



Vancouver Geotechnical Society

A Local Section of the Canadian Geotechnical Society

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NOTICE OF UPCOMING DINNER PRESENTATION TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2011

SUBJECT: **The Canada Line**

SPEAKERS: **Dr. Roger Woodhead, P.Eng**
Technical Director, Canada Line Project UBC

Dr. Roger Woodhead, P.Eng. was the Technical Director for SNC Lavalin and was responsible for overseeing all engineering, quality management and technical issues.

Dr. Woodhead has worked in both the consulting engineering and construction industries for over 35 years. From 1990 to 1995 he worked on the \$1.5 billion Hibernia Gravity Base Structure (GBS) in Newfoundland where he was Site Development Engineering Manager and Technical Services Manager for construction of the GBS.

Since returning to Vancouver he has worked on an eclectic mix of projects including: Design Manager and Project Director for SNC-Lavalin on a \$50 million cut and cover tunnel in Kuala Lumpur; Project Construction Engineer for three "Sinking Caissons" and several sheet piled tunnel excavations at Vancouver Wharves and Quality Systems Manager on the \$1.2 billion SkyTrain Millennium Line.

Roger is also an Adjunct Professor in Construction Management at UBC.

CONTENT: The \$2 billion Canada Line Rapid Transit Project is the largest Public Private Partnership in BC and was the largest infrastructure project in Canada at the time. It connects downtown Vancouver with Richmond and the Airport and was partially financed, designed, constructed and is being maintained by SNC-Lavalin. The alignment, which is 18.5 km long, consists of an elevated and at-grade guideway, two bridges crossing the Fraser River, a cut and cover tunnel down Cambie Street and a bored tunnel under downtown Vancouver. There are sixteen stations, eight underground, six elevated and two at grade. Geotechnical challenges included soft soils in Richmond, excavation support along Cambie Street and the downtown stations and tunnel boring through glacial tills with varying properties.

The Project was completed on budget and 110 days ahead of schedule and played a major role in the success of the Winter Olympics Transportation Plan. In 2010 the Canada Line won the following prestigious engineering awards:

- The Lieutenant Governor's Award of Excellence from the Consulting Engineers of BC for the best project in BC, and
- The Schreyer Award from the Consulting Engineers of Canada for the project with the highest technical merit in Canada.

This presentation will discuss the contractual arrangements for the project; explain some of the geotechnical issues and describe the construction of the project including the many challenges that had to be overcome. It will explain the reasons for the successful outcome and the recent operating performance.

DETAILS

Executive Inn, 4201 Lougheed Highway, Burnaby, BC V5C 3Y6 (Phone: 604-298-2010)

Social Hour: 5:30 to 6:30 pm (drinks available at the hotel bar)

Technical Presentation: 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Dinner: 7:45 pm (\$10 will be charged for dinner to cover a small portion of the cost.)

RSVP: Dinner reservation to ali.amini@shaw.ca by Friday, March 18, 2011