



OCT 15TH 2023

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:

The Richmond/Delta Branch of Engineers and Geoscientists BC serves over 1,800 members in Richmond and Delta. The Branch Executive's Members include the elected member representatives of the key community stakeholders as well as the volunteer members of Engineers and Geoscientists BC, and the community at large.

The Branch Executive meetings are regularly held on the evening of every second Tuesday of the month (except July and August).

The Branch is always looking for volunteers who can bring new ideas to the Branch.

We will continue to align with Engineers and Geoscientists BC's programs and initiatives and help the growth of our community. This newsletter describes part of our Branch activities in the first and second quarters of 2023. I hope you enjoy reading it.

Please check our Branch web page (<https://www.egbc.ca/About/Our-Team/Branches/Richmond-Delta-Branch>) for events, newsletters, and other information. Should you have any questions about the meetings and how you can share your ideas, please email: chair.rd@volunteer.egbc.ca. Please do not hesitate to share your thoughts with me.

Harveer (Harvy) Singh Takhar, P.Eng., M.A.Sc.
Chair, Richmond/Delta Branch
Engineers and Geoscientists BC



FIRST QUARTER 2023 - Q1

Branch Annual General Meeting

The Richmond/Delta chapter of Engineers and Geoscientists BC held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) virtually on January 25. The event included a presentation by Mark Adams, P.Eng., President of Engineers and Geoscientists BC, on organizational updates, and a technical presentation by Dr. Hamid Shayan, Intern Architect, AIBC, from City of Vancouver, on the review and approval process of development applications. The main highlight of the AGM was the introduction of the new executive and a handover from the past chair, Damian Williams, to the new chair, Harveer (Harvy) Singh Takhar. As a part of the AGM, Damian Williams, P.Geo., Chair of the Branch, introduced the 2021-2022 Branch Executive Committee members and presented a summary of Branch activities over the past year. Next, the slate of candidates for the 2022-2023 Executive Committee positions was presented. The positions were either elected or appointed by acclamation as follows:

Chair: Harveer (Harvy) Singh Takhar, P.Eng., M.A.Sc.

Vice Chair: Edward Cheung, P.Eng.

Secretary: Edward Cheung, P.Eng.

Past Chair: Damian Williams, P.Geo.

Treasurer: Fardin Barekat, EIT

Communications Coordinator:

Dr. Hamid Ghanbari, P.Eng.

Newsletter Coordinator: Dr. Mohsen Mandegari

30 by 30 Champion: Sara Jamali

Panel discussion webinar on “addressing equity, diversity, and inclusion in the workplace.”

On February 16, the Richmond/Delta Branch hosted a panel discussion webinar on “Addressing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) in the Workplace”. The event included a presentation by Chunpreet Sahota, P.Eng., M.Eng., PMP and Dr. Robyn Newell. Ms. Sahota discussed her experience with EDI as an Indo-Canadian engineer as well as the importance of a name and acknowledging one’s identity through correct name pronunciation. Furthermore, Dr. Newell addressed the importance of educating engineering students on EDI topics as well as the importance of inclusive designs in engineering.

After the presentations, the audience and the presenters had the opportunity to network and discuss the presentations. The evening was engaging and highlighted diversity fatigue, call for action, and psychological safety measures when faced with lack of inclusion in a professional setting. The event was well-attended with over 51 participants from various disciplines. The Branch would like to take this opportunity to thank the speakers and the Branch volunteers, especially Ms. Sara Jamali, the coordinator of the event, as well as the attendees who made this event a successful one.

Tour of the BCIT CARI building and lab spaces

The Richmond/Delta Branch hosted a tour of the BCIT CARI building and lab spaces on February 27. It was an in-person tour of the BCIT Applied Research and Innovation (CARI) building. The tour included lab spaces, facilities, and equipment available at the BCIT CARI building, including a brand-new 3D printing centre.



Photo source: [BCIT website](#)

The tour was a great opportunity for youth to learn more about BCIT Applied Research and Innovation. The Branch would like to take this opportunity to thank Fardin Barekat, EIT and Treasurer of the Branch, who made this great tour happen.

Bridge Building Competition

A bridge building competition was hosted by the Richmond/Delta Branch on March 4, at the Richmond Public Library (Brighthouse Branch). The goal of this event was to promote the awareness of the engineering and geoscience industry through a fun learning environment. This year's event was held in person and featured bridge showcase, live testing,

and science tutorials. Participants brought their pre-constructed bridges to the venue.

The Richmond/Delta Branch worked closely with academic, industry, and community organizations to bring this fun-filled event to the heart of Richmond.

We are extending a big thank you to all the volunteers and the amazing library staff for hosting the event. This event relies heavily on the volunteers and would not be possible without them.



SECOND QUARTER 2023 - Q2

City of Delta, Fish Release Event

Harvy Takhar, P.Eng., the Chair of Richmond/Delta Branch, represented Engineers and Geoscientists BC at the 2023 Fish Release Event at Delta's Watershed Park on the rainy morning of April 22. The Branch's support provided pencils, pens, puzzles, and information pamphlets. With several hundred in attendance, the event was a great success with numerous young students taking an interest in the Branch's booth and learning about the role of engineers and geoscientists in our community and environment.



City of Richmond Public Works Open House

On May 13, the Richmond/Delta Branch set up its booth at the City of Richmond's Public Works Open House. Several executive members represented the Branch, including Harvy, Hamid, Earl, Ron, Ed, Victor, and Nima. The event was well attended with thousands visiting after

a 3-year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Both adults and children visited and engaged in the activities set up in the booth. Information pamphlets and career information were provided by the Branch members.



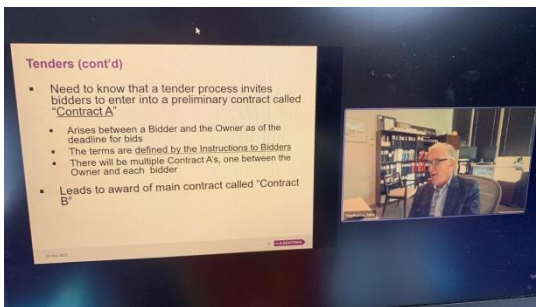
A geoscience display/demonstration and marshmallow-toothpick structures activity were available for children. Volunteer members promoted creativity and information regarding engineering and geoscience careers.

Tender and Contract Law Refresher - Webinar

On May 25, the Richmond/Delta Branch organized a webinar on contract law.

The webinar was coordinated by Dr. Hamid Ghanbari, P.Eng., and presented by Mr. John Haythorne, P.Eng. The event was a major success, with close to 190 participants who registered and attended the webinar. The speaker presented sample cases and provided some do's and don'ts for common contracts and tenders. He also made the session interactive by addressing the audience's questions through the session.

The Branch is thankful to have Mr. Haythorne present to Engineers and Geoscientists BC members and looks forward to have him present again at future events.



City of Delta Public Works Open House

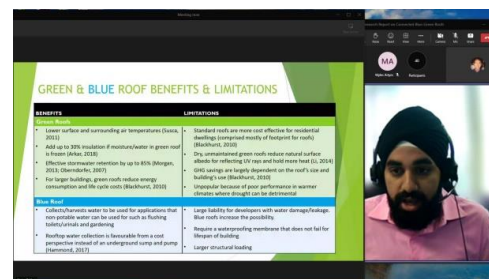
On June 10, the Branch team was present at the City of Delta's Public Works Open House. Similar to the previous month's event, the team provided information pamphlets to promote the profession and hosted an activity table where kids could build marshmallow-toothpick structures. Ron, Nima, and Ron's grandson hosted the Branch booth.



Research Report on Connected Blue-Green Roofs

On June 14, the Richmond/Delta Branch hosted a webinar on "connected blue-green roofs". The presentation described the results of a field study on the performance of various roof assemblies from stormwater and energy perspectives. Harveer (Harvy) Singh Takhar, P.Eng., M.A.Sc., the Chair of the Branch was the presenter of this event.

More than 40 members attended the webinar. The presentation provided a great overview of a research that compared various roof types to infer on the heating and cooling load effects, stormwater management, and the vegetation's health.



Appreciation Dinner

This year's Branch volunteer appreciation dinner was held at the Richmond River Rock Casino on June 15. The gathering

was a resounding success. It not only celebrated the hard work and dedication of our volunteers and partners but also served as a platform to strengthen connections and inspire continued support for our organization's mission.



Richmond/Delta Branch volunteers at appreciation Dinner