



**Vancouver
Geotechnical Society**
A Local Section of the
Canadian Geotechnical
Society

Visit : www.v-g-s.ca

2011-2012 Executive Committee:

Chair	-Jason Pellett, EBA.	604-685-0275
Past-Chair	-Marc Bossé, exp	604-422-2164
Program Director	-Ali Amini, Naesgaard-AminiGeotech.	604-984-0759
Treasurer	-(Kumar) S. Sriskandakumar, BGC	604-684-5900
Secretary	-Andrea Lougheed, Thurber	604-684-4384
Registrar	-Julia Steele, Golder	604-297-2051
Web Manager	-Carl Kelman, Levelton	604-278-1411
CGS Director	-Uthaya Uthayakumar, exp	604-709-4639
Member-at-Large	-Ryan Mills, Levelton	604-278-1411

**Summary of Activities of the Vancouver Section of the Canadian Geotechnical Society
Vancouver Geotechnical Society
prepared by Jason Pellett, Chair**

Introduction

This report is a summary of the activities of the Vancouver Geotechnical Society of the Canadian Geotechnical Society for the period from August 26, 2011 to August 25, 2012.

Executive Committee

The 2011-2012 Executive Committee of the Vancouver Geotechnical Society consisted of the following members:

<i>Chair:</i>	Jason Pellett, EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd., Vancouver, B.C.
<i>Past-Chair:</i>	Marc Bossé, Trow Associates Inc., Burnaby, B.C.
<i>Secretary:</i>	Andrea Lougheed, Thurber Engineering Ltd., Vancouver, B.C.
<i>Treasurer:</i>	S. Sriskandakumar, BGC Engineering Inc., Vancouver, B.C.
<i>Program Director:</i>	Ali Amini, Naesgaard Geotechnical Ltd., North Vancouver, B.C.
<i>Registrar:</i>	Julia Steele, Golder Associates Ltd., Burnaby, B.C.
<i>Web Manager:</i>	Carl Kelman, Levelton Consultants Ltd., Richmond, B.C.
<i>CGS Director:</i>	M. Uthayakumar, Trow Associates Inc., Burnaby, B.C.
<i>Member at large:</i>	Ryan Mills, Levelton Consultants Ltd., Richmond, B.C.

Activities

The VGS executive committee meets approximately once a month to organize technical presentations, social events, and to review issues relevant to the society membership. Generally, the executive meetings take place immediately before the monthly technical presentations. The attendance at the technical presentation typically ranges from about 60 to 100 persons. The executive also maintains regular ties with other geotechnical groups in British Columbia and Washington State. Notices of upcoming events held by other similar local organizations are distributed to all VGS members in addition to notices of VGS events.

The VGS has scanned the past proceedings of the symposia and will make them available to the membership when the website has been transferred to its new host.

Membership Information

By the end of the 2011-2012 program year, the VGS had a regular paid membership of 219, student membership of 8, and a life membership of 15; for a total membership of 242. The membership is

predominantly based in the Lower Mainland; however there is one member from Kelowna, and approximately half a dozen from Vancouver Island.

Meetings

The meetings held for the 2011-2012 program year were as follows:

Date	Topic / Speaker	Notes
September 15, 2011	“Investigation and Retrofit of the Roger Pierlet Bridge damaged by Failure of Adjacent Soil Stockpile”; Alex Sy, Ph.D., P.Eng.	VGS Annual General Meeting
November 3, 2011	“The Science of Judgment”; Mr. Steven G. Vick , P.E.	CGS Cross-Canada Lecture Tour
November 29, 2011	“Geotechnical Design and Construction of the William R. Bennett Bridge, Kelowna B.C.”; (Uthaya) M. Uthayakumar, Ph.D., P.Eng.	VGS Monthly Meeting
January 17, 2012	“Wick Drains and Piling for Cai Mep Container Port, Vietnam”; Bengt Fellenius, Dr. Tech, P.Eng.	VGS Monthly Meeting
February 2, 2012	“The increasing role of seismic measurements in geotechnical engineering”; Professor Kenneth H. Stokoe II, University of Texas (Austin)	VGS Monthly Meeting
March 6, 2012	“Some Geotechnical Aspects of the Pitt River Bridge 2007 Static Pile Loading Test”; David Tara, P.Eng., M.Sc.A.	VGS Monthly Meeting
March 29, 2012	“An abridged history of the Highland Valley Copper Tailings Storage Facility”; Neil K. Singh, P.Eng., M.Eng.	UBC-Georox Distinguished Lecture (sponsored by VGS)
April 26, 2012	“Can we successfully reclaim Oil Sands Mine Closure Landforms”; Professor Lee Barbour	CGS Cross-Canada Lecture Tour
June 28, 2012	“Site characterization for cohesive soil deposits using combined in situ and laboratory testing”; Professor Don J. DeGroot, Sc.D., P.E.	UBC-VGS Joint Lecture

VGS Short Course

In addition to the regular monthly meetings, a one-day short course was held by the VGS on May 4, 2012 on *The Basics of Piled Foundations – A Short Course and Seminar* presented by Dr. Bengt Fellenius, Dr. Tech, P.Eng. The event was held at the Executive Hotel and Conference Centre in Burnaby, B.C. A total of 88 participants attended the short course.

20th VGS Symposium

The 20th Vancouver Geotechnical Society Symposium was held on June 8, 2012 on the topic of *Soft Ground Engineering*. The event was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Vancouver, B.C. Total attendance at the Symposium was approximately 200 participants. A copy of the Symposium program is attached. Electronic copies of the papers presented at the Symposium are also available for download from the VGS website at www.v-g-s.ca

Financial Status

The VGS's operating budget is primarily funded by profits from past symposia, technical short courses, and conferences. As of August 25, 2012, the end of the VGS accounting year, the account balances were \$44,130.92, of which \$21,115.53 was invested in a business savings account at ING Bank, with the remainder being used to fund regular operations. A brief report by the Treasurer is attached.

Prepared by:

Jason D. Pellett
Chair, Vancouver Geotechnical Society

**The Vancouver Geotechnical Society
A Local Section of**

**The Canadian
Geotechnical Society**



**La Société canadienne
de géotechnique**

Visit : www.v-g-s.ca

**20th Vancouver Geotechnical Society Symposium
Friday, June 8, 2012 – The Hyatt Regency, Vancouver**

SOFT GROUND ENGINEERING

PROGRAM

07:30 - 08:30	Registration
08:30 - 08:45	Opening Remarks
08:45 - 09:45	Keynote Presentation No. 1 : "The Observational Method: Case History and Models"; Tien Wu
09:45 - 10:15	"Methodology for the Design of a Staged Construction Program on Soft Clay"; Makram El Sabbagh & Demetrious Koutsoftas
10:15 - 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 - 11:15	"Helical Piles in Soft Sensitive Soils – A Field Study of Disturbance Effects on Pile Capacity"; Christopher Weech & John Howie
11:15 - 12:00	"Highway Embankment Performance on Compressible Clay at Highway 1 / 200th Street, Langley, British Columbia"; Alex Sy & Don Gillespie
12:00 - 12:30	"Peat Behaviour – Some Conceptual Mechanisms and Challenges"; Howard Taylor
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 14:45	Keynote Presentation No. 2 : "Peats and Creepy Soils"; Arvid Landva
14:45 - 15:15	"Comparison of In-Situ Shear Strength Measurement Techniques of Soft Clays"; Jeff Schaeffers & Ilmar Weemees
15:15 - 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 - 16:15	"Sunrise City, Vietnam — A Case History of Testing and Analysis"; Bengt Fellenius & Nguyen Minh Hai
16:15 - 16:45	"The 'Broadway' Project, Kelowna, BC"; Norman Williams
16:45 - 17:00	Closing Remarks

VANCOUVER GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

Income Statement from August 26, 2011 to August 25, 2012

Compiled by (Kumar) S. Sriskandakumar, VGS Treasurer

Opening Cash Balance

Royal Bank	\$2,547.45
ING	\$40,774.27
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	\$43,321.72

Revenue

Membership Dues and Dinners	\$6,549.00
VGS Short Course	\$20,900.00
VGS Symposium	\$39,026.30
Interest (ING)	\$341.26
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	\$66,816.56

Expenses

VGS Meetings and Speaker Honorariums	\$11,629.91
VGS-UBC Joint Events	\$2,288.30
CCLT	\$4,841.87
VGS Short Course	\$13,605.00
VGS Symposium	\$33,437.04
Internet Account Fees	\$134.40
Bank Fees	\$70.84
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	\$66,007.36

Year End Closing Balance

Royal Bank	\$22,845.39
ING	\$21,115.53
Hotel Credit	\$100.00
Registrar Float	\$70.00
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	\$44,130.92

Treasurer's Summary (Monthly Bank Balances)

Period	Royal Bank				ING Direct			
	Opening Balance	Credits	Debits	Closing Balance	Opening Balance	Credits	Debits	Closing Balance
Sep, 2011	2,547.45	1,560.00	2,321.27	1,786.18	40,774.27	43.29		40,817.56
Oct, 2011	1,786.18	0.00	3.75	1,782.43	40,817.56	41.94		40,859.50
Nov, 2011	1,782.43	11,870.00	2,905.52	10,746.91	40,859.50	43.38	10,000.00	30,902.88
Dec, 2011	10,746.91	590.00	2,023.52	9,313.39	30,902.88	32.43		30,935.31
Jan, 2012	9,313.39	1,060.00	2,575.30	7,798.09	30,935.31	32.84		30,968.15
Feb, 2012	7,798.09	614.00	6,417.81	1,994.28	30,968.15	30.33		30,998.48
Mar, 2012	1,994.28	10,000.00	375.88	11,618.40	30,998.48	27.36	10,000.00	21,025.84
Apr, 2012	11,618.40	8,275.00	1,921.78	17,971.62	21,025.84	19.45		21,045.29
May, 2012	17,971.62	32,760.00	15,101.58	35,630.04	21,045.29	17.25		21,062.54
Jun, 2012	35,630.04	15,251.30	24,951.30	25,930.04	21,062.54	17.84		21,080.38
Jul, 2012	25,930.04	2,925.00	6,940.30	21,914.74	21,080.38	17.28		21,097.66
Aug, 2012	21,914.74	1,675.00	744.35	22,845.39	21,097.66	17.87		21,115.53

Note:

1. The period months run from the 26th through the 25th (i.e. Aug 26, 2011 to Sep 25, 2011 is termed as Sep, 2011).