

THE DAMS NEWSLETTER

Special Issue
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A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

FOR ICOLD ANNUAL MEETING IN OTTAWA

June 9-14 2019



INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON LARGE DAMS

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The ICOLD Family after the end of the General Assembly

Memories of the Week

The 87th Annual Meeting and Symposium of the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD) was held in Ottawa, June 9 – 14, 2019. It was a great success by almost any measure. Over seven days, delegates were offered, workshops and meetings of 26 ICOLD Technical Committees and Regional Clubs, two days of technical paper presentations, 12 partner seminars, a trade show and a rich social program, as well as optional technical tours. 1415 delegates participated in this event, coming from 72 different countries.

On the weekend of June 8-9, 2019, Canadian Dams Association offered optional short courses based on CDA guidance publications. These courses were Dam Safety Reviews (in both English and French), Public Safety Around Dams, Emergency Management for Dam Safety, and Dam Safety for Mining Dams. Very positive feedback from both Canadian and international delegates indicated the high quality of these workshops, and their relevance in many countries.

On Monday and Tuesday, the ICOLD Technical Committees held their annual meetings as well as workshops to present progress on development of new ICOLD Technical Bulletins. Observers were welcome to attend committee meetings and participate in the workshops. This was a chance to get an inside view of how ICOLD develops the guidance documents that are key references for dam engineering practices around the world.

In addition to the Technical Committees, Monday and Tuesday included important meetings of the ICOLD Regional Clubs and the Francophone Committee. Full agendas were presented at the Asia-Pacific Club, European Club and Africa Nations, as well as INCA (ICOLD National Committees of the Americas). These meetings were very well attended and provided the opportunity for delegates to learn of new projects and specific challenges facing the dam industry in various parts of the globe.

The two-day Symposium on Wednesday and Thursday addressed the theme “Sustainable and Safe Dams Around the World.” Nearly 400 submissions were received, over 300 papers were published in the Proceedings, 198 oral presentations and approximately 70 posters were made in Ottawa. The Technical Papers are available for a limited time at www.icold-cigb2019.ca.



Either in listening to the Symposium, by participating in a Technical Committee, or by reading the book published by the Canadian Dam Association, the delegates were able to deepen their technical knowledge





Technical Committees are at the heart of ICOLD's work. They elaborate the guidance documents which give the state of the art on a specific subject.



The range of technical topics included in the symposium was illustrated by the three keynote addresses.

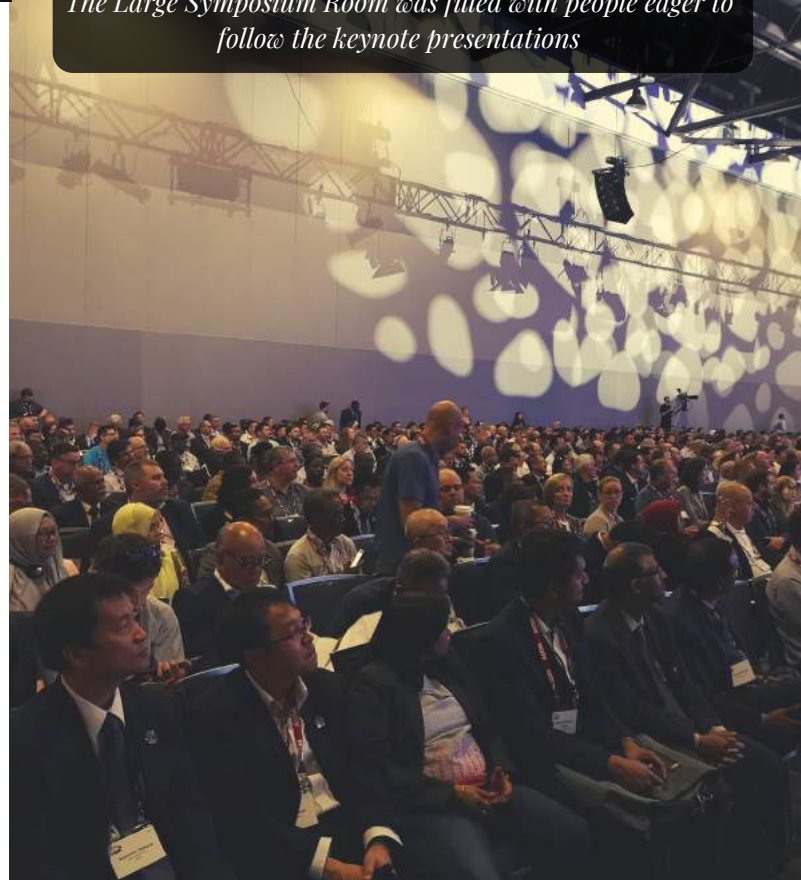
- Suzanne Lacasse of the Norwegian Geotechnical Institute made a brilliant presentation on reliability and risk-based approaches for the design and safety evaluation of dams; the full paper, authored by Lacasse and Honorary President Karl Höeg can be read at www.icold-cigh2019.ca.
- Members of the International Independent Expert Panel (Anton Schleiss, Ahmed Chraibi and Jean-Pierre Tournier) presented their findings on the cause of the 2018 failure of Saddle Dam D of the Xe Pian Xe Namnoy Project in Laos.
- Harvey McLeod spoke about the challenges of upstream tailings dams, with reference to the 2019 Brumadinho failure in Brazil.

The Large Symposium Room was filled with people eager to follow the keynote presentations

Focus on Tailing Dams

Given the recent series of failures on tailing dams, a particular effort was done to engage the mining dams community in ICOLD 2019, and the response was excellent. Mining companies and consultants were active as sponsors, exhibitors and presenters, something which never happened before in ICOLD Meetings. Short course, ICOLD Committee workshop and meeting, and several technical sessions focussing on tailings dams were all very well attended.

The Exhibit Hall gave participants an opportunity to connect with owners, National Committees, consultants, and suppliers and provided a forum to exchange information on many facets of the dam industry. In all, 74 companies and organizations hosted 79 booths.





*A group of Officials cuts the Exhibition's ribbon
 From left to right : Don Butcher, Executive Director, CDA; Michael Rogers, ICOLD President; Jean-Pierre Tournier, Organizing Committee co-chair; Michel de Vivo, ICOLD Secretary General, and Tony Bennett, Director of Dam and Public Safety for Ontario Power Generation*

The ICOLD General Assembly was held on Friday June 14, 2019, when the representatives from 72 countries gathered for the Annual Meeting.

A full day of seminars was offered to delegates who did not attend the General Assembly. These seminars presented topics of interest to the dam community, organized by partner organizations including Waterpower Canada, Mining Association of Canada, Ontario Waterpower Association, Hydro Quebec, International Waterpower Association, SNC Lavalin, Hatch, Ouranos, Canadian Geotechnical Society, Lasalle/NHC, Utah State University, University of Liège, KNCOLD, World Bank and Électricité de France.

Young Generations

A special commitment toward the young generation was done and the result was successful: 10% of the delegates were 35 years old or younger. This was the highest number ever reported at an ICOLD Annual Meeting. The full week of activities began on Monday afternoon with a keynote speech at the Young Engineers Forum, by Boris Martin, CEO of Engineers Without Borders, Canadian Chapter. A special social event for young professionals networking was attended at capacity, and a mentorship program was organized to bring younger delegates together to talk to more "seasoned" professionals. At the closing banquet, Marie Hélène Briand (Global Director, Water Power from Hatch) presented awards to **Rikard Hellgren** from KTH, Sweden, and **Brian Andruchow** of Golder, Canada, for the best symposium papers by Young Professionals. The best poster award was given to **Rashid Radzi** from TNB, Malaysia.



A great success for the Young Engineers Forum





Group photo during the Social Events



Social Events

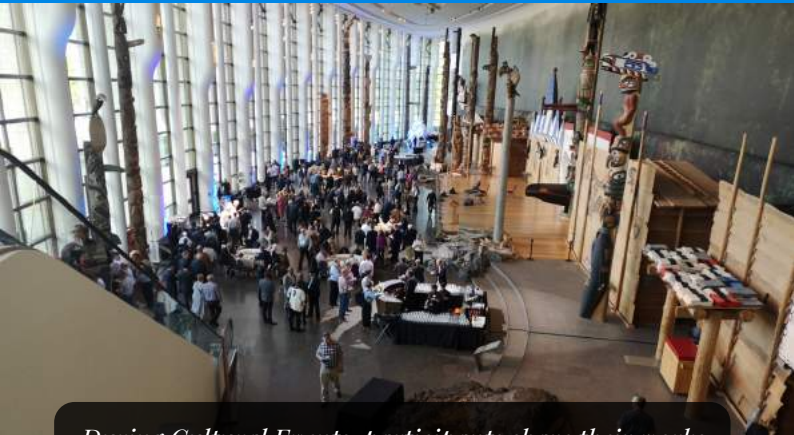
Evening social activities provided the opportunity to strengthen national and international networks after a full day of learning on technical topics. At each of the three social events, one of the “Diamond” sponsors welcomed the participants and spoke of the value of ICOLD and CDA to their companies - BC Hydro, Hydro Quebec, and Ontario Power Generation.

At the opening reception on June 10, Réal Laporte, from Hydro-Québec, reminded that the last ICOLD event held in Canada took place in Montreal in 2003, and he encouraged all delegates to take advantage of this incredible opportunity to share their knowledge. Judging by the comments made over the week, this advice seems to have been heard.

KEY POINTS

MAIN DECISIONS TAKEN DURING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

- **2 New Vice-Presidents** were elected: *Mr Devandra Sharma (India)* in replacement of *Mr J. Zhou (China)* and *Mr Enrique Cifres (Spain)* in replacement of *Mr M. Lino (France)*
- **Gothenburg (Sweden)** was elected to host the **91th Annual Meeting in 2023**
- The **Questions for the 27th Congress in Marseille (France) in 2021** were chosen:
 - “Concrete Dam Design Innovation and Performance”
 - “Incidents and Accidents concerning Dams”
 - “Surveillance, Instrumentation, Monitoring and Data acquisition”
 - “Dams and Climate Change”
- **5 new Bulletins** were approved: *"Tailing Dams Design – Technology Update"*, *"Sediment Management in Reservoirs: National Regulations and Case Studies"*, *"Selection of Dam Type"*, *"Management of Expansive Chemical Reaction in Concrete Dams & Hydroelectric Projects"* & *"Challenges and Needs for Dams in the 21st Century"*.
- **2 personalities** received the **Honorary Awards**:
 - *Dr. Ma Hongqi (China)* & *Dr. Malcolm Dunstan (United Kingdom)*



During Cultural Events, participants share their works as well as great meals !



The cultural evening at the Canadian Museum of History was a notable success thanks to the majestic location and access to galleries displaying Canadian history. Bob Schubak, Director of Dam Safety for BC Hydro, invited the crowd to enjoy the evening's musical entertainment and culinary journey.

Marking the end of a week of activities, on Friday the farewell banquet was the perfect time to allow Tony Bennett, Director of Dam and Public Safety for Ontario Power Generation, another of the three main sponsors, to address the delegates and acknowledge the contributions of so many people and companies to the success of the week. In closing, he encouraged delegates to share their learnings with colleagues back in their home countries and continue participating in the opportunities that ICOLD offers, and invite them to come to New Delhi.

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OUR NEXT EVENT

88TH ANNUAL MEETING & SYMPOSIUM

on

"Sustainable Development of Dams and River Basins"



4-10 APRIL 2020
NEW DELHI

www.icold2020.org