

Leading a Prosperous Future

The Canadian Engineering Leadership Forum, a landmark initiative between six national engineering organizations created in 2005 to help shape the future of engineering in Canada, has proposed the hosting of an engineering summit. To be held in 2009, the summit is tentatively titled *Leading a Canadian Future: the New Engineer in Society*. It will provide a venue for the engineering profession to work cohesively and collaboratively with other professions and industries towards developing processes to better serve society. During the summit, the engineering profession will engage those who can affect positive change with the goal of identifying engineering contributions towards a healthier, cleaner, safer, more competitive and sustainable Canada. It will raise the profile and credibility of the engineering profession and the appreciation of the work of engineers, and provide Engineers Canada with invaluable feedback to actively contribute in our country's future. Details on the summit will be posted on the Engineers Canada website as it is available.

Calendar of Events

- ♦ May 19 to 21, 2009
National summit - Leading a Canadian Future: The New Engineer in Society
Montreal, Quebec

Assessing Public Infrastructure's Vulnerability to a Changing Climate

Engineers Canada, through its Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee, has developed and promoted a protocol for assessing engineering design and operation of infrastructure for vulnerabilities to the effects of climate change. The City of Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, partnered with Engineers Canada to employ this procedure through a case study that assessed potential vulnerabilities of the components of the city's critical water supply infrastructure, finding that only minor adjustments are required. The Vulnerability Committee is currently conducting several case studies of other infrastructures including buildings, roads, bridges and stormwater/wastewater systems across Canada that will provide an indication of climate change vulnerabilities. These case studies will be used, along with expert opinion, to develop interim conclusions on vulnerabilities and recommend additional case studies to improve and generalize the results for infrastructures across Canada. The protocols will be made available to municipalities, and their participation in case studies will provide the evidence for the engineering profession to recommend reviews of national infrastructure codes and standards. For more information, visit www.pievvc.ca

Labour Market Study Steering Committee Meeting

On November 14, 2007 the Engineering and Technology Labour Market Study Steering Committee met in Mississauga, Ontario, to discuss the results, surveys and research issues surrounding four of the study's research plan components:

- ♦ Current demand forecast
- ♦ Demographic analysis
- ♦ Employer attitudes and policies toward licensure, certification, continuous learning and work task boundaries
- ♦ Diversity

The primary focus of the day's discussions was the preliminary results of the employer survey and the implications of their findings. The results indicated an under representation of employer responses from British Columbia and municipal governments, however efforts to expand responses from these target groups have been initiated with positive results. Survey findings are currently being reviewed more closely to determine areas for further detailed research.

A draft version of the employee survey was also reviewed at the meeting, and will soon be launched on the labour market study website. Also to be included on the website is a restricted access area for steering committee members. For more information, visit www.engineerscanada.ca/etlms/e/index.cfm

Canadian Federation of Engineering Students' Congress 2008

This year marked the 40th annual Canadian Federation of Engineering Students' Congress, an event that brings together university engineering students from across Canada to discuss important issues affecting education. Engineers Canada was once again an official partner of the event, which was held this year in Edmonton, Alberta, from January 1 to 6.

The changing realities facing the engineering profession were at the forefront of the discussions, as the theme of this year's congress was "Engineering: The Evolution". Session topics included, for example, international relations, strategic planning and outreach. Marc Bourgeois, Engineers Canada's Director of Communications, presented a session on the Canadian Engineering Leadership Forum, as well as Engineers Canada, with the assistance of Len Shrimpton, P.Eng., APEGGA's Director of Internal Affairs. Bourgeois and Shrimpton discussed the role of the national organization and provided a general overview of the licensing process in Canada.

Next year's congress is scheduled to be held in Ottawa. For more information, visit www.cfes.ca