Vancouver Geotechnical Society
A Local Section of the Canadian Geotechnical Society

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NOTICE OF UPCOMING DINNER PRESENTATION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2011

SUBJECT: **Geotechnical Design and Construction of the William R. Bennett Bridge, Kelowna, B.C.**

SPEAKER: **(Uthaya) M. Uthayakumar, Ph.D., P.Eng.**
exp Services Inc.

Dr. Uthayakumar is a Senior Geotechnical Engineer at exp Services Inc., formerly, Trow Associates Inc., and Macleod Geotechnical Ltd., in Vancouver B.C. Since joining the firm in 1995, he has worked as geotechnical design engineer on several highway bridge projects, seismic upgrade of major bridges, buildings and other structures in B.C. He has also worked on a number of high rise building projects in B.C. Currently Uthaya is working as the lead geotechnical design engineer for a major highway design-build project. He has authored/co-authored technical papers published in geotechnical journals and conference proceedings.

Uthaya obtained his Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree from the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka in 1985 and Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of British Columbia in 1996.

CONTENT: The new five-lane William R. Bennett Bridge across the Okanagan Lake was constructed under a Design-Build-Finance and Operate contract and opened to traffic in May 2008. Subsurface soils along the bridge alignment include very soft to soft silts and clays and loose to compact sands. Key components of this new crossing include the light-weight fill west approach embankment; the west abutment and five piers supporting the fixed section of the bridge; a transition span; the floating section of the bridge supported on pontoons; the east transition span; the east abutment; and the east approach embankment. The west abutment, the five piers and the east abutment are supported on driven, 610mm and 914mm diameter steel pipe piles with embedment depths of 30m to 50m. This presentation will include description of the bridge and site conditions, an overview of the subsurface soil conditions, geotechnical design and analyses, construction of the bridge and approach embankments and post-construction monitoring of embankments and foundations.

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
Dinner: 7:45pm ($10 will be charged for dinner to cover a small portion of the cost.)
RSVP: Dinner reservation to ali.amini@shaw.ca by Friday, November 25, 2011

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