

NORMAN McCAMMON (1935–2009)



It is with deep sorrow that we share the news of Norman McCammon's sudden passing. Our esteemed colleague and friend passed away on June 11 in North Vancouver, BC.

Norman was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland on September 28, 1935. He moved to Canada in 1961, joining a developing geotechnical engineering company, Golder Associates, in its Toronto office. Norm, as he was known to many, had an extensive professional career focusing on the geotechnical engineering aspects of a wide range of civil and mining projects. With Golder Associates, Norm moved to Vancouver in 1965, where he spent 44 years. He was first a friend to everyone he met, and he assisted, helped, mentored, and in his own way, cajoled all the young engineers that he worked with. Norm was instrumental in the growth and development of the Geotechnical Division in Golder Associates' Vancouver office; many of our current leaders "grew up" under his careful tutelage.

Norm was a pillar of the geotechnical community in Vancouver and Canada. His council was regularly sought on large, complex infrastructure projects as he had the ability to see the issues, understand what was needed to achieve the client's goals, and communicate this to the project team. To each endeavour, large or small, local or international, Norman brought his technical expertise, his quiet leadership, and his consideration for others.

Norm was a Principal, a Professional Engineer, and a key figure in several professional organisations. He was past editor of the Canadian Geotechnical Journal and had considerable influence in the preparation of the Canadian Bridge Code, an acknowledged first rate publication used in Canada and throughout the world. Friends and colleagues called Norm "the gentleman consultant". And he was: his word was his bond. This, the measure of the man, is his legacy to the geotechnical engineering community.