



The Engineering Institute of Canada

2021 Award Citation

EIC Fellow

Rick Lovat

Nominated by Tunnelling Association of Canada

Rick Lovat has had a game-changing career in tunnelling technology and machine development, and has continuously distinguished himself in the engineering and tunnelling professions for four decades. He has an impressive record in designing, constructing, manufacturing and operating tunnelling equipment for use in hydroelectric power, transportation, metro and railway tunnels, in Canada and internationally.

Born as a fifth generation tunneller, Rick led the family business, “Lovat Tunnelling Equipment” started by his father in 1972, to become a global leader in the design and supply of Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs). His machines bored thousands of kilometres for the construction of numerous water and transportation tunnels throughout Canada and the World. His expertise is in high demand on many of the highest profile tunnelling projects currently in development internationally, showcasing Canadian tunnelling expertise.

Rick served as President of the Tunnelling Association of Canada between 2013 and 2014. He is well known for his many contributions to the tunnelling community, in particular with his involvement on technical committees and as 1st Vice President of the International Tunnelling Association. He represented Canada on international forums and played a pivotal role in organizing and chairing the 2010 World Tunnelling Congress in Vancouver.

Ladies and gentlemen, and Mr. President, please welcome Rick Lovat as a Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada.