

Awards Committee

G. S. Lodha, P.Geo. (Chair)
A. Aftanas, P.Eng. (Vice Chair)
E. Armitt, P.Eng.
N. Chandler, P.Eng.
N. Dhruve, EIT
M. Habok, P.Eng.
A. Nagy, P.Eng.
A. Shah, P.Eng.
H. Turanli, P.Eng., FEC

The Awards Committee was assembled during the period of March 20 to April 20, 2012 at the request of Mr. Grant Koropatnick, Executive Director of APEGM. Dr. Ganpat Lodha (Chair), in consultation with APEGM management/ staff, approached approximately twenty-five APEGM members in an effort to form the committee with at least one member from each of the disciplines of Electrical, Mechanical, Civil, Mining, Infrastructure, Information Technology, Biosystems/ Agricultural engineering and Geoscience.

Efforts were also made to select committee members from well-known engineering firms, teaching/research institutions and government/ crown corporations so that each of these sectors would be adequately represented.

1. Alan Aftanas, P.Eng (mechanical)-Vice Chair
2. Ernie Armitt, P.Eng (mining/civil)
3. Neil Chandler, P.Eng (geotechnical/teaching)
4. Nishant Dhruve, MIT (computer engineering)
5. Melissa Habok, P.Eng (biosystems engineering)-Secretary
6. Ganpat S. Lodha, P.Geo (geoscience)- Chair
7. Andy Nagy, P.Eng (civil/infrastructure)
8. Arvind Shah, P.Eng (civil/teaching/research)
9. Hilmi Turanli, P.Eng (electrical)

The award nomination requests initially circulated by Angela Moore (on behalf of the Awards Committee) on March 20 were pursued with follow-up emails and by word-of-mouth. Since the committee was initiated late in the 2012 award year, the task of short-listing and selecting the award recipients proved quite tedious.

The Awards committee reviewed and discussed a total of twenty-four candidates for six APEGM Awards over the course of three meetings held on April 24, May 11 and May 29. In addition, the committee also considered six candidates for two Queen Elizabeth Diamond

Jubilee Medal nominations, awarded by Engineers Canada. The candidates selected by the committee, and recommended to APEGM Council for each award, will be honored during the awards night taking place on October 26, 2012 as part of APEGM's annual AGM.

During the process of evaluating the candidates for each award, the Awards Committee realized the need to improve the clarity of each awards' criteria in addition to a number of other award-related issues. As such, with authorization from Grant Koropatnick, a sub-committee consisting of three members formed a Task Force that was finalized by the middle of June, 2012.

The Task Force's mandate was to review the award nomination process, eligibility criteria and the associated forms. The Task Force members [Alan Aftanas (chair), Neil Chandler and Hilmi Turanli] met four times throughout the summer months and produced a draft report of their recommendations on September 14 that was discussed amongst all Awards Committee members at the September 25, 2012 meeting.

The final version of the Task Force's report has been forwarded to APEGM management for enhancement of the Awards Process. It is anticipated that the implementation of these recommendations, along with the on-going continuation of the Awards Committee, will result in greater transparency of the award selection process and that this will in turn be encouraging to all APEGM members in the coming years.