



Peter Byrne - nominated by the Canadian Geotechnical Society for the Julian C. Smith Medal

Peter Byrne is Professor Emeritus at the University of British Columbia, where he has worked since 1967, and continues to work today as an independent geotechnical consultant. He is a leading specialist in seismic stability analysis, prediction of liquefaction-induced displacements, and design of structures to resist earthquake liquefaction. Peter's achievements in the development of Canada are demonstrated by a wide range of important engineering projects on which he has consulted, including major bridges, tunnels, dams, underwater pipelines, rapid transit projects, marine structures, airports, high-rise buildings, mine tailings dams, oil sands projects and a wide variety of other facilities in the seismically active areas of Canada and around the world.

As a researcher, Peter Byrne developed numerical methods for characterizing soil behaviour and soil-structure interaction under large ground motions. He has written many research papers in this area and pioneered new procedures. His expertise has been recognized by invitations to deliver Keynote Lectures at over 15 international and 12 national specialty workshops and conferences as well as acting as advisor and consultant on several projects. Peter's publications include major contributions to 2 books, 46 refereed journal papers, 121 refereed Conference Papers and over 40 other papers and reports.

Peter Byrne has contributed unselfishly to his profession and to society. He served as Chair of the Vancouver Geotechnical Society, has been on numerous conference organizing committees, served on National Building Code committees, and has made numerous special presentations to task forces and other public groups dealing with potential earthquake liquefaction issues. Peter has been recognized for his achievements with a number of important awards, including EIC Fellowship, the Geoffrey Meyerhof Award from the Canadian Geotechnical Society, the Vancouver Geotechnical Society Award, the Gzowski Medal from the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering, and a number of Best Paper awards. Tonight we are proud to recognize and honour Peter's many contributions to the development of Canada.

Ladies and gentlemen, and Mr. President, as the Recipient of the Julian C. Smith Medal, please welcome Peter Byrne.