



The Engineering Institute of Canada

2024 Award Citation

Julian C. Smith Medal

(recognizes achievement in the development of Canada)



Richard Bathurst

Nominated by the Canadian Geotechnical Society

Dr Richard Bathurst is an Emeritus Professor at the Royal Military College of Canada and the world's foremost authority on geosynthetic and steel reinforced soil walls. His many insightful papers in international journals, book chapters and conferences have had a profound effect in academic and industrial circles including a paradigm change in how these systems are designed.

His papers and his many clear and instructive lectures, together with his service on committees, have influenced building codes in Canada, the United States and elsewhere. They have provided the basis for modern design of reinforced soil structures and played a critical role in the development of civil infrastructure involving mechanically stabilized earth. He has also played a major leadership role in the profession as president of the International Geosynthetics Society, the Canadian Geotechnical Society, and the Engineering Institute of Canada.

Finally, through his mentorship he has educated a substantial number of individuals who became or are becoming leaders in industry and academe. In all these roles, he has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the development of Canada and is consequently an extremely deserving recipient of the Engineering Institute of Canada's.

Ladies and gentlemen, and Ms. President, please welcome Richard Bathurst as a worthy recipient of the Julian C. Smith Medal of the Engineering Institute of Canada.