

- ▶ REACTION TO THE BUDGET
- ▶ BGE VOLUNTEER PROFILE
- ▶ PARLIAMENTARY CALENDARS
- ▶ LET'S HEAR FROM YOU

# ENGINEERING<sup>\*</sup> on the Hill

www.engineerscanada.ca

REPORTING ON ISSUES ON PARLIAMENT HILL OF INTEREST TO THE ENGINEERING PROFESSION

## Engineers Canada Recognizes Federal Government's Commitment to Infrastructure

January 30, 2009, Ottawa – The federal government's commitment to infrastructure, which Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty summarized while presenting the federal budget on January 27, 2009, is welcomed news by the engineering profession.

"The investment in infrastructure is especially pertinent in light of the current fiscal crisis, and we recognize that this government has remained committed to infrastructure policy and projects," said Engineers Canada CEO Chantal Guay, P.Eng., ing., M.Env. "Infrastructure growth will result in creating new jobs through the construction of new housing and cultural and heritage institutions, as well as in supporting an economically competitive edge. The investments in these areas, combined with support in sustainable energy projects, will play a significant role in maintaining the quality of life Canadians enjoy."

Engineers Canada also acknowledges that the important issue of providing safe drinking water to Canada's northern communities is one aspect of the \$515 million infrastructure investment for First Nations. Northern communities will see further infrastructure investments in their schools and other community services.

The budget includes the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, where 'shovel ready' projects could qualify for up to 50 percent of the cost from the federal government, if construction begins in 2009–2010. Through important infrastructure investment, the government of Canada is contributing to leading-edge public policy development and decisions on infrastructure projects to be funded through collaborative efforts.

"We will continue to work together with the federal government by offering expertise and guidance as it continues to develop and roll out its short and long-term infrastructure programs and policies," said Ms. Guay. "Given professional engineers' role in building a safer and healthier Canada, our knowledge in this area of activity can and has served as a valuable asset to the government and can contribute to establishing a sustainable framework for infrastructure renewal."

### Focus On: Jelbert Real, P.Eng., BGE Volunteer

Mr. Real has been an active Bridging Government and Engineers volunteer since February 2008. This last December, he met with his federal member of Parliament, Ruby Dhalla, where he had an opportunity to discuss several important issues to the engineering profession.

"One of the items I discussed with Ms. Dhalla is the federal infrastructure funding of \$33 billion that the government committed to spend. And we talked about this even before the stimulus packages were brought out," reported Mr. Real.

"There is a very good link between engineering and the economy in troubled times, as engineers play a very important role in re-building the economy," stated Mr.



Jelbert Real, P.Eng. recently met with Ruby Dhalla, member of Parliament for Brampton.

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CALENDAR

2009

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CALENDRIER

Standing Orders 24(1) and 28  
and Order made January 26, 2009

Articles 24(1) et 28 du Règlement  
et ordre adopté le 26 janvier 2009

January - Janvier							February - Février							March - Mars						
S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31				

  

April - Avril							May - Mai							June - Juin						
S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22*	23*	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				

  

July - Juillet							August - Août							September - Septembre							
S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	
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26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				

  

October - Octobre							November - Novembre							December - Décembre										
S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S				
				1	2	3					1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12				
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31						

Sitting Days 131 - Jours de séance 131  
 \* Sitting days with possible extension of sitting hours (S.O. 27(1))  
 \* Jours de séance avec possibilité de prolongation des heures de séance (art. 27(1) du Règlement)  
 effective - en vigueur 2009/01/26

New Parliamentary Calendar

On January 26, 2009, the House of Commons updated the Parliamentary calendars for 2009 and 2010. These calendars can assist our Bridging Government and Engineers volunteers to easily identify the weeks and recesses when the members of Parliament return to their home ridings and are available to meet with their constituents, visit local businesses, and attend riding events.

For a printable copy (8 1/2" x 11") we encourage you to visit the 2009 web site at:

<http://www2.parl.gc.ca/housechamberbusiness/ChamberCalendar.aspx?Language=E&Mode=1&Parl=40&Ses=2>

and the 2010 website at:

<http://www2.parl.gc.ca/housechamberbusiness/chambercalendar.aspx?Key=2010&View=C&Language=E&Mode=1&Parl=40&Ses=2>

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CALENDAR

2010

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CALENDRIER

Standing Orders 24(1) and 28

Articles 24(1) et 28 du Règlement

January - Janvier							February - Février							March - Mars						
S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28							28	29	30	31			

  

April - Avril							May - Mai							June - Juin						
S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S
			1	2	3						1	2	1	2	3	4	5			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10*	11*	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14*	15*	16*	17*	18*	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21*	22*	23*	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			

  

July - Juillet							August - Août							September - Septembre							
S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	
				1	2	3															
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30			

  

October - Octobre							November - Novembre							December - Décembre								
S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S	S-D	M-L	T-M	W-M	T-J	F-V	S-S		
				1	2						1	2	3	4					1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19		12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26		19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31			

Sitting Days - Jours de séance  
 \* Sitting days with possible extension of sitting hours (S.O. 27(1))  
 \* Jours de séance avec possibilité de prolongation des heures de séance (art. 27(1) du Règlement)  
 Subject to change before September 30, 2009 (S.O. 28(2)(b))  
 Sous réserve de modification avant le 30 septembre 2009 (art. 28(2)(b) du Règlement)

We want to hear from you

As the Bridging Government and Engineers program moves into its fourth year, we can claim many successes: steady numbers of new volunteer recruits, ongoing continued commitment from our existing volunteers, and continued training sessions being offered throughout Canada.

Now it is your turn.....we would love to hear from you. Perhaps you have an interesting way of planning and executing a successful meeting with your member of Parliament? Maybe you have some helpful hints that you would like to share with other BGE volunteers?

We are hopeful that by sharing our success stories, as well as identifying challenges when things do not go as planned, we can steadily improve the BGE program.

Send your anecdotes so that we can share your experiences with your fellow BGE volunteers to laurel.craib@engineerscanada.ca

We want to hear from you, the good, the bad and the ugly.

