

This report summarizes the membership and activities conducted by the EERI BC Regional Chapter of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute during 2022.

MISSION & GOALS

The mission of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) British Columbia Regional Chapter (hereafter referred to as EERI-BC) is dedicated to reducing the earthquake risk in British Columbia, by advancing the science and practice of earthquake engineering; by improving understanding of the impact of earthquakes on the physical, social, economic, political and cultural environment; and by advocating comprehensive and realistic measures for reducing the harmful effects of earthquakes. Our goal is to facilitate discussions that promote resiliency through both planning and response initiatives.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

The EERI BC Regional Chapter had a total of 100 members in 2022.

OFFICERS

The Board consisted of the following members:

Role	Name	Affiliation	Email
President	Salman Soleimani-Dashtaki	University of British Columbia	salman@civil.ubc.ca
Vice President	Monrit Chatha	RJC Engineers	mchatha@rjc.ca
Secretary	Behrad Zibania	Mott MacDonald	behradzibania@gmail.com
Treasurer	Aran Thurairajah	Golder	aran_thurairajah@golder.com
Director	Dan Bruton	Ecora	dan.bruton@ecora.ca
Director	Behzad Hassani	BC Hydro	behassani@gmail.com
Director	Jose Centeno	Mott MacDonald	Jose.Centeno@mottmac.com
Director	Carlos Molina Hutt	University of British Columbia	carlos.molinahutt@civil.ubc.ca
Director	Mujib Rahman	Fortis Energy Inc.	mujib.rahman@fortisbc.com
Director	John Sherstobitoff	Ausenco	john.sherstobitoff@ausenco.com
Director	Jessica Shoubridge	Thrive Consulting	jessica@thriveconsulting.me
Director	Kate Thibert	Ausenco	kate.thibert@ausenco.com

Board meetings were held monthly, every third Thursday of the Month at 12pm PST. The meetings were held virtually as an attempt to coordinate the Director's schedules.

BUDGET & FINANCIALS

Our account balance currently is approximately \$15,000 CAD. Our membership contribution is CAD \$35 per person. Currently, we have a recurring monthly expense of CAD \$19 for banking with TD Canada Trust. As of now, we have a balance budget.

A request has been made to EERI Central to support the EERI-BC webpage. Currently we have monthly recurring expenses of USD \$63 for maintaining website and payment portal for membership fee with Wild Apricot, and a CAD \$23.40 for maintaining a google drive account storing and sharing all relevant documents. These are being paid by our board of directors.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

During the 2022 year, we were able to hold regular monthly meetings with a great attendance. The meetings are described in more detail in the following section. We were also able to host the following events:

1. EERI BC AGM – September 2022
2. URBC 2022 – November 2022
3. Distinguished Lecture – January 2023

REGULAR CHAPTER MEETINGS

Board Meeting was missed in October; November meeting was an in-camera discussion. URBC Planning was in full swing, see notes below for URBC Event.

March Chapter Meeting:

Wednesday Mar 16, 2022

Venue: Online through Zoom

Topics:

1. EERI BC Website Update
 - a. Send out a call for president message
 - b. Website Expense = \$75/month
2. Miscellaneous:
 - a. Kate to provide expense form to Aran and Behrad
 - b. Secretary to send Doodle poll for choosing suitable meeting time and dates
 - c. Next meeting is the AGM
 - d. Google Drive
3. Brainstorm Events
 - a. Framework to allow members to propose topics for a round table conversation
 - b. NRCAN - what is the plan and how EERI-BC can get involved
 - c. UBC Seismic Undergrad Presentation
 - i. Bring in members from the EERI UBC Chapter
 - ii. Coordinate and extend support to EERI UBC Chapter
 - d. Jessica to report back from seismic safety council (10 minutes)

- e. Teron will report on seismic safety alliance
- f. Understanding Risk BC - Jessica will pay herself from the remaining balance
- g. Understanding Risk BC (URBC) 2022 has asked the BC team to be a satellite hub
 - i. Main stage is in Brazil
 - ii. EERI-BC will host an one day event
- h. Report after next NCEE meeting

Attendance: 12

April Chapter Meeting:

Wednesday April 20, 2022

Venue: Online through Zoom

Topics:

1. Introductions: with the addition of new faces in the board, the executive provided their introduction as under:
 - Monrit - nominated to be Vice President of the chapter
 - Salman - nominated to be President of the chapter
 - Kate - former President of the chapter, founder of the BC chapter
 - Behrad - manages the site, structural engineer, secretary
 - Aran - geotechnical engineer and treasurer for the group
 - Dan - geotechnical engineer, 21 years of experience and been with EERI for 3 years
 - Mujib - founding member of EERI BC, looks after geohazard management program for FORTISBC
 - Jessica - working with the city on leading the seismic hazard strategy development process, leading the UR programs, Planner from UBC, EERI BC Rep to NRCAN
 - Olivia - Captain of UBC Undergrad seismic design team, graduating in April
 - Meghan - UBC Undergrad seismic design team, graduating in April
2. 2022 Executive team: 2022 executive team took over their new roles as provided in chapter officers.
3. Recurring Meeting Invite
 - Third Thursday at noon, and then every 4 months we can get together in person.
4. Online Presence
 - Need to post more often on the website
 - Use the LinkedIn more and post more often - preview of our new executive team
5. Brainstorming
 - a. Seismic load on underground structures
 - b. Hosting Distinguished Lecturer
 - c. Annual Symposium - roundtable conversation with a moderator
 - d. Sustainable finance piece given the large level of seismic risk
 - NBCC 2020 - how does this update effect the engineering community
 - Outreach with schools

Big push for Mass Timber in BC - how does it relate to the seismic world
6. Task: Everyone to come up with a bio and provide a picture

Attendance: 12

May Chapter Meeting:

Wednesday May 05, 2022

Venue: Online through Zoom

Topics:

1. A new director was elected to the board: Thava Thavaraj, Klohn Crippen Burger Ltd.
2. Recap from UBC Seismic Design Team
3. Recurring meeting third Thursday of each Month
4. Online Presence:
 - a. Website transition (5 mins) Mujib
 - i. Mujib, Behrad, and Salman - in July and August
 - ii. Membership / Fund Collection - one payment gate
 1. Right now we are using affinity part of wild apricot
 2. There could be a glitch if the payment gets declined - IT might be able to figure this out though
5. Salman had a meeting with Heidi and Elizabeth
 - a. Latest by the end of next week for the final report
 - i. New directors / executive team
 - b. Mujib will help with reviewing the report
6. LinkedIn and Website Updates - Behrad
 - a. UBC Seismic Design Team
 - b. Board Members
 - c. Bio each month with a picture
7. New Role Announcement
 - a. Legal document with new roles needs to be updates
 - b. Announcement to the group
8. Online Content Creation by Monrit: Bio profile of chapter officers
9. Events to be organized and/or participated:
 - a. Distinguished Lecturer by Ken Elwood - Ken is a UBC affiliate professor and is presenting his lecture at the AGM
 - b. SEABC / EGBC / Codes Canada are providing a talk on code updates
 - c. Earthquake Instrumentation - strong motion system- likely closer to the end of the year (November); will be coordinated by NRCAN?
 - d. BC Shake Out
 - e. Research + Industry Symposium
 - f. Outreach at schools
10. Tasks:
 - a. Add Monrit and Behrad to the regional folder
 - b. Behrad to send the google drive login again
 - c. Mujib to setup meeting with Salman, Behrad, Aran and Mujib
 - d. Salman will take the lead to change the payment portal - PayPal
 - e. Aran to check if we can redirect the existing payment portal
 - f. Salman and Carlos - Distinguished Lecturer - Keep John in the loop for SEABC Costs

Attendance: 12

August Chapter Meeting:

Wednesday Aug 18, 2022

Venue: Online through Zoom

Items Discussed:

1. Finances
 1. Bank Account to be updated for who has signing authority
 2. Aran, Salman, Monrit, and Kate to attend the bank to update the account
 3. Meeting to be on a Wednesday at 4pm (Aug 31, Sept 7, or Sept 14)
 4. Meeting in person at the bank and possible social after
2. Previous Finances
 1. Salman met virtually with CRA and KPMG many times to review how our financials were handled previously specific to UR+
 2. Salman to provide a summary of the conversations for the Board members
 3. Salman to request a proposal from KPMG to engage their services to file our taxes for the previous years
 4. Aran to chat with Behrad about how taxes were filed previously by Jaimie
3. EERI BC AGM
 1. September 22nd - 5:30-7:30 pm
 2. Venue: RJC Vancouver Office Meeting Room
 3. Coffee Break sponsor - Monrit to ask Mujib if FORTIS BC can cover this
 4. Presentation #1: Salman - President Introduction
 5. Presentation #2: John + Jessica - High Level information on what Earthquake Instrumentation is and what they can expect to see in the coming year re: symposium
 6. Presentation #3: Carlos + Monrit: Seismic Resiliency and what is happening in Industry and in Research at the moment
 7. Each presentation will be 10 minutes with 5 minutes allotted for questions
 8. End of the meeting will be 30 minutes social with food
4. Distinguished Lecturer
 1. 2022 EERI Distinguished Lecture in Vancouver on Monday, January 9, 2023
 2. Venue: Likely Robson Square UBC Campus

Attendance: 12

AGM Meeting and Chapter Meeting: **2022-09-22**

Wednesday September 22, 2022

Venue: RJC Office, 1285 W Broadway #300, Vancouver, BC V6H 3X8

Topics:

See notes below in special sessions for items discussed.

Attendance: 20

December Chapter Meeting:

Wednesday December 15, 2022

Venue: Online through Zoom

Topics:

Executive Update:

1. Secretary Updates:
 - a. Send out the poster for the Distinguished Lecture event
 - b. Forward the email blast for registration
 - c. We have 60 active members and 170 total members
 - d. Our current contact list 250+
2. Treasurer Updates:
 - a. Deposits are coming into the bank account - might be from the membership
 - b. Also some funds came in from Eventbrite
 - c. \$10,897
 - d. BC Registry documents need to go to the bank first
3. President's Update
 - a. Meeting with central is coming up in January - with the website and payment processing

Reflection on Past Events:

1. URBC 2022
 - a. Session was put together last minute
 - b. 7-8 members in person
 - c. 25-30 members attended virtually
 - d. First connection with UR Global Forum
 - e. Good dialog during the local session after the ignite talks
 - f. We need to get the alert out to other engineering associations
 - g. SEABC, EGBC, Geotech BC, AIBC (Robyn Fenton)

Upcoming Events:

1. Distinguished Lecture
 - a. Record the session for any members ?
 - b. Monrit to book the dinner for after the event
 - c. We need to increase registration
2. URBC 2023
 - a. Additional members needed for the sub-committee
 - b. Kate will join the sub-committee
 - c. May 15th - 18th may be a good week for this
 - d. Evening kick-off
3. Special session at the conference
 - a. Symposium at the CCEE day
4. RILEM Week
 - a. Multi-hazard

EERI BC AGM 2022

The session was hosted in September 2022 in person at RJC Engineers Offices. All directors attended and we had presentations by:

1. The Presidents Address – Salman
2. Seismic Resilience Introduction – Monrit
3. Earthquake Instrumentation – John S. and Jessica S.
4. Code Updates – John S.
5. Re-occupancy Times – Carlos M.H.

All membership was invited and requested to attend in person. Online platform was also available for those who could not make it in person. Sushi appetizer was provided to all in person attendees and sponsored by Fortis BC. We had approximately 15 attendees joined in person and another 10 attendees joined online.

URBC 2022

The URBC event was hosted in person at the UBC Vancouver Campus in November 2022. We were hosted on the live UR Stage in Brazil. The event was open for in person attendees and online. We had a total of 20-30 attendees.

The following speakers shared Ignite style presentations and were available for a great discussion following the event:

1. Jessica Shoubridge (Thrive Consulting)
2. John Sherstobitoff, Ausenco (c in person)
3. Henry Seywerd, NRCAN (c online)
4. Teron Moore, Founder NSC Seismic Consultants (c online)
5. Amin Kassam of Metro Vancouver
6. Evan Reis, USRC & Safehub (c online)
7. Yavuz Kaya

The discussion lasted just over an hour with many attendees sharing their perspective on the topics discussed, which included:

1. Earthquake Early Warning Systems
2. Earth and Oceans Network
3. NRCAN
4. Rapid Damage Assessments
5. Code Updates Required
6. Automatic Shut-off Valves connected to Early Warning Systems

Distinguished Lecture 2023

Dr. Ken Elwood was hosted for an in-person lecture at UBC Robson Square Campus to share his distinguished lecture on "From Ductility to Repairability: Evolution of Building Design in the Wake of the Christchurch Earthquake,"

The event was offered in person only. We had approximately 100 people attend the event of which there was a good distribution from industry and academia. All attendees were quite excited about the event and shared positive feedback following the lecture.

The board members hosted Dr. Elwood and a guest for dinner following the lecture.

RJC Engineers, SEABC, Ausenco, and Bush Bolhman sponsored the event. Coffee and Tea with snacks were provided for all members.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. The EERI-BC site:

The main portal to access the accounts, news and events. The site occasionally gets update to announce the news like the events arranged by EERI or other organizations. We will be transitioning this site onto the central EERI platform following the April 2023 Annual Meeting.

The address for the site is: <https://eeri-bc.wildapricot.org>

2. The Gmail account:

This portal is more for management purposes and the board uses this common place to share ideas, manage meetings and branch supporting activities.

3. The EERI-BC LinkedIn:

The link is activated now to allow for more places for members and board to share ideas and also an easier place to make announcements more occasionally and notify members about board activities.

The LinkedIn address is: <https://ae.linkedin.com/company/eeri-bc>

STUDENT CHAPTER COORDINATION

Our board has been in contact with the UBC EERI Student Design Team. We had them attend our board meetings twice in the past year and share their ideas for the upcoming competition. The board shared the call for sponsorship and was able to successfully secure funding for the student team.

The board also made time for the student team to present their design and ask questions to the technical members to help improve their design.

The student team also helps share the message for our upcoming events. We have some students regularly attend our meetings.

ELECTION & ELECTION RESULTS

An election for officers was held from April 2022 – May 2022 and the results are as per the current Officers in the first table above. Next election will take place in 2025.

2023 GOALS

This year, EERI-BC plans to revise its 2018 Strategic plan in order to align with the current initiative and goals. For the upcoming year, the chapter will continue to coordinate (via its board members) with; the local student chapter (EERI-UBC Chapter), Oceans Networks Canada, Canadian Institute of Planners/Planning Institute of BC, SEABC,

EGBC, local governments in the province and lobby policy/decision makers (Emergency Management-BC, UBCM/FCM) to increase efforts for earthquake risk reduction.

Also, we will be uploading a bio every second month to introduce the board members, which would provide a brief description on their career and technical background. We are aiming to back that up and have each board member prepare an online presentation for the EERI-BC members.

Our goal is to start hosting regular evening sessions such as lectures and networking events for our members. We are currently planning an event for end of April 2023 regarding the recent Turkey Earthquake.

Membership

Consider adding targets or goals for membership or describe strategies to maintain or grow membership and participation.

- Membership target = 150
- Increase membership by 50 members

Chapter Meetings and Ongoing Activities

- Host regular monthly Chapter meetings (minimum 8 meetings)
- Host evening lecture on the Turkey Earthquake
- Host a summer meet and greet with the board in November 2023
- Produce a quarterly newsletter
- Maintain website content and add new events/activities throughout the year

Chapter Initiatives

- Quarterly newsletter
- Evening Lecture Series
- Sharing EERI Updates on LinkedIn
- Increasing networking opportunities

CHAPTER NEEDS AND REQUESTS FOR THE BOARD OR EERI STAFF

1. To help host EERI-BC website with EERI similar to other chapters in USA
2. Updated payment method
3. Financial support from EERI for continued expenses (website, payment portal, online services, etc.)

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

EERI-BC_StrategicPlan_06_2018