

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

2024 was a year of growth, support, and transformation for our three associations (ACEC-NB, ACEC-NL and ACEC-PE). We've embraced change, tackled challenges, and celebrated successes. Board of Director efforts over the past year have focused on advocacy, creating opportunities for collaboration and increasing the profile of consulting engineering firms.

Below are some key highlights of the work ACEC-NB, NL, and PE accomplished in 2024 (along with links for more details).



Atlantic Leadership Conference (April)

The 2nd Annual Atlantic Leadership Forum occurred April 14-15, at the Alt Hotel in Halifax, NS. This event was organized by the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador as well as Consulting Engineers of Nova Scotia. The event included a networking reception the first evening followed by a day session of presentations and round table

discussions. Topics this year focused on artificial intelligence and the impacts for the industry as well as challenges Atlantic consulting engineering firms are experiencing with procurement. There were 18 participants across all four provinces in attendance.

NB AGM & Awards Gala (April & May)

On April 30, ACEC-NB hosted their annual general meeting (AGM) virtually. On May 2, ACEC-NB welcomed 140 members and guests to celebrate exemplary consulting engineering projects in Atlantic Canada. This event highlights the valuable contributions of New Brunswick's consulting engineers in their work at home and abroad. **2024 Awards Gala**





NL AGM & Awards Gala (June)

On June 4, ACEC-PL hosted their annual general meeting (AGM) at the Emera Innovation Centre in St. John's, NL. Following the AGM, ACEC-NL showcased the outstanding achievements, innovation and excellence of member firms as well as the accomplishments of individuals at the annual awards luncheon.



Association of Consulting Engineering Companies (ACEC) | **NB / NL / PE** L'Association des firmes de génie-conseil –

Canada (AFGC) | NB / NL / PE

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



New Executive Director (August)

In August, ACEC-Canada was pleased to announce the appointment of Caryn Gunter as the new Executive Director for ACEC-New Brunswick (ACEC-NB), ACEC-Prince Edward Island (ACEC-PE), and ACEC-Newfoundland and Labrador (ACEC-NL). LinkedIn

The Boards thank the former Executive Director, Christy Cunningham, for the tremendous work she has done for the associations over the previous seven years. Christy was a consistent champion for the

industry, elevating the profile of the associations and built stronger connections between members, government, and stakeholders.

NB Golf Tournament (September)

ACEC-NB hosted their annual member golf tournament on September 18 at the Kingswood Golf Course. The "Nine and Dine" tournament experience featured valuable networking opportunities, fun activities at sponsored holes, great prizes and delicious food.



2024 Golf Tournament Wrap-Up



PN-48R2: Updated policy on official languages and contracting (September & October)

The introduction of PN-48R2, mandating translation of all procurement documents posted on federal government websites remained a central issue for ACEC. This policy, while intended to align with Canada's

bilingualism goals, poses significant capacity and financial challenges for both the government and industry, particularly smaller firms.

Policy Notification (PN)-48R2, an update to PN-48R1, further clarifies that all procurement notices and related tender documents posted on the federal government tendering sites be in both official languages, including professionally sealed documents provided by engineering and architectural firms working for the federal government. <u>Summary Sheet</u>

On September 25, ACEC-NB, NL and PE participated in a virtual town hall meeting with senior officials from Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) to discuss PN-48R2. This session was provided an opportunity to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the policy and its implications for the delivery of federal project delivery.

Although we agree in principle that any member of the public has the right to communicate with and to receive services from the Government of Canada in either official language, our member engineering consulting firms continue to have significant concerns with the proposed (PN)-48R2. Therefore, ACEC-NB, NL and PE formally submitted feedback on behalf of our member firms the end of October. <u>CanadaBuys – Share your thoughts</u>







National Member Organization Association Day, National Leadership Conference, Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards & Parliament Hill Day (Oct)

ACEC-Canada hosted a comprehensive series of events in Ottawa from October 22-24, including: the Member Organization Association Day, National Leadership Conference, Parliament Hill Day, and the Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards.



On October 22, ACEC-Canada hosted their first Member Organization Association Day as an opportunity for Executive Directors and representatives from the provincial / territorial boards to network and have discussions around three particular areas of focus including: recruitment & retention, sustainable funding and infrastructure gap, as well as procurement (i.e. "the race to the bottom" / "the squeeze"). ACEC-Canada Member Organizations



On October 23, ACEC-Canada hosted the 2024 National Leadership Conference, a one-day event tailored by industry experts for industry professionals. Panelists and keynote speakers delved into pertinent business, regulatory, and economic issues, providing a comprehensive exploration of the opportunities and challenges within our sector. National Leadership Conference



On October 24, ACEC-Canada hosted its annual Parliament Hill Day a cornerstone event of year-long advocacy efforts. More than 45 representatives from member firms across the country gathered in Ottawa to meet with Members of Parliament, Senators, and key government staff. This day was dedicated to raising awareness about the consulting engineering industry's critical contributions to Canadian communities and discussing our key priorities with decision-makers. Parliament Hill Day



The Canadian Consulting Engineering Awards (CCEA) honour outstanding achievements in our industry. On October 24, at the Fairmont Chateau Laurier, a total of 25 awards were presented to consulting engineering firms from across Canada for their work on projects that connect communities, improve safety and enhance the quality of life in Canada and around the world. **2024 Awards**





2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



ACEC-PE AGM & Awards Luncheon (Dec)

On December 2, ACEC-PE hosted their annual general meeting (AGM) at the Holman Grand Hotel in Charlottetown, PE. Following the AGM, ACEC-PE recognized individuals for contributions to the advancement of the consulting engineering profession and industry in PE as well as projects teams that best exemplified excellence in their fields at the annual awards luncheon.

Future Leaders

ACEC-NB / NL & PE Future Leaders (FL) groups are directed towards young professionals within member firms having less than 10-years of experience in the field of consulting engineering. Each association has a dedicated committee to bring Future Leads together though events such as: quarterly mixers (PE), professional development



opportunities (NB), presentations such as from Engineers Without Boarders (NL), as well as university outreach and panel discussions (NB).



Networking & Advocacy

ACEC-NB, NL and PE continued to partake in regular meetings with provincial and municipal leaders to discuss mutual interests and strengthen ongoing relationships. These engagements contribute to ACEC's collective effort in advancing strategic issues and maintaining a positive business environment.

We also continued to work in partnership with local associations (ex. Roadbuilders, architect associations, construction associations), professional regulatory bodies (ex. APEGNB, PEGNL & EngineersPEI), and ACEC-Canada.





By the Numbers

Collectively, in 2024, 60 firms were members of ACEC-NB / NL & PE with a combined N-number (i.e. number of employees) of 1,614.



https://acecpei.ca/