

The Engineering Institute of Canada 2021 Award Citation Sir John Kennedy Medal

(recognizes outstanding service to the profession or for noteworthy contributions to the science of engineering or to the benefit of the Institute)



Dennis E. Becker

Nominated by Canadian Geotechnical Society

Dennis Becker has been a Principal in Golder Associates for 25 years. Growing up in rural Ontario, he has achieved international recognition for his contributions to the science and practice of engineering on large-scale resource development, waste management and civil engineering projects. He devoted himself to the improvement of the profession with service to the CGS, CSCE, ASCE and ISSMGE. While a consultant, he has taught university courses at 5 universities, wrote four books and published over 70 quality publications.

He served as President of the Canadian Geotechnical Society and Editor of the Canadian Geotechnical Journal. He pioneered the introduction of limit state design and use of reliability-based concepts, which have since become recommended procedures in the EUROCODE and ISO standards. With visionary leadership, he provides a remarkable example of achieving results in collaboration with others, through mentoring, soft spoken wisdom and empathy while forging a unique culture of quality. Recognised by over 12 awards.

Dr Becker was elected to the Canadian Academy of Engineering and Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada. He has also devoted himself to the civil engineering profession by developing professional standards and served on many councils both in Canada and abroad. Dr Becker is being recognized for his technical excellence, leadership of engineers and scientists and professional commitment.

Ladies and gentlemen, and Mr. President, as a very worthy recipient of the Sir John Kennedy Medal, please welcome Dennis Becker.