

## ***Awards Committee***

Alan Aftanas, P.Eng (Chair)

James Blatz, P.Eng

Ernie Armitt, P.Eng

Neil Chandler, P.Eng

Nishant Dhruve, MIT (Secretary)

Ganpat S. Lodha, P.Geo

Andy Nagy, P.Eng

Hilmi Turanli, P.Eng, FEC

The purpose of the Awards Committee is to receive nominations and select members of the association to be recognized for their excellence by Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba, Engineers Canada and Geoscientists Canada.


Association members are able to nominate their colleagues for awards using the online nomination forms available at on the Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba website. The nomination form and the Award Criteria document (which identifies eligibility and judging criteria for each award category) are available at: <http://www.apegm.mb.ca/Awards.html>. The deadline for the nominations is February 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Awards Committee's first meeting of 2015 was on January 13<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting the Committee reviewed the nominations received to date and decided to extend the nomination deadline to February 17<sup>th</sup> to allow time for a reminder to be sent out. A reminder email was sent out to association members and a letter was sent CofA holding companies on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Nominations closed on February 17<sup>th</sup> with eighteen candidates in six award categories to review.

The Awards Committee convened for four meetings on the following dates to evaluate the award candidates: February 19, March 19, April 16 and June 5. The candidates were evaluated in accordance with the Award Criteria and Award winners were recommended for approval by Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba Council. Citations were completed by committee members for each award winner and provided to the AGM event organizing committee for follow-up. The award winners will be honored during the Awards Gala Dinner on October 23, 2015 as part of association's AGM Conference along with a video tribute.

Other activities of the Awards Committee include:

- Discussed the possibility of a new Award. Grant Koropatnick suggested that the Awards Committee considered a new award in honour of Judith Weizmann, P.Eng, FEC (posthumous). Judith was the first female registered Professional Engineer in the Province of Manitoba and persevered through many difficult barriers in her life and career as an Engineer. The Awards Committee recommended that a Task Group be formed to evaluate the suitability and develop the criteria for this potential award. The committee recommended that the Task Group consist of four members, with a minimum of two female members. The Terms of Reference for the



Task Group were developed and approved. Ernie Armitt (Chair) and Andy Nagy volunteered to be on the Task Group. With the help of the association's Volunteer Coordinator, Diane Vander Aa, four female members volunteered to be on the Task Group: Lindsay Melvin, Danielle-Magda Salem, Janet Gauthier and Katheryn Atamanchuk. The goal of the Task Group is to have a recommendation in the fall of 2015 to facilitate the introduction of the award, if recommended and approved, for the 2016 Awards year.

- Discussed and approved the University of Manitoba Engineering Faculty recommendation for the "2015 Champion of Engineering Education Award".
- Selected a nomination to Engineers Canada for the "2015 Women in Engineering Profession and Engineering Excellence Award". The nomination documentation for this national award will be completed by Dr. James Blatz.
- The Awards Committee recommended that a female member be added to the committee as the current committee is all male. Janet Gauthier has volunteered to join the Awards Committee starting in the fall of 2015.

I would like to sincerely thank the Awards Committee members, Angela Moore and Gemma Keatch for the dedicated support to the functioning of the committee. We also appreciate the continuing support and guidance provided by Grant Koropatnick to the committee.