

The Engineering Institute of Canada

2023 Award Citation

Sir John Kennedy Medal

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



Delwyn Fredlund

Nominated by the Canadian Geotechnical Society

Delwyn G. Fredlund was the Terzaghi Lecturer in 2005 and received the Order of Canada in 2004 and the KY Lo Medal in 2018. He was Professor as well as Dean of the Civil Engineering Department at the University of Saskatchewan. His career has spanned from teaching and research at the University of Saskatchewan for 32 years to developing international collaborations with Universities in China, Japan, Vietnam, and the USA, to providing geotechnical consulting to Golder Associates for 12 years. He championed the application of unsaturated soil mechanics around the world both in theoretical development as well as in the practical implementation.

Del's research and subsequent textbooks formed the theoretical basis for the application of unsaturated soil mechanics. This theoretical basis has led to the increased application of unsaturated soil mechanics in research as well as the practical applications of geotechnical consulting. More specifically, the theory has seen implementation in computer codes to enable the application of unsaturated theory.

Del has been tireless in the delivery of technical short courses, university graduate classes, and keynote lectures around the world on the subject of unsaturated soil mechanics.

Ladies and gentlemen, and Ms. President, please welcome Delwyn Fredlund as a recipient of the 2023 Sir John Kennedy Medal of the Engineering Institute of Canada.