# SCREENINGS



The Publication of the BC Stone, Sand & Gravel Association

**FALL 2021** 





## **BCSSGA** Mission Statement

#### THE BRITISH COLUMBIA STONE SAND

**AND GRAVEL ASSOCIATION** is committed to affordable, sustainable development of BC's aggregate resources, providing information to the public, ongoing input to the province, and maintaining government regulations while fostering positive constructive communications with aggregate industry members and mining related associations across Canada.

## Executive Board 2021/2022

**Dani Miller: President** (Mainland Construction Materials)

**Tyson Craiggs: Past President** (Terus Construction)

**Keith Meldrum: Vice President** (Arthon)

**Barry McLean: Treasurer** (Osprey Equipment)

**Derek Holmes: Director** (Holmes Mining Consultants Ltd.)

## **Elected Board Of Directors**

**Jeff Adams** – (FuelEx Energy Ltd.)

Dan Allard – (Allard Contractors)

**Barry Chalmers**- (Island Crushing)

**Tyson Craiggs** – (Terus Construction)

Josh Handysides – (Malahat Nation)

Nikki Keith – (Wilson M. Beck Insurance Services)

**Rick Kovach** – (Kode Contracting Ltd.)

Barry McLean – (Osprey Equipment)

**Keith Meldrum** – (Arthon)

**Dani Miller** – (Mainland Construction Materials)

**David Rogalsky** – (Woodbrook Aggregates)

Jeevan Wadhawa – (Lafarge)

**Aaron Zukowski** – (Hadean Aggregate Solutions)

### **Current BCSSGA Committees**

| COMMITTEE NAME   | CHAIR                                |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Government       | Derek Holmes                         |
| Relations        | gr@gravelbc.ca                       |
| Safety Committee | David Rogalsky<br>safety@gravelbc.ca |
| Sustainability   | Dan Allard                           |
| Committee        | sustainability@gravelbc.ca           |
| Membership       | Tyson Craiggs                        |
| Committee        | membership@gravelbc.ca               |

## **Upcoming Meetings**

As provincial health orders start to relax, we are planning our return to in-person meetings this winter and next spring.

#### **December 6, 2021**

Christmas Mixer and Lunch Meeting Start time: 12:00 pm, in-person

Coast Hotel and Convention Centre, Langley

#### January 2022

Meeting in conjunction BC Natural Resources Forum – Prince George

#### March 2022

Spring Meeting in the Capital – TBD

#### May 2022

Conference and Annual General Meeting – TBD

## From the Editor

The past weeks have been particularly difficult for families and fellow Members in the Lower Mainland, Coast and Interior as devastation from the intense rain event continues to cause havoc in many areas. Water levels are overwhelming, especially Abbotsford, and we continue to pray for everyone still struggling. The BCSSGA would like to extend our heartfelt thoughts to those who are affected and continue to deal with the loss of property, homes, continued evacuation orders and those just re-uniting with family as highways slowly open.

As we look ahead to the rebuild over the coming months the Province will know, once again, that Aggregate Producers have and will continue to be the backbone of the construction industry. We are resilient, steadfast and always ready when we are needed the most. Thank you to all who have reached out and offered to pitch in; I'm sure you will be called on very soon. I've alerted the Ministry, Municipalities, First Nations and First Responders that the pits and quarries and stocked up and ready to go when called on and that the we will



Crews work to fix the Sumas dike in Abbotsford. City of Abbotsford

make every effort to keep the rock moving with the assistance from regulators for 24/7 operations as needed.

Please reach out if you are in a position to help and I will connect those able with the rebuilding efforts when things begin. Minister Ralston as well as Emergency Management BC is aware of the massive demand for rock products this winter and will be assisting the industry in any way possible. Thank you again and stay safe.

**Derek Holmes** 

## **Update: Notice of Work Applications**

The provincial government is introducing new requirements and improvements for Notice of Work applications on November 30th, 2021. New requirements include using BCeID login credentials and uploading geospatial data, both of which will help improve application processing timelines and communication. Additionally, the application



questions have been improved and a feedback survey is available for you to share your thoughts on your experience applying for a Notice of Work. For more information, please visit <a href="https://portal.nrs.gov.bc.ca/web/client/-/notice-of-work">https://portal.nrs.gov.bc.ca/web/client/-/notice-of-work</a>.

## **President's Message**

Two years in to a pandemic and, we are still building BC at an unprecedented rate. Housing prices are at an all-time-high, infrastructure projects are beginning a resurgence and, looking ahead, there is lots of work yet to come.

We've managed to do it safely, despite the pandemic, new rules around social distancing, remote work, and lack of labour. We've managed to keep up with demand despite closed city halls and years-long permit backlogs. Now we're tackling the next hill, rapid inflation and, 'supply chain issues' - scarcity and extra expense for everything we consume; tires, lubricants, fuel, belting, liners and all the million little pieces it takes to keep our industry, and all the others that are built on our foundation, going.

We are tenacious.

The Association is also tenacious, and continues to steadfastly speak for each of us, in as many forums as we can, from hundreds of hours spent on Code Review, to Intervening in the case of OK Aggregates, to promoting and hosting Safety Driven. The work to better us, and better inform the regulations that affect us hasn't slowed down either, it has increased. At every table, at every conversation we focus on the same three things: is it accessible to the family operation, is it fair, does it add value to the environment, community and industry?

The challenges and opportunities this year have been greatly, one and the same thing. The Ministry of Mines has had significant staff churn, with no less than 4 key players resigning or moving to new posts. At the local level, I think we can all attest to the number of fresh faced Inspectors in the field. While the learning curve is steep and sometimes frustrating in Victoria and the trenches, it is also a great opportunity to 'try something different'. A slowly building success has been the new Chief

Inspector Herman Henning and his team. They have delivered on promises of accountability and consistency and, we are seeing improvement amongst inspector's quality of work, understanding



of Code. They are accepting of constructive criticism and acting on it, as are we when we review their Orders. With the roll out of our own 'crib sheet', that the Ministry vetted, any member who feels an Order may be misguided, or misinterpreted knows what to do, who to call and how to ensure it is reviewed by a Sr. inspector or the Chief. This is truly two-way communication in practice. Consistency and transparency make the rules easier to follow. Less time spent fighting over or researching rules means more time for us and the Inspectorate in the field, where our work delivers value. It's a 'little big win' – a small, but important shift in behavior that will have knock on effects for all of us, every day.

Next month, Derek and I head back to Victoria for our first in-person meeting with Sr. Ministry Staff in months. We're going to introduce them to our three guestions, and show them some areas where maybe, they can 'try something different' and see positive benefits. They have a huge challenge with an outdated architecture that is costing all of us time, money and pollution. We're going to do everything we can to help them make that an opportunity to do more, with less, just like we all do, every day.

**Dani Miller** president@gravelbc.ca

## **BCSSGA September Meeting Highlights**

24 participants by Zoom

#### **BROOK GREENBERG, FASKEN - OK INDUSTRIES UPDATE**



Factums have all been submitted by the parties and intervenors. Most of the positions have been predictable except that of the province which has been disappointing. Please contact Derek for a copy of the factums which are also available publicly.

The trial is scheduled for November. Additionally the District has requested a review of Cobble Hill,

the precedent setting case on which OK Industries is relying. This could be reviewed by a panel of five judges, if the request is granted; the Province is not opposing.

Since the September meeting, the November trial has wrapped up and we are currently waiting on a decision from the Appeal Court's three Justices.



## HERMANUS HENNING, CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES, MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINES AND LOW CARBON INNOVATION

Herman was joined by Jorge Freitas and Todd Ritchie. Herman discussed Inspections. The Ministry conducts inspections to ensure compliance, to promote safety from a practical

approach and to discuss burning issues and points of contention such as blasting incidents, and vehicle accidents. 90% of all inspections are planned but there are also responses to complaints,

blitzes, permitting and specialized services such as geotechnical. A presentation on the focus of inspections, main issues that Inspectors are seeing on site and the positives that the Inspectorate has seen on mine sites over the past three years. Herman's presentation will be available and distributed to Membership.

Thank you to our Guest Speakers

Brook Greenberg, Fasken

Hermanus Henning, Chief Inspector of Mines

## **Workplace Health and Safety Innovation Award**



The Workplace Health, Safety & Innovation Award recognizes a workplace practice, policy, program, process, or tool which demonstrates improvements in the area of health and safety. This includes anything which could be considered proactive, unique, creative or forward thinking. Please see our website <a href="www.gravelbc.ca">www.gravelbc.ca</a> (Found in dropdown under Safety) to nominate someone you know who is taking safety to the next level.



## Membership

#### Welcome new BCSSGA Members in 2021:

Canyon Gold and Gravel, Hope
R.E. Postill & Sons Ltd., Coldstream
Nicola Valley Aggregates Ltd., Merritt
Osprey Equipment Ltd., Abbotsford
Jake Jay Holdings (2006) Ltd., Revelstoke
Evergreen Solutions, Coquitlam

Rolling Mix Concrete (BC) Ltd., Prince George
UAViation aerial Solutions Ltd., Coquitlam
Coast Range Concrete Ltd., Lillooet
SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd.
Vancouver Island Marble Quarries, Duncan

## **Committee Updates**

#### **Government Relations Committee**

The Committee, and Board, has been focusing on the District of Highland's appeal of the OK Industries decision as it worked it's way through trial in October. The panel of three judges heard evidence from the Appellant (the District), the Respondent (OK Industries) and the Intervenors including the BCSSGA. The Association has been disappointed overall with the Attorney General (AG) in the matter as we feel that the AG's interests are not aligned with the Ministry of Mines but are optimistic that the earlier decision of the Supreme Court will hold. The Court's decision in the matter is expected in the spring of 2022.

Dan Allard presented to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services on behalf of the Association to provide context ahead of the Budget. We advocated for more Inspectors to help clear the backlog of applications, increased spending on critical infrastructure and investment in educational institutions that train workers for skilled trade careers.

We've also been working on a universal fee for aggregate producers in the province that will replace the many existing fees charged by government and municipalities adding Indigenous Nations and putting the money to work providing tangible benefits to people in the communities that are affected the most. Obviously there are many moving pieces to this and not everyone is in favour of such an ambitious



proposal but after much discussion the Committee feels that the status quo is not working and we need to explore the concept in more detail. The tensions between Ministry of Mines and local government are increasing and this is being borne out in longer permitting wait times and increased conflict during the operational stages of mining. Much on this topic to come and if you have any suggestions please feel free to let us know about them.

Please look for the Committee minutes in the weekly mail updates for more information and to track other topics such as aggregate land use planning, aggregate specific industry economic study, new contaminated sites regulations, 5 year mine plan updates, illegal mining and more.

Sincerely. **GR Committee** gr@gravelbc.ca



#### **Safety Committee**

Over the past months the Safety committee has been focusing on a few key initiatives. One being an effort to increase safety awareness among gravel truck operators. Gravel truck traffic generates a large portion of the complaints we get from the public and often is the only interaction many people have with our industry. We have teamed up with **Safetydriven**. **ca** to create an outreach program for the gravel trucks that come through our sites. This gives us a chance to directly interact with the drivers and show that it matters to us what they do after leaving our gates with our product. These events are done in a way that will not interfere with traffic at your operation and are a lot of fun. If you'd like more information contact **victoria@gravelbc.ca**.

Another item we have been working on is forwarding recommendations to the HSRC Code Review Committee in an effort to simplify and bring clarity to the guarding sections. By making a few simple changes and defining what the term "accessible" means we can take a lot of the guesswork out of what we need to guard while not compromising the safety of our staff. This has been a long, slow process but am confident we will see some results this coming year.

Last year was the first BCSSGA Workplace Health, Safety & Innovation Award. This recognizes a



workplace practice, policy, program, process, or tool which demonstrates improvements in the area of health and safety. This includes anything which could be considered proactive, unique, creative, or forward thinking. This nomination is open to any member in good standing and can be nominated by anyone. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase some of the creativity that happens in gravel sites on a daily basis. FuelEx has generously agreed to once again sponsor this year's award so make sure you take the time to get your nominations in.

We are always looking for ways we can assist our members in making their sites as safe and productive as possible. If you want to volunteer for the committee or have suggestions for future projects send us an email at <a href="mailto:safety@gravelbc.ca">safety@gravelbc.ca</a>.

On behalf of the Safety Committee I want to wish you the very best over the Holiday Season.

Stay Safe!

David Rogalsky Chair, Safety Committee safety@gravelbc.ca

## From the Sustainability Committee:

The Committee focus has been continued rollout of the educational program on aggregates to schools and increasing adoption of the materials in classrooms. We ask that everyone possible look for opportunities in their networks to talk about the classroom education and encourage teachers to push the materials out to students. This the most effective way of developing a grassroots education program for the industry.

The Committee is also exploring opportunities to host a conference to highlight aggregate industry opportunities to Indigenous Nations this spring.

The conference would include workshops on best management practices, industry contacts and partnership building, networking and aggregate industry partner resources. We envision this as a 2 day event and a great opportunity to share ideas and successes, learn about opportunities to develop Indigenous owned resource and promote a safe, sustainable industry. Please share your ideas with us **sustainability@gravelbc.ca.** 

Sincerely,

Sustainability Committee sustainability@gravelbc.ca

## **About the Association and Benefits of Membership**

The BC Stone Sand and Gravel Association (BCSSGA) is a professional Association that represents all of the Aggregate Producers in British Columbia. Our members are Aggregate Producers, Associates who work with and supply to Producers and we focus our efforts on issues that matter most to our members: government relations, sustainability and safety/ training.

The aggregate industry is highly regulated with legislation and government policy developing quickly. Our strength is in our direct line of communication with the various levels of government who consult with our association whenever changes are considered in the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low-Carbon Innovation (EMLI) affecting mining in the province. We also engage with local governments on behalf of our members to help municipalities understand the challenges our industry faces and lobby for regulations that work for Producers.

Sustainability is not a new concept in the BCSSGA but has been re-branded to reflect how we are perceived in public and push initiatives that build a grassroots knowledge of the value of aggregates in our schools. The Sustainability Committee also manages the Deputy Minister's award that recognizes outstanding community relations by aggregate producers in the Province.

Safety and training are foundations of the aggregate industry and the Association makes sure that we inform our members about changes to the Health Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in BC. We have a seat at the table of the Code Review Committee to ensure that the Code works for all mines in BC, not just the large metal mines which only account for a small number of overall provincial permits. The safety committee is also dedicated to providing resources for small operators to ensure their business has the latest and most up to date information available for their safety program.

Becoming a member in the Association ensures we have the numbers and resources to stay relevant

with government and non-government entities. Producers benefit by having a strong industry voice advocating for them so they can stay focused on their business and regular updates and meetings to share and learn from others. We have government representatives attend and speak at every one of our meetings. Associates benefit from the networking opportunities and meetings hosted by the BCSSGA during the year with access to key decision makers in the organization and the ability to advertise their business.

For more information please contact victoria@gravelbc.ca or 778-571-2670



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- A completed application form
- Letter describing contribution and supporting information



More information about the EMLI award can be found at www.gravelbc.ca under dropdown ABOUT.







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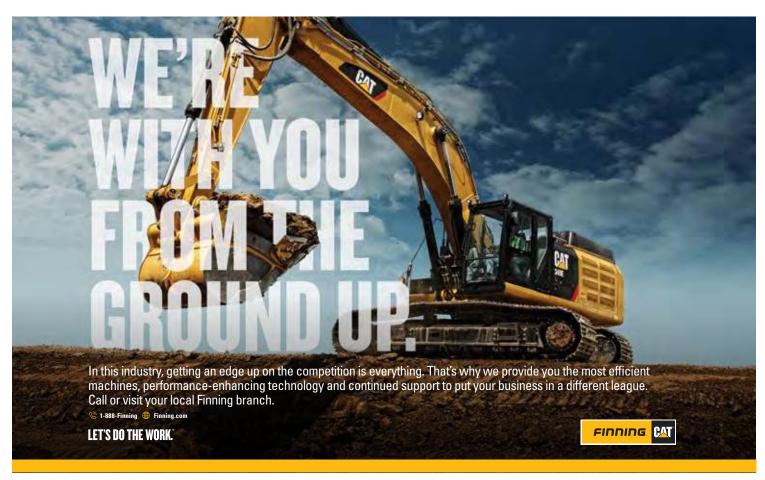
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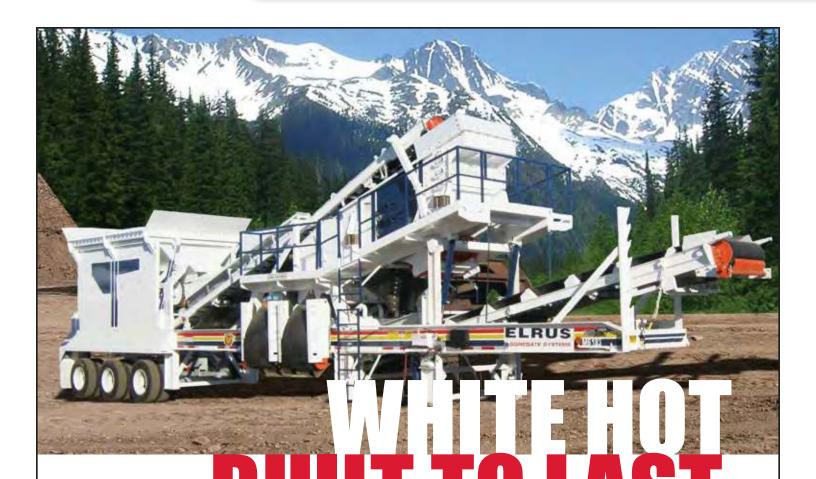
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**British Columbia Stone Sand & Gravel Association** 

BC stone, sand and gravel producers are helping build sustainable communities throughout the province.

**British Columbians use 10-15 tonnes** of aggregate per person per year.



1 km of highway **30,000 Tonnes** 

Hospital **60,000 Tonnes** School 30-40,000 Tonnes





1 km of railroad 16,000 Tonnes

> House 100-300 Tonnes





One truck carries 15 Tonnes of aggregate