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Canadian engineering companies announce new "Tree of Life" environmental award

Ottawa, Wednesday, February 25, 2009

At a gala dinner in Ottawa last night, the 2008 Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards were handed out. This is the 40th anniversary of the awards, which are given for completed engineering projects.

The annual awards are Canada's highest mark of recognition for projects by Canadian engineering firms. The program is held jointly by the Association of Canadian Engineering Companies (ACEC)/L'Association des firmes d'ingénierie du Canada (AFIC) *and Canadian Consulting Engineer* magazine.

A new "Tree of Life/Un Arbre à Aimer Award" was given to a project chosen by the jurors as having great environmental merits.

The Schreyer Award, given every year for the most technically innovative project, was also announced.

In addition, 10 Awards of Excellence were given.

SCHREYER AWARD

- Rapid Replacement of Highway 417 Island Park Drive Overpass, Ottawa, by McCormick Rankin Corporation (part of MMM Group).

This top award for technical innovation went to a project in which two 650-tonne bridge structures over a busy highway were replaced in an extremely short time -- overnight!

TREE OF LIFE AWARD

- Trees for Tomorrow, Jamaica, by Tecsult International Limited of Montreal. This first award for outstanding environmental stewardship went to a project in which engineers helped to develop sustainable land-use practices to restore forests and watersheds in the mountains of Jamaica.

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

- National Institute for Nanotechnology, University of Alberta, Edmonton. By Cohos Evamy integratedesignTM (Edmonton) - buildings category.

- Mistissini Community Centre, Quebec. By DESSAU (Montreal) - buildings category.

- North Arm Bridge, Vancouver. By Buckland & Taylor Ltd. (Vancouver) - transportation category.

- Kicking Horse Canyon, Phase II, Golden, B.C. By Golder Associates Ltd. (Squamish, B.C.) with Delcan Corporation - transportation category.

- Karun III Hydro-electric Development Project, Khuzestan, Iran. By Hatch Energy (Niagara Falls, Ont.), with Mahab Ghodss consulting engineers (Iran) - water resources & energy production category.

- Intake Works at Niagara Tunnel Facility Project, Niagara Falls, Ontario. By Morrison Hershfield Limited (Toronto) - water resources & energy production category.

- Lakeview Water Treatment Plant Expansion, Phase I, Mississauga, Ontario. By CH2M HILL Canada Limited (Toronto) - water resources & energy production category.

- G.E. Booth (Lakeview) Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and Upgrades, Mississauga, Ontario. By AECOM Canada. (Toronto) - water resources & energy production category.

- Khudi Hydropower Project, Nepal, "From Water to Empowerment." By BPR inc. (Montreal) - international category

- IntegrateducationTM professional development program. By Cohos Evamy integratedesignTM (Edmonton) - community development & in-house initiatives category.

The above winners were selected from 67 entries by a jury of nine prominent engineers. Cochairs of the jury were Professor Ghani Razaqpur, P.Eng., and Martin Holysh, P.Eng.

2008 BEAUBIEN AWARD

Given by ACEC/AFIC

The Beaubien Award is given to individuals for exceptional service to the association and the consulting engineering industry. This year the award was given jointly to Peter R. Taylor and Peter Buckland, principals of the award-winning Vancouver engineering firm Buckland & Taylor Ltd.

BACKGROUND

The Association of Canadian Engineering Companies/ L'Association des firmes d'ingénierie du Canada (AFIC) in Ottawa is the national association of consulting firms that provide engineering and other technology-based intellectual services. www.acec.ca

Canadian Consulting Engineer is a bi-monthly magazine for engineers in private practice. It is a division of BIG Magazines LP of Toronto.

The winning projects were described in the October-November issue of Canadian Consulting Engineer, www.canadianconsultingengineer.com

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