



Minutes of the 2025 TAC Annual General Meeting
Sunday, November 16, 2025, 3:30 – 5:00 PM PST, JW Marriott Parq, Vancouver,
British Columbia

Members of the TAC Board of Directors in Attendance: Bruce Downing, President; Erik Eberhardt, Immediate Past President; Andre Solecki, Secretary; Andrew Caruana, Treasurer; Jason Mann, VP West; Andre Rancourt, VP East; Nichole Boulton, Director; Glenn Mongillo, Director; Dani Delaloye, Director; Claudia Hernandez, Director; Jean Habimana, Director, Quebec and Maritimes; Paul Cott, Director; Walter Milani, Director; Seamus Tynan, Director; Leila Sunderani, Director.

Board of Director Regrets: Dan Ifrim, Director, Ontario; Mohammed Al-Bataineh, Director, Alberta

Guests: Rohit Malik (Redstone) and Adena Goldberg (Redstone)

1. Welcome and Introductions

The President, Bruce Downing, welcomed attendees to the 2025 Tunnelling Association of Canada Annual General Meeting and opened the meeting.

2. Motion to Approve the 2025 TAC AGM Agenda

The 2025 AGM agenda was presented to the membership for approval.

Motion: Moved by Nichole Boulton, seconded by Andrew Caruana that the agenda of the 2025 TAC Annual General Meeting be approved – carried.

3. Acceptance of the 2024 AGM Minutes

The draft minutes of the October 6, 2024 Tunnelling Association of Canada Annual General Meeting were posted on the TAC website and made available to members.

Motion: Moved by Glenn Mongillo, seconded by Leila Sunderani, that the minutes of the 2024 TAC Annual General Meeting be approved as presented – carried.

4. President's Report

Bruce Downing presented the President's Report and provided an overview of TAC's 2024/2025 activities, noting another very successful year for the Association. Highlights included:

- TAC2024 Montreal was one of TAC's most successful conferences, marking four highly successful conferences in a row.
- Planning for WTC2026 continued to proceed well, with record abstract and paper submissions and related activities including the ITA-CET course and Young Professional Think Deep Programme.
- The inaugural Tunnel Safety Workshop was scheduled for November 16-18, 2025.
- TAC continued to increase communications through newsletters, social media and the expanded Canadian Tunnelling magazine.
- Ongoing improvements continued to the Tunnelling Project Dashboard.
- Regional and chapter activities continued in Vancouver, Edmonton/Calgary, Toronto and Montreal.

- A mentorship pilot program was launched, alongside ongoing scholarships, Engineering Institute of Canada engagement and other initiatives.

Engineering Institute of Canada and ITA

- TAC continued to receive recognition at the Engineering Institute of Canada 2025 Awards in Ottawa. John Bianchini, CEO of Hatch, received the Julian C. Smith Award, while Past President Rick Staples and Bruce Downing were recognized as EIC Fellows.
- TAC continued its involvement with the International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association (ITA), including Rick Lovat's service on the Executive Council, continued Nordic Forum involvement and TAC representation on most ITA Working Groups.

TAC Leadership

The President reviewed TAC's Officers, Directors and Redstone Agency staff supporting the Association.

5. Treasurer's Report

Andrew Caruana, TAC Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report. TAC welcomed Andrew Caruana as Treasurer and thanked Michelle Richards for her years of service.

2024 Audited Financial Statements

The audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2024 were presented. The statements reported total assets of \$1,688,593, total liabilities of \$1,078,449 and net assets of \$610,144. Revenues were \$919,162, expenditures were \$761,342 and excess revenues over expenditures were \$157,820.

Motion: Moved by Glenn Mongillo seconded by Jason Mann, to approve the 2024 TAC Audited Financial Statements – carried.

2025 Year-to-Date Budget vs. Actuals and Year-End Forecast

The Treasurer reviewed 2025 year-to-date actuals against the approved budget and the year-end forecast. The presentation showed a year-end revenue forecast of approximately \$342,708, total expense forecast of approximately \$604,676 and a forecast deficit of approximately \$261,968.

Proposed 2026 Budget

The proposed 2026 TAC budget was presented. The budget included projected total revenue of approximately \$6,006,420 and total expenses of approximately \$5,526,226, for projected revenue over expenses of approximately \$480,194.

Motion: Moved by Glenn Mongillo seconded by Jason Mann, to approve the TAC proposed 2026 budget – Carried.

6. 2026 TAC Board of Directors

Erik Eberhardt, TAC Immediate Past President, presented the Board of Directors update and the proposed 2026 slate. The Nominating Committee included Erik Eberhardt (Chair), Bruce Downing, Jason Mann and Rick Lovat.

2026 Proposed Slate - Directors

- Reappoint Mohammed Al-Bataineh as Director

- Reappoint Walter Milani as Director
- Reappoint Glenn Mongillo as Director
- Reappoint Leila Sunderani as Director
- Appoint Greg Emslie as Director (new)

The Board had previously motioned and approved the slate for the director positions whose terms were ending, and the slate was sent to the membership with the AGM announcement.

Motion: Moved by Erik Eberhardt seconded by Nichole Boulton, to approve the 2026 TAC Board of Directors slate as presented – carried.

8. WTC 2026 Update

André Rancourt, Vice President East, presented an update on the 2026 World Tunnel Congress in Montreal.

- The floor plan and overall program-at-a-glance were reviewed.
- As of November 11, 2025, sponsorship sales were approximately \$775,250 against a target of \$891,600 (86.9%), and exhibition sales were approximately \$1,774,200 against a target of \$1,912,038 (92.8%). Total sponsorship and exhibition sales were approximately \$2,549,450 against a target of \$2,803,638 (90.9%).
- Development of the WTC2026 mobile application was underway.
- The revised WTC2026 projected budget, based on 1,250 paid registrations, showed projected conference revenues of \$5,702,436, projected expenses of \$4,963,713 and a projected surplus of \$738,723 (13%).

9. Young Professional Think Deep Programme (YPTDP)

André Solecki presented an overview of the Young Professional Think Deep Programme (YPTDP), organized by ITA's Committee on Underground Space (ITACUS) and the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP).

- The week-long program brings young planners, architects, engineers, geologists and related professionals together to work on a real-life case and promotes awareness of the value and benefits of underground space.
- TAC proposed to host a YPTDP program in Canada as a TAC Special Project associated with WTC2026, with an estimated total budget of \$60,000. Sponsorship opportunities were being explored to reduce costs.
- Anticipated program dates were May 12-16, 2026.
- Participants were expected to include three tutors and two coordinators from ITACUS/ISOCARP, local TAC tutors, 12 international young professionals and 12 local Montreal/Canada young professionals.
- The proposed venue was École de technologie supérieure (ÉTS) Montréal, which would provide venue/facilities at no charge.
- The 2026 topic was 'Reimagining Montreal's Old Port,' exploring the concept of burying the existing CP rail track along the Old Port and replacing it with a green corridor.
- Next steps included a call for 12 international and 12 local young professionals by December 19, 2025, ongoing stakeholder engagement and open sponsorship opportunities.

10. Regional Reports

TAC East - Ontario

André Rancourt presented the TAC East regional report, including the Ontario 2025 Projects Report.

- Projects in design included the Black Creek Sanitary Trunk Sewer Relief System (Phase 1), West Trunk Diversion, GE Booth Outfall, East Brampton Watermains Contract 2, Queensway Trunk Sewer and Z2 Transmission Main, and Williams Parkway Watermain Contract 4.
- Projects in procurement included the Yonge North Subway Extension, West Toronto Transmission Line Relocation, Pickering Deep Water Intake, and Lakeshore Trunk Sewer and Zone 1 Sub-Transmission Main.
- Projects in construction included the Scarborough Subway Extension, Ontario Line and Darlington New Nuclear Project.

TAC East - Québec & Maritimes

- Blue Line Extension: the tunnel contract includes a 5.8 km long, 9.7 m diameter rock TBM tunnel, excavation of the shell of two stations and ancillary structures. The TBM had arrived in Montreal with launch expected in spring 2026.
- REM Deux-Montagnes opening was highlighted.
- Lafontaine Tunnel Major Rehabilitation Project: the western southbound tube was fully rehabilitated and open to traffic as of spring 2025; the eastern northbound tube was closed for repair and installation of equipment and tunnel systems, with completion expected by the end of 2027.
- TramCité Project: two contracts (Civil and Systems) were shortlisted in winter 2025 and were under a 14-month development phase; the project includes approximately 1.5 km of tunnel and underground stations.
- Station ADM - REM was also highlighted.

TAC West - British Columbia

- Stanley Park Water Supply Tunnel - 1.4 km; started in late 2024 and well underway in 2025, with completion anticipated in 2029.
- Annacis Water Supply Tunnel - 2.3 km under the Fraser River; construction ongoing.
- Second Narrows Water Supply Tunnel - substantial completion achieved in spring 2025, with final restoration expected in 2028.
- Coquitlam Water Main - in detailed design; approximately 12 km total with a 2 km tunnel section.
- Broadway Subway Tunnels - tunnelling completed in May 2024; planned to enter service in fall 2027.
- Coquitlam Lake Water Supply Tunnel - in scoping and preliminary design.
- Eagle Mountain Natural Gas Pipeline Project - approximately 9 km of tunnels in the Squamish area; approximately half complete.

TAC West - Alberta

- Yellowhead Freeway Storage Tunnel - 2,500 mm diameter and 1,300 m long storm tunnel; TBM tunnelling underway.
- Duggan Tunnel Replacement Project - 3 km of 1,200 mm sanitary trunk sewer and rehabilitation of 260 m of existing tunnel; construction expected to finish in fall 2025.
- Mill Creek Combined Sewer Rehabilitation - new 830 m long, 2,100 mm diameter trunk along 97 Street.

TAC West - Manitoba and Prairies

- Construction of new land drainage sewers in the Ferry Road/Riverbend and Cockburn/Calrossie combined sewer districts was underway to improve wet-weather service.
- Regional water and wastewater servicing continued at CentrePort Canada, including shafts for wet-well installation and TBM-installed interconnections across approximately 1,500 hectares of previously unserviced lands.

11. Young Members Report and EDI Task Force

Dani Delaloye presented the Young Members Report and EDI Task Force update.

TACym

- The TACym Committee continued to create opportunities for young professionals and students through regional technical talks, regional and international webinar series, field trips/site visits, conferences and workshops.
- Current membership included 29 Student Members and 122 Young Members.
- The Communications Sub-Committee continued to work with Canadian Tunnelling magazine to produce one article per issue.
- Four new Tunnelling 101 recordings were made available. The learning series had 13 webinars uploaded to YouTube with more than 4,000 total views.
- TACym continued to work alongside the WTC and ITAym committees on young-member programming for Montreal.
- Two Young Member articles appeared in Canadian Tunnelling magazine in 2025, including a spring article on attracting the next generation of talent and a fall article on the University of Waterloo WatDig team's participation in the 2025 Not-a-Boring competition.
- WTC2026 young-member activities included a social event planned for May 18 at Marché des Éclusiers, as well as a cultural event, technical site visit, student volunteer opportunities and a YM jog.

EDI Task Force

- The EDI Task Force consisted of 16 members from academia and industry, spanning a range of ages and expertise.
- Major milestones included the September 2025 launch of the TAC Mentorship Program and a TAC 2025 Workshop panel titled 'Culture as a Safety Tool: Embedding Equity and Psychological Safety in Tunnelling Operations.'
- Ongoing initiatives included a Women in Tunnelling Breakfast at WTC2026 targeting 100 attendees, expansion of the Mentorship Program, and development of an event-planning framework that considers EDI.

12. Scholarship Committee Update

Glenn Mongillo presented the Scholarship Committee Update.

Eisenstein Scholarship

- Awarded annually to a post-graduate student undertaking or planning post-graduate studies in tunnelling.
- Includes a \$6,000 cash prize, one-year TAC membership, and full registration and attendance at the 2025 TAC Workshop and Awards Banquet.

- Five applications were received; four were eligible. Five universities were represented, including Dalhousie University and the University of Manitoba.

TAC Undergraduate Scholarship

- Supports undergraduate engineering students with a passion for tunnelling and career development in the field.
- Includes a \$2,000 cash prize, one-year TAC membership, and full registration and attendance at the 2025 TAC Workshop and Awards Banquet.
- Eleven applications were received from seven schools.

2026 Scholarship Update

- For the 2026 scholarship prize, TAC planned to offer full registration and attendance, including economy travel and accommodation, at the 2026 World Tunnel Congress and ITA General Assembly in Montreal. Applications were open and being actively promoted.

13. Communications Committee Update

Andrew Caruana presented the Communications Committee Update.

Email Communications and Newsletter

- TAC's email database included 2,808 contacts, with lists maintained for members, non-members and regional audiences.
- A total of 110 emails were sent, including the bi-monthly newsletter, averaging approximately 6-10 emails per month.
- Average email open rate was 45% and average click rate was 6%; TAC communications were reported to perform above industry averages.
- Six member-only newsletters were sent over the prior year. In 2025, distribution moved to the beginning of the month, generally within the first week.
- The newsletter increasingly featured chapter events, TAC external initiatives and engagement from TAC leadership. Average newsletter open rate was 50% and average click rate was 5%.

Social Media

- LinkedIn remained TAC's highest-performing platform, with the page surpassing 5,000 followers and nearing 5,500. The report noted 134 posts, 208,031 impressions, 145,508 members reached, 4,248 reactions, 15,506+ clicks and a 10% average engagement rate.
- Instagram recorded 82 posts, 413 followers, reach of 2.5K, 16,008+ impressions, 603 content interactions, 35 link clicks and 506 profile visits.
- Facebook had approximately 1.7K followers and 1.5K page likes, with 115 posts, reach of 8K, 715 content interactions, 70 follows, 24 link clicks and 2.4K page visits.

Key Campaigns

- WTC2026 promotion amplification.
- Mentorship Program launch campaign.
- TAC 2025 Awards campaign highlighting 2024 award winners.
- Welcome to the Board features highlighting new Board members through Q&A posts.

14. Tunnelling Magazine Update

Walter Milani presented the Canadian Tunnelling Magazine update.

- A new MOU was signed for 2025-2026, formalizing slightly longer issues and an increased mailing list.
- Content was being integrated with WTC2026 to maximize impact.
- The magazine continued to grow and strengthen its relationship with Tunnelling Journal.
- The magazine continued to add value for Individual and Corporate Members, with a strong focus on industry projects and leaders, TAC news and conferences, and Young Members.
- TAC continued to increase social media and website promotion, with all issues available to members through the TAC portal.

15. Tunnel Database Project Update

André Solecki presented the Tunnel Database Project Update.

- The project originated from a 2022 Board motion to fund a special project focused on graphically presenting upcoming project information.
- Mott MacDonald led the initial work at non-commercial rates, with no Board Member time charged.
- The project transitioned back to TAC and was being supported by TAC Directors Dani Delaloye and André Solecki alongside Redstone Agency.
- The database went live in 2023. Version 1 launched at TAC2023 with more than 30 active and 50 completed projects; Version 2 grew to more than 200 projects during 2024.
- Version 3 was expected to continue growing through 2026 and beyond.

16. Mentorship Pilot Program Update

Dani Delaloye presented an update on the TAC Mentorship Program, an initiative designed to empower members at all stages of their careers.

- As of October 30, 2025, the program had 33 registered users, six active mentor-mentee relationships and one completed relationship.
- Eighty-six percent of mentees were TAC Young Members.
- Next steps included engaging university professors and engineering societies to increase mentee participation, reaching out to industry experts to increase mentors, and holding virtual ice-breaker sessions.
- TAC also planned to add metadata-based tags to improve matching and filtering based on educational background, team/project role, professional specialization, languages spoken, areas of interest and goals, and preference for in-person or virtual mentorship.

17. Membership Report

Glenn Mongillo presented the Membership Report, compiled on October 30, 2025.

- Individual membership declined in 2025, while Corporate membership remained steady at approximately 75.
- International membership declined to its lowest level in four years, which was attributed in part to the absence of a regular TAC conference.
- Membership in 2026 was expected to remain around the 2025 level due to WTC2026, with membership expected to increase again in 2027 when regular TAC conferences resume.
- Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec continued to show strong membership, while Alberta had improved over the prior two years.

Membership by Type

Membership Type	2022	2023	2024	2025
Individual	343	511	483	375
Student	25	32	21	27
Corporate	66	71	79	74
Retired	29	13	16	17
TOTAL	463	627	599	493

Membership by Chapter

Chapter	2022	2023	2024	2025
Ontario	258	416	319	288
Alberta	18	12	34	23
British Columbia	89	101	93	95
Manitoba and Prairies	6	5	11	3
Quebec and Atlantic	32	39	66	44
International	60	54	76	40
TOTAL	463	627	599	493

18. Other Business and Closing Remarks

Bruce Downing invited any other business and provided closing remarks.

19. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the 2025 Annual General Meeting was presented to the membership.

Motion: Moved by Bruce Downing seconded by Dani Delaloye, that the 2025 Tunnelling Association of Canada Annual General Meeting be adjourned – carried.