CGS website accordingly, and submitted it for inclusion in the IAEG and other venues. Main lead on this was Andrew Peach.

- Advanced the name change of the Division to include Geological Engineering, reflected in communications, newsletter, and website. Engineering Geology & Geological Engineering Division (EG&GE Div), note the short form name.
- During the EG&GE Div Executive meeting at the annual GCS Conference in Montreal 2024 the following were discussed (agenda):
  - Minutes of GeoSaskatoon EGD Meeting 2023
  - Presentation of EGD Annual Report
  - Collaboration with other CGS Divisions / Committees
    - Ideas – future Workshops (i.e. Engineering Geology and Rock Mechanics in Canada workshop)
  - Engineering Geology Related Conferences
  - Discussion of new EGD members and solicitation for additional executive members
  - Initiatives to increase visibility and profile
  - IAEG affiliation
- The EGD Executive meeting was attended by 9 individuals
- Expanded the Executive Committee to include Promotion & Outreach and Events & Communication roles, filled by young members: Julian Solan and Sophia Becerra.
- Current Chair met with the President of IAEG, Dr. Vassilis Marinos, in Athens in Oct 2025 in order to discuss
- An Annual Report of Engineering Geology (i.e. Divisional activities) was prepared for Canada for the IAEG on behalf of the CGS.
- Published or prepared Engineering Geology and Geological Engineering Division articles for CGS quarterly publication on:
  - Name change and definition (January 2025)
  - Tribute to Engineering Geologist Dr. Paul Marinos and his Canadian Connection (June 2025)
  - Tribute to Dr. Evert Hoek (planned for September 2025)
  - Workshop and EG&GE initiatives e-bulletin to advertise the venue (planned for July- Aug 2025).
- Strengthened outreach through LinkedIn and email lists and opened bi-monthly meetings to broader membership. Outreach and Communications was led by the efforts of Eliane Cabot.
- Chair was part of the Rock Mechanics Awards Committee for the 2026 Franklin Award.
- Executive Committee Meeting Dates: (thank you to Lucie Kijak for taking comprehensive notes as Secretary)
  - November 14, 2024
  - February 6, 2025
  - March 27, 2025
  - May 29, 2025
  - Planned / upcoming: July 24, 2025

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**Geoenvironmental Engineering Division**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Division Name: Geoenvironmental Engineering Division (GED)**

**SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: August 10, 2025

Prepared by: Mamadou Fall

Division Chair: Mamadou Fall

End of Division Chair's Term: December 2027

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your division?**

The Geoenvironmental Engineering Division (GED) of the Canadian Geotechnical Society continues to move forward with the aim of increasing the visibility of the Division. Our mandate and objectives include the provision of opportunities to upgrade and update the professional-knowledge and skills of our members through short-courses, seminars and other activities which facilitate the transfer and exchange of knowledge, experience and information in the field of Geo-environmental Engineering for the benefit of division members and of the geotechnical, environmental and other related professions. The active participation of Division members is greatly appreciated.

**2) List a few specific things that your division will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, this year.**

- **Inaugural GED National Lecture** – Launch and organization of the first national lecture hosted by the Geoenvironmental Engineering Division.
- **Webinar Series – *Earth Forward: GeoEnviro Student Talks*** – Organization and delivery of two webinars in the ongoing series *Sustainable Insights from Rising Researchers*.

**SECTION 2: Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Mamadou Fall, University of Ottawa

Past Chair: Vincent Martin, Eleonore Mine

Vice Chair: Sumi Siddiqua, University of British Columbia

Lead for Industry Relations: Reza Mahmoudipour, Englobe Corp.

Lead for Industry Relations: Abdurrahman Mohammed, PhD student

**SECTION 3: Number of Division Members (as of June 30, 2025)**

Executive Committee Members: 5

1<sup>st</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa): 69

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa):

Comments:

•

**SECTION 4:**

**Is your division affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

•

North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

•

International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

•  
Comments:

•

## **SECTION 5:**

### **Division Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): \$

Comments: We don't have an account.

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•

## **SECTION 6:**

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division & Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee or the CGS National Office?**

No

**Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y**

## **SECTION 7:**

### **Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

The following activities were organized by the Geoenvironmental Engineering Division (GED) in 2025:

- **Transition meeting** between the new Chair, Mamadou Fall, and the outgoing Chair, Vincent Martin, held on March 17, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Time).
- **Recruitment** of new members for the GED Executive Committee.
- **Executive Committee meeting** of the GED on March 27, 2025.
- **Launch and organization of the Student Webinar Series: *Earth Forward: GeoEnviro Student Talks – Sustainable Insights from Rising Researchers*.**

*Earth Forward* is a dynamic webinar series hosted by the Geoenvironmental Division of the Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS). It highlights innovative graduate student research in geoenvironmental engineering, tackling today's pressing challenges and envisioning tomorrow's solutions. Designed for students, researchers, professionals, and anyone passionate about geotechnics, the series offers fresh perspectives on how the next generation is reshaping the ground beneath our feet.

The inaugural webinar, *From Mine Waste to Containment Solutions: A New Role for Paste Tailings*, was delivered by **Vyom Abhinav** on April 29, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). The event was well attended, with 41 participants, and certificates of participation were issued to all attendees.

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**Geosynthetics Division**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Division Name: Geosynthetics Division**

## **SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: July 15, 2025

Prepared by: Sam Bhat

Division Chair: Sam Bhat

End of Division Chair's Term: December 31, 2026

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your division?**

The Geosynthetics Division aims to foster collaborations to promote geosynthetics education, research, and industry interaction. Leveraging the extensive expertise of its executive team, the division seeks to elevate its impact within the geotechnical community.

**2) List a few specific things that your division will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, this year.**

- Conducted a Webinar in collaboration with Education Committee – Panel Discussion featuring early career academics in geosynthetics field titled 'Challenges and Opportunities in geosynthetics' on April 16, 2025
- Conducted an online seminar in collaboration with IGS-North America pertaining to geosynthetics in water management on May 16, 2025
- Conducting a Short Course at GeoManitoba 2025 titled 'Geosynthetics Design Methodologies'  
Summary: This short course provides a review of several geosynthetics applications, including the corresponding background information and design methodologies for successful implementation and will comprise 4 sections. This course will be of interest to attendees who are not familiar with geosynthetic design methodologies.

The following speakers will be presenting:

Section 1 by (Richard Bathurst) Design methodologies for geosynthetic MSE walls

Section 2 by (Sam Bhat) Base Reinforcement with Geosynthetics

Section 3 by (Eric Blond) Designing of geotextile filters and geo-composite drains

Section 4 by (Catherine Mulligan): Environmental applications of geosynthetics

- Contributing a new technical paper for Canadian Geotechnique Magazine Fall 2025 edition.
- Launching a LinkedIn group for discussions and updates to foster communication

**SECTION 2: Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Sam Bhat (Titan Environmental Containment Ltd.)

Past Chair: Fady Abdelaal (Queen's University – Kingston ON)

Vice Chair: Eric Blond (EB Consultant)

Vice Chair: Isabel Perez (Terrifix Geosynthetics Inc.)

Vice Chair: Ness Di Battista (Université de Sherbrooke)

**SECTION 3: Number of Division Members (as of June 30, 2025)**

Executive Committee Members: (04)

1<sup>st</sup> Choice members: 43

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice members: 201

Comments:

- We would like to increase the division membership, by fostering awareness, communication, engaging in collaborations to attract new members.

**SECTION 4:**

**Is your division affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

IGS-North America  
Sam Bhat, Eric Blond

International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

IGS  
Sam Bhat, Eric Blond

Comments:

This liaison is aimed to facilitate professional cooperation in geosynthetics.

## SECTION 5:

### Division Finances (as of June 30, 2025)

Account Balance (if applicable): \$

Comments:

NA

## SECTION 6:

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division & Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee or the CGS National Office?**

Proposed a revision in the 'Geosynthetics Award' eligibility criteria.

Two Geosynthetic Awards were proposed. The Geosynthetic Award and the Geosynthetic-in-Practice Award. The proposal has been already sent to the CGS board for consideration.

**Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y / N**

Yes

## SECTION 7:

### Additional information or comments about activities this year:

The division has been excited to run various educational programs and collaborations to foster geosynthetics awareness to use the sustainable geosynthetics solutions and focus on educating young engineers.

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*Groundwater Division  
Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025*

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**Division Name: Groundwater Division (GWD)**

## SECTION 1: General

Date of this report:

Prepared by: Sonny Sundaram

Division Chair: Sonny Sundaram

End of Division Chair's Term: March 31, 2026

### 1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your division?

The main purpose of our division is to promote and facilitate the advancement, exchange and transfer of knowledge, skills and experience in the fields of groundwater engineering and technology for the benefit of CGS members and the geotechnical, hydrogeological and geoenvironmental professions.

### 2) List a few specific things that your division will be working on or wishes to accomplish this year.

Our division is working to initiate a series of lectures this year focused on deep groundwater flow regimes and alpine hydrogeology. Deep groundwater flow regimes are becoming increasingly important concerning the extraction of deep groundwater for lithium. Alpine hydrogeology is increasingly important given the energy and transportation planned or under construction in the Canadian Rockies. Dr. Hayashi of the University of Calgary is expected to provide a lecture on Alpine hydrogeology in the fall. Dr. Mark Hanson of the University of Manitoba is expected to provide a lecture on the deep groundwater in the fall or winter. Dates are expected to be finalized at the end of the summer. We are also working on additional lectures for the first two quarters of 2026 on other interesting topics, and more details are expected before GeoManitoba. Discussions are to be held in the fall with IAH-CNC to hold a joint conference in the coming years.

## **SECTION 2: Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or, if students, universities)**

Chair: Sonny Sundaram, TBT Engineering

Past Chair: François Duhaime, ÉTS

Vice Chair: Julie Gauthier, Laforest Nova Aqua

Student representative: Amir Hossein Daneshi Sadr, ÉTS

IAH/CNC representative (non-voting): Brian Smerdon, University of Alberta

Secretary: Vacant

(Add others as necessary)

## **SECTION 3: Number of Division Members (as of June 30, 2025)**

Executive Committee Members:

1<sup>st</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa):

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa):

Comments:

## **SECTION 4:**

### **Is your division affiliated with other organizations?**

Yes

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)
- International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)
- International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH-CNC)

Comments:

- 

## **SECTION 5:**

### **Division Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): \$

Comments:

- The GWD does not require an annual fee and has no budget for operation. The GWD relies on volunteers to organize activities of interest to the scientific community concerned with groundwater.

## SECTION 6:

Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division & Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee or the CGS National Office?

No

Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y / N

Yes

## SECTION 7:

Additional information or comments about activities this year:

- The CGS shares the Robert N. Farvolden Award with the IAH-CNC. Nomination letters of several well-qualified candidates were reviewed in collaboration with the IAH-CNC. Dr. Cathy Ryan of the University of Calgary was announced as the recipient of the 2025 Robert N. Farvolden Award.

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*Rock Mechanics Division*  
*Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025*

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Division Name: Rock Mechanics Division (RMD)

### SECTION 1: General

Date of this report: July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Prepared by: Jonathan D. Aubertin  
Division Chair: Jonathan D. Aubertin  
End of Division Chair's Term: DECEMBER 2026

1) List one, or two or three (or more) specific things that your Division will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next year?

CGS's RMD has identified the following priorities for next year:

1. GeoQuebec Rock Mechanics Workshop
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the student rock mechanics competition (in collaboration with CARMA)
3. CGS magazine article
4. Webinar series (in collaboration with CARMA)
5. RMD and EGGED collaborative panel sections at national conference
6. Grow the new LinkedIn group and implement consistent social media presence
7. 23<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Rock mechanics Symposium (RockEng 2025), August 2025

### SECTION 2: Current Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or, if students, universities – these will be posted on your Division webpage)

Chair: Jonathan D. Aubertin (École de Technologie Supérieure)  
Past Chair: Jenn Day (Queen's University)  
Vice Chair: Ghasem Shams (Sherbrooke University)  
Secretary: Akram Deiminat  
Member: Eliane Cabot (Newmont)  
Member: Biao Li (Concordia University)  
Member: Davide Elmo (University of British Columbia)  
Member: Wenbo Zheng (University of Northern British Columbia)  
Member: John Nichols (Stantec)  
Member: Kathy Kalenchuk (RockEng)

### **SECTION 3: Number of Division Members**

Executive Committee Members:	10
1 <sup>st</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa):	88
2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa):	

### **SECTION 4: Is your Division affiliated with other organizations? (Admin Manual Section 6 and App 10 and 26)**

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- Canadian Rock Mechanics Association (CARMA)
  - Jenn Day (Past-Chair)
  - Jonathan D. Aubertin (Committee member)
  - Eliane Cabot (VP finance)

North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

(NONE)

International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- International Society for Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering (ISRM)

Comments:

### **SECTION 5: Division Finances**

Account Balance: NA

Comments:

The RMD does not have a financial account

### **SECTION 6: Division Activities in past year**

- GeoMontreal Rock Mechanics Workshop
- Student competition (in collaboration with CARMA)
- New LinkedIn Group
- Rock Mechanics Webinar series (in collaboration with CARMA)

### **SECTION 7: Additional information or comments**

Nicholas Vlachopoulos was awarded the John Franklin award at GeoMontreal 2024

### **SECTION 8: Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Technical Division Representative on the CGS Executive Committee; the CGS National Office or fellow Board members?**

(NONE)

**Are you planning to attend the fall board meeting, to be held in Winnipeg, at GeoManitoba?**

Yes

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***Soil Mechanics and Foundations Division***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Division Name: Soil Mechanics and Foundation Division**

**SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: July 11, 2025  
Prepared by: Keshab Sharma  
Division Chair: Cheng Lin  
End of Division Chair's Term: December 31, 2026

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your division?**

*To advance the science and practice of classical geotechnical and foundation engineering by promoting high-quality research, fostering the exchange of practical experience through case histories, and supporting the continuous professional development of our members through technical events, national and international collaboration, and knowledge-sharing initiatives.*

**2) List a few specific things that your division will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, this year.**

- SMFD 2024 workshop in *limit state design* – November -December 2024
- SMFD 2025 *Distinguished Lecture* – March 27, 2025
- *Nomination and selection of Meyerhof* – May-June 2025
- *Creation of SMFD's dedicated LinkedIn account*
- SMFD 2025 workshop in *soil dynamics and earthquake engineering* – November-December 2025
- *Review of CGS GeoManitoba papers*
- *Review of ISSMGE Conference papers*
- *Contribution to CGS Geotechnique Magazine*
- *Initiative of student presentations in collaboration with Education Committee*
- *Nomination of the SMFD 2026 Distinguished Lecture - 2025*

**SECTION 2: Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Cheng Lin, University of Victoria

Past Chair: Lijun Deng, University of Alberta

Vice Chair: Keshab Sharma, BGC Engineering Inc.

Secretary: Erdrick Perz Gonzalez, Laval University

Executive Members:

Ali Mahmood – Advanced Studies Research Centre

Jamie Bartz – University of Manitoba

Wenbo Zheng – UNBC

Yolanda Alberto – BGC Engineering

Baocheng Li – Terracon Geotechnique Ltd.

Rashed Chowdhury – Clifton

Kimberly Jones – Thurber Engineering Ltd.

F. Albert Liu – University of Alberta

Mohammad Bakavoli – BBA

Trevor Carey – University of Toronto

Rajib Dey – WSP

Yunjie Lin – Stantec  
Yuan Li – Thurber Engineering Ltd.  
Aran Thurairajah – Stantec  
Mahdi Taiebat – University of British Columbia  
Mehdi Hosseyni – AtkinsRéalis  
Sanat Pokharel – Stratum Logics  
Xiangbing Kong – Université du Québec à Rimouski

### **SECTION 3: Number of Division Members (as of June 30, 2025)**

### Executive Committee Members:

1<sup>st</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa):

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice members (can be obtained from Lisa):

### Comments:

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## SECTION 4:

### **Is your division affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)
- International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

•

•

## SECTION 5:

## Division Finances (as of June 30, 2025)

Account Balance (if applicable): \$

### Comments:

•

## SECTION 6:

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division & Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee or the CGS National Office?**

## Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y

## SECTION 7:

**Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

1

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

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***Education Committee***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Committee Name: Education Committee**

### **SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: July 15, 2025

Prepared by: Ashutosh Dhar

Committee Chair: Ashutosh Dhar

End of Committee Chair's Term: December 31, 2026

#### **1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your committee?**

- The mandate of the Education Committee is to identify and address issues and problems concerning all aspects of the continuing education of society members. The Education Committee is also concerned with the involvement of students in the Society, as well as the geotechnical education at Canadian universities.

#### **2) List a few specific things that your committee will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next year.**

- The future of geotechnical engineering education forum at GeoManitoba2025: The speakers have been identified. Scheduling is in progress.
- Highlighting the new faculty members or early career researchers across Canada and their passion for teaching: a taskforce has been working on it.
- Geotechnical Student Virtual Symposium (GSVS) 2025 in collaboration with Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering Division: proposal has been approved by CGS. Scheduling is in progress.
- Continue bi-monthly online meetings in November, January, March, May, July.
- In-person meeting at GeoManitoba 2025.

### **SECTION 2:**

#### **Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Ashutosh Dhar, Professor at Memorial University of Newfoundland

Past Chair: Cheng Lin, Associate Professor at the University of Victoria

Vice Chair: Vanessa Di Battista, Assistant Professor at Université de Sherbrooke

Secretary: Owen Jiang, Geotechnical Engineer – EIT, Stantec

Chinchu Cherian, Assistant Professor at UNBC

Erdrick Leandro Perez Gonzalez, Assistant Professor at Université Laval

David Evan, Geotechnical Engineer-in-Training at Thurber Engineering Ltd.

Arjun Paul, Geotechnical Engineer at P Machibroda Engineering Limited

Mrinmoy Kanungo, Vice President, JS Held ULC

### **SECTION 3:**

#### **Is your committee affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)
- International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)
- Comments:
- 

#### **SECTION 4:**

##### **Committee Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): \$

Comments:

- 

#### **SECTION 5:**

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division and Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee? or the CGS National Office?**

- Is there any budget available from CGS for the Education Committee?
- What would be the eligible expenses from the Education Committee budget (if available)?

**Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y**

#### **SECTION 6:**

**Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

- Bi-monthly online meetings on January 31, March 28, May 30, July 25, 2025 (last Friday of the months).
- In-person meeting at GeoMontreal 2024 on September 16, 2024.
- Selection of Young Geotechnical Engineers to attend the 8th International Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference – 8iYGEC to be held in Graz, Austria (March 2025)
- Panel Discussion on “Challenges and Opportunities in Geosynthetics” in collaboration with the Geosynthetics Division on April 16, 2025.
- Article for CGS Magazine on Highlighting a new faculty members or early career researchers across Canada (Dr. Kshama Roy) (June 23, 2025).

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***Heritage Committee***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Committee Name: Heritage Committee**

#### **SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: 18 July 2025

Prepared by: Heinrich Heinz / Steven Harms

Committee Chair: Heinrich Heinz

End of Committee Chair's Term: 31 December 2025

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your committee?**

The purpose of the Heritage Committee is to preserve the history of geotechnique in Canada

**2) List a few specific things that your committee will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next year.**

- Continue to augment the contents in the Virtual Archives
- Produce Heritage-Related Articles for Canadian Geotechnique and other heritage-related channels

**SECTION 2:**

**Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Heinrich Heinz (Independent Practitioner, Canmore)

Past Chair: David Cruden (Dr. Cruden is no longer active in the Heritage Committee)

Vice Chair: Jacques Locat (Université Laval)

Secretary: Steven Harms (RRC Polytech, Winnipeg)

(Others: see [cgs.ca/heritage\\_committee.php](http://cgs.ca/heritage_committee.php))

**SECTION 3:**

**Is your committee affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

- Engineering Institute of Canada (EIC-HAC, History and Archives Committee) – Heinrich Heinz is the CGS representative

Comments:

Informal associations with the CSCE-NHC (National History Committee) and with individuals interested in geo-history at the GeoInstitute of ASCE.

**SECTION 4:**

**Committee Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): \$

Comments:

- The Heritage Committee has no budget. Occasional contributions have been requested in support of initiatives like the Oral History project of the EIC-HAC.

**SECTION 5:**

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division and Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee? or the CGS National Office?**

As noted in last year's report the Virtual Archives could be updated to be more attractive to visitors of the CGS web site (a 2023 review of Google Analytics data with past VP Communications Eliane Cabot indicated that number of visitors is very small compared to the entire CGS Website (103 Views for the period mid-April – early October 2023, as compared

to 41,588 Views for the entire CGS website in the same period). It also appears that visitors do not engage much with the Heritage archives.

One possible improvement would be to feature the Virtual Archives more prominently on the CGS website, for instance by providing a stand-alone heading, not just as a sub-heading in the Resource Centre pull-down menu.

### **Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y**

Steven Harms will represent the Heritage Committee at the BOD meeting in Winnipeg

### **SECTION 6:**

#### **Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

- The committee needs a new chair and a new vice-chair, to replace Heinrich Heinz and Jacques Locat who have occupied these positions for multiple terms. Heinrich has approached a few individuals in the committee but has so far been unsuccessful in finding a replacement.
- Note: Past Heritage Committee Chairs, starting in 1998 have been: Lorne Gold, Ken Skaftfeld, Sai Vanapalli, Dennis Puhfal, Jim Graham, Mustapha Zergoun, Suzanne Powell and David Cruden.

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**Geohazards Committee**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Committee Name: Geohazards Committee**

### **SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: July 4, 2025  
Prepared by: Megan van Veen  
Committee Chair: Megan van Veen  
End of Committee Chair's Term: late 2026

#### **1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your committee?**

The Geohazards Committee (formerly the Landslide Committee) supports efforts leading to the technical competence and excellence of Canadian geotechnical and related geoscience professionals working in the field of geohazards. It contributes to the organization of Canadian geotechnical conference sessions on landslides and geohazards, the organization of national and international landslide and geohazard conferences, the development of national geohazards guidelines, and the maintenance of links with other related professional societies such as the Joint Technical Committee on Natural Slopes and Landslides (JTC 1). It also involves in the nomination of the Schuster Medal in collaboration with the AEG.

#### **2) List a few specific things that your committee will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next year.**

- Continue advancing planning for the Geohazards 9 conference, to be held in Edmonton in June 2026
- Continue support nominations and award process for the Schuster medal.
- Annual online student conference

## **SECTION 2:**

### **Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Megan van Veen, BGC Engineering  
Past Chair: Ariane Locat, Laval University  
Vice Chair: N/A  
Secretary: N/A

## **SECTION 3:**

### **Is your committee affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- CGS Engineering Geology Division
- CGS Transportation Committee

North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- US Association of Engineering and Environmental Geologists (AEG)

International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- International Association of Engineering Geologists (IAEG)

Comments:

- N/A
- 

## **SECTION 4:**

### **Committee Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): \$10,200

Comments: No money has been spent in the past year.

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## **SECTION 5:**

### **Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division and Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee? or the CGS National Office?**

- The AEG confirmed (in February 2024) that they were placing an order for 10 more medals for the Schuster Medal (only one medal remaining to give out in 2024). The invoice along with 5 medals were supposed to have been sent to the CGS. CGS National office should confirm that they have received the new medals.

### **Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y / N**

Yes

## **SECTION 6:**

### **Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

Below is a summary of ongoing or recently completed initiatives being undertaken by the Geohazards committee:

- Supporting planning of the Geohazards 9 conference, to be held in Edmonton in 2026. Planning is well underway with support from KarmaLink. The Geohazards committee chair is part of the conference organizing committee, which includes being on the technical committee.
- The annual "Geohazards Connections" mini-conference will be held online on July 9, 2025, hosted by Andy Take at Queen's. New this year, there will be a prize awarded to the best presentation, which will be registration at either GeoManitoba or Geohazards9.

- Publishing a geohazards special section in the summer 2025 edition of Canadian Geotechnique
- The committee continues to support the nominations and award process for the Schuster Medal, in collaboration with AEG. In 2025, the medal will be presented to a Canadian, at GeoManitoba. In 2026, the award will be presented to an American and the process will be coordinated through AEG. All of the Canadian selection committee members have agreed to stay on through 2026.

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***Mining Geotechnique Committee***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Committee Name: Mining Geotechnique**

**SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: 11-08-2025

Prepared by: Vincent Boulanger-Martel

Committee Chair: Vincent Boulanger-Martel

End of Committee Chair's Term: 2027

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your committee?**

To encourage mining geotechnical practice and research by promoting exchange among professionals, enhancing visibility within the Canadian Geotechnical Society, and encouraging student participation in mining geotechnique across Canadian universities.

**2) List a few specific things that your committee will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next year.**

This year has been a transition year for the mining geotechnique committee. The level of activity decreased over the last couple of years, and we took some time to think things through and put activities back on the table. Here are the planned activities for the coming year:

- Promote the committee and update the list of members
- Promote student involvement within the activities
  - First step will be to appoint student representatives from Canadian Universities active in mining geotechnique (e.g., UQAT, Poly MTL, UofA, UofT, Carlton, ULaval)
  - Organize student-focussed activities; alternating between the East and West – i.e. start with ad-hoc online student seminars + activities at GeoQuébec
- Organize a special session at GeoQuébec – similar to what was done in GeoNiagara
- Foster collaboration and facilitate information and knowledge sharing with / between other mining committees in Canada

**SECTION 2:**

**Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Vincent Boulanger-Martel, Professor, UQAT

Past Chair: Ahlam Abdulnabi, Thurber

Vice Chair: Ali Mahmood, Advanced Studies Research Centre

Secretary: Thava T. Thavaraj, KCB

Student representatives to be confirmed soon

### **SECTION 3:**

**Is your committee affiliated with other organizations?**

No

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

• North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

• International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

Comments:

•

### **SECTION 4:**

**Committee Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): none \$

Comments:

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### **SECTION 5:**

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division and Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee? or the CGS National Office?**

No.

**Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting?**

Yes

### **SECTION 6:**

**Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

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**Professional Practice Committee**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Committee Name: Professional Practice Committee**

#### **SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: September 1, 2025  
Prepared by: Storer Boone  
Committee Chair: Storer Boone  
End of Committee Chair's Term: January 2026

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your committee?**

The Professional Practice Committee (PPC) is focused on providing a forum for and delivering valuable insights for CGS members toward improving business practices, communications and training of consultants engaged in the fields supported by CGS.

**2) List a few specific things that your committee will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next year.**

For 2026, the PPC will be focused on:

1. Solidifying and growing our relationship with the GeoProfessional Business Association and increasing the numbers of Canadian firms practicing in the geosciences and engineering to enroll with the GBA
2. Rolling out information on continuing education opportunities for CGS members with GBA
3. Assisting the GCS membership with encouraging and facilitating high-quality case history publication within the Canadian Geotechnical Journal
4. Encouragement of CGS member firms to publish business case histories (e.g., lawsuits or near misses) with the GBA program for case histories – a Canadian edition.
5. Developing clarity with CGS toward enabling and funding external experts who can present at the CGS PPC sessions on elements of our practices toward loss prevention, rigor in communications, etc.

**SECTION 2:**

**Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Storer J. Boone (Ground Rules Engineering)

Past Chair: Sean MacEoin (Tetratech)

Vice Chair: Henrik Kristiansen (Kiewit)

Secretary: NA

(Add others as necessary)

**SECTION 3:**

**Is your committee affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s): GeoProfessional Business Association (formerly ASFE).  
Kent Bannister.

CGS and GBA have agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding (Q4 2023) to jointly promote both organizations toward improving practice issues addressed by the GBA with the more technical focus of the CGS.

**SECTION 4:**

**Committee Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): \$ N/A

Comments: See discussion below.

**SECTION 5:**

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division and Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee? or the CGS National Office?**

See the discussion above related to Item 5 regarding obtaining funding to help facilitate CGS-external expertise to bring outside perspectives on Professional Practice issues to CGS conferences. Topics of relevance will include:

1. Loss prevention – how not to get sued
2. Communications in bad times (how to manage clients when projects are ailing)
3. Financial management – projects to offices to larger businesses, specific to the geo-related fields
4. Avoiding commodity services
5. Evolving roles in alternative procurement projects
6. Client perspectives on geo-related services

Getting experienced individuals to provide outside perspectives to travel and present at a conference pro-bono is a challenge. Our CGS membership could benefit significantly from such perspectives, however. While traditionally, the CGS has not funded expenses for such individuals, perhaps it is time. While CGS appropriately focuses on the science and application of relevant research and technical developments, these cannot be appropriately applied and capitalized upon in an evermore challenging business and legal environment.

### **Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Yes**

#### **SECTION 6:**

##### **Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

For 2025, the committee has met regularly with a few core members and:

1. Continued to solidify our relationship with the GeoProfessional Business Association
2. Developed a special-edition series of professional practice articles for Canadian Geotechnique in conjunction with the GBA, publication secured and pending
3. Worked with the Editor in Chief of the Canadian Geotechnical Journal to formulate guidelines and encouragement for practicing engineers to successfully submit high-quality articles to the journal
4. Prepared for special sessions of the CGS GeoManitoba conference

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***Sustainable Geotechnics Committee***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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#### **Committee Name: Sustainable Geotechnics**

#### **SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: July 13, 2025

Prepared by: Sumi Siddiqua

Committee Chair: Sumi Siddiqua

End of Committee Chair's Term: Dec 31, 2025

#### **1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your committee?**

- Raise the awareness of sustainable geotechnique for the development of sustainable and resilient civil infrastructure and society;
- Promote education, research, practice and publications in Sustainable Geotechnique

#### **2) List a few specific things that your committee will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next year.**

- Continue collaborating with DFI and Geo-Institute
- Organizing session for GeoManitoba
- Organizing Foundation Decarbonization & Reuse Workshop at GeoManitoba 2025 on September 21, 2025

**SECTION 2:**

**Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Sumi Siddiqua

Past Chair: Catherine Mulligan

Vice Chair: will be decided at the GeoManitoba conference

Secretary: NA

(Add others as necessary)

**SECTION 3:**

**Is your committee affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- EIC Special Interest Group on UNFCCC

- S. Siddiqua

North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- 

International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- ISSMGE TC 307

- C. Mulligan
  - D. Basu
  - T. Newson

Comments:

**SECTION 4:**

**Committee Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): \$

Comments:

- 

**SECTION 5:**

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division and Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee? or the CGS National Office?**

**Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y**

**SECTION 6:**

**Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

- C. Mulligan organized an international seminar, the GEE2025 Conference, at Concordia University on May 22 and 23. 65 participants from South Korea, Japan, France, the US, and Canada.

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**Transportation Geotechnique Committee**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Committee Name: Transportation Geotechnique Committee**

**SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: August 11, 2025

Prepared by: Harpreet Panesar

Committee Chair: Harpreet Panesar

End of Committee Chair's Term: June 2025

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your committee?**

The Transportation Geotechnique Committees mission is to promote geotechnical engineering as a means of creating a resilient and sustainable transportation network.

**2) List a few specific things that your committee will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next year.**

Community engagement through hosting Technical Workshops and Talks

**SECTION 2:**

**Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Harpreet Panesar, SoilRocks Consulting Inc.

Past Chair: Don Lewycky, Retired

Vice Chair: Vacant

Secretary: Ahmed Mahgoub

Incoming Chair: Jenna Roadley, Sequent

Member at Large: Michael Van Helden, Trek Geotechnical

(Add others as necessary)

**SECTION 3:**

**Is your committee affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

• International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

• Comments:

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**SECTION 4:**

**Committee Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Comments:

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**SECTION 5:**

Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division and Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee? or the CGS National Office?

Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y / N – May be

**SECTION 6:**

Additional information or comments about activities this year:

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**Membership Committee**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025**

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**Committee Name: Membership Committee**

**SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Prepared by: Vincent Castonguay & Justyna Kos-Fairless

Committee Chair: Vincent Castonguay & Justyna Kos-Fairless

End of Committee Chair's Term: December 2025

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your committee?**

The mandate of the Membership Committee is to:

- Promote the CGS Membership benefits to current and future members
- Introduce additional ideas/initiatives that will build membership in the society
- Design and develop a member satisfaction process
- Support members with involvement and participation issues
- Survey geo-professionals to understand where the CGS can provide more value
- Promote volunteering opportunities

**2) List a few specific things that your committee will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next year.**

- Develop a platform to make volunteering within the organization more accessible to members
- Contribute to the development of the new website

**SECTION 2:****Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Justyna Kos-Fairless (Suncor) & Vincent Castonguay (AtkinsRéalis)

Past Chair: David Wood (RockDoc)

Members: Pierre-Olivier Dionne (Hydro-Québec), Ramy Saadeldin (MVCA), Eliane Cabot (BBA Consultants), Leanne McLaren (Thurber), Marie-Lin Bréard Lanoix (Glencore)

**SECTION 3:**

**Is your committee affiliated with other organizations?**

No

**SECTION 4:****Committee Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): N/A

**SECTION 5:**

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division and Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee? or the CGS National Office?**

Heard there may be more collaboration with CDA. This committee would like to understand how we could leverage that to offer more activities and opportunities to our members.

This committee believes that the new website will be instrumental for how we interact with our members and what benefits we are able to offer and would like to be more involved in its design.

**Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y / N**

No for Justyna

No for Vincent, except for giving part of a short course on Sunday

**SECTION 6:**

**Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

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*Young Professional Committee*  
*Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025*

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**Committee Name: Young Professional Committee**

**SECTION 1: General**

Date of this report: July 15, 2025

Prepared by: Chelsey Yesnik

Committee Chair: Chelsey Yesnik

End of Committee Chair's Term: 2026

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your committee?**

Vision: Building the next generations of geotechnical leaders.

Mission: Based on the vision, our mission is supported by five pillars: 1) Network, 2) Knowledge, 3) Development, 4) Collaboration and 5) Impact.

The committee will provide a NETWORK of peers and veterans; create avenues for building geotechnical KNOWLEDGE; provide access to both personal and professional DEVELOPMENT; create opportunities through COLLABORATION with industry, academia, government and other young professional groups outside CGS; and create an IMPACT by articulating a vision for the future within the changing geotechnical landscape.

**2) List a few specific things that your committee will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next year.**

## Canadian Geotechnical Student Competition (CGSC)

Over the past two years, the CGS Young Professionals Committee has organized a national student competition focused on geotechnical engineering. The most recent edition of the Canadian Geotechnical Student Competition (CGSC) took place at GeoMontréal 2024.

The CGSC serves to inspire student engagement within the geotechnical discipline and promote their active involvement in the CGS community. By fostering interaction, teamwork, and a sense of friendly rivalry, the competition supports technical skill development and networking opportunities with early-career professionals. It also helps encourage student attendance and participation at CGS conferences.

The student chapter based in the host city takes the lead in designing, coordinating, and executing the competition. The event centers around a hands-on geotechnical design challenge—typically requiring teams to plan, construct, and test a small-scale model. Each student team is paired with a young professional from the geotechnical community, offering mentorship and a chance to connect with individuals from industry, academia, and government. This structure enhances professional development and encourages future career exploration.

Across the last two events, the CGSC has welcomed 30 to 40 participants from across Canada and abroad, including representation from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Québec, Germany, and Brazil. Participants were supported by YP mentors affiliated with the Committee, universities, and private organizations.

The inaugural CGSC debuted at GeoSaskatoon 2023, where students engaged in a wall-building challenge hosted by the University of Saskatchewan CGS Student Chapter. Eight teams competed to construct small-scale mechanically stabilized earth walls using dry sand and sheets of newsprint. After a one-hour construction window, the walls were subjected to loading to evaluate their performance. Scoring considered wall height, material efficiency, and deformation under load.

Cash prizes totaling \$1,500 were awarded to the top-performing teams, with Université Laval taking first place. Key sponsors included Klohn Crippen Berger, Solmax, Stantec, Thurber Engineering, Titan Environmental, WSP Canada, and the CGS Soil Mechanics and Foundations Section. Special thanks go to the U of S chapter, especially Ian Adams, Tyler Casavant, and Chelsey Yesnik, for their role in executing the inaugural event.

Following the success and enthusiastic feedback from the 2023 event, planning for the 2024 CGSC began promptly in collaboration with the Western Québec Student Chapter and the YP Committee.

The 2024 competition featured a new challenge—designing and building small-scale embankment dams. Teams prepared in advance with designs, calculations, and coordinated team attire. The dams were constructed using clay, sand, and till, then tested by slowly filling a reservoir upstream to simulate hydraulic loading until failure occurred.

A judging panel of professionals—Pierre Vannobel, Chelsea Burdon, and Yannic Ethier—evaluated each dam's performance based on height, water retention volume, construction quality, and material use. Up to \$1,000 in prizes were awarded, with Université Laval again securing the top position. The 2024 event received generous support from École de Technologie Supérieure (ETS), Polytechnique Montréal, CGS National, and the Local Organizing Committee. Appreciation is extended to Claudine Nackers, Paula Quiroz Rojo, and Niloufarsadat Sadeghi for their key roles in bringing the event to life.

This year, the 3rd annual CGSC challenges teams of 4-5 students from universities across Canada to design and construct small-scale mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) retaining walls using paper reinforcement taped to a poster board facing. The walls must sustain a specified surcharge load without catastrophic failure or excessive deflection. Teams will be provided with materials and construction tools to create their wall, with guidelines in the competition rulebook. The team that designs the most efficient wall, using the least reinforcement while meeting serviceability and ultimate limit state requirements, will win. The competition is set to take place on Wednesday, September 20th, 2025, at the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg, MB during the CGS Annual Conference, with prizes awarded to the top three teams.

## **CGS YP Mentorship Program**

The CGS YP Mentorship Program is underway for its 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row, with a total of 17 pairings across Canada. The purpose of the program is to pair current members with experienced individuals in the geotechnical community. The program connects CGS YPs and senior professionals across Canada. Formal event programming is virtual; however, it is up to each mentorship pairing to decide on their preferred format of meetings (virtual or in-person). The mentorship program should not be viewed as a job seeking tool but rather as a professional development opportunity.

## **Technical and Non-Technical Webinars**

The “Geotech 101 for Young Professionals” monthly technical webinar series continues to be popular, with up to 10 speakers slated for 2025. Three speakers have presented to date, with attendance ranging from 55 to 118 attendees nationwide. The following topics have been covered in the 2025 series to date:

- Design of Large Bridge Foundations, by Masoud Manzari
- Introduction to Geotechnical Engineering and Soil Mechanics for Pipeline Design, by Jim Osswell
- Development of Geotechnical Knowledge through a Case Study of Gravity Retaining Walls, by Dr. Cao Laifa

The technical webinar series is about the many specializations within geotechnical engineering with '101' style content designed to broaden your understanding of the specialization, and potentially the career aspirations of YPs.

The quarterly “Strong Foundations: Professional Development for Geotechnical Engineers” non-technical webinar series has two more webinars planned for 2025, with two already delivered earlier this year on the following topics:

- Human Factors in Geotechnical Engineering, by Lucy Philip
- Engineers in Different Roles – Contractor vs. Consultant vs. Owner vs. Entrepreneur, by Harpreet Panesar

The non-technical webinars aim to educate geotechnical engineers on topics surrounding soft-skills, business development, and many other aspects - while introducing them to new perspectives they may not have previously considered. There is no set guideline for what can and cannot be presented for the non-technical webinar, so we are happy to hear from the CGS community on topics they would like to see presented or topics they would like to present themselves.

## **CGS Student Chapter Start-Up**

We support the registration of CGS Student Chapters across Canada, by helping them establish a constitution, executive committee and integration plan into their local section. We recently assisted in establishing and providing financial support to the newly registered CGS Student Chapter at the University of Victoria (UVic).

## **YP Socials (Pilot Year)**

The CGS YP Committee is excited to offer YP Socials across eastern Canada and the Maritimes in 2025 after a successful start in the prairies and west coast in 2023 and 2024. The YP Socials get young people engaged with the CGS at the local section level, and provide young members with accessible networking opportunities.

Following initial discussions with Karma-Link, Craig Lake and Ian Moore, the CGS YP Committee connected with the following CGS sections to gauge interest and expectations for the event: Toronto, Thunder Bay, Halifax, and Quebec City. Each section provided information regarding anticipated attendance, potential venue options, proposed cost to attendees, and whether the Section has funds available to support the event or would need additional support.

It was ultimately decided by CGS National and the YP Committee to allocate a lump sum amount of \$3,000 total to the YP Socials budget for 2025; thus, resulting in \$750 of kickstart funds available to each interested Section. One Social has already taken place in May 2025 in Thunder Bay, Ontario – with over 25 people in attendance. More socials are anticipated to be hosted in late fall and early winter of 2025.

### **YP Short Course (NEW)**

The YP Committee will be launching Online Short Course Series starting in January 2026, aimed at providing accessible technical and professional development opportunities for early-career geotechnical professionals across Canada. Building on the success of past YP initiatives, the series will offer structured training on key geotechnical topics, promoting mentorship, knowledge transfer, and skill development. The program will focus on both technical and soft skills, with topics like advanced soil-structure interaction, climate change resilience, geohazards, and best practices in geotechnical site investigations.

Delivered virtually, the inaugural course will take place over two 4-hour live sessions, totaling approximately eight hours of content. The course will include live technical webinars, interactive panel discussions, real-world case studies, and recorded materials, allowing participation from CGS regions across the country.

The course aims to become an annual event, strengthening the CGS YP community and enhancing professional development opportunities for early-career professionals. A modest registration fee of \$25 per participant will be charged to maintain accessibility, with remaining costs covered through potential partnerships with the CGS Education Committee. Feedback from participants will guide future improvements, with the goal of establishing the short course as a flagship, recurring CGS initiative.

## **SECTION 2:**

### **Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

- Chair: Chelsey Yesnik (TREK Geotechnical Inc.)
- Past Chair: Kshama Roy (Memorial University)
- Vice Chair: Zarankumar Patel (Stantec)
- Secretary and Lead – Knowledge & Impact: Naveel Islam (University of Alberta)
- Lead – Communication: Patrick Machibroda (University of Calgary)
- Lead – Development: Liam McCann (Atkins Realis)

## **SECTION 3:**

### **Is your committee affiliated with other organizations?**

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- None.

North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- None.

International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- None.

Comments:

We currently collaborate with the following Young Professional groups:

- Young Members Presidential Group (YMPG) – CGS Rep is Zarankumar Patel
- ASCE G-I – CGS Rep is Chelsey Yesnik
- Engineering Geology New Zealand – CGS Rep is Chelsey Yesnik

**SECTION 4:**  
**Committee Finances (as of June 30, 2025)**

Account Balance (if applicable): \$11,440.80.

Comments:

- As of February 24, 2025

**SECTION 5:**

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division and Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee? or the CGS National Office?**

None at this time.

**Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y / N**

Y (Yes)

**SECTION 6:**

**Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

- We are currently confirming the final list of Local Sections who will host YP Socials in late 2025.
- The CGS YP Committee is excited to continue connecting with and fostering the development of Young Professionals within the Canadian geotechnical community. We look forward to building on our current efforts and introducing new, creative strategies to inspire the next generation of CGS members.

**OTHER REPORTS**

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***Geotechnical Research Board***  
***Annual Report July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025***

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**Geotechnical Research Board (GRB)**

**Section 1: General**

Date of this report: September 2, 2025

Prepared by: Marolo Alfaro

Committee Chair: Marolo Alfaro

End of Committee Chair's Term: December 31, 2025

**1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your committee?**

The mandate of the GRB is to monitor, stimulate, and promote research in the geotechnical and geoscience fields for the benefit of the profession and Canada.

**2) List a few specific things that your committee will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next year.**

- Evaluation of submissions and selection of the 2026 Colloquium (name to be announced at GeoManitoba 2025).
- Organization of a GRB special session at GeoManitoba 2025 on NSERC Discovery Grant Applications (10:30 AM – 12:00 Noon, Wednesday, 24 September 2025). There will be 4 speakers that will cover three main topics related to the application of NSERC Discovery Grant.
- No in-person GRB annual meeting at GeoManitoba 2025. Most members of GRB will be attending their respective committee/division. Dr. Paul Simms, the incoming Chair, will be calling for an online-meeting next year.

**Section 2:****Current (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025), Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or if students, universities)**

Chair: Marolo Alfaro – University of Manitoba

Past Chair: Greg Siemens – Royal Military College of Canada

Vice Chair: Paul Simms – Carleton University (will take over as Chair on January 1, 2026)

Secretary: Hany El-Naggar – Dalhousie University

Total members: 14

(Add others as necessary)

**Section 3:****Is your committee affiliated with other organizations? No**

If yes:

National affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)

- North American affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)
- International affiliates and name(s) of CGS representative(s)
- Comments:
- 

**Section 4:****Committee Finances (as of June 30, 2024)**

Account Balance (if applicable): \$0

Comments:

- 

**Section 5:**

**Do you have any specific questions or issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Division and Committee Representative on the CGS Executive Committee? or the CGS National Office? None**

**Are you attending GeoManitoba and the annual BOD meeting? Y / N**

Y (Yes)

**Section 6:****Additional information or comments about activities this year:**

- Organization of a special session on University-Industry Collaborative Research at GeoMontreal 2024. The topics presented were on i) experiences and perspectives on industry-university collaborative research and ii) effective strategies for crafting compelling and impactful research writing. There were four speakers in the special session. In attendance were practicing engineers and geoscientists, professors, and graduate students. (See Canadian eotechique, page 49 for more details.)
- Organization of in-person annual meeting at GeoMontreal 2024. Only a couple of attendees as the GRB members attended their respective committee/division. Future meetings will be done online.
- Selection of the 2026 Colloquium Recipient.

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**Canadian Geotechnical Journal – Andy Take, Editor-in-Chief**  
**Annual Report 2024**

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[SEE APPENDIX: [CLICK HERE TO GO TO REPORT](#)]

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**Canadian Geotechnique / Geotechnique canadienne Magazine**  
**Karma-Link Publisher and Editor**  
**Annual Report July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025**

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In the sixth year of the CGS member magazine, *Canadian Geotechnique/Geotechnique canadienne*, we have continued to make improvements and encourage more submissions for the CGS News, Features and Geo-Interest sections. Working with guest editors for the special theme sections in the magazine has been very successful and we look forward to many more.

Nick Beier has been on an extended leave this year and Karma-Link has taken on the tasks previously handled by Nick. The Karma-Link team includes Lisa Reny (Managing Editor), Emily Fournier (Editorial Assistant), Lesia Beznaczuk (Features/Geo-Interest Editorial Assistant), and Bill Reny (Production Manager) who work closely with the Feature Editors to ensure the magazine is published four times a year (Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter).

The CGS News includes “From the Board”, “Members in the News”, and other events and activities from the various sections, divisions and committees. The Features section includes 1–3 technical articles per issue submitted by the Features Editors: Cold Regions Geotechnics, Groundwater, Geohazards, Heritage, Instrumentation and Monitoring, Major Projects, Mine Waste Geotechnics, Professional Practice, Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering, Canadian Foundation for Geotechnique, Canadian Geotechnical Journal and Students / Young Professionals. Geo-Interest articles have also been published in each issue and include technical or general interest articles submitted by CGS members that do not directly align with the Feature topics. We are making plans to revise the magazine structure for 2026 and continue to encourage a closer relationship with the CGS Division and Committee Chairs.

Each issue of the magazine for 2025 includes a special feature section containing technical articles dedicated to themes including the following: Spring - Vancouver Geotechnical Society; Summer - Geohazards; Fall - Geotechnical Business Association (GBA) / CGS Case Studies (in collaboration with the CGS Professional Practice Committee); and Winter - GeoManitoba Conference Summary. A guest editor organizes these special sections that include 4-6 articles with an introduction from the guest editor. Planning for special sections into 2026 is underway. Representatives interested in leading a special section in the magazine are encouraged to contact the editorial team. Please note, these sections take many months to organize and compile to ensure the articles are of suitable topic and quality.

CGS News items, Features, and Geo-Interest articles are submitted approximately 2.5 months before the publication date (Special Sections are submitted 3 months prior).



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## CANADIAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY - AWARDS AND HONOURS 2025

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<b>R.F. Legget Medal</b>	Derek Martin
<b>G. Geoffrey Meyerhof Award</b>	Jocelyn Hayley
<b>Thomas Roy Award</b>	John Harrison
<b>Roger J.E. Brown Award</b>	Richard Fortier
<b>Robert N. Farvolden Award</b> (Joint award with IAH-CNC)	M. Cathryn Ryan
<b>John A. Franklin Award</b>	Ali Saeidi
<b>Robert Schuster Medal</b> (Joint award with AEG)	Mike Porter
<b>R.M. Quigley Award</b> (from the CGJ)	Yi Hong, Xuanyu Chen, Lihong Wang, Lilin Wang, Ben He <b>Title:</b> <i>A bounding-surface-based cyclic "p-y+M-θ" model for unified description of laterally loaded piles with different failure modes in clay</i>
<b>Honourable Mentions</b>	Simon Dumais, Jean-Marie Konrad <b>Title:</b> <i>Framework for thaw consolidation of fine-grained soils</i> Adrien Dimech, Bruno Bussière, LiZhen Cheng, Michel Choueau, Gabriel Fabien-Ouellet, Nathalie Chevé, Anne Isabelle, Paul Wilkinson, Philip Meldrum, Jonathan Chambers <b>Title:</b> <i>Monitoring moisture dynamics in multi-layer cover systems for mine tailings reclamation using autonomous and remote time-lapse electrical resistivity tomography</i>
<b>Fredlund Award</b> (from the CGJ)	Guoliang Ma, Xiang He, Xiang Jiang, Hanlong Liu, Jian Chu, Yang Xiao <b>Title:</b> <i>Strength and permeability of bentonite-assisted biocemented coarse sand</i>
<b>Graduate Student Presentation Award</b>	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>	Alexandra Waring
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b>	Armin Saeedi Javadi
<b>Undergraduate Student Report (Individual)</b>	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>	Dmitri Bohach
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b>	Gage Paskiewich
<b>Undergraduate Student Report (Group)</b>	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>	Amelina Iturregui, Alex Bruce, Couper Ebbs-Picken, Ryan Boljkovac
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b>	Ryan Mitchell, Krishan Rajasekar, Atharva Gujar, Zarrin Moin
<b>Canadian Foundation for Geotechnique Michael Bozozuk National Graduate Scholarship</b>	Ailing Li
<b>Dennis Becker Canadian Foundation for Geotechnique M.Sc. Student Award</b>	Mireille Dumais
<b>Early Achievement Award</b>	Jasyn Henry
<b>A.G. Stermac Awards</b>	François Duhaime Daniel Verret Paul Simms, Sai Vanapalli, and Mehdi Pouragha Sumi Siddiqua
<b>CGS R.M. Hardy Keynote Address</b> <b>Canadian Geotechnical Colloquium</b> <b>Cross Canada Lecture Tours</b>	Ken Skaftefeld Jennifer Day Spring 2025, Jason DeJong Fall 2025, Paul Dittrich

**Awards From Engineering Institute of Canada (EIC)**

<i>Sir John Kennedy Medal</i>	Jacques Locat
<i>Julian C. Smith Medal</i>	Ian D. Moore
<i>K.Y. Lo Medal</i>	Derek Martin
<i>John B. Stirling Medal</i>	Mamadou Fall
<i>CPR Engineering Medal</i>	Mario Ruel
<i>Fellowship of the Institute (FEIC)</i>	Justyna Kos-Fairless
<i>Fellowship of the Institute (FEIC)</i>	John Sobkowicz

**LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE GÉOTECHNIQUE – PRIX ET DISTINCTIONS 2025****Médaille R.F. Legget**

Derek Martin

**Prix G. Geoffrey Meyerhof**

Jocelyn Hayley

**Prix Thomas Roy**

John Harrison

**Prix Roger J.E. Brown**

Richard Fortier

**Prix Robert N. Farvolden**

M. Cathryn Ryan

(Prix conjoint avec l'AIH-SNC)

**Prix John A. Franklin**

Ali Saeidi

**Médaille Rober Schuster**

Mike Porter

(Distinction conjointe avec l'AEG)

**Prix R.M. Quigley** (remis par la revue CGJ)

Yi Hong, Xuanyu Chen, Lihong Wang, Lilin Wang, Ben He

**Titre : A bounding-surface-based cyclic "p-y+M-θ" model for unified description of laterally loaded piles with different failure modes in clay****Mentions honorables**

Simon Dumais, Jean-Marie Konrad

**Titre : Framework for thaw consolidation of fine-grained soils**

Adrien Dimech, Bruno Bussière, LiZhen Cheng, Michel Chouteau, Gabriel Fabien-Ouellet, Nathalie Chevé, Anne Isabelle, Paul Wilkinson, Philip Meldrum, Jonathan Chambers

**Titre : Monitoring moisture dynamics in multi-layer cover systems for mine tailings reclamation using autonomous and remote time-lapse electrical resistivity tomography****Prix Fredlund** (remis par la revue CGJ)

Guoliang Ma, Xiang He, Xiang Jiang, Hanlong Liu, Jian Chu, Yang Xiao

**Titre : Strength and permeability of bentonite-assisted biocemented coarse sand****Prix pour étudiant gradué****1<sup>ère</sup> place** Alexandra Waring**2<sup>ème</sup> place** Armin Saeedi Javadi**Prix pour étudiant de premier cycle (présentation individuelle)****1<sup>ère</sup> place** Dmitri Bohach**2<sup>ème</sup> place** Gage Paskiewich**Prix des étudiants de premier cycle (présentation de groupe)****1<sup>ère</sup> place** Amelina Iturregui, Alex Bruce, Couper Ebbs-Picken, Ryan Bojkovac**2<sup>ème</sup> place** Ryan Mitchell, Krishan Rajasekar, Atharva Gujar, Zarrin Moin**Bourse nationale pour études supérieures Michael Bozozuk de la Fondation canadienne de géotechnique**

Ailing Li

**Prix Dennis Becker pour les étudiants à la maîtrise de la Fondation canadienne de géotechnique**

Mireille Dumais

**Prix d'excellence en début de carrière**

Jasyn Henry

**Prix A.G. Stermac**

François Duhaime  
Daniel Verret  
Paul Simms, Sai Vanapalli, and Mehdi Pouragha  
Sumi Siddiqua

**Allocution d'ouverture R.M. Hardy****Colloquium canadien de géotechnique****La Tournée de conférences transcanadienne**

Ken Skaftefeld  
Jennifer Day  
Printemps 2025, Jason DeJong  
Automne 2025, Paul Dittrich

**Prix et distinctions de l'institut canadien des ingénieurs (ICI)**

*Médaille Sir John Kennedy*

Jacques Locat

*Médaille Julian C. Smith*

Ian D. Moore

*Médaille K.Y. Lo*

Derek Martin

*Médaille John B. Stirling*

Mamadou Fall

*Médaille du chemin de fer Canadien Pacifique*

Mario Ruel

*Fellow de L'ICI*

Justyna Kos-Fairless

*Fellow de L'ICI*

John Sobkowicz

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## **APPENDIX**

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Sections Representative Annual Report (10 pages)

Canadian Geotechnical Journal Report (21 pages)



**THE CANADIAN  
GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY**  
**LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE  
DE GÉOTECHNIQUE**

## **2024 - 2025 Full-Year CGS Sections Report**

Lilianne Landry-Paré  
Section Representative  
[secrep@cgs.ca](mailto:secrep@cgs.ca)

## Contents

 Introduction	2
 Summary of the 2024-2025 reporting period	2
 Sections reporting for 2024-2025	4
 Executive Committees & Membership	4
 Events Hosted & Programming	5
 Participation & Engagement	5
 Funds & Funding Models	6
 Awareness & Use of CGS Resources	6
 Key takeaways and recommendations	7



## 2024 - 2025 Full-Year CGS Sections Report

July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

### Introduction

The Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS) currently recognizes 20 active local sections operating across Canada. These sections play a vital role in fostering regional engagement, organizing technical events, and supporting the professional development of CGS members and non-members alike.



Section Directors act as principal lines of communication between their local sections and the Executive Committee. Members of each local Section elect a Section Director to represent them on the Board of Directors of the Society for a three year term, with the option of one additional year following discussion and agreement. This ensures proper geographical representation on the Board.

### Summary of the 2024-2025 reporting period

The Sections, led by the Section Representative, have met a total of 5 times, including one in-person meeting at the Board of Directors meeting held in Montreal and 4 times online. An average of 13 sections were represented at each meeting.

Throughout the 2024–2025 CGS Sections meetings, representatives discussed a range of initiatives aimed at strengthening collaboration, enhancing member engagement, and supporting professional development. Topics included event planning, financial coordination, student and young professional outreach, inter-organizational partnerships, and efforts to improve communication tools and digital platforms. Sections also explored opportunities for national visibility through publications and contributed to ongoing conversations around governance, inclusivity, and reconciliation. A collaborative effort to produce a special edition on Sections in the CGS magazine is currently underway.

Throughout the 2024–2025 CGS Sections meetings, Directors discussed a range of initiatives aimed at strengthening collaboration, enhancing member engagement, and supporting professional development. These efforts were reflected in diverse programming, governance improvements, and national outreach.

Key topics included:

- **Event Planning & Technical Programming**
  - Sections regularly shared on their events, including format, content, and attendance.
  - A few Sections extended the streaming of online or hybrid events nationally.
- **Financial Coordination & Support**
  - Calgary provided a \$50,000 loan to the Canadian Foundation for Geotechnique from GeoCalgary 2022 profits.
  - Discussions were held to establish a CGS budget line item for sections needing financial assistance. This was completed and the 2025-2026 budget now includes an allowance for financial support to Sections.
- **Student & Young Professional Outreach**
  - A few Sections held various initiatives to promote engagement with the student and young professional communities. This included student-industry mixers, panels, student competition, promotion of the Young Professionals Committee activities, support for student attendance at the annual conference, and mentorship activities.
  - 12 Sections have a student representative on their executive committee, which seems to coincide with sections that have academic institutions with geotechnical or civil programs in the region.
  - Many Sections offer reduced cost or free admission for students at their events.
- **Inter-Organizational Partnerships**
  - Sections collaborated with groups like CSCE and APEGNB to co-host events and secure sponsorships.
  - New Brunswick received joint funding from CGS and its provincial engineering association for a lecture.
- **Communication Tools & Digital Platforms**
  - A SharePoint workspace was launched to support document sharing, onboarding resources, and magazine collaboration. This remains a work in progress to encourage broader utilization of the platform.
  - Several sections began developing LinkedIn pages to improve outreach and visibility.
- **Governance & Inclusivity**
  - Saskatoon initiated NPO status and implemented a QR code system for CPD certificate tracking.
  - Calgary formed a Truth and Reconciliation Committee, with other sections expressing interest in contributing to a national taskforce.
- **National Visibility & Publications**
  - A collaborative effort is underway to produce a special edition of the CGS Magazine featuring section highlights.
  - A mock up was created, and volunteers from Sudbury and Toronto have begun drafting articles.

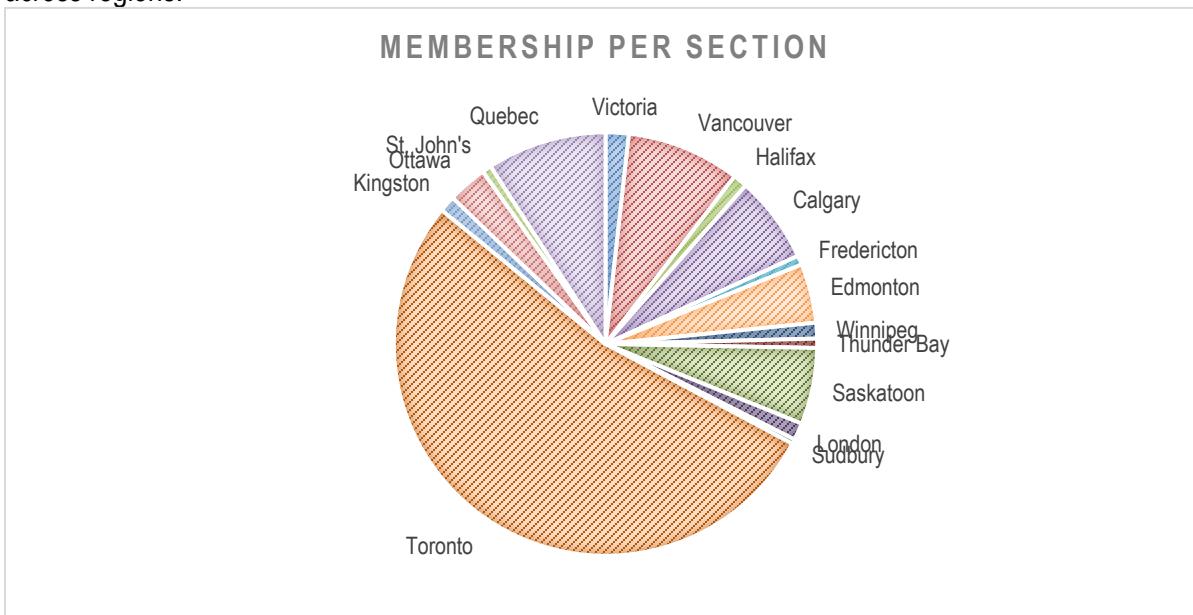
## Sections reporting for 2024-2025

For the 2024–2025 reporting period, Section Directors were invited to complete an online survey designed to capture key information regarding their membership, activities, and financial status. In addition, they were asked to submit a Word document detailing their executive committee composition and listing information about their activities undertaken during the year. The collected responses have been compiled and summarized at the end of this report. This initiative was introduced as a pilot project to transition away from the word document that had been used for many years.

It is important to note that no submissions were received from the Interior British Columbia (Kelowna) section and no online form received from the Southern Saskatchewan (Regina). As such, all statistics and analyses presented herein reflect data from the responding sections and should be interpreted with these omissions in mind.

### Executive Committees & Membership

Each of the 20 CGS local sections is led by a volunteer executive committee, typically ranging from 6 to 18 members. Smaller sections often rely on Directors and executives to hold multiple roles, while larger ones benefit from more specialized responsibilities. Most sections maintain stable leadership structures, though a few operate with limited formal organization or interim executives. Membership levels vary significantly across regions.



- Southern Ontario (Toronto) stands out with approximately 3,000 members represented.
- Bigger city centres such as Vancouver and Southern Alberta (Calgary) have sustained membership base of over 300 members.
- Northern Alberta and Territories (Edmonton) and Eastern Quebec (Quebec City) also have very active membership, drawn from governmental agencies and important academic centres.
- Northern Saskatchewan (Saskatoon) stands out with strong local participation.
- Smaller sections such as New Brunswick (Fredericton), Northwestern Ontario (Thunder Bay), and Northeastern Ontario (Sudbury) report fewer than 40 members, reflecting regional population and professional density.

- Student membership is not systematically recorded by each section. That said, Northern Alberta & Territories (Edmonton) reports the highest student membership (22), which speaks to the strong presence of the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

## Events Hosted & Programming

Local sections continue to be active in organizing professional development and networking opportunities. In total, **over 114 events** were reported across all sections in the past year. These include:

- **Technical Lectures (93)** – the most common format, often featuring invited speakers and industry experts (CCLT and other events can be included in this number).
- **Workshops & Short Courses (6)** – focused on skill-building and specialized topics.
- **Student Events (9)** – ranging from career panels to site visits.
- **Social Events (8)** – informal gatherings to foster community.
- **CCLT Lectures (22)** – part of the CGS Cross-Canada Lecture Tour.
- **Other Events (8)** – including symposia and joint events with other organizations.

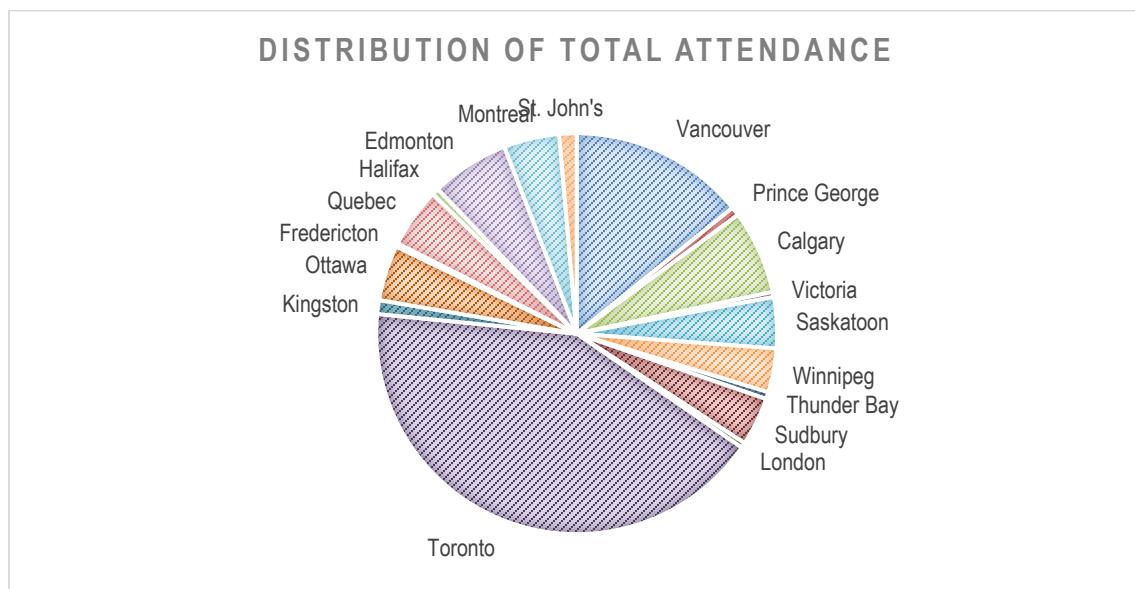
Vancouver and Southern Ontario (Toronto) were among the most active, hosting 15 and 10 events respectively, while 8 other Sections hosted over 7 events during the 2024-2025 season.

## Participation & Engagement

Event attendance varied significantly across sections:

- Southern Ontario reported the highest participation, with 3,000 attendees across its programming.
- Vancouver followed with over 1,000 attendees, indicating strong regional interest.
- Smaller sections such as New Brunswick and Thunder Bay reported fewer than 100 attendees, consistent with their membership size.

While most events were held in person, several sections noted online participation, especially in remote or northern regions, notably Northeastern Ontario (Sudbury). This hybrid approach has helped broaden access and engagement.



## Funds & Funding Models

The financial health of CGS sections is diverse:

- Total reported account balances exceed \$529,000, with Northern Saskatchewan holding the highest balance at \$135,000. This is explained by the profit generated by the organization of the 2023 CGS annual conference (GeoSaskatoon) that were returned to the local organizing committee (LOC).
- Similarly, Southern Alberta (Calgary) extended a \$50,000 loan to the Canadian Foundation for Geotechnique, made possible by the surplus funds generated from the successful GeoCalgary 2022 conference.
- Southern Ontario and Vancouver also report substantial reserves, ranging from \$54,000 to \$90,000.
- At the other end of the spectrum, New Brunswick reports a balance of just \$258, highlighting disparities in funding and fundraising capacity. Quebec City's balance is near 0\$ as all funds from the Section have been used as seed money for the organization of the 2026 CGS Annual Conference (GeoQuebec).

Only three sections charge annual membership fees:

- **Vancouver** (\$25)
- **Northern Alberta & Territories** (\$15)
- **Eastern Ontario (Ottawa)** (\$40)

The majority rely on event revenue, sponsorships, profits generated from organizing a CGS annual conference, or CGS support. Several sections expressed interest in exploring new funding models to sustain and expand their programming. The cost of admission at events varies, but generally ranges between 10 and 30\$ for regular events. A notable exception is Southern Ontario (Toronto) that have admission fees over 100\$ for multiple events. They were reported to generally be sit down dinners. Many Sections offer free admission or nominal cost for events, and it is often free for students.

## Awareness & Use of CGS Resources

The survey also assessed awareness of CGS national programs:

- **Financial Assistance Program:** 14 sections are aware and have accessed or plan to access support.
- **Lecture Supplement Program:** 13 sections reported awareness, often used to enhance speaker offerings.
- **GeoManitoba25 Sponsorship:** 10 sections plan to sponsor a Student or Member-in-Training to attend the upcoming conference.

While awareness is generally high, a few sections indicated limited familiarity with these resources. This presents an opportunity for CGS to improve outreach and ensure equitable access to national support mechanisms.

## ✓ Key takeaways and recommendations

- The majority of larger sections have maintained or slightly increased their activity level in comparison to the 2023-2024 cycle. Hybrid events (in-person and virtual) have helped increase attendance at some events, but in general online events are marginal, especially in larger sections.
- Engagement in smaller sections remain a constant challenge. Efforts to put together events are often led by a handful of individuals (if not a single person) so the level of efforts from each individual is high. They generally do not have well established procedures, online presence, means to collect fees for events other than cash, and limited outreach capabilities. This year, a number of initiatives were brought forward to help with this, notably:
  - Creation of an onboarding document for Section Directors to help with understanding resources available, including procedures for requesting the CCLT and the CLS.
  - Creation of a SharePoint so that Sections can manage and archive information to create and maintain institutional knowledge.
  - Collaboration on the CGS Magazine Special Edition on Sections to raise the profile of the Sections and raise awareness on the work done by volunteers across Canada.
- Some sections representatives have noticeably been absent from the majority, if not all, of the Sections meetings.
- A number of sections have reported during the year to be continuing a rebuilding phase in their executive committees, which in some cases has been ongoing for several years.
- The vast majority of events organized by CGS local sections consists of technical talks. Although most events include a networking component, it is generally not the main focus of sections. Workshops with more in depth knowledge sharing is also marginal. This is likely due to the level of efforts involved.
- The majority of sections are not incorporated, which means they do not have means to systematically collect membership information. Outreach to the local technical community is generally conducted using a mailing list, which acts as a membership list. Therefore, the information is generally not differentiated (professionals vs students vs CGS members). Not being incorporated also means that Sections are exposed to increased liabilities, whether financial or organizational, if no other safeguards are in place. Thus, Sections have been encouraged throughout the year to adopt a Charter or similar.
- During the year, it has been discussed at the Executive Committee of the CGS that the selection process for and the status of the Section Representative should be updated. While any official changes should take form with the updates to the Administration Manual, a better-defined process is proposed for the selection of the new Section Representative for the term coming up in 2025-2026.
- A maximum of 3 women held concurrently the role of Section Director out of the 20 Sections. This is improved from just 1 at the beginning of the Section Representative term back in 2023. Women are consistently underrepresented on the national stage.
- While an improvement from the previous format, the annual reporting remains a challenge. Everything should be combined into one online form.

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## Appendix A

### Summary Table of Online Survey

Section	Representative	Role in section	Number of section members	Section members that are CGS members	Number of executive members	Number of students on the executive	Number of events organized	Number of CCLT	Number of technical lectures	Number of workshops/short courses	Number of student events	Number of social events	Estimate of total attendance at account all of these events			Annual membership fee	Is your Section aware that CGS financial assistance is available to Sections?	Is your Section aware of the CGS Lecture Supplement Program?	Is your Section planning on sponsoring a Student/MIT 2025?
													Approx. balance as of June 30, 2025	Annual Fee	Annual Fee				
Vancouver Island (Victoria)	Caleb Scott	Chair, Director	100	NA	6	0	8	2	8	0	1	0	30	\$ 3,421.02	No	\$ -	Yes	Yes	No
Vancouver	Marc Bossé	Director	490	NA	16	2	15	2	10	3	0	2	1014	\$ 80,000.00	Yes	\$ 25	Yes	Yes	Yes
Northern BC (Prince George)	Warren Lemky	Chair/Director	NA	NA	6	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	51	\$ 8,000.00	No	\$ -	Yes	Yes	No
Interior British Columbia (Kelowna)	Kevin Bodnar	Chair, Director	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Southern Alberta (Calgary)	Lillian Landry-Pare	Co-Chair, Director	375	NA	15	1	9	2	9	0	1	0	483	\$ 54,617.48	No	\$ -	Yes	Yes	Yes
Northern Alberta and Territories (Edmonton)	Ken Froese	Director and Website Ad	255	67	18	1	9	2	8	NA	0	0	451	\$ 45,000.00	Yes	\$ 15	Yes	Yes	Yes
Northern Saskatchewan (Saskatoon)	Adam Leik	Director	330	30	13	3	9	1	9	1	0	0	294	\$ 135,000.00	No	\$ -	Yes	No	Yes
Southern Saskatchewan (Regina)	Rashed Chowdhury	Director	NA	NA	9	0	4	1	4	0	0	0	108	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Manitoba (Winnipeg)	Jenna Roadley	Director	68	NA	11	1	8	2	4	1	0	1	253	\$ 34,596.37	No	\$ -	Yes	Yes	Yes
Northwestern Ontario (Thunder Bay)	Colin Hunter	Director	40	NA	2	1	2	1	2	NA	1	1	40	\$ 2,200.00	No	\$ -	No	No	No
Northeastern Ontario (Sudbury)	Andre Bom	Director	20	NA	1	NA	3	0	2	0	0	0	280	NA	No	\$ -	Yes	No	No
Southwestern Ontario (London)	Philips Aby	Director	74	24	11	2	7	0	7	0	1	1	30	\$ 2,500.00	No	\$ -	Yes	Yes	Yes
Southern Ontario (Toronto)	Masoud Manzari	Director	3000	NA	16	1	10	1	8	1	1	1	3000	\$ 90,000.00	No	\$ -	No	Yes	No
Southeastern Ontario (Kingston)	Dylan Hill	Interim Chair/ Director	70	20	6	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	80	\$ 10,000.00	No	\$ -	No	No	Yes
Eastern Ontario (Ottawa)	Mohammed Al-Khazaali	Director	170	NA	14	2	9	1	7	0	2	0	320	\$ 17,047.36	Yes	\$ 40	Yes	No	No
Western Quebec (Montreal)	Vanessa Di Battista	Director	NA	NA	9	0	5	1	4	0	1	1	320	NA	No	\$ -	Yes	Yes	Yes
Eastern Quebec (Quebec)	Vincent Castonguay	Director	516	NA	14	2	9	1	9	0	0	1	344	\$ -	No	\$ -	Yes	Yes	Yes
New Brunswick (Fredericton)	Christopher McQueen	Chair, Director	40	NA	4	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	20	\$ 258.00	No	\$ -	Yes	Yes	No
Nova Scotia (Halifax)	Justin Matthew	Chair, Director	61	21	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	40	\$ 14,353.38	No	\$ -	Yes	Yes	No
Newfoundland and Labrador (St. John's)	Shawn Russell	Chair, Director	40	NA	6	1	3	2	1	0	1	0	100	\$ 32,500.00	No	\$ -	Yes	Yes	Yes

# Canadian Geotechnical Journal

## 2025 Editorial Board Report

Prepared: August 26, 2025; Updated: September 8, 2025

### **Editorial Office**

**Editors-in-Chief: Drs. Andy Take and Charles W.W. Ng**

For a current listing of all editorial board members, see Appendix A.

### **Canadian Science Publishing staff**

**Judy Busnarda, Senior Director, Publishing Operations**

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**Donna Hartson, Peer Review Coordinator**

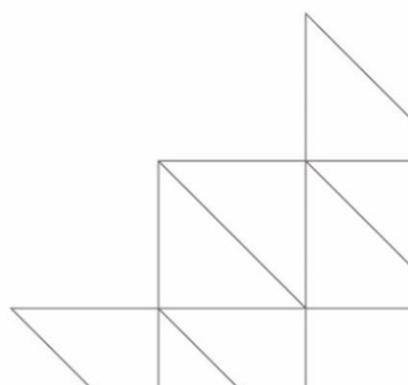
[cgj@cdnsciencepub.com](mailto:cgj@cdnsciencepub.com)

**Melanie Slavitch, Director, Integrity and Engagement**

[melanie.slavitch@cdnsciencepub.com](mailto:melanie.slavitch@cdnsciencepub.com)

**Jessica Reid, Editorial Outreach Specialist**

[jessica.reid@cdnsciencepub.com](mailto:jessica.reid@cdnsciencepub.com)





## Introduction & updates

*Canadian Geotechnical Journal* (CGJ) saw a growth in quality submissions and accepts in 2024. Working in collaboration with the Canadian Geotechnical Society, the journal is also happy to announce the reinstatement of French abstracts (Résumé) in all papers published in the CGJ. The Résumé workflow has been streamlined so that it may remain an essential feature of the journal. As of January 2025, authors of accepted papers are informed their abstract will be professionally translated into French and published alongside the published article.

In January 2025 the *Canadian Geotechnical Journal* moved from a volume and issue-based publication model to continuous publication, where articles are published in their final version as soon as they are ready, rather than in a monthly issue. This model favors CGJ's high paper flow and has eliminated delays due to backlog.

CGJ has a proud history of publishing case studies of practical relevance to Canadian and International engineering practice. Unlike other competing international geotechnical scholarly journals, the CGJ both actively encourages the publication of case studies and provides a publication forum in which the permissible manuscript length is sufficiently large to capture the essential elements of these often complex cases. In collaboration with the CGS/SCG's Professional Practice Committee, we are building a Collection of impactful case studies previously published in the journal to celebrate past case study contributions in the journal and to encourage the submission of new case studies.

## Publication Statistics

### Editorial statistics

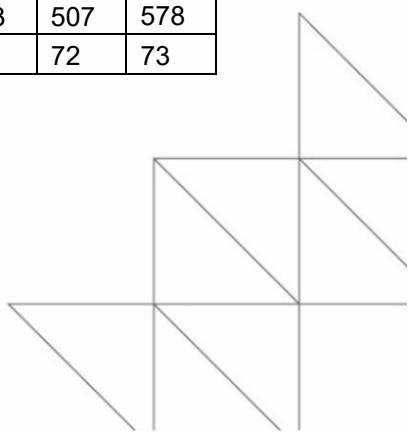
**Table 1.** Submission data

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Original Submissions	761	888	853	779	713	680	742	790

**Table 2.** Decision data

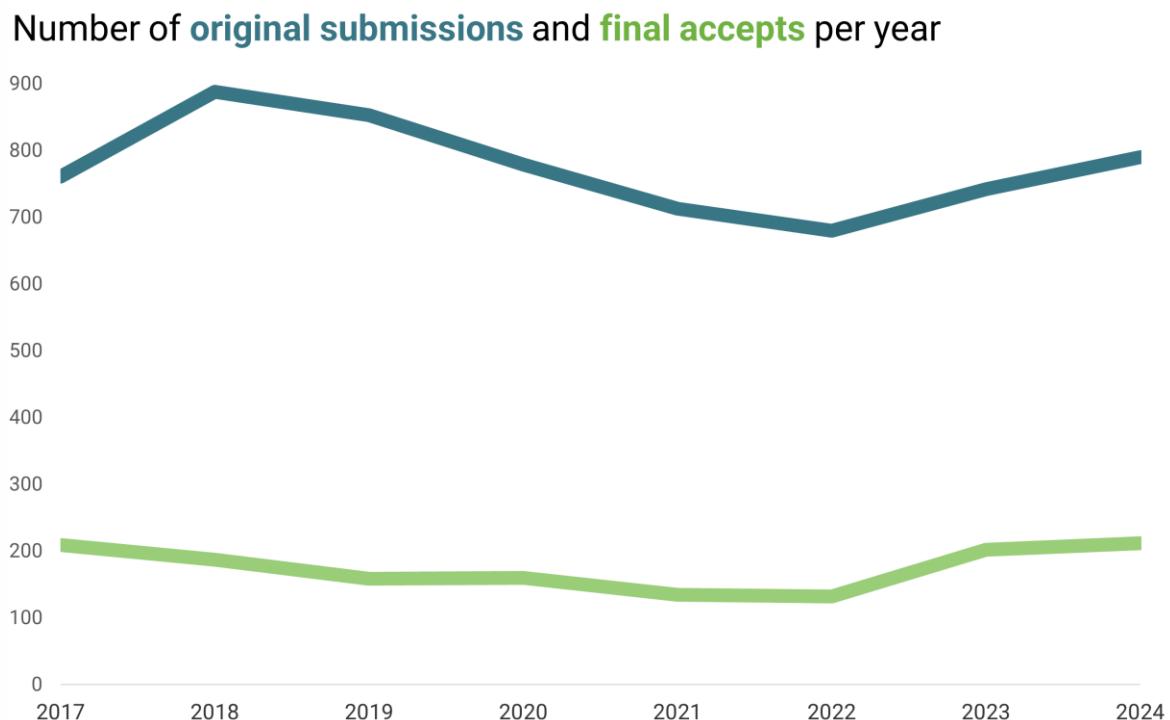
Final decision numbers and rates	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
No. of final accept	209	187	159	160	135	132	202	212
No. of final reject	565	708	673	637	548	503	507	578
Reject rate %, all	73	79	81	80	80	79	72	73

All results include original, revised, and resubmitted submissions.

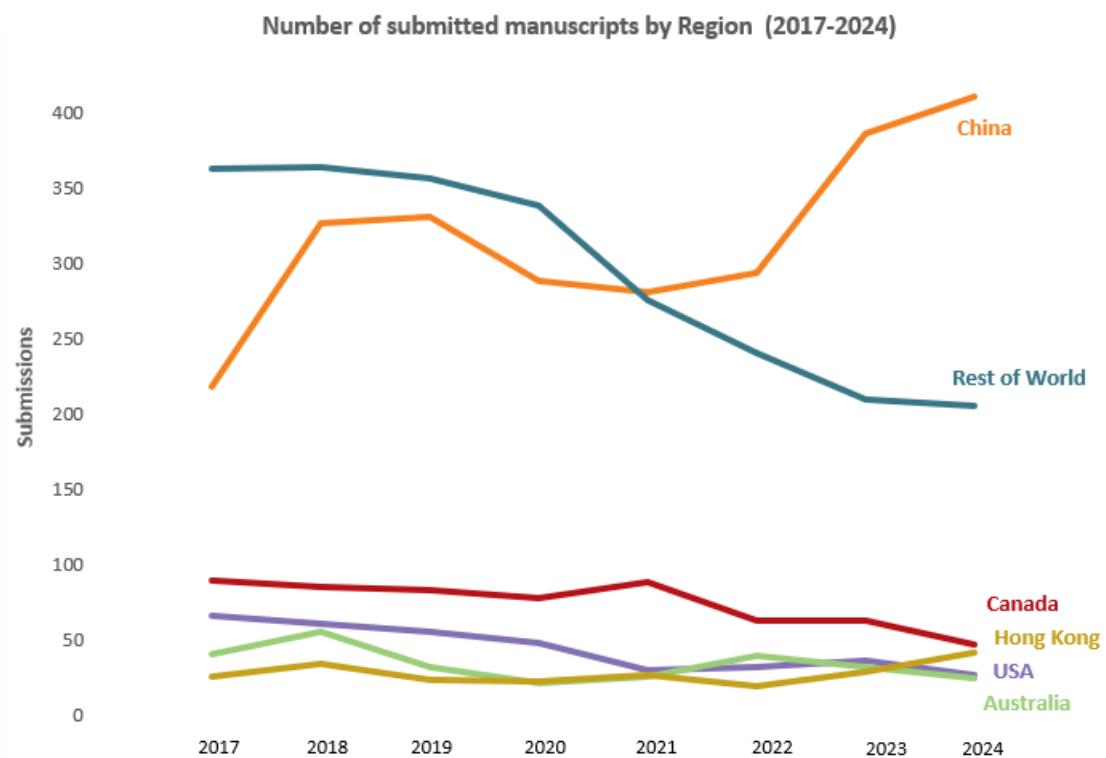


## Submission and acceptance statistics

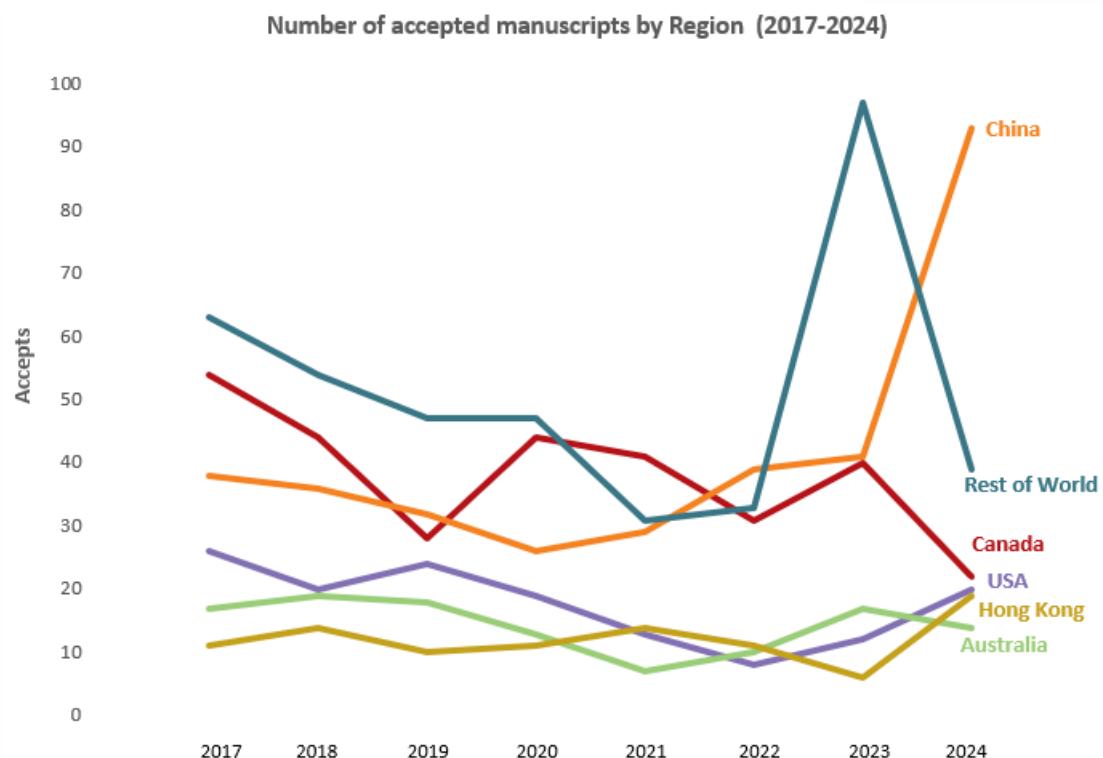
Figure 1. Number of original submissions (blue) and final accepts (green) by year (2017–2024).



**Figure 2.** Number of submitted manuscripts by region between 2017 and 2024.



**Figure 3.** Number of accepted manuscripts by region between 2017 and 2024.



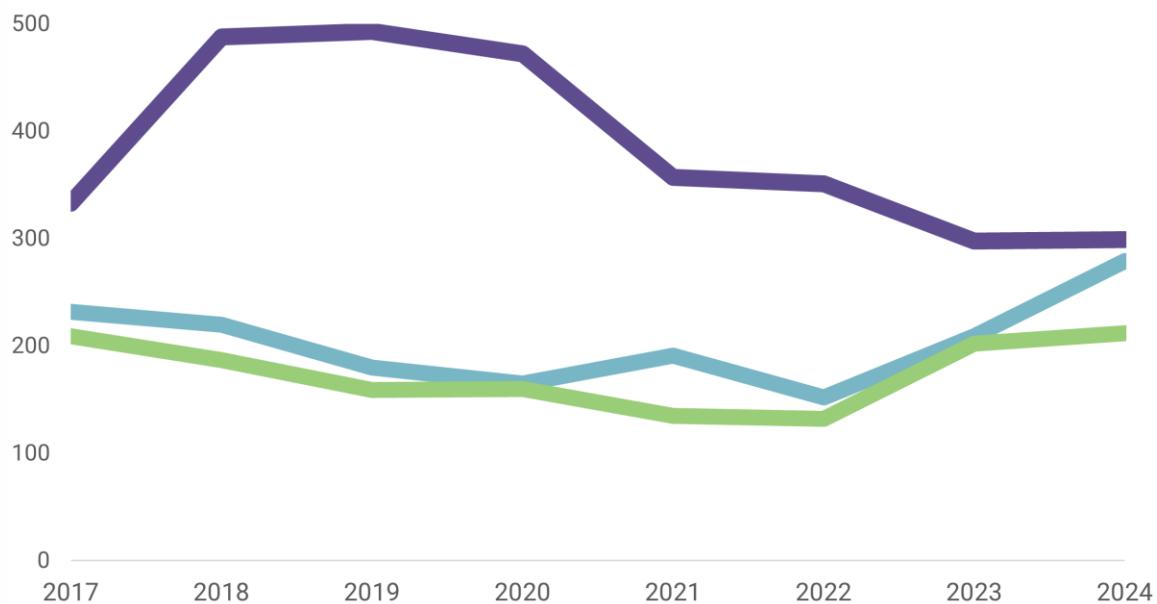
**Of particular interest:**

Mainland China and Canada account for the majority of recent CGJ contributions. We may want to pay particular attention to diversifying the content we bring in through commissioning efforts to balance those statistics. There are opportunities to bring in submissions from countries with high journal readership, such as Australia, the United Kingdom, South Korea, and Japan.

It is important to note that prior to January 2025, a significant backlog was present at CGJ. As of January 2025, with the switch to continuous publication, the backlog has been cleared and reporting will be better tailored to predict trends in the journal.

**Figure 4.** Number of accepts (green), reject with review (blue), and reject without review (purple) by year (2017-2024).

### Number of **accept**, **reject after review**, and **reject without review** decisions per year



## Peer Review Statistics

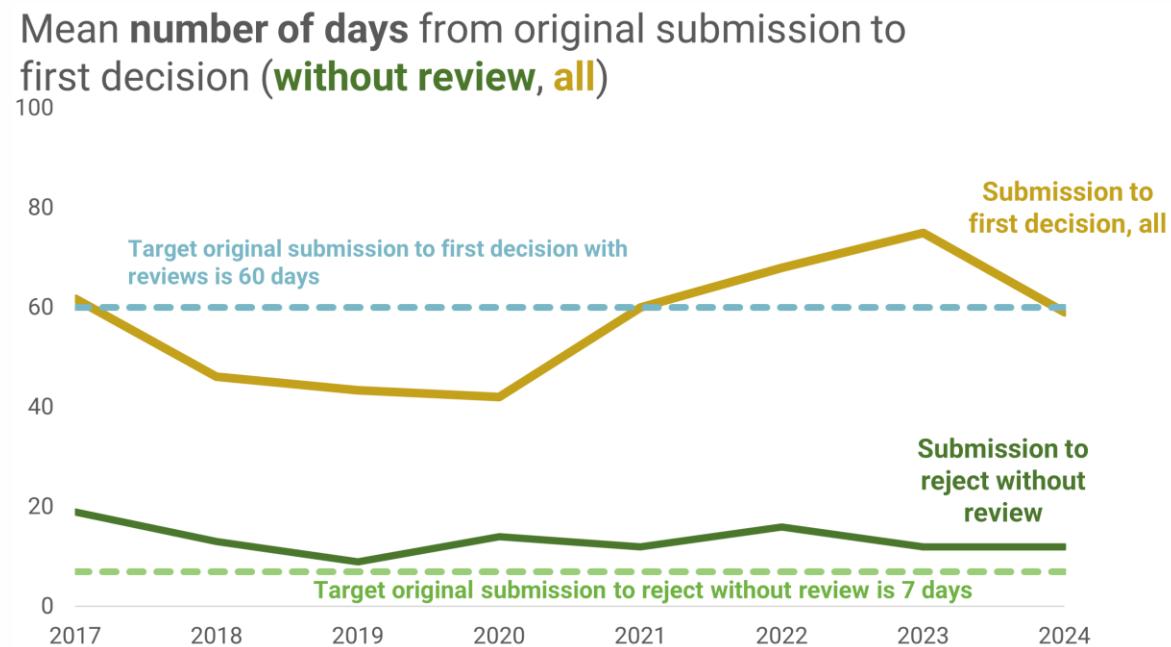
At **39.3 %** CGJ has the **highest percentage of all CSP journals** for completed reviews per invitation. The average across CSP journals is 22.9 %. On average, in 2024, it took **~5 invites to secure 2 reviews per paper**. The **average is ~9** invitations across all CSP journals. The response rate and willingness of our colleagues in the geotechnical community to review papers for CGJ is excellent and demonstrates strong community support for the journal.

**Table 3.** Peer review statistics for invited reviewers in 2024.

	2024 stats
Submissions	790
# of Review Invitations	2513
# of Accepted Invitations	1090
# of Declined Invitations	1404
# with No Response	12
Invitation Accept Rate (%)	43.4
Completed Reviews / Invitations (%)	<b>39.3</b>
Avg # invitations to secure 2 complete reviews	<b>5.1</b>

**Figure 5.** Average turnaround times and targets (2017-2024).

CGJ had a decrease in submission to first decision times and steady submission to reject without review times in 2024.



**Figure 6.** World region distribution of handling editors (as of August 2025).

The co-Editors-in-Chief of CGJ are working with the Canadian Science Publishing Integrity and Engagement (I&E) team to build a diverse, responsive, and engaged team of Associate Editors.

Currently, the Board is comprised primarily of Editors from Canada, Australia, the USA and Asia.

## Regional distribution of handling editors (2025)



## Journal Metrics Summary

**Table 4.** Metrics summary

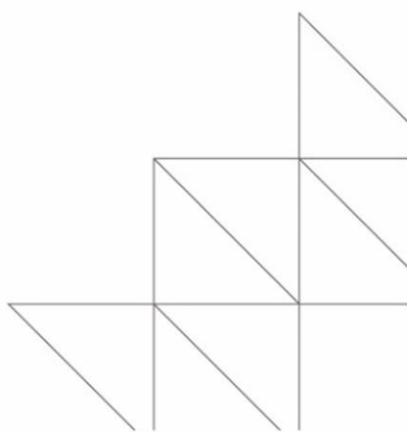
Metric	Year	Value (Rank in Engineering, Geological; Rank in Geosciences, Multidisciplinary)
<b>2-year impact factor<sup>1</sup></b> Average no. of times articles from the journal published in the past two years have been cited in the JCR year.	2024	3.5 (24/65; 71/258)
	2023	3.0 (24/63; 76/253)
	2022	3.6 (24/41; 67/202)
	2021	4.167 (19/41; 62/201)
	2020	3.725 (19/41; 61/199)
<b>5-year impact factor<sup>1</sup></b> Average no. of times articles from the journal published in the past 5 years have been cited in the JCR year.	2024	4.3
<b>Journal citation indicator<sup>1</sup></b> The Journal Citation Indicator (JCI) is the average Category Normalized Citation Impact of citable items published by a journal over a recent three-year period. The average JCI in a category is 1.	2024	0.92
<b>Total cites<sup>1</sup></b> Total no. of citations to the journal in a year (citations to papers published in any year).	2024	19,300
<b>Immediacy index<sup>1</sup></b> Average no. of times an article is cited in the year it's published (indicates how quickly articles in a journal are cited).	2024	1.2
<b>Eigenfactor<sup>1</sup></b> A reflection of the density of the network of citations around the journal using five years of cited content as cited by the Current Year. It considers both the number of citations and the source of those citations, so that highly cited sources will influence the network more than less cited sources.	2024	0.00603



<b>Article Influence Score<sup>1</sup></b> Measure of avg influence of each article in the journal over the first years after publication (roughly analogous to 5-year IF). Mean score is 1.00; >1.00 indicates that each article has above-average influence, <1.00 indicates that each article has below-average influence	2024	0.984
<b>SJR Indicator<sup>2</sup></b> Measure of journal's impact, influence, or prestige; expresses average no. of weighted citations in 2023 to articles published in journal in previous 3 years (citations from more prestigious journals are given more weight)	2024	1.402 36/408 (Q1) in Civil and Structural Engineering 24/238 (Q1) in Geotechnical Engineering and Engineering Geology
<b>h5-index<sup>3</sup></b> A journal with an h5-index of 45 has published 45 papers that have each been cited at least 45 times	2024	45
<sup>1</sup> Journal Citation Reports™ from Clarivate, 2023; <sup>2</sup> SciMAGO journal rankings; <sup>3</sup> Google Scholar metrics.		

#### Of particular interest:

Total citations (19,300) continue to increase and the Immediacy Index has held steady for the past three years. This suggests that we are publishing high-impact research that is discovered and used frequently. Considering that only 2.7% of our content is Open Access, increasing OA content could exponentially increase these numbers.

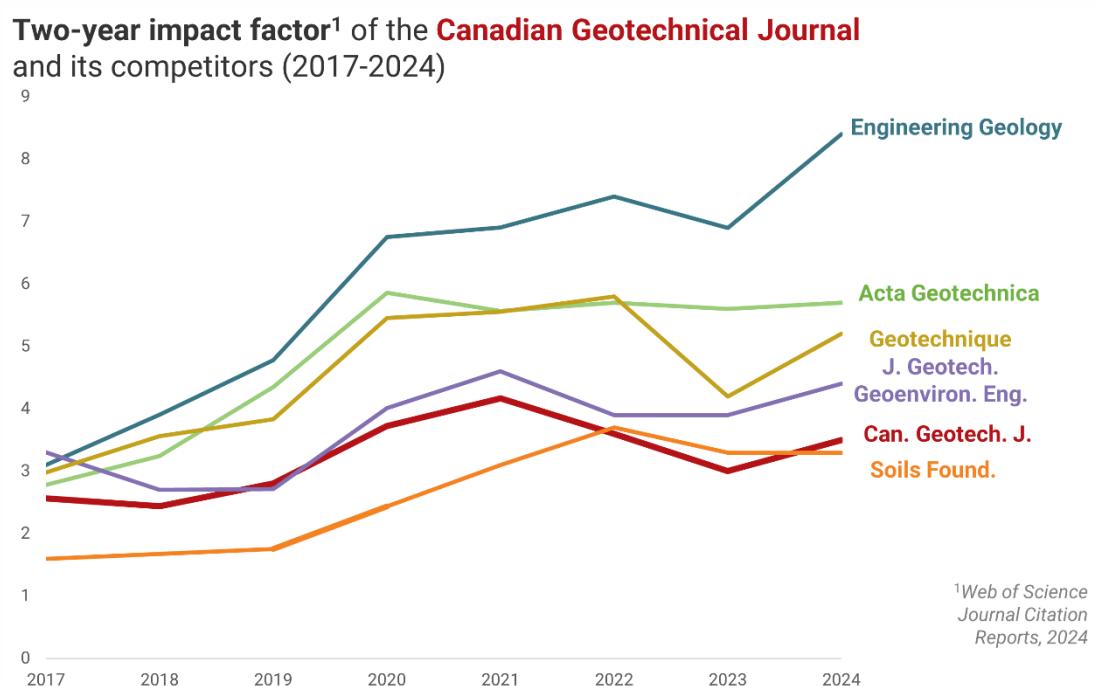




**Figure 7.** Two-year impact factor comparison of CGJ and various competitors.

**The JIF for CGJ is now 3.5 (an increase from 3.0)\* and ranks 24/65 (Q2) in Geological Engineering and 71/258 (Q2) in Multidisciplinary Geosciences.**

Also of note, the increase in the 5-year Impact Factor to 4.3 (from 3.9) is a great sign that our content is maintaining or increasing trends in quality and relevance, long-term.



Soils and Foundations moved to Open Access in 2020. A doubling of their impact factor corresponds with this change, suggesting the increased accessibility of their articles lead to greater discoverability and more citations.

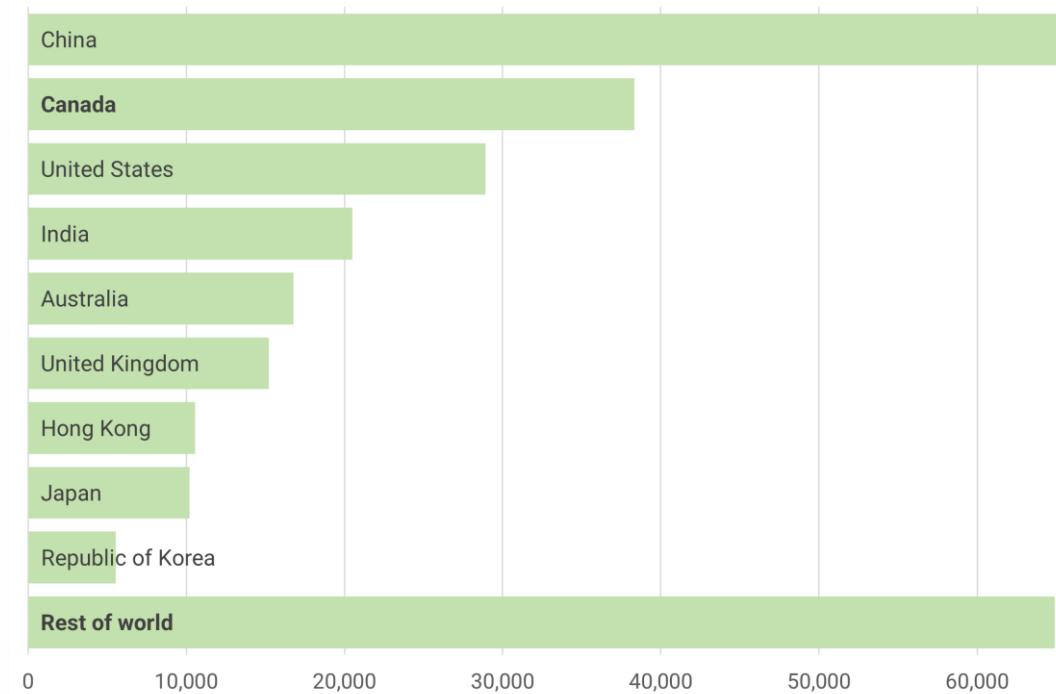
## Online Access

**Table 5.** Online access to CGJ for the 2017-2024 volume years.

Year	Table of Contents	Abstracts	Full-text HTML	Full-text PDF	Full-text Total
2017	59,764	548,553	23,753	169,706	193,359
2018	62,032	651,865	41,878	174,258	216,136
2019	72,700	628,600	103,061	195,849	298,910
2020	61,590	529,404	95,261	150,825	246,086
2021	58,971	565,244	139,411	142,096	281,507
2022	66,153	529,374	165,935	125,756	291,691
2023	94,676	532,831	166,678	132,215	298,893
2024	54,860	536,429	170,517	127,824	298,341

**Figure 8.** Online access to CGJ in 2024 by country.

Number of full-text article views by country (2024)



**Table 6.** Top 15 most-accessed articles in 2024 from articles published in any year. Articles highlighted in **gold** were published open access, articles highlighted in **blue** were Editor's Choice.

Rank	Access	Article Title	Author	Article DOI
1	7257	Rock quality designation (RQD): time to rest in peace	P.J. Pells, S.E. Pells, S.R. Hencher, Z.T. Bieniawski	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1139/cgj-2016-0012">10.1139/cgj-2016-0012</a>
2	3548	Effective friction angle of clays and silts from piezocone penetration tests southwestern British Columbia highway corridors	Paul W. Mayne, Zhongkun Ouyang	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1139/cgj-2017-0451">10.1139/cgj-2017-0451</a>
3	3299	Tool for analysis of multichannel analysis of surface waves (MASW) field data and evaluation of shear wave velocity profiles of soils	Bjarni Bessason, Elin Asta Olafsdottir, Sigurdur Erlingsson	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1139/cgj-2016-0302">10.1139/cgj-2016-0302</a>
4	3099	Cone penetration test (CPT)-based soil behaviour type (SBT) classification system — an update	P.K. Robertson	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1139/cgj-2016-0044">10.1139/cgj-2016-0044</a>
5	1847	<b>2014 Canadian Geotechnical Colloquium:</b> Landslide runout analysis — current practice and challenges	Scott McDougall	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1139/cgj-2016-0104">10.1139/cgj-2016-0104</a>
6	1410	Measurement of pile uplift forces due to soil heave in expansive clays	A.S. Osman, M.Z.E.B. Elshafie, S.W. Jacobsz, T.S. da Silva Burke	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1139/cgj-2021-0079">10.1139/cgj-2021-0079</a>
7	1376	Compressibility and permeability of sand–silt tailings mixtures	Jiying Fan, R. Kerry Rowe, Richard W.I. Brachman	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1139/cgj-2021-0356">10.1139/cgj-2021-0356</a>
8	1326	Revisiting interpretation of relative density from shallow depth CPTs in sand	Harun Kursat Engin, Lone Krogh, Santiago Quinteros, Tom Lunne	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1139/cgj-2021-0200">10.1139/cgj-2021-0200</a>
9	1273	Improved image-based deformation measurement for geotechnical applications	D.J. White, J. Blaber, S.A. Stanier, W.A. Take	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1139/cgj-2015-0253">10.1139/cgj-2015-0253</a>



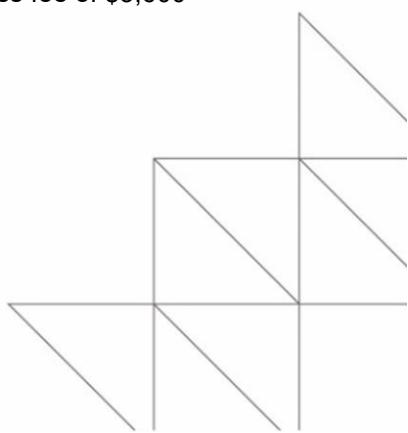
10	1221	Mechanism of failure of the Mount Polley Tailings Storage Facility	Elena Zabolotnii, G. Ward Wilson, Norbert R. Morgenstern	10.1139/cgj-2021-0036
11	1183	Analysis of buried pipelines subjected to ground surface settlement and heave	Dimitrios K. Karamitros, George P. Kouretzis, Scott W. Sloan	10.1139/cgj-2014-0332
12	1160	Transformation models for effective friction angle and relative density calibrated based on generic database of coarse-grained soils	Guan-Hong Lin, Jianye Ching, Jie-Ru Chen, Kok-Kwang Phoon	10.1139/cgj-2016-0318
13	1054	Development and outcomes of a tailings slope stability comparative design exercise	Andy Fourie, David Reid	10.1139/cgj-2022-0065
14	1018	Iron ore tailings stabilization with alternative alkali-activated cement for dry stacking: mechanical and microstructural insights	Andres Lotero, Giovani Jordi Bruschi, Guilherme Schmitt Medina, Helena Portela Farenzena, João Paulo de Sousa Silva, Nilo Cesar Consoli	10.1139/cgj-2023-0125
15	1009	Experimental study on the coefficient of restitution of grain against block interfaces for natural and engineered materials	C.E. Choi, C.S. Sandeep, C.W.W. Ng, D. Cheung, K. Senetakis, M.R. Coop, Y. Wang	10.1139/cgj-2018-0712

## Open Access Summary

Free access to all of CSP's content is provided to developing countries through Research4Life ensuring that developing countries receive barrier-free access to CGJ.

CSP offers all researchers from any Canadian university participating in the CRKN consortium (44 universities) a 25% discount on the usual paid open access fee of \$3,600 (*OpenArticle*).

If the corresponding author's institution subscribes to CSP journals through the **Canadian Federal Science Libraries Network (FSLN)** authors receive 25% off the standard open access fee of \$3,600 for manuscripts.





CSP has a read-and-publish agreement with the University of California (UC) that utilizes UC's multi-payer model whereby university libraries share the cost of the APC with authors. More detail can be found [here](#).

#### **Other Open Access Agreements:**

Corresponding authors from the following institutions publish their articles in this journal as Open Access by default:

- ETH Zurich
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CSP's Standard Read & Publish Agreement enables corresponding authors from partner institutions to receive unlimited open access publishing in CSP's hybrid journals.

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More information on Open Access agreements can be found [here](#).

#### **Conferences and outreach**

In 2024, CGJ attended GeoMontreal and plans for GeoManitoba 2025 were built upon successful conversations at this meeting.

The CGJ will be supporting the 2025 meeting by sponsoring the Young Professionals Event and partaking in a Publishing Case Studies Workshop in collaboration with the CGS Professional Practice Committee.

#### **Marketing Efforts and Social Media**

In May 2025, a CGJ BlueSky account was added. This page is monitored by CJP's Journal Development Specialist (Brandi), with support from the CSP Marketing and Communications team.

Editors are encouraged to engage with the journal's activities on social media (on platforms that you have accounts) by following and sharing posts. Both accounts can also receive messages – if there



is something impactful happening in your community that would be appropriate for the journal to highlight, please pass it along!

CGJ also launched a ResearchGate page in 2024. ResearchGate is a platform for researchers and academics to find, read, share, and discuss research articles. Both co-Editors-in-Chief are formally listed and associated with the journal page, and the sidebar also includes a tool which allows users to directly cross-check their listed home institution with Open Access agreements in CJP.

**Links to accounts:**

BlueSky: <https://bsky.app/profile/cangeotechj.bsky.social>

ResearchGate: <https://www.researchgate.net/journal/Canadian-Geotechnical-Journal-0008-3674>

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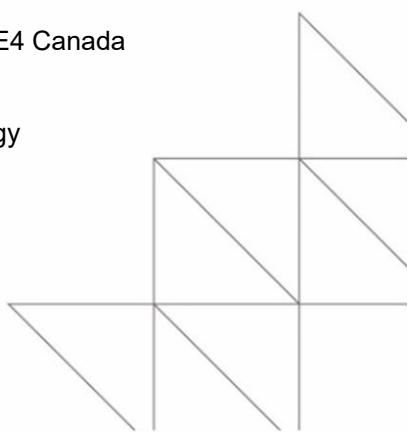
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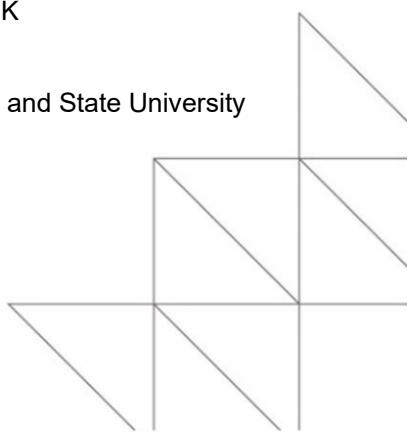
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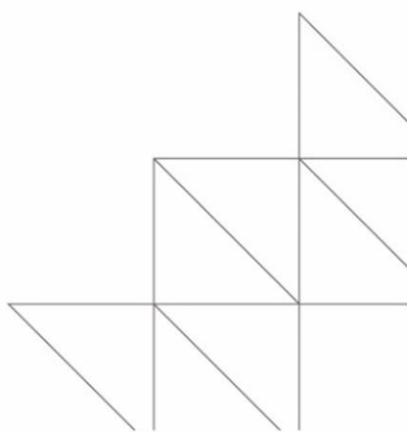
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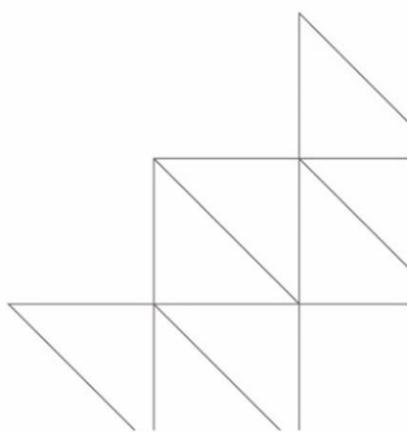
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