

**Technical Committee on Mining Geotechnique  
Canadian Geotechnical Society**

Minutes of Meeting at Regina 2014

**Tuesday, September 30, 2014, 17h30  
Room Tuscany A, Delta Regina Hotel**

Attendees: Paul Simms (Carleton), Michel Aubertin (Polytechnique), Mamadou Fall (University of Ottawa), Shahid Azam (University of Regina), Maki Ito (University of Regina), Pengyu Yang (Polytechnique), Mohammad Amine Sobhi (Polytechnique), Bereket Fisshea (University of Alberta), Lee Barbour (University of Saskatchewan), Bruno Bussiere (UQAT), Murray Grabinsky (University of Toronto), Mohammad Sashavari (University of Toronto), Adedeji Dunmola (Syncrude), Jason Stianson (Golder Associates) Ernest Yanful (University of Western Ontario), Nooshin Falaknaz

The proposed agenda was reviewed and accepted; the meeting follows this agenda (sent in advance to those on the distribution list).

Michel Aubertin, outgoing chair, announced this was the last meeting he would be chairing, as Paul Simms, the current vice-Chair, will officially become Chair on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

Paul Simms invited all participants to thank Michel for his success in the creation of the committee and his work in the last three years.

Michel Aubertin reflected on the strong number of presentations in Mining Geotechnique at both GeoMontréal (2013) and in GeoRegina (2014). It was noted that 5 or 6 complete sessions at the Regina conference were dedicated to mining geotechnique.

Michel Aubertin commented that a number of initiatives were undertaken to communicate with potential partner organizations. Michel noted, as an example, his participation in the revision of guidelines for tailings dams authored by the Canadian Dam Association.

Paul Simms commented on the success of the committee in providing a home for presentations at the Canadian Geotechnical Conference. Paul also noted that although CGS members actively participate in many important conferences, this committee does not have any formal relationships with other conferences. Paul asked the participants to think about this.

Paul also wondered how student participation might be increased. Lee Barbour suggested that a student event, along the lines of an icebreaker, might be attached to the next conference (GeoQuebec).

There was much discussion on the exact nature of this event among the participants.

Several students at the meeting indicated they would like to be involved in planning such an event. Lee Barbour mentioned that one of his students would be interested in participating in this initiative. In the end, it was agreed that Mohammad Shahsavari, from the University of Toronto, would take the lead and contact Lee's students, and other students from other universities, to define a format, and then approach the organizers of GeoQuebec.

Michel Aubertin commented on turn over of the executive. Gord McKenna would not be continuing. It was agreed that at least another industry representative should be added to the executive. Michel asked the participants to consider whether they would be interested in serving on the executive, and whether current executive members would be interested in continuing.

Minutes prepared by Paul Simms and Michel Aubertin