



Vancouver Geotechnical Society

A Local Section of the Canadian Geotechnical Society

www.v-g-s.ca

2018-2019 Executive Committee:

Chair	- Marc Bossé, Thurber	604-684-4384
Past-Chair	- Shane Magnusson, BGC	604-684-5900
Program Director	- Aran Thurairajah, Golder	604-296-4200
Treasurer	- Yoshi Tanaka, Kontur	778-730-1747
Secretary	- Tim Morton, GHD	604-248-3925
Registrar	- Ali Ghandeharioon, KCB	604-669-3800
Web Manager	- Chris Longley, Tetra Tech	604-685-0275
CGS Director	- Andrea Lougheed, BGC	604-684-5900
Student Representative	- Intisar Ahmed, UBC	778-712-1996
Member-at-Large	Kumar Sriskandakumar (BGC), Olga Kosarewicz (BCIT), Carlie Tollifson (Stantec), Deyab Gamal El-Dean (Metro Vancouver), John Lee (BCIT)	

Summary of 2018 – 2019 Activities of the Vancouver Geotechnical Society

Introduction

This report is a summary of the activities of the Vancouver Geotechnical Society, a local section of the Canadian Geotechnical Society, for the 2018-2019 season.

Executive Committee

The 2018-2019 executive committee of the VGS comprised the following members:

Chair	Marc Bossé	Thurber
Past-Chair	Shane Magnusson	BGC
Program Director	Aran Thurairajah	Golder
Treasurer	Yoshi Tanaka	Kontur
Secretary	Tim Morton	Tetra Tech
Registrar	Ali Ghandeharioon	KCB
Web Manager	Chris Longley	Tetra Tech
CGS Director	Andrea Lougheed	BGC
Student Rep.	Intisar Ahmed	UBC
Members-at-Large	Kumar Sriskandakumar	BGC
	Olga Kosarewicz	BCIT
	Carlie Tollifson	Stantec
	Deyab Gamal El-Dean	Metro Vancouver
	John Lee	BCIT

Activities

The VGS executive committee meets about once a month to organize technical presentations, social events, and to review issues relevant to the society. Generally, the executive meetings took place immediately before the monthly technical presentations. Attendance at the monthly technical meetings varied from 20 to 100, short course attendance was 49, and symposium attendance was 193.

Membership Information

The final membership total for the program year was 251 of which 223 were regular members, 14 were student members, and 14 were lifetime members (i.e. recipients of the VGS award). The membership was mostly from the Lower Mainland, with several members from Vancouver Island and the interior.



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Meetings, Short Courses, and Symposium

The following events were held during the 2018-2019 program year.

October 18, 2018 – AGM & Cross Canada Lecture Tour

Lessons Learned from Geotechnical Failures, Alex Sy, KCB

November 8, 2018

Passive seismic methods for site assessment and microzonation mapping in greater Vancouver, Dr. Sheri Molnar, Western University

January 15, 2019 – TAC-VGS Holiday Social

Delivery of safe drinking water in Bangladesh, Marc Bolton, Golder

February 11, 2019 – 2018 William B. Joyner Lecture

Seismic landslide assessments: bridging the gap between engineers and earth scientists, Dr. Ellen Rathje, University of Texas (Austin)

March 4, 2019 – Short Course

Basics of Design of Piled Foundations, Dr. Bengt H. Fellenius

March 7, 2019 – 6th Ishihara Lecture

Simplified procedure for estimating liquefaction-induced building settlement, Dr. Jonathan Bray, University of California (Berkeley)

March 14, 2019 – UBC Geological Engineering Distinguished Lecture

Tailings dams – what might the future hold?, Dr. Angela Kupper, BGC

April 17, 2019

A new and unified approach to improved scalability and volumetric intensity quantification for GSI and rockmass strength and deformability estimation, Paul Schlotfeldt, Golder

May 8, 2019

Leveraging three-dimensional remote sensing in geotechnical engineering, Dr. Matthew Lato, BGC

May 31, 2019 – 26th VGS Symposium

Theme: Site Characterization, Keynote: Dr. Jason DeJong, University of California (Davis)

June 6, 2019 – Cross Canada Lecture Tour

Membrane behavior and chemico-osmosis in clays, Prof. Charles Shakelford, Colorado State University



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Scholarships and Awards

The VGS has endowed a scholarship at UBC for entering graduate students and an award at BCIT for graduating students. Details for both are provided in the table below. The first recipient of the BCIT award was Gregory Hustler.

	Endowment	Value	Age
UBC Scholarship	\$48,000	\$1,800	16
BCIT Award	\$20,000	\$500	1

The 2019 VGS Award was presented to Duncan Wyllie of Wyllie & Norrish Rock Engineers at the Symposium.

Financial Status

In the 2018-2019 program year the VGS reported a loss of about \$25,000 with an opening balance of \$124,197.57 and a closing balance of \$98,967.16. The effective loss is smaller than suggested as \$20,000 was loaned to the Canadian Foundation for Geotechnique. The loan is due the summer of 2023 which will make the funds available to use as seed money for the next CGS conference to be held in Vancouver (probably 2026).

There was a closing error of \$296.61. Review of the financial statements suggests that the closing error was likely related to a combination of US\$ conversions and a missing exhibitor registration fee associated with the Symposium.

A brief report by the Treasurer is attached.

Prepared by:

Marc C. Bossé
Chair, Vancouver Geotechnical Society



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VANCOUVER GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

Income Statement from September 26, 2018 to July 24, 2019

Compiled by Yoshi Tanaka, VGS Treasurer

Opening Cash Balance

Royal Bank-chequing	\$87,254.59
Royal Bank-savings	\$36,943.30
Registrar Float	

\$124,197.89

Revenue

Membership Dues and Dinners	\$3,560.00
VGS Short Course	\$13,850.02
VGS Symposium	\$63,057.55

\$80,467.57

Expenses

VGS Meetings	\$18,011.59
CCLT	\$4,463.15
TAC-VGS Christmas Social	\$476.00
VGS Short Course	\$12,755.49
VGS Symposium	\$45,032.34
VGS Loan to Canadian Foundation of Geotechnique 2019-2023	\$20,000.00
Donation to UBC GeoRox	\$1,000.00
Seed Funding to CGS Student Chapter	\$2,500.00
Electronics/Internet Expenses	\$827.50
Bank Fees, Cheque Expenses	\$335.62
Closing Error	\$296.61

\$105,698.30

Year End Closing Balance

Royal Bank - Chequing	\$61,590.02
Royal Bank - Savings	\$37,177.14
Registrar Float	\$200.00
	\$98,967.16

*Closing error inferred to be related to Symposium: US\$ conversion and 1 exhibitor reg fee