



Structural Engineers Association of British Columbia

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Wednesday, March 4, 2015 Business Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Annual General Meeting Minutes, March 5, 2014
3. President's Report
4. Approval of Financial Report for 2014
5. Committee Reports
 - 5.1 Communications Committee Report
 - 5.2 Education Committee Report
 - 5.3 Professional Practice Committee Report
 - 5.4 Technical Committee Report
 - 5.5 Young Members Committee Report
 - 5.6 Webmaster's Report
 - 5.7 Vancouver Island/Victoria Branch Report
 - 5.8 Okanagan Branch Report
6. Membership
7. Winner – Young Members Presentation Competition:
So You Think You Can Give a Seminar?
8. Other Business
9. Acclamation of Directors for 2015
10. Adjournment of Business Session



Structural Engineers Association of British Columbia

Annual General Meeting Minutes Mar 5, 2014

Time: 6:02 P.M.
Venue: Sutton Place Hotel, 845 Burrard Street, Vancouver, B.C.
Present: **President:** Cameron Kemp (Master of Ceremonies)
Secretary/Treasurer: Surinder Parmar
Directors: Perry Adebar, Bill Alcock, Renato Camporese, Dave Davey, Tejas Goshalia, Paul Fast, Adrian Gygax, David Harvey, Leonard Pianalto, Andrew Seeton, Katherine Thibert
Branch Representatives: Martin Turek
Webmaster: Stephen Pienaar
SEABC members and guests
Regrets: Meagan Harvey
Total Attendees: 88

1.0 Welcome

President Cameron Kemp welcomed all members and guests to the Annual General Meeting of the SEABC. He gave a special welcome to Glenn Bell, the evening's keynote speaker, and his wife, Judy, to Vancouver and to the meeting. He noted to all present that a hard copy of the AGM package was available at each table for their review, in addition to electronic copies sent to all members last February. He also reminded people to put their business cards in the jar at the reception desk for a draw. Mr. Stephen Pienaar generously donated the draw prize: a discount coupon for the Prokon Structural Software package. Dinner commenced and the meeting started at 6:47 p.m.

2.0 2013 AGM Minutes

Motion to adopt the minutes of May 29, 2013: Adrian Gygax proposed that the minutes from the 2013 SEABC AGM be adopted; Renato Camporese seconded. Motion carried.

Cameron Kemp reported that SEABC has had a very active year, serving close to 800 members. The Communications Committee reports that SEABC's website averages 1700 hits in a month, and presents its members with relevant and interesting technical articles through its quarterly Newsletter. The Professional Practice Committee works in close relationship with the APEGBC on matters that affect both its membership. The Technical Committee is available on an as-

and-when needed basis on matters that affect structural engineers. The Young Members Group are maturing nicely, and the Board is pleased that SEABC is able to attract members who are under 30 years of age, composed of practitioners who are out or still in school. The young members attending the meeting were encouraged to get involved in any of the many interesting activities of the group, including the presentation competition, whose awardees will be recognized later in the evening. Access to members outside the Lower Mainland are facilitated by two branches, one in the Okanagan, headed by Meagan Harvey, and another in Victoria, headed by Martin Turek. Meagan Harvey was unable to attend the meeting due to an accident, and Cameron Kemp and the rest of the Directors wished her a speedy recovery. SEABC reaches out to its members in these branches through webinars, live presentations and other interesting community activities.

Cameron Kemp commended the Directors for being an amazing group of volunteers. He said that he has an easy job because he doesn't have to do much to get a lot done. He reports that with a quarter of a million dollars in the bank, SEABC is in good shape financially, enabling it, among others, to provide good quality courses and not worry if these do not make money, to support the activities of the Young Members Group, and recently, to organize the Post-Disaster Response Committee to better equip practitioners should a disaster occur. There will be more communication on the objectives and activities of this new committee in the near future.

3.0 Financial Report: Year ending December 31, 2013

Motion to adopt the Financial Report: Cameron Kemp called for the acceptance of the audited Financial Report for 2013. William McEwen proposed its acceptance; David Harvey seconded. Motion carried.

4.0 Committee Reports

Committee reports have been included in the package sent to all members and on the copy available at each table. If members had questions or comments, Cameron Kemp encouraged them to see him or the individual Committee Chair. He also encouraged members to get involved in either the technical or business streams of any of the committees.

5.0 Membership

SEABC currently has 765 members, consisting of 610 individual members, 20 associate members, 129 student members, 5 affiliate members and one, soon to be two, life members. Membership renewals are still ongoing, and Cameron Kemp encouraged those who have not renewed their membership to do so. SEABC's membership numbers remain strong with a good distribution across age ranges.

6.0 Other Business

6.1 New Life Member

Cameron Kemp announced Stephen Pienaar as SEABC's second recipient of its Lifetime Membership Award. Stephen built and maintained the SEABC website since its inception on a volunteer basis. He has been a Director of SEABC from its establishment until last year. He assists with the preparation and dissemination of quarterly newsletters and acts as SEABC's registrar for membership renewals. Cameron Kemp presented Stephen with a plaque acknowledging him as a Lifetime Member, and thanked Stephen for his contributions to SEABC.

6.2 Lifetime Membership Plaque for Dave Davey

Cameron Kemp belatedly presented Dave Davey with his plaque acknowledging him as the first president of SEABC and the first recipient of the Lifetime Membership Award.

6.3 Young Members Group Presentation Competition Awards

This year's first place for the Young Members Group Presentation Competition was a tie between David Chen of Associated Engineering and Yury Kulikov of Wicke Herfst Maver. Both were presented with their awards. This is the third year of this competition, where entrants deliver a 10 minute-presentation on a topic of their choosing, to an audience and a panel of three judges.

7.0 The 2014 SEABC Executive

By acclamation, the following were elected to the SEABC 2014-2015 Board:

President: Cameron Kemp, P.Eng.

Past President: David Davey, P.Eng.

Treasurer: Surinder Parmar, P.Eng

Directors:

Perry Adabar, P.Eng.

Bill Alcock, P.Eng.

Renato Camporese, P.Eng.

Paul Fast, P.Eng.

Tejas Goshalia, P.Eng.

Adrian Gygax, P.Eng.

David Harvey, P.Eng.

Leonard Pianalto, P.Eng.

Andrew Seeton, P.Eng.

Kate Thibert

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m. The meeting was followed by the keynote presentation of Glenn Bell, CEO of Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, on "Developing the Next Generation of Structural Engineers".

President's Report

2014 was another good year for the SEABC. Our membership roll, as of the end of 2014, consisted of 884 members with a very even demographic distribution which bodes well for our future. Our financial position is also very strong with a balance sheet of approximately \$220,000. This strong position allows us to underwrite our many activities including the Education Committee and our website which are our main avenues for interaction with our members.

We are in the process of implementing a major upgrade to our website which we hope to roll out later this spring or early summer in beta form with an official rollout in September. The new website will provide higher levels functionality to our members (and those administering it in the background) and make the interface to it much more user-friendly.

The SEABC has maintained a close relationship with The Institution of Structural Engineers over the years we've been affiliated with them and we are very pleased to announce that SEABC Director Bill Alcock was recently elected to the Executive Board of IStructE; a very important role in a prestigious organization. Bill's election is a strong endorsement of both Bill and the SEABC.

Our Education Committee remains one of our most active committees with a superb offering of courses and seminars. Seven major events were hosted in 2014 in addition to a number of evening seminars. All of our major events are recorded and most are webcast which allows online attendance if time and/or distance don't allow people to attend in person. The plans for 2015 include a similar number of events which we are sure you will find interesting and informative. Please visit our website regularly for notices of these upcoming events.

In 2014 we formed a new committee, the Disaster Response Committee, to provide liaison and guidance to the APEGBC as well as a number of provincial and municipal organizations charged with improving our overall disaster response readiness. In addition to our input with respect to disaster response plans our involvement, on a volunteer basis, would also likely involve post-earthquake reviews of buildings to determine their damage levels and suitability for re-occupancy.

Our Structural Practice and Technical Committees continue to provide valuable input to and liaison with APEGBC and other external organizations. Our Young Members Group (YMG) is growing and is also very active with many activities and seminars planned that are relevant to young engineers. We encourage all of our younger members to join the YMG as we're sure you'll get more out of your involvement with the group than you put in.

Our Vancouver Island and Okanagan branches remain active with a number of events and seminars planned for this year. Thank you to Thor Tandy for taking on the Chair role for the Vancouver Island branch as Martin Turek, Past Chair, has moved to the Lower Mainland. Thank you, Martin, for your leadership in growing our Vancouver Island branch. We are also in the early planning/evaluation stages of hosting a major structural conference in 2017. Stay tuned for further information and updates on this major conference in the coming months.

Our Board remains strong and stable. We look forward to some new faces at the table this year as some of our existing Board members step down. This is both desirable and healthy as succession planning is critical to any organization.

In closing I would like to, once again, thank all of those volunteers that make up our Board, our Committees and all of the other people that get involved in our activities. A volunteer organization such as ours is only as good as those people that step up to make it a success. Their efforts and your involvement continue to make the SEABC a dynamic, vibrant and relevant organization. Thank you for all of your contributions to our organization.

Cameron Kemp, P.Eng.
President, SEABC

Financial Report

Income Statement 01/01/2014 to 12/31/2014

REVENUE

Revenue

- Individual Member Dues 33,298.39
- Interest revenue 1,464.44
- AGM attendance fees 531.83
- AGM sponsorship 3,500.00
- South Island chapter revenue 161.90

Total Revenue 38,956.56

Special Events Revenue

Total Special Events Revenue 9,315.99

TOTAL REVENUE 48,272.55

EXPENSE

General and Administration

- Administrative secretary 4,750.00
- Bank charges 105.84
- Non-deductible penalties & interest 107.32
- Board meeting expenses 135.40
- AGM expenses 5,171.51
- Accounting/legal 3,685.78

Total General and Administration 13,955.85

Technical Committees

- Fees for services 560.00

Total Technical Committee 560.00

Education

- Student scholarships 1,000.00
- Wine & Cheese 2,345.22
- Seminar venue and catering 5,156.43
- Speaker expenses 2,012.41
- Webcasting 1,034.30
- Miscellaneous 2,316.68

Total Education 13,865.04

Structural Practice

- Committee travel and expenses 6,355.63

Total Structural Practice 6,355.63

Communications and membership

- Newsletter 1,120.00
- Newsletter 3,430.00
- Website maintenance 1,108.20
- Committee travel and expenses 814.95
- YMG meeting expense 371.66
- Social networking 203.32
- Engineering Competition 2,987.89

Total communications & membership 10,036.02

Corporate affairs

- Corporate event costs 560.00

- Miscellaneous Expenses 88.56

Total Corporate Affairs 648.56

Chapters

- South Island chapter expenses 1,080.33

Total Chapter Expenses 1,080.33

Special Events

- Event venue and catering 8,492.19

Total Special Events 8,492.19

TOTAL EXPENSE 54,993.62

NET INCOME -6,721.07

Balance Sheet as at 12/31/2014

ASSET

Current Assets

- Royal Bank 108 795 6 51,926.66
- RBC 108 980 4 4,691.28
- Petty Cash -44.01
- Total Cash 56,573.93
- Investments GIC 183,162.87
- Total Investments 183,162.87
- Total Current Assets 239,736.80

TOTAL ASSET 239,736.80

LIABILITY

Current Liabilities

- Accrued Liabilities 1,930.00
- Unearned Revenue 17,940.00
- HST/GST Charged on Revenue 2,057.57
- HST/GST Paid on Purchases -1,176.77
- HST/GST Owing (Refund) 880.80

Total Current liabilities 20,750.80

TOTAL LIABILITY 20,750.80

EQUITY

Equity Contributions

- DSE-Contributions 38,759.68
- VSEGS Contributions 42,551.55
- SECBC Contributions 19,000.00

Total Equity Contributions 100,311.23

Owners' Equity

- Surplus Contributions 125,395.84
- Current Earnings -6,721.07

Total Owners Equity 118,674.77

TOTAL EQUITY 218,986.00

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY 239,736.80

Surinder Parmar, P.Eng., Treasurer

Committee Reports

1. Communications Committee Report

During 2014-15, the Communications Committee was very active. Our activities included:

- *Website development (see Webmaster's Report)*
- *Broadcast email notifications of events*
- *Four newsletters (May, August, and November, 2014; and February 2015)*
- *Membership support*
- *Responding to enquiries.*

We continue to receive favourable comments about the website and our newsletter. In addition, our broadcast email service is proving to be popular with the membership.

The newsletter includes regular reports from the committee chairs outlining news of SEABC activities, but to enhance readability and interest relies heavily on articles contributed by the members. Thank you to all who send us interesting articles over the past year and for the strong support we receive. Please keep sending in your comments, as well as photographs and newsletter articles, so that we can continue to improve our products and keep you better informed.

The Communications Committee is also responsible for maintaining the membership list. We distribute membership renewal reminders, ensure that members can access their area of the website, and facilitate on-line event registration. Almost all of the SEABC members have provided us with an email address which greatly simplifies communication. We urge members to ensure that their contact information is up to date. To attend SEABC's excellent CPD events and access the recorded seminars on the web site, kindly also ensure that you renew your membership annually. Our on-line material is being continually expanded so that all our members can benefit from access to past events.

David Harvey, P.Eng., Struct.Eng.
Chair, Communications Committee

2. Education Committee Report

The panoramic views and skyline of our cities big and small have changed significantly in the past decade. Fuelled by new research and technologies, we have seen new versions of the building codes, design and analysis methods, professional practices, project delivery methods - all advanced significantly in the past decade and transforming our run-of-the-mill structural engineering tasks and challenges. Some say that riding the wave of change keeps them challenged and motivated. At SEABC, the Education Committee is the one constant that strives to connect the old with new and vice-versa, providing the medium to elevate the professional awareness and technical skills of our membership. The live web-casting and video archiving of events continue to serve those members who are unable to attend in person and to provide members from both the Vancouver Island Branch and the Okanagan Branch the opportunity to participate in events held in the Lower Mainland.

Each event undertaken by the Education Committee in the past year, would not have been successful without the continued selfless contributions of our committee members: Dr. Tony Yang, UBC Department of Civil Engineering; and Jacquie Gaudet, BCIT Department of Civil Engineering; Andrew Seeton, P.Eng., Glotman Simpson; Mark Robertson, P.Eng., Struct. Eng., Halsall Associates; Farshid Borjian, P.Eng., AMEC, Cameron Smith, EIT, Allnorth Consultants. We extend our sincere thanks to Melanie Fung, our executive assistant for her unfailing attention to details AND to the many industry leaders for their support, contribution and inspiration.

A brief summary of events organized in the past year is as follows:

- An evening seminar by Meric Preece & Keith Holmes on April 23, 2014 discussed benefits and risks of Public Private Partnership (P3) model and its interplay during the recently completed Port Mann Bridge interchange and the ongoing Evergreen line construction.
- On September 17th David Siu-Kau Lo of Dynamic Structures shared with us his notable experiences with codes and regulations in China and the unique construction challenges posed by the Chinese market during the Design of the Flying Theatre in China.
- At the Annual 2014 Wine and Cheese social on October 15th, UBC students enthusiastically participated in the 3 minute blitz competition with 19 unique presentations - each on their recent research topics and how it holds a promise to shape our industry.
- SEABC volunteer Farshid Borjian coordinated the structural stream at APEGBC's AGM held on October 24. Four structural engineering topics with a common theme on "Global Innovation Begins at Home," were presented: Grandview Heights Aquatic Centre, by Paul Fast; Post-earthquake Jacking and Re-alignment of the "El Parque-Cuerpo 3" Building in Santiago, Chile, by John Sherstobitoff; Structural Design of Lynden Pindling International Airport in Nassau, Bahamas, jointly presented by Tejas Goshalia and Andrew Metten; FEC Models for Process Change, Sustainability Frameworks and Our Role by Mark Porter.
- During the half day seminar on November, Doug Smith and Pat Ryan presented the framework for Post-Earthquake Assessments and how structural engineers could assist by playing a key role in the damage assessments following a major earthquake in the Vancouver region.
- On December 4, 2014, Prof. Ghyslaine McClure the Chair of CSA S832 Technical Committee on Seismic risk management of non-structural building components presented an overview of CSA S832-14.
- All day seminar on the 2014/2015 Updates to NBCC and CSA Structural Design Standards Presenters: Perry Adebar, Svetlana Brzev, Robert Malczyk, Bill McEwen, Andy Metten, Grant Newfield, Andrew Seeton, John Sherstobitoff, Carlos Ventura.

As always, the Education Committee values your comments and suggestions. We look forward to hearing from motivated engineers to join this group. We offer opportunities for stimulating discussions and interactions with peers and industry leaders.

It has been a pleasure to have been given the opportunity to fulfill this position and I look forward to continuing my involvement with the Committee in the future.

Tejas V. Goshalia, P.Eng., P.E., S.E.
Chair, Education Committee

3. Structural Practice Committee Report

The Structural Practice Committee has gone through somewhat of a transition year, following Leonard Pianalto's resignation in March of 2014, and Bill Alcock stepping in to replace him on a temporary basis. The committee met twice with Gilbert Larocque at APEGBC's office to discuss items of mutual interest. These included:

1. Renovations triggers for seismic structural upgrades
 Dorian Tung and Bill Alcock did some initial work on preparing a guideline on this subject; however, in August of 2014 the committee discovered that similar, related work was being conducted through UBC and APEGBC via a separate committee. As a result a joint review meeting was held on this issue in September and roles established for each of the three parties going forward.
2. Follow up on ownership of the ATC 20 Post Disaster Evaluator Roster
 The committee recommended a self-declared registration system be developed by APEGBC and reviewed by SEABC. The registration form would include an indication of willingness/ voluntary declaration and include any ATC 20 training (or otherwise) for post disaster work. The committee recommended that the list:
 - be readily available to emergency services and not hidden
 - kept current

- *be maintained at no cost to the engineer.*
Ownership of this roster therefore now resides with APEGBC.

3. *Fire rating of seismic braces*

Following discussions on this issue, APEGBC decided to establish a Seismic Bracing Sub-Committee with participation from two fire protection engineers and SEABC's Technical Committee.

4. *Definition of Drop-in Anchors*

APEGBC requested help from the Structural Practice Committee to provide a definition of Drop-in Anchors. The City of Vancouver had issued a bulletin stating that Drop-in Anchors were unacceptable for seismic restraint purposes, however no definition was provided. A preliminary definition was prepared and, despite the apparent simplicity of this issue, numerous recommendations were received. The committee is currently awaiting recommendations from the NBC Code Committee who have also been tackling this issue, before finalizing a definition.

5. *Seismic Zone Equivalent for Elevator Code*

An APEGBC Elevator sub-committee has developed a checklist of some 40+ items that need to be examined on new elevator construction. Committee members reviewed the checklist and feedback was proved to APEGBC.

6. *Follow-up on the new Guideline for Part 9 Structures*

APEGBC reported that once a building official hears that an engineer is involved in a project, no matter how small, they want Letters of Assurance. This issue was referred back to the APEGBC Part 9 Sub-Committee. The Structural Practice Committee will continue to provide support to APEGBC on this issue.

7. *Guard Design and Use of Glass Panels*

The use of free standing glass panels without top rails, as guards, has become common, even though this contravenes the existing CSA Standard for Guards which specifically requires a top rail connecting at least two panels together. This committee has referred this item back to the SEABC Technical Committee for further review, and perhaps an update to the Guideline on Guard Design.

**Bill Alcock, P.Eng, Struct. Eng.,
Chair, Structural Practice Committee**

4. Technical Committee Report

The SEABC Technical Committee is comprised of a number of standing subcommittees and task groups. Standing subcommittees are permanent and address issues relating to Material Codes, Loading Codes and Special Structural Systems. Task groups established to address a specific issue. Once they have investigated and reported on the issue they will be dissolved For the most part the 18 standing subcommittees were not active in 2014.

The Glass Technical Committee provided comments on the design requirements of structural glass guardrails. Questions on a specific design example were reviewed and commented on in the November edition of the newsletter.

Professors Perry Adebar, Robert Tremblay and Colin Rogers are embarking on a research project "Cost Effective Seismic Design Strategies for Low Rise Buildings with Steel Roof Deck Diaphragms." Although scheduled to start a year ago, the work has been delayed pending completion of work on a related project. The research is expected to take 4 years and SEABC has committed some funding to assist in this joint industry/university research project. The team will provide annual progress reporting to SEABC with a final formal presentation at the completion of the project.

The only active Task Group in 2014 was the group investigating the Seismic Design of Basement Walls. This long standing group is awaiting completion of further analysis by a UBC graduate student exploring a

number of variables in basement wall configurations. A review by the task group is pending the results of the additional analysis.

Participation by any member of SEABC in committees or task groups is highly encouraged. Some of the existing standing committees currently do not have a chairperson so members with a specific interest in these topics are encouraged to contact SEABC. Anyone with interests or concerns in other topics dealt with by subcommittees or task groups is also encouraged to contact the chairperson of those groups.

Renato Camporese, P.Eng., Struct.Eng., LEED AP
Chair, Technical Committee

5. Young Members Committee Report

This past year has been a full and exciting one for the Young Members Group. Since the last AGM we have had some great new events and very successful repeats. We continued our popular site-tour series with visits to the Telus Garden Tower and Wesbrook Community Centre. We also held our yearly Young Engineer Presentation Competition, where four engineers competed to give the best 10-minute presentation on a structural engineering topic of their choice.

We are looking forward to continuing to build this yearly event as a way to encourage and strengthen the local young structural engineers. Sponsoring a prize at the Greater Vancouver Regional Science Fair has been a great way to reach out and encourage elementary and high-school students to think about structures and get them excited about the field of structural engineering. In addition to these professional development and outreach events, we held regular networking events such as pub socials following seminars and tours. The YMG provides funding to UBC and BCIT student activities such as student design competitions and industry nights, and has student representatives on the committee.

The enthusiasm and creativity of the YMG committee members are what keeps this group going strong after six years. Their dedication and passion for structural engineering and the structural engineering community is inspiring. These volunteers make it possible to continue to offer events and activities designed to benefit young or new engineers, and by extension, SEABC as a whole. The support and encouragement of the directors is highly appreciated. With the YMG chair on the SEABC Board of Directors, young structural engineers truly have a voice within SEABC.

Grant Fraser, M.Eng., P.Eng.
Chair, Young Members Group

6. Webmaster's Report

The Communications Committee aims to provide members with relevant and up-to-date content through our website, newsletter and email broadcasts. None of this would be possible without the efforts of many volunteers. We are especially grateful to the Education Committee (who works tirelessly to provide monthly seminars and workshops), the Professional Practice and Technical Committees (who offers up their personal time to research and compile reports on current issues) and the Young Members Group (who empowers young engineers to make their mark). These volunteers make the Communications Committee look good!

A few highlights of 2014

- The year closed with a total of 884 active members.*
- The online library of seminar and workshop material is growing steadily. We now have 24 have video recording of evening seminars and workshops. Members-only access to video recordings and seminar handouts is available at www.seabc.ca/seminar-downloads.*

- *The Directory of Structural Engineering Firms has grown to 65 listings. If your firm is not yet listed, you are missing out. Add it at www.seabc.ca/corporate.*

Looking ahead at 2015 – SEABC website refresh: Work on a new SEABC website started in spring of 2014. The purpose of the website refresh is more than a mere face-lift: it is a significant upgrade of the back-end that will enable more volunteer involvement (enable stakeholders to maintain website sections and events directly) and improve members' experience. The upgrade proved to be more complex than anticipated and we missed our initial target implementation date in September. If all goes to plan, we will complete work on new website during the quieter summer month and go live in August.

Staying in touch

- *Bookmark the SEABC home page for a quick glance at what is happening: www.seabc.ca.*
- *Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/SEABC.*
- *Encourage non-member colleagues to join our mailing list: www.seabc.ca/maillinglist.*

Stephen Pienaar, P.Eng.
Webmaster, SEABC

7. Vancouver Island/Victoria Branch Report

GENERAL:

2014-2015 was a quiet year for the VI Branch. The executive lost two key persons (to whom thanks is given for carrying the load) and the only item of note was the coordination of a number of meetings with the City of Victoria to be involved with the development of Part 9 requirements within the City and some involvement with the draft bylaws including seismic issues.

EXECUTIVE:

As of December 2014, the executive for the VI Branch is now:

- *Chair: Thor Tandy P.Eng, Struct.Eng*
- *Vice Chair: TBC*
- *Past Chair: Martin Turek PhD, P.Eng*

The VI branch contact has been updated on the SEABC website.

ACTIVITIES:

- At the end of September, 2014 following a change of Chair, the branch executive met, to review status and project a future for the VI Branch.*
- At the beginning October the executive had a dinner meeting with attendance by Nanaimo (Lee Rowley) and Okanagan (Meagan Harvey) representatives with the goal of maintaining communication between the respective Branches.*
- Later in October the Chair attended the Education Committee meeting in Vancouver to gauge the events being organized and to link VI Branch more closely to SEABC education event trends.*
- Current Chair, Thor has attended a number of Director meetings via conference calls.*

2014-2015 EVENTS:

Over the past year the Branch has not managed to host any significant events:

- *In November, 2014 a combined session with the City of Victoria was attended by modest number of local structural engineers.*
- *A small number of events that could have been Branch events were webinars that individuals/companies have hosted themselves.*

- *The 2015 aim is to have more regular events.*

POTENTIAL 2014-2015 EVENTS:

As last year typical feedback from members has indicated the preference for more technical presentations and webinars. Many members in the VI Branch are sole proprietors or small businesses, so the commitment of time and money to attend these events must be worthwhile and beneficial to their practice. The aims in 2014 have been unattainable so far but they will be reviewed in light of local developments and changes. For our next Executive meeting the following will be reviewed.

- a) *Presentation and Tour of Johnson Street Bridge Replacement. Due to the on-going steel problems this will be reviewed once the steel is underway again.*
- b) *Further Executive Planning Meetings.*
- a) *Combined webinars – planning to collate/identify what topics are of interest to the locals?*
- b) *Dinner meeting(s)?*
- c) *At dinner or lunch meetings, local speaker to give maybe ½ hr talk on a favourite topic? Possibly a “show and tell” format.*
- d) *Regular SEABC VI Branch group meetings _ maybe once a month?*

2014-2014 BRANCH FOCUS AREAS:

- a) *Develop Branch Mission Statement and Goals*

We still have to develop a branch-specific mission statement that is more aligned with our membership in these regions. At this time, our goals (not mission statement) are still to:

- o *Increase awareness and exposure to SEABC on Vancouver Island and increase membership*
- o *provide opportunities for members to meet, discuss issues, and to benefit from the exchange of technical ideas and solutions*
- o *Continue planning local site tours and presentations*

- b) *Develop a Branch Budget*

This will probably be unchanged from 2014.

- c) *Review and Confirm VI Branch Membership*

We now have the current membership demographic and we intend to continue to develop a better understanding of the distribution of structural engineers and engineering firms in Victoria and the surrounding area. At this time, our branch has approximately 50 registered SEABC members and about 25% are sole proprietors or small businesses.

**Thor Tandy, P.Eng., Struct.Eng.,
Branch Chair**

8. Okanagan Branch Report

GENERAL:

2014 was a slow year for the Okanagan branch with the Chair was absent due to injury. We look forward to hosting more local events.

EXECUTIVE:

The 2014 executive committee is unchanged from the 2013 year.

- *Chair: Meagan Harvey*

ACTIVITIES:

- October 2014 Meagan Harvey attended a dinner meeting with Nanaimo (Lee Rowley) and Victoria (Thor Tandy) to encourage inter-branch communications and compare demographics.*
- Branch chair regularly attends education committee events.*
- Branch chair regularly attends monthly Director meetings.*

Inter-branch assistance from Victoria chapter: Thor Tandy

STUDENT CHAPTER:

Working closely with the student chapter to gain more interest in Structural Engineering at an undergraduate level.

Branch Demographic:

- *Okanagan expanding through south central BC*
- *Students at UBC Okanagan Campus.
Many of the regular members are sole proprietors and small businesses and are interested in technical seminars.*

2014 EVENTS:

2014 Social Event 26 November 2014

- *Total 13 people were in attendance. Appetizers and drinks were provided followed by bowling.*

2015 PROPOSED EVENTS:

Feedback from local members and consultation with the Victoria Chapter.

- *Changes to the Wood, Concrete and Steel Codes (Repeat of January 16, 2015 seminar), hosted for the APEGBC AGM Structural Stream in Kelowna, BC.*
- *Mixed feedback from the hosted webinars. Snacks can be provided to encourage attendance.*
- *Wine and cheese project features.*
- *Annual social late November / early December.*

GOALS FOR 2015:

- *Develop a mission statement*
- *Host more live local events*
- *Increase branch membership and involvement.*

Meagan Harvey, EIT, Branch Chair