Peter Graham Buckland - nominated by the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering for the K.Y. Lo Medal

Peter Buckland is the founding partner of Buckland & Taylor Ltd., a Principal of the firm throughout its history, and the President for a period of approximately 30 years up to 2001. He is considered the individual most responsible for the success of the firm and for its reputation for engineering excellence in Canada and on the international stage. Peter’s firm specializes in cable stayed bridges, suspension bridges and other long span bridges. In 1987, Buckland & Taylor was responsible for the design of the Alex Fraser Bridge, the longest cable stayed bridge in the world at that time. The firm also carried out independent design and quality checking for the Government of Canada on the Confederation Bridge, the 13km crossing from New Brunswick to Prince Edward Island.

The Alex Fraser Bridge introduced features that have since become the standard internationally for cable stayed bridges in its span range. The Confederation Bridge is the longest bridge over open sea, and involved unique environmental loads of wind, ice and waves. It represents by far the largest bridge project ever undertaken in Canada at a cost of $840 million. Peter led the team that reconstructed the Lion’s Gate Bridge in Vancouver. It is the only suspension bridge to have its deck replaced while open to daily traffic. The firm’s expertise in earthquake engineering led to its appointment to the team carrying out the seismic upgrading on the famous Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. Peter Buckland was the principal in charge of this work.

Buckland & Taylor’s special expertise for the design and erection of cable stayed bridges has been recognized internationally with projects in the USA, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. Peter Buckland was a member of the ASCE Committee on Long Span Steel Bridges and his expertise led to his appointment as Chair of the ASCE Committee on Loads and Forces on Bridges. Peter Buckland’s significant contributions to bridge engineering have garnered him accolades such as the Oscar Faber Award from the Institution of Structural Engineers in the UK, the CSCE’s Pratley Award and the EIC’s Gzowski Gold Medal. Tonight, we are fortunate to applaud Peter’s many accomplishments and it would be difficult indeed to find a more worthy recipient of the distinguished EIC Medal we now confer.

Ladies and gentlemen, Dr. Lo, and Mr. President, as the Recipient of the K.Y. Lo Medal, please welcome Peter Buckland.