



**Vancouver
Geotechnical Society**

A Local Section of the
Canadian Geotechnical
Society

www.v-g-s.ca

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NOTICE OF UPCOMING TECHNICAL PRESENTATION

Thursday, February 19, 2015

SUBJECT: THE 22 MARCH 2014 OSO, WASHINGTON, USA LANDSLIDE

SPEAKER Dr. Joseph Wartman, P.E.
Associate Professor, University of Washington

Joseph Wartman is the H. R. Berg Endowed Associate Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Washington (UW), and Editor of the American Society of Civil Engineers Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering. He is the recipient of several research honors including, most recently, the New Zealand Society of Earthquake Engineering's Commendation Award (as International Expert to Port Hills Landslide Response Group), selection for the U. S. National Academy of Engineering Frontiers of Engineering Program, and the Prakash Foundation Research Award. He has participated in multiple field investigations of large-scale natural disasters including major earthquakes in Latin America and Asia, Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, and in 2014, the Oso, Washington Landslide. Prior to his career in academia, Wartman served in professional practice as a licensed Engineer. At UW, Wartman teaches and conducts research on geologic hazards, engineering geology, and earthquake engineering.

CONTENT: The Oso Landslide occurred on the morning of Saturday, 22 March 2014, and claimed the lives of 43 people, making it the deadliest landslide disaster in the history of the continental United States. The landslide initiated within an approximately 200-m-high hillslope comprised of unconsolidated glacial and colluvial deposits; it rapidly transitioned to a debris flow/debris avalanche that rapidly inundated a neighborhood of approximately 35 single-family residences. An intense 3-week rainfall that immediately preceded the event is believed to have played a major role in triggering the landslide. In this talk, I will present the findings of our Geotechnical Extreme Events Reconnaissance (GEER) Association scientific research team that performed a field reconnaissance of the Oso Landslide shortly after its occurrence. The talk will focus on observations made and data collected at the landslide site, but will additionally review regional and local geologic conditions, climate setting, eyewitness accounts, and land-use history. In addition, newly published findings and current debates on the landslide will be discussed.

DETAILS **Executive Inn**, 4201 Lougheed Highway, Burnaby, BC V5C 3Y6 (Phone: 604-298-2010)
Social Hour: 5:30 to 6:30 pm (drinks available at the hotel bar)
Technical Presentation: 6:30 to 7:30 pm (No need to RSVP)
Dinner: 7:45 pm (\$30 will be charged for dinner)
If you would like to stay for dinner, please RSVP to Robyn Barnett via email or at the door Robyn.Barnett@tetrattech.com