

ASPECT

**Definition: 'as - pekt / 1. a position facing a particular direction
2. appearance to the eye and mind**

THE DEGIRS NEWSLETTER

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The Editorial

by
Sharon Scott, P.Ge., Eng. L.

Welcome to the June issue of ASPECT. Notice anything different about it? Officially our name change was accepted and approved at the March 2009 APEGBC Executive Council meeting. As a result we are now in housekeeping mode to clean up the newsletter and website to reflect the change. See article inside for further details.

The June Aspect is an important issue as it contains the election information. Inside you will find all the details you need to evaluate executive endorsed candidates, as well as how to nominate other candidates. We need members to take an active role in this organization to keep it strong and vibrant so please take the time to get involved.

Things are still slow on the forestry side (especially on the island) with more mill closures and companies only doing essential work. Experts say that we have hit bottom with regards to the economy so things should start getting better from here on.

With the dry weather out there we all need to be aware of the danger of forest fires when working in the woods in any resource field. So take the time to get out and enjoy nature but remember to be safe!

To all members, you make ASPECT what it is, so take the time to contribute your thoughts and ideas in articles and letters. ASPECT welcomes announcements, technical articles, letters to the Ed, project profiles, photos, tips, jokes, etc.....basically anything that would benefit or interest DEGIRS members.

Volunteer Opportunity:

We are still looking for volunteers to help. A Co-editor from the interior would be a nice addition to ASPECT in order to provide us with a balanced view between interior and the coast issues. If you have some time to spare please contact one of the executive or the current editor.

Please note: DEGIRS Executive does not necessarily support or agree with the opinions and conclusions indicated in the editorial.

DIVISION OF ENGINEERS AND GEOSCIENTISTS IN THE RESOURCE SECTOR

Volume 14, No. 2

JUNE 2009



2009/10 DEGIRS EXECUTIVE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The DEGIRS terms-of-reference (TOR) specify that the DEGIRS executive shall consist of the Past Chair and 7 members elected by the DEGIRS membership. The term of an executive member is two years. Three executive members are replaced each year with a fourth position replaced every second year. The Chair position continues serving a third year as Past Chair on the executive. Executive members whom were elected last year and are continuing include:

Joe Kenny, P. Eng.
Sharon Scott, P. Geo. Eng L.
Shawn Vokey, P.Eng.

Executive members completing their terms this year are:

Julien Henley, P. Eng.
Mike Noseworthy, P.Geo., Eng. L.
Jack Whittles, P.Geo., Eng. L.
Jeremy Araki, P.Eng.

As out-going chair, Jeremy Araki, P. Eng., will continue with the executive for an additional year as Past Chair. ***In accordance with the DEGIRS TOR, a Nominating Committee was struck to make nominations for 4 positions on the 2009/2010 DEGIRS Executive. The goal of the nominating committee was to seek nominations for the executive that, when combined with the continuing executive members, is representative of:***

- The diverse fields of professional practice within the DEGIRS membership;
- The geographic areas in which the DEGIRS membership practice; and
- Provides government, industry and consultant representation.

The following is the list of the nominees, who have agreed to be nominated for the 2009/2010 DEGIRS Executive:

David Campbell, P. Eng.
Emily Davidson, P. Eng.
Patrick Haesvoets, P. Geo.
Les Theissen, P. Eng.

Under the TOR, additional nominees can be made, in writing, by a minimum of two DEGIRS members. Such nominations, signed by the members making the nomination and accompanied by written consent of the nominees, must be sent to the DEGIRS Secretary c/o Peter Mitchell, P.Eng., at APEGBC. To be eligible, the nominations must be received no later than 30 days after this publication of the list of candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee. Please note that affiliate members are not eligible to hold executive positions or vote in an election. In accordance with the TOR, if no nominations are received from the membership in accordance with the above criteria, those nominated by the nominating committee will be declared elected by acclamation and no letter ballot will be conducted. In the event that nominations are received from the membership such that the total number of nominees is greater than executive positions available, a letter ballot will be conducted. Critical dates for the election of Executive members include:

*Deadline for receipt in writing of nominations: 30 days after the publication of Volume 14, No. 2 of Aspect (Deadline = **July 30, 2009**)*

*Letter ballots to be sent to the membership eligible to vote: **September 4, 2009***

*Deadline for receipt of completed ballots: **October 1, 2009***

*Ballots to be counted by: **October 6, 2009***

*Membership to be notified of election results at the DEGIRS Annual General Meeting scheduled for **Victoria, October 15, 2009.***



Additional details on the election of executive Members can be found in the DEGIRS Terms of Reference which can be found on the DEGIRS web site at: www.degirs.com.

DEGIRS Executive Nominations

Following, are brief biographies of nominees put forward by the DEGIRS Executive Nominating Committee. As indicated in the previous article, if no additional nominations are received by July 30, 2009 then these individuals are declared elected by acclamation.

David Campbell, M.Sc., P.Geo.

It is a great pleasure to be nominated as a candidate for the DEGIRS Executive.

Coming from a family of engineers, pursuing the applied sciences seemed like a natural choice. After a year of engineering at UBC, I discovered the geosciences program, and its world of glaciers, climate, rocks, water, and natural hazards. This seemed to mesh well with my passion for mountains and the outdoors, and I switched programs and completed my B.Sc. in Geography and Geology in 1999.

In the ten years since then I have had the pleasure of working on a great diversity of projects throughout Canada. I spent several seasons working as a Research Technician for the Geography Departments at both UBC and McGill University, where I assisted in research on the interactions of resource development, such as gravel mining, forestry, and hydro-electric dams, and fluvial systems. During this period I was also involved in terrain mapping and stream channel assessments for the forest sector. I returned to UBC and completed a M.Sc. in Geography in 2005. Before joining the Forest Service in 2007, I worked as a Hydrologist, and was involved in EA's, water management, hydrologic monitoring and modeling, and flood hazard assessments for mining and hydro-electric projects in BC and the

Northwest Territories. In my current role as Research Hydrologist-Geomorphologist with the Coast Forest Region I primarily provide consulting services to BC Timber Sales for forest planning and operations. I am also a technical advisor on geoscience issues for the Ministry's climate change adaptation strategy, the Future Forest Ecosystem Initiative.

Given my enthusiasm for mountain landscapes, the line between my professional life and personal life is often not well defined. I continue to be an advocate for mountain exploration, and have been involved in numerous expeditions to remote areas of BC, the Yukon, Patagonia, Peru, and the Arctic. I am a contributing author and editor to the Canadian Mountain Encyclopedia (bivouac.com) and serve as the Education Co-ordinator for the Alpine Club of Canada-Vancouver Island Section. I am also a member of the Strathcona Park Public Advisory Committee and provide input to BC Parks on park management.

It is my hope that I can make a positive contribution to DEGIRS, and that my experience in academia, resource industries and government can provide a well-rounded perspective. It is an exciting time within the Division, as we work to re-define our role to resources within and beyond the forest sector. Given the recent economic turmoil, and the impending challenges of climate change, society will be looking to our profession to provide leadership and innovation in environmental management, resource development, and public safety. I look forward to working with DEGIRS members to address these challenges.

Emily Davidson, P. Eng.

I am pleased to accept the nomination as a candidate for the DEGIRS Executive. I am a geotechnical engineer practicing out of Smithers, BC. My career started in 1996 in Campbell River conducting geotechnical assessments for building foundations and Public roads (including several underpasses for the Inland Island Highway).



Within a year, opportunity came to focus a majority of my work in the forest sector conducting terrain stability assessments for roads and cutblocks on northern Vancouver Island and the west coast of the BC mainland.

In 2000, I transitioned to Smithers and although it was a difficult decision at the time, I have never looked back. I have since married a local rancher/dairy farmer and we are raising 3 boys. I have continued to work full time in geotechnical consulting and the focus of my work has changed along with the new experiences of -35°C winters! A majority of my work involves geotechnical design for Public roads, design for Resource roads (mining and forestry sector), construction quality control for tailings dams (mining sector), development of aggregate resources (Public and Private Industry), landslide hazard and risk assessments and municipal/commercial building foundations. The north has its own set of engineering challenges including the cold winters, frost issues, and remoteness.

One of the career challenges in Smithers is maintaining professional dialogue with the remainder of the province due to remoteness and travel distances. I have always enjoyed the DEGIFS newsletters and they are a valuable tool for me to keep informed of the latest issues in the forestry sector. I feel I have valuable input for DEGIFS as it transitions to DEGIRS with my experiences in the other resource sectors, particularly mining. I would like to be a part of this transition as a member of the DEGIRS executive.

Patrick Haesvoets, P. Geo.

I am pleased to accept the nomination as a candidate for the DEGIRS Executive.

I graduated from UVic in 1995 with a BSc in Geomorphology and having been conducting Terrain Stability Assessments across Vancouver Island, along Coastal BC and at times the interior of BC since 1996. My work as a terrain stability specialist has included slope stability hazard and risk assessments with respect to forest

development (road construction and harvesting) and IPP run-of-river projects, road deactivation and road reactivation investigations, landslide and debris flow assessments, terrain stability overview mapping, erosion point source mapping and sediment control.

I am excited about this opportunity and look forward to continuing the work of the executive.

Les Theissen, P. Eng.

I am pleased to accept the nomination for DEGIRS Executive member by my professional peers in the Resource Sector. With a broadened mandate and higher profile, the DEGIRS executive needs to continue to build on member's collective experience across the resource industries in British Columbia.

After graduating with a BSc Civil Engineering degree from the University of BC in 1987, I joined the engineering consulting community for four years earning my Professional Engineer designation. It was in 1991 when I first entered the resource sector as a District Engineer for the Prince George Forest District. I had a keen interest in the forest sector and recognized much opportunity to increase the awareness and practice of professional engineering in the forest sector. This path led me to the Nelson Forest Region where I was primarily involved in the management and construction of the Ministry of Forests bridge infrastructure until April of this year. I have now embarked on a new phase of my career by returning to the consulting community as co-owner of a new multi discipline engineering company, SNT Engineering Ltd., located in Nelson, BC. Providing engineering services to the resource sector remains an important role in our new organization.

Complementing my operational duties at the Ministry of Forests, I was involved in a number of Branch initiatives in developing new policy concerning the construction, inspection, and maintenance of forest service road bridges from development of new standard drawings to



participation on the design team for a new corporate bridge register application.

In addition to the diverse exposure the Ministry of Forests offered in the forest sector, I also had the opportunity to become one of the few graduates of IFEBBC receiving a UBC Diploma in Forest Engineering in May 2004. It was through this excellent program that I became familiar with a host of other professionals also working in the forest sector.

DEGIRS is a great resource to all practitioners in the Resource Sector to share our collective experience as many of us come from diverse backgrounds. It is exciting as we look to expand our focus to other resource industries in BC by promoting the practice of professional engineering and geoscience. I look forward to contributing and serving my fellow professionals.

DEGIRS UPDATE (NAME CHANGE)

The December 2008 issue of ASPECT ran an article that summarized the main points discussed at the DEGIFS AGM. See below:

"1. Letter ballot conducted in September/October to amend the Division's Terms of Reference and to rename the division DEGIRS (Division of Engineers and Geoscientists in the Resource Sector): Result: 100 ballots (39%) were returned, with 98 in favor and 2 spoiled. 2. Expansion of DEGIFS' mandate into non-forestry resource sectors: With the letter ballot in October, the division membership supported the expansion of the division's mandate into non-forestry resource sectors, including the proposed name change to DEGIRS. However, at the AGM, concerns were raised that the amended purpose of the division (as per the amended terms of reference, section 3.a 'Purpose') is defined too broadly and requires further discussion and more precise wording. A motion was passed that the "new executive strike a task force to define DEGIRS role in the resource sector and to revisit the name of DEGIRS to clarify the intent of Division"."

Since that time the executive spent some time discussing this issue at the annual executive strategic planning session (SPS) in January 2009.

At that session the discussion focused on the need to set up a task force to develop Terms of Reference (TOR). Further discussion concerned the suitability of the current the TOR and potential for addition of a mission / vision statement rather than refining the TOR. Irena Weiland and Mike Noseworthy volunteered to lead this initiative.

During the February 2009 DEGIRS executive meeting, Peter Mitchell indicated that the APEGBC council would be looking at formally approving the expansion of DEGIFS during their March meeting. Peter also agreed that expansion into "non-forestry" sectors could be dealt with through the development of a mission statement defining who we are and what we do. At that time it was decided that the TOR task force should develop the mission statement.

During the May 2009 DEGIRS executive meeting, it was confirmed that APEGBC council had formally accepted the DEGIRS name. It was decided that an article would be published in ASPECT to inform members that the name change is now finalized. As of publication of this issue of ASPECT, the DEGIRS name is now officially been approved by the APEGBC executive council. Irena and Mike are currently in the process of forming the task force and some DEGIRS members will be contacted to participate in this endeavor.

In the meantime, ASPECT has been edited to reflect the DEGIRS name. The domain name www.degirs.com was procured and linked to the DEGIFS website so that when members use either the www.degifs.com or www.degirs.com they will get to the DEGIRS website. An announcement was placed on the website regarding the name change and advising members that we are in the process of editing the site to reflect the name change. Members should note that we did not expressly budget for the website edits required. We are currently getting an estimate for the work. Should the value be covered by the website budget, the work will go ahead. Otherwise some of this work may have



to wait till next year and a budget item included to cover the costs. Once the mission / vision statement is finalized, it will be posted on the website.

At this time, we also encourage all members to promote DEGIRS to colleagues. Do you know of someone who would benefit from joining this group of peers? Let them know about us! The division offers an important opportunity to network and to get caught up on new regulatory and technical developments.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

From APEGBC website

Principles of Strategic Mine Planning

July 23, 2009 - Burnaby, BC

This seminar begins with defining the Strategic Mine planning (SMP) and showing its importance to mining projects. The seminar will demonstrate how by using SMP techniques it is possible to see the opportunities as well as the risks in different stages of the project. The tools that are available for the mine design, including the Whittle program, will be briefly introduced. Pit optimization techniques and the Lerch-Grossman optimization algorithm will also be discussed. The inputs for pit optimization and their influences on the results will be explored with some examples. Finally, the production rate determination, scheduling and NPV optimization are also discussed. Case studies and examples of real projects will be provided.

http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/events/mine_planning1.html

Field Review Responsibilities of Design Consultants

July 20, 2009 - Kamloops, BC

What are the duties encompassed in a field review retainer and under a letter of assurance, and when will they be expanded beyond your expectations? This session will assist you in minimizing the risk of negligence claims, and in addressing ethical issues arising from field reviews on projects.

Not all clients understand the limited scope of field review by a design consultant. And not all professional engineers appreciate the potentially wide scope of responsibility under a letter of assurance relating to field review.

Led by lawyer Rob Hunter, LL.B. of Bull, Houser & Tupper, this session will assist you in minimizing the risk of negligence claims, and in addressing ethical issues arising from field reviews on projects. Some guidelines will be provided which were developed from a review of recent Canadian court decisions on the topic.

http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/events/field_review_jul09kamloops.html

Erosion & Sediment Control - Fundamentals, Best Management Practices & Innovations

July 28, 2009 - Prince George, BC

August 7, 2009 - Kamloops, BC

August 11, 2009 - Fort St. John, BC

This seminar is a comprehensive one day classroom-based session. It will detail the current state of the industry as well as recent innovations and advances. The session will overview the theory, fundamentals and causes of erosion and sedimentation, but focus on the reasons for poor ESC practices and performances that are so prevalent today and how to achieve the results we need. We will explore some of the more common practices and review their most



appropriate uses and most applicable characteristics. We will demonstrate the processes and procedures all practitioners should employ in the preparation, implementation, and execution of erosion and sediment control plans and contracts.

This session is appropriate for civil and environmental engineers, designers, field staff, project managers, regulatory managers, and all those active in the ESC industry. Find out how to consistently meet the governing guidelines, regulations, and bylaws, using fundamental concepts and approaches, and save yourselves and your clients the time, money, and frustration. Learn how to do ESC right!

http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/events/erosion_sediment_jul09pg.html

http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/events/erosion_sediment_aug09kamloops.html

http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/events/erosion_sedimentaug09fsj.html

Design & Construction of Rock Protection in Stream Channels

September 14, 2009 - Cranbrook, BC

October 1, 2009 - Kamloops, BC

The seminar will focus on these topics:

- Provincial Standards and Regulatory Controls for the Design and Construction of Rock Protection
- Rock Protection Design for Streambanks, Shorelines and Stream Channels
- Construction Monitoring and Construction Quality Inspection
- Failures, Repair and Routine Inspection
- Special topics: Grouted Rock Protection; Unique Applications (energy dissipators, splash pads etc.)

http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/events/design_rock_protection_cranbrook.html

http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/events/design_rock_protection_kamloops.html

Soil Management

September 17, 2009 - Vancouver, BC

APEGBC is pleased to present a half day seminar on soil and soil management. Practical experiences and case studies will be used to review and illustrate the issues in soil management. This seminar will appeal primarily to engineers and geoscientists working in the areas of soil erosion, land use, soil & water conservation and management, understanding of soil hazards, and prevention.

Participants will learn about:

1. Soil conditions that can be risks or hazards for many land users.
2. Soil properties and management : engineering and non-engineering approaches
3. When and how to incorporate non-engineering principles in engineering practices and engineering approaches in non-engineering practices

This seminar will be of interest to engineers and geoscientists with a technical background and experience in irrigation, drainage, geotechnical and environmental engineering; members-in-training; non-engineers in soil conservation, agronomy, horticulture and landscaping.

http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/events/soil_mgmt_sep09.html

Applied Multidisciplinary Remote Sensing for Engineers, Geoscientists and Environmental Scientists

Monday September 28 & Tuesday, September 29, 2009 - Vancouver, BC

A hands-on, interactive two-day course on the use of airphotos and satellite images, high resolution digital elevation models (DEMs) and



other remote sensing tools for 3-D terrain analysis, including data integration and analysis using geographic information systems (GIS). Emphasis given to identification and interpretation of Canada's landforms, landscapes, surface and subsurface materials along with their characteristics, properties, suitability and behaviour for specific uses and applications. Participants will interpret a selection of 2-D and 3-D airphotos appearing in an introductory *DOWN TO EARTH* textbook, a stereoscopic airphoto manual containing 680 images of diverse terrains from across Canada, and high-resolution 3-D DEM imagery. A main course objective will be to describe identifying characteristics of a wide variety of Canadian landscapes, their recognition features and associated geoscience, geoengineering and geoenvironmental significance/behaviour/use/application. Instructors will make extensive use of practical case history examples to illustrate remote sensing techniques and objectives along with multidisciplinary data integration, including the use of GIS technology in engineering, geoscience and geoenvironmental applications. A highlight of the course will be application of remote sensing techniques and earth science knowledge to interpret and discuss landscape features appearing in high-resolution images of Mars.

http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/events/applied_multi_remote_sensing.html

Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil *October 30, 2009 - Fort St. John*

This course encourages participants to develop an understanding of fundamental concepts as they govern the behavior of geosynthetic reinforced soil structures. Material properties are examined that govern performance, including mobilized tensile strength, soil-geosynthetic bond and strain compatibility.

The course objective is to assist participants in building a framework of basic ideas which are

sufficiently adaptable to accommodate the more complex problems encountered in engineering practice. It is also to illustrate, with reference to case studies, that the sensible application of simple methods can give perfectly acceptable engineering solutions.

http://www.apeg.bc.ca/prodev/events/GRS_FSJ_09.html

OTHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BC MINE RECLAMATION SYMPOSIUM

September 14 2009 - September 17 2009 - Cranbrook

Mine Reclamation in the Rockies
British Columbia Mine Reclamation Symposium
hosted by Technical and Research Committee on Reclamation.

<http://www.trcr.bc.ca/events.htm>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For recent articles by DEGIRS members check out:

<http://www.forrex.org/publications/streamline/streamline.asp> for the Spring 2009 issue of stream line; and

<http://www.forrex.org/publications/jem/jem.asp> for the Summer 2009 issue of BC Journal of Ecosystems and Management.



Who We Are

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Do Not Forget!!!

ASPECT SUBMISSIONS

LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO ASPECT	NEWSLETTER RELEASE DATE
September 15, 2009	September 30, 2009
December 1, 2009	December 15, 2009

Electronic submissions in **Word format (only)** should be made to Sharon Scott (sharonkscott@shaw.ca) by the date listed above.

(Refer to *Guidelines for Submission on the website* <http://www.degirs.com/guidelines.doc> for submission requirements).