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Consulting Engineers of Manitoba Honour Innovation and Excellence at 7th Annual Awards of Excellence in Consulting Engineering

WINNIPEG, MB – Innovation, advancement of technology, and contributions to society were honoured tonight at the 2006 Manitoba Awards of Excellence in Consulting Engineering. Winners were announced at a gala dinner hosted by the Consulting Engineers of Manitoba (CEM) and attended by 300 guests including representatives of the engineering industry, government and Manitoba's business community.

“The demand for engineering services in virtually every aspect of modern life continues to grow. CEM member firms are extremely busy, working on projects in Manitoba, across Canada and around the world,” said Cheng Wong, P.Eng., Chair of CEM's Awards Committee. “We must be proactive to ensure that we have the engineering resources to respond to this increased demand. Our goal with the Awards of Excellence Program is to challenge and motivate Manitoba consulting firms to strive for excellence so we may continue to compete nationally and internationally and also be in a position to attract the best and brightest engineers to our province.”

This year, seventeen projects were submitted by CEM member firms in one or more of the following award categories: Building Engineering, Infrastructure, Industrial, Environmental, Innovation, International, and Resource Management. The projects were evaluated by an independent judging panel of leading industry professionals chaired by Dr. Jay Doering, Dean and Professor of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Graduate Studies, at the University of Manitoba.

The judging panel is allowed to present award(s) of excellence and award(s) of merit in each category. In keeping with the Awards Program's mandate of fostering and promoting the provision of exceptional products and services by Manitoba's consulting engineers, projects must meet a minimum standard to be selected for an award. The project with the highest score is declared the overall winner and presented with the prestigious *Keystone Award*.

This year, Awards of Excellence were presented to:

- Crosier Kilgour & Partners Ltd. (*Building Engineering*)
- Earth Tech (Canada) Inc. (*Building Engineering*)
- Stantec Consulting Ltd. (*Infrastructure*) and
- TetrES Consultants Inc. (*Environmental*).

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Awards of Merit were presented to:

- KGS Group, Acres Manitoba Limited, & UMA Engineering Ltd. (*Infrastructure*),
- SNC-Lavalin Engineers & Constructors Inc. (*Industrial*),
- Crosier Kilgour & Partners Ltd. (*Innovation*), and
- Wardrop Engineering Inc. & Corbett Cibinel Architects (*Innovation*).

The *Keystone Award* went to Crosier Kilgour & Partners Ltd. for “Growing Spaces, Opening Minds – The Millennium Library Project.”

Two individual awards were also presented by title sponsors XL Insurance and Oldfield Kirby Esau Inc. The *Engineering Action Award* went to John Woods, P.Eng., M. Sc., B. Sc., in recognition of his volunteer contributions to advancing the engineering profession and the consulting engineering industry. The *Lifetime Achievement Award* was presented Al Dyregrov, B.Sc. (C.E.), M.Sc., in recognition of his leadership, achievements, and contributions to consulting engineering in Manitoba. Mr. Dyregrov was also the honorary presenter of the *Keystone Award*.

Founded in 1978, CEM is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the Manitoba business environment for consulting engineering firms in the province, and providing society with the highest standards of engineering and safety.

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Editor’s Note – See attached document for a complete listing of winning projects and a bios for Al Dyregrov and John Woods.

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2006

Manitoba Awards of Excellence in Consulting Engineering

Award Winners

KEYSTONE AWARD:

Firm: Crosier Kilgour & Partners Ltd.
Project: Growing Spaces, Opening Minds – The Millennium Library Project

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE:

Category: Building Engineering
Firm: Crosier Kilgour & Partners Ltd.
Project: Growing Spaces, Opening Minds – The Millennium Library Project

Category: Building Engineering
Firm: Earth Tech (Canada) Inc.
Project: Lac la Croix School Mechanical System

Category: Infrastructure
Firm: Stantec Consulting Ltd.
Project: Falcon Lake Water Treatment Plant – Innovative Iron and Manganese Removal Solution

Category: Environmental
Firm: TetrES Consultants Inc.
Project: Integrated Decision-Support Tools for Mine-Site Tailings-Management Planning

AWARDS OF MERIT:

Category: Infrastructure
Firm: KGS Group, Acres Manitoba Limited, & UMA Engineering Ltd.
Project: Red River Floodway – Project Definition and Environmental Assessment (PDEA)

Category: Industrial
Firm: SNC-Lavalin Engineers & Constructors Inc.
Project: Thompson Smelter Upgrades

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Category: Innovation
Firm: Crosier Kilgour & Partners Ltd.
Project: Powerhouse Redevelopment Project: Cast Iron Column Connection Design and Testing

Category: Innovation
Firm: Wardrop Engineering Inc. & Corbett Cibinel Architects
Project: Restoration of Wesley Hall

Lifetime Achievement Award:

Recipient – Al Dyregrov, B.Sc. (C.E.), M.Sc.

Al graduated with a Bachelor of Civil Engineering in 1955 and a Master of Science in Soils and Foundations in 1957 from the University of Manitoba. His early career was with the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority in Montreal and the Federal Department of Public Works in Banff on construction of highways in the western Canadian National Parks. He returned to Winnipeg in 1960 when he joined UMA Engineering. He was initially responsible for geotechnical studies primarily on municipal engineering projects such as wastewater and water treatment facilities and bridges and latterly was Director of Engineering for the Manitoba Branch.

In 1971, he opened an office for Hardy Associates Ltd. (now AMEC) and returned to his roots as a geotechnical engineer. In 1984, Neil Burgess and Al formed their own firm as Dyregrov and Burgess and in 1989, Al ventured off on his own and continues today. The scope of projects for which he has provided geotechnical input during the last 45 years has expanded from municipal projects to include buildings and other types of structures. Most of the major structures built in downtown Winnipeg since 1971 have been touched by his expertise including the Trizec Development, Portage Place, the MTS Centre, the TD Tower and the Provencher Paired Bridges Project. Outside of Winnipeg, they include the Churchill Townsite Development, the Inco Thompson Open Pit Mine, the Brandon Simplot Fertilizer Plant, and McCains Potato Processing Plant in Portage la Prairie.

Al has been licensed with the professional engineering associations in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario since 1960. Early on, he served on the Consulting Engineers Committee and latterly on the Safety in Engineering Practice Committee. In 1960, Al helped to organize the group now known as the Winnipeg Geotechnical Society. In 1989, he was recognized for his service to local and national geotechnical communities by the Canadian Geotechnical Society and in 1999, he was named a Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada. He is a founding member of the Consulting Engineers of Manitoba, serving as President in 1986-1987. He is a long-time member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and in 1997 was named an Honorary Life Member.

Engineering Action Award:

Recipient: John Woods, P.Eng., M. Sc., B. Sc. (Electrical)

John Woods received his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering at the University of Manitoba 1983, and completed his Master of Science in Electrical Engineering in 1985. John joined a.e.b. engineering group in 1986, and, in the following ten years gained further experience at UMA, Action Consulting and MCW Consultants. In 1997, he co-founded Tower Engineering Group and in July of 2004, started Woods Engineering, providing consulting services in electrical engineering and power quality.

John is currently working with the University of Manitoba on an initiative with the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers (CCPE) to coordinate a national approach to the Internationally-Educated Engineers Qualification (IEEQ) Program. This successful program provides a route for immigrants with engineering credentials obtained outside of Canada to meet part of the licensing requirements for professional engineering practice in Manitoba.

John has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Consulting Engineers of Manitoba (CEM) since 1999 and served as President in 2003-2005. He currently sits on the CEM Board Liaison Institutional and Buildings Standing Committee. John is also a member of the Engineering, Geosciences and Architecture Inter-Association Joint Board (EGAIAR) and the City of Winnipeg Permits Express Industry Advisory Group.