

Raymond Benson - nominated by the Canadian Geotechnical Society for the John B. Stirling Medal

After a distinguished 40-year career as a consulting engineer during which he attained the position of Chairman at Klohn-Crippen Consultants Ltd. in Vancouver, Raymond Benson is now President of Benson Engineering Inc. His work focused on the civil and mining fields and involved applying soil and rock mechanics for the planning, coordination and interpretation of investigation and design studies, technical specifications, contract documents and overall project management. Ray's work has included the design of dams, tunneling in soft ground and rock, underground powerhouses, high-pressure penstocks, and power tunnels and shafts. His current interest is as a member of the Boards of Review for the design, construction and operation of hydro projects for government, utilities and international institutions.

Ray Benson's contributions and involvement with technical societies have been exemplary. A member of the Canadian Geotechnical Society since 1970, he was Chairman of CGS local chapters in Toronto and Vancouver and was regional Chairman for British Columbia and Ontario. Since 2000, Ray has been Chairman of the Investment Committee for the Foundation for Canadian Geotechnique. He was also Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the Pan-Am Conference in 1983 for the CGS. Of particular note is the good work Ray Benson has done for the Engineering Institute of Canada, where he has served as its President and Chair of Honours, Awards & Fellowships.

Raymond Benson has been duly honoured throughout his career with several distinguished accolades. He is Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada, the Canadian Academy of Engineering and the Canadian Society of Senior Engineers, and received the Leggett Award from the Canadian Geotechnical Society. I don't think anyone here this evening could think of a more worthy recipient of the Institute's Stirling Medal than Ray Benson for his tireless leadership and service to engineering and Canada's learned societies at the national level.

Ladies and gentlemen, and Mr. President, as the Recipient of the John B. Stirling Medal, please welcome Raymond Benson.