

News Release

PEGNL to present eight awards recognizing outstanding contributions to engineering, geoscience and the community

March 16, 2007

Humber Valley, NL: Tonight, the Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland and Labrador [PEGNL] will present awards for excellence in engineering and geoscience-related areas at a special dinner during their Annual Conference at the Humber Valley Resort.

“Our awards recognize outstanding contributions to the professions of engineering and geoscience, and to the community,” said President Douglas Goodridge, P.Eng. “This year’s awardees are excellent examples of very talented and dedicated individuals who have made a difference.”

The highest honour that PEGNL bestows is the **Award of Merit**, for valued contributions to the professions and the community. The 2007 recipients are: **Steve Millan, P.Geo.** and **Tom Whelan, P.Eng.**

The **Award for Service** for dedicated service to the engineering and geoscience professions goes to **Sean O’Brien, P.Geo.**

The **Early Accomplishment Award** recognizes exceptional achievement in the early years of a career and is conferred on **John Guzzwell, P.Eng., Rodney Hale, P.Eng.** and **Patricia LeFeuvre, P.Eng.**

Rick Spracklin, P.Eng. receives the **Community Service Award** for outstanding contributions to the community.

The **Teaching Award** is bestowed for outstanding contributions to engineering or geoscience education. The 2007 Award goes to **Dr. Amgad Hussein, P.Eng.**

Honourary Membership is given to someone who is not a member of PEGNL but has made a significant contribution to the professions of engineering and geoscience. **Hal Stanley**, former Chair and CEO of the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, receives this award.

The **Environment Award** recognizes the application of science, technology and engineering to environmental management. It is conferred on the **Department of Transportation and Works** for the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Compliant Facility Design of the Corner Brook Long-Term Care Facility.

The 2007 Awards Dinner is sponsored by TD Meloche Monnex.

PEGNL is a self-regulating professional organization that exists so that there is competent and ethical practice of engineering and geoscience in Newfoundland and Labrador, and ensures public confidence in the professions. It receives its authority from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador through the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act*.

Brief summaries of these distinguished awardees are available in the attached BACKGROUNDER or at www.pegnl.ca.

For further information, please call Steve McLean, P.Eng., PEGNL Executive Director, at 753-7714.

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND GEOSCIENTISTS OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (PEGNL)

AWARD RECIPIENTS 2007 BACKGROUND

Award of Merit

Steve Millan, P.Geo. has been actively involved in the oil and gas industry in Newfoundland and Labrador for more almost 40 years. He has held key roles in the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's management team developing offshore resources and Petro-Canada, where his team discovered the Terra Nova field. He is currently Chair and CEO of Canadian Imperial Venture Corp. [CIVC], a Newfoundland-based company working in Western Newfoundland and Labrador. He has been actively involved with many industry and profession-related organizations, including Newfoundland Ocean Industries Association (NOIA); Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Technology Industries (NATI); and the Geological Association of Canada. He received NOIA's Outstanding Contribution Award in 2006.

Tom Whelan, P.Eng. began his career working for Public Works Canada, starting as resident engineer on marine facilities construction and progressing to district manager for Newfoundland. During this time, he was project manager for the Come By Chance refinery wharf [at the time, the largest marine project undertaken in Newfoundland] and was the senior federal government representative in the province. He became Deputy Minister of Public Works in the '70's where he was instrumental in overhauling the public tender process. In 1981, he moved to Marystown Shipyard where he was responsible for overseeing its transformation to a modern shipbuilding and offshore construction facility. In 1990, he was seconded to the Hibernia negotiating team and in 2000, he served as the technical advisor to the White Rose Commission.

Award of Service

Sean O'Brien, P.Geo. has worked as a geologist for 30 years with the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador in the provincial Department of Natural Resources. He is acknowledged as one of the pre-eminent experts on the Avalon Zone of the Appalachian Orogen. He has actively supported Newfoundland's growing prospecting community and junior exploration industry, including the establishment of the Matty Mitchell Prospectors Resource Room. Its goal is to stimulate the provincial mineral industry and attract new mineral investment to the province. He was awarded the Provincial Geologists Medal in 2000 in recognition of his impressive body of scholarly work, several collaborations with government and university researchers, and his untiring support of prospectors and mineral exploration.

Early Accomplishment Award

John Guzzwell, P.Eng., Vice President, Business Development; **Rodney Hale, P.Eng.**, Vice President, Product Development; and **Patricia LeFevre, P.Eng.**, President, Intelligent System Solutions (iSYS) Corporation are the inventors of PixFix™ Red Eye, an automated technology for correcting red-eye in digital photographs. It is licensed to 12 companies, including Sony, in nine countries. Before founding iSYS, they worked at C-CORE and developed expertise in image analysis and pattern recognition. In 2006, they received an Ernest C. Manning Innovation Award.

Community Service Award

Rick Spracklin, P.Eng. has worked with Trident Construction since graduation and has been a dedicated volunteer for 30 years, not only within his profession and industry, but also within the community. He was a PEGNL Council member in the early '90's, and served on the Board of Directors, Executive Committee and as President of the Newfoundland and Labrador Construction Association. He has been involved for many years with the Canadian Construction Association, and the Road Builders Council. He has been a member of the Kinsmen Club and is a charter member of Rotary Club of Avalon Northeast. He was a member of the provincial council of Scouts Canada, and served as President 1991-92. He has received a number of awards including the Medal of Good Service and Silver Acorn from Scouts Canada, and was named a Paul Harris Fellow for Rotary Club.

Teaching Award

Dr. Amgad Hussein, P.Eng. started teaching in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science in 1995 while studying for his Masters at Memorial University. He worked for Newfoundland Design Associates Ltd. where he was the structural design engineer of Mile One Centre and Memorial's Clock Tower, among others. He returned to the engineering faculty as an Assistant Professor in 2001, and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2005. He is a favourite of students, consistently scoring highly in terms of his overall quality of instruction and of his concern for his students' progress. His ratings are amongst the highest in the faculty. Dr. Hussein is a Fellow of the School of Graduate Studies, and the recipient of the Government of Egypt's Undergraduate Distinction Award.

Honourary Membership

A dedicated public servant, **Hal Stanley** began working for the provincial government in 1969, rising to the top civil servant position of Clerk of the Executive Council in 1988 [a position he held for seven years.] He has made significant contributions in resource-related industries, including; the Lower Churchill Hydro Development; Hibernia; Voiseys Bay; Terra Nova; and in developing the Offshore Generic Royalty Regime. He served as Chairman and CEO of the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board from 1998 to 2004. He was the first Newfoundlander and non-engineer appointed to the position. He led the CNLOPB through the development of the Terra Nova and White Rose projects.

Environmental Award

The **Department of Transportation and Works** shows leadership and initiative in its design concept for the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design [LEED]-compliant Corner Brook Long Term-Care Facility. LEED is a voluntary national standard for the design of new buildings that promotes "whole-building design", affording maximum performance with minimal environmental impact or cost increase. This west coast facility will be the first provincial government LEED building. The facility design incorporates many technologies, including: the largest ground source vertical heat exchanger in Atlantic Canada; a no-energy input, onsite tertiary standard wastewater treatment system; water efficiency measures to reduce daily flow; a high performance building envelope that assists in predicted 50% annual energy savings; and, a passive onsite surface runoff, storm water treatment and retention system.