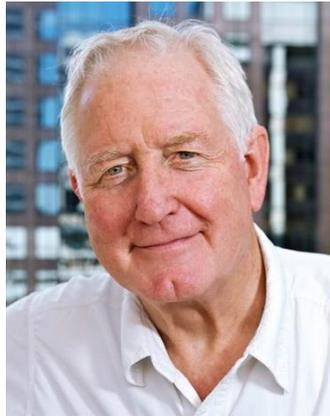


## **Andrew MacGregor Robertson (1943-2023)**

Based on information from the Robertson GeoConsultants website



Andrew (Andy) MacGregor Robertson of West Vancouver, President Emeritus of Robertson GeoConsultants, died on March 29, 2023, at the age of 79.

Born and raised in Pretoria, South Africa, Andy obtained his BSc in Civil Engineering from the University of Witwatersrand in 1966. After graduation he worked in South Africa with De Beers Consolidated Mines and Frankipile before becoming a founding partner of Steffen Robertson and Kirsten in 1974, a consulting firm specializing in mining geotechnic. In addition to his consulting, Andy returned to the University of Witwatersrand and graduated with a PhD in rock mechanics in 1977.

The same year, Andy immigrated to Canada and opened a branch of Steffen Robertson and Kirsten (now SRK Consulting) in Vancouver, BC. Between 1977 and 1994, he developed that firm's mining geotechnical practice in tailings and mine waste dams, rock slope engineering, geochemistry, environmental impact management and risk assessment. Under Andy's leadership, SRK opened other offices in Canada and USA.

In addition to SRK, Andy developed several other companies to serve the mining industry. In 1981, he helped develop Gemcom, the mining industry's first PC-based exploration database, ore deposit modelling and open pit mine planning software system. In 1989, Andy launched InfoMine, to make mining information more widely available, and under his leadership, InfoMine expanded to include EduMine.com (training), CareerMine (recruitment), and Mining.com (news).

In 1995, Andy [left SRK and] founded Robertson GeoConsultants (RGC), a specialized, international mining consultancy based in Vancouver, BC. His consulting practice included serving on several peer-review panels and independent review boards for some challenging aillings and mine waste facilities.

Andy's consulting took him across Canada and the US, and to many countries in Europe, Africa and Asia, and to Australia. He made many technical presentations, published widely and participated in drafting numerous technical guidelines that are currently used by both industry and regulatory bodies. Among other areas, Andy was a leader in the field of Acid Rock Drainage.

A long-time CGS member, Andy presented the R.M. Hardy Lecture at the 48<sup>th</sup> Canadian Geotechnical Conference in Vancouver in 1995. In 1990, he was a co-awardee of the Engineers and Geoscientists British Columbia's Environmental Engineering Design Award. In 1992 SRK, along with Woodward-Clyde, were awarded both the Excellence Award from the Consulting Engineers Council of Colorado and the Honor Award from the American Consulting Engineers Council for their innovative work on the Island Copper seepage barrier wall, on Vancouver Island, BC. In February 2014, Andy was inducted into the International Mining Technology Hall of Fame for his work in environmental management and stewardship.

In 2021, Andy became President Emeritus, of Robertson GeoConsultants and continued his practice as corporate consultant to the international mining industry.

Throughout his career, Andy provided strong guidance and mentorship to many young engineers and geoscientists, many of whom went on to develop distinguished careers in the mining industry. He leveraged his background in rock mechanics, geotechnical engineering, and geochemistry to raise the bar for environmental stewardship within the industry and for the work products he delivered.