



**Canadian Geotechnical Society**  
**Société canadienne de géotechnique**

2016 Annual Division Report

July 01, 2015 to June 30, 2016

**Division Name: Cold Regions Geotechnology**

**Section 1: General**

Date of report: July 15, 2016

Prepared by: Baolin Wang

Division Chair: Baolin Wang

End of Term of Chair: Dec. 31, 2016

CGS website address: [http://cgs.ca/division\\_cold\\_regions.php?lang=en](http://cgs.ca/division_cold_regions.php?lang=en)

Last time your Division's CGS website was updated: Jan. 28, 2016

If your Division has a separate website please provide address: N/A

Is there a link to the CGS website?: N/A

1) What is the mission statement, or main purpose, of your Division? (This is something that will be published on your Division's web page)

The Cold Regions Geotechnology Division (CRGD) of the CGS continues to move forward with initiatives aimed at increasing the visibility of the division. It is our mandate to promote and facilitate the advancement, exchange and transfer of knowledge, skills and experience in the field of Cold Regions Geotechnology for the benefit of division members and the profession.

2) List one, or two or three (or more) specific things that your Division will be working on, or wishes to accomplish, during the next CGS year (July 1, 2016 to June 31, 2017).

- Assist BNQ on development of the Canadian national standards on *Geotechnical Site Investigations for Building Foundations in Permafrost Zones*.
- Sponsor a young researcher to attend cYGEGC2016 (Canadian Young Geotechnical Engineers & Geoscientists Conference 2016, Whistler, BC).
- Sponsor an International short course on permafrost engineering, Edmonton, AB.

**Section 2: Current (as of June 30, 2016) Executive Committee Members and their Affiliations (employers or, if students, universities)**

Chair: Baolin Wang, Natural Resources Canada, Ottawa, ON

Past Chair: Lukas Arenson, BGC Engineering Inc., Vancouver, BC

Vice Chair: Jack Seto, BGC Engineering Inc., Edmonton, AB

Members: Marolo Alfaro, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB

Jean Côté – Laval University, Québec, QC

Ed Hoeve – EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd., Yellowknife, NT

Julie Lepage, Université Laval, Québec City, QC

Maritz Rykaart, SRK Consulting, Vancouver, BC

### **Section 3: Number of Division Members (as of June 30, 2016)**

Executive Committee Members: 8

1<sup>st</sup> Choice members: 156

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice members: 228

Comments:

- The Division's membership has had a significant increase this year compared to the previous years (66, 71, 87 and 156 first choice members for 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively). The total first choice members almost doubled this year. The second choice membership maintained at the similar level to the previous years. The regional distribution of the first choice members are: AB=33, BC=18, MB=19, NB=3; NL=3, NS=1, NT=5, ON=33, QC=21, SK=3, YT=5, International=11.

### **Section 4: Division is affiliated with which other organizations**

National affiliates and names of CGS representatives (list)

- Canadian National Chapter for International Permafrost Association (CNC-IPA), represented by Ed Hoeve on the Executive Committee of CNC-IPA who is also an Executive member of the Cold Regions Geotechnology Division (CRGD). An agreement was signed between CNC-IPA and CRGD in 2016 for improved collaboration between the two organizations.

North American affiliates and names of CGS representatives (list)

- Nil

International affiliates and names of CGS representatives (list)

- International Permafrost Association, represented by Lukas Arenson, Richard Fortier on Permafrost Engineering Interest Group; Lukas Arenson on the International Scientific Committee for the XI International Conference on Permafrost (ICOP 2016), 20-24 June 2016, Potsdam, Germany.

Comments (point form)

- Nil

### **Section 5. Division Finances (as of June 30, 2016)**

Account Balance: \$13,276

Comments (point form):

- \$500 sponsorship was issued to support a young researcher to attend ICOP 2016.
- \$500 sponsorship to be issued to support a young researcher to attend cYGEGC2016.

### **Section 6. Division Activities in past year (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016) (point form)**

- The Division provided strong support to the 68<sup>th</sup> CGS Conference and the 7<sup>th</sup> Canadian Permafrost Conference, Québec City, QC, Sept. 20 - 23, 2015. The Division actively participated in contacting the potential authors for contribution to the conference. A total of 289 abstracts and 156 manuscripts were received in permafrost science and cold regions engineering. The Division actively participated in the review of the abstracts and the manuscripts.
- The Division is participating in the development of a National Standards of Canada on Geotechnical Site Investigations for Building Foundations in Permafrost (CAN/BNQ 2501-500) lead by BNQ, an initiative of the Standard Council of Canada. The document is planned to be published in 2017. The Division's Executive Committee members (Lukas Arenson and Baolin Wang) are on board of the Technical Committee for the development of the Standards (with Arenson leading a working group for drafting the Standards). The Division members are particularly invited to provide input to the draft version of the Standards.
- The Division sponsored a young engineer/scientist/student to attend the XI International Conference on Permafrost (ICOP 2016), Potsdam, Germany, June 20-24, 2016. A total of eight applications were received and Eva Stephani, formerly Laval University and Golder Associates, won the sponsorship award.

- The Division is currently working on sponsoring a young engineer/scientist/student to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian Young Geotechnical Engineers & Geoscientists Conference, Whistler, BC, September 29 – October 1, 2016. Five applications were received. Simon Dumais, Ph.D candidate at Laval University has been selected for the sponsorship award..
- The Division sponsored an International Short Course on Permafrost Engineering, Edmonton, AB, Apr. 28 – May 3, 2016. The Short Course was very successful and well attended by 33 participants.
- Members of the division organised and chaired several sessions at the XI International Conference on Permafrost (ICOP 2016), Potsdam, Germany, June 20-24, 2016.

#### **Section 7. Additional information or comments**

Nil