



**The UofA**  
**Geotechnical Centre**



*First Circular*  
**International Short Course on**  
**Permafrost Engineering**

**Effective Design and Construction in  
Permafrost Regions**

May 10 to 15, 2007  
Edmonton, Alberta

**Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering**  
University of Alberta  
and  
**Cold Regions Geotechnology Division**  
Canadian Geotechnical Society



## Permafrost Engineering

May 10 to 15, 2006 in Edmonton, Alberta

### Why should you Attend this Course

#### Upon completion of the course you will:

- Have a working knowledge of logistic challenges of building in Northern Regions.
- Understand the origin and different types of ground ice
- Know how to determine the existing thermal regime and impact of changing environmental conditions on this regime.
- Understand the unique behavior of freezing, frozen and thawing soils and understand how to design for these conditions.
- Know how to evaluate and design foundations and slopes in permafrost.
- Be exposed to case histories related to hydrocarbon pipelines in permafrost, mine design, tailings impoundments under Arctic conditions and pile foundation support systems in regions of saline permafrost.

### Who should Attend this Course?

If you are an engineer who has never attended a permafrost engineering course, or want to learn about the latest information in permafrost engineering.

- Public works engineer
- Environmental engineer
- Geotechnical engineer
- Mining engineer
- Construction engineer
- Pipeline engineer
- Regulatory engineer
- Engineers – in-training



## COURSE CONTENT

### Introduction

Definition of the North.  
Environmental Considerations.  
Geology and Physiography of Northern Regions.  
Definition of Permafrost and its distribution.  
Engineering challenges working in a permafrost.

### Surface Features (landforms) in permafrost areas

Features associated with freezing, thawing or cyclic freezing and thaw.

### Ground Ice and Ground Ice Landforms

Surface and atmospheric water.  
Subsurface water.  
Ground ice and geology.  
Engineering classification of permafrost soils.

### Ground Thermal Regime in Permafrost Areas

Earth's energy balance.

### Thermal Properties of Frozen and Unfrozen Soils

Thermal conductivity, specific heat, latent heat, and apparent specific heat.

### Heat Flow Equations

No phase change, phase change and heat flow around pipes.

### Site Investigation in Permafrost Areas

General considerations.  
Logistics.  
Drilling and sampling.  
Geophysical techniques.  
Temperature measuring systems.

### Frozen Soils Mechanical Properties

Elastic Parameters  
Strength properties  
Effect of temperature, ice content, confining pressure and time  
Special aspects of failure of frozen ground  
Creep behavior

### Mechanics of Thawing Ground

Amount of thaw settlement and time rates of settlement.  
Linear theory of thaw consolidation.

### Freezing of Soils and Frost Heave Theory

Frost heave mechanics

### Foundations in Permafrost

Geothermal aspects  
Shallow foundations  
Piles

### Slope Stability in Permafrost

Falls, flows and slides  
Creep  
Cuts in permafrost

### Case Histories



## Course Conduct and Instructors

You will have numerous opportunities during the course to interact with and learn from the exceptional experienced instructors. Each is a professional engineer with extensive permafrost engineering experience in leading edge research and consulting, as well as, being dedicated to your learning

### **Kevin Biggar, P.Eng., Ph.D.**

Dr. Biggar has worked in Arctic and cold temperature environments since 1981. He has considerable experience in foundations, frost heave, and fate and transport of contaminants in these conditions. He currently co-teaches the Permafrost Engineering graduate course at the University of Alberta. He has done research in the following areas related to Cold Regions engineering: assessment of the fate of petroleum spills in permafrost, remediation of petroleum contaminated sites in Canadian climates, improvement of foundations in permafrost, improvement of electrical grounding in permafrost, ground freezing for soil stabilization and sampling of loose cohesion less sediments, use of freeze-separation to clean up contaminated waters. He also chairs a biennial workshop on assessment and remediation of contaminated sites in Arctic and cold climates

### **K. Wayne Savigny, Ph.D., P.Eng., P.Geo., P.Geol.**

Dr. Savigny is co-founder and a principal of BGC Engineering Inc. He has extensive experience in the overlapping fields of Geological/Geotechnical Engineering, Permafrost Engineering and Engineering Geology, and specializes in the investigation and analysis of geological complexities as they influence engineered development. He has directed large geotechnical engineering and engineering geology investigations for earth dams, tunnels, thermal power plants, pipelines, mines and large

industrial complexes, including many in permafrost regions of Canada, Alaska and Russia. He is a specialist in slope stability hazard identification and mitigation, with experience throughout North and South America and Europe. He has been retained as both an advisor and expert for review panels, litigation cases, inquests, and public hearings.

### **David C. Segó, Ph.D., P.Eng.**

Dr. Segó is a Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta. He currently co-teaches a course on Permafrost Engineering. His industrial experience and research interest focus on behavior of saline and non-saline permafrost and special problems with foundations in saline permafrost. He has directed extensive research studying the interaction of offshore Arctic structures and sea ice. Recently he has undertaken research into dewatering of mine wastes using freeze-thaw, and separating contaminants from industrial wastewater using spray-freezing technology. He also has directed industrial projects and research directed at using artificial ground freezing. Dr. Segó received his B.Sc. and Ph.D. from the University of Alberta



## General Information

**Fee Covers** Five full days of instruction, course notes, textbook, list of references for further study, break refreshments, and lunches. Fee does not include lodging or other meals. We do not publish proceedings, and due to copyright laws, course materials are not available for resale after the course.

**Cancellation** We strongly encourage enrollment in advance as enrollment will be limited and course conduct is also predicted on adequate enrollment. If you cannot attend once enrolled, please notify us immediately. We will refund your fee, or you can have someone take your place. This is a limited enrollment course and "no-shows" will be billed the full amount if they have not cancelled a minimum of 7 days prior to the start of the course.

**Payment** Please forward your cheque made payable to The University of Alberta (Permafrost Course) with your registration form. MasterCard and Visa are also accepted for payment of fees. Upon receipt of payment your registration will be confirmed by email or fax.

**Enrollment Options** Enrollment in advance by fax, phone or mail is recommended before April 20, 2007 (Fee \$1900). After that date, enrollment is available with an additional fee of \$500. If inadequate enrollment is not received by April 20, 2007, the course will be cancelled and payments refunded. Be sure you receive our confirmation before the course or call 780-492-2176. The course

participants will receive a copy of O.B. Andersland and B. Ladanyi's book published in 2003. Students will also receive a two CD set of presentation made at the **Permafrost and Arctic Geotechnology Symposium – Our Canadian Legacy** held November 15 and 16, 2004 in Calgary, Alberta.

**Course Location and Accommodation** This course will be held at the Allan Markin/CNRL Natural Resources Engineering Facility (91 Avenue and 116 Street), University of Alberta.

**Campus Tower Suite Hotel:** Reservations call 1-800-661-6562 or (780) 439-6060. Inform the reservation specialist that you will be attending the University of Alberta Permafrost Engineering Short Course. The standard rooms are available at \$119/night.

**Lister Hall Conference Centre:** Reservations call: 1-800-615-4807 New Hotel Style rooms are also available at \$85 per night including continental breakfast, parking, and daily housekeeping.

**Varscona:** Reservations call: (780) 434-6111. Inform the reservation specialist that you will be attending the University of Alberta Permafrost Engineering Short Course. The standard rooms are available at \$125/night.

**The Met Hotel:** Reservations call: (780) 465-8150. Inform the reservation specialist that you will be attending the University of Alberta Permafrost Engineering Short Course. The standard rooms are available at \$145/night.

**Note:** Both the Varscona and the Met Hotel are located on Whyte Avenue and within walking distance of the University.



## Four Easy Ways to Enroll



Phone: 780-492-2176



Fax: 780-492-8198



Mail to:  
U of A Geotechnical Center  
(Permafrost Short Course)  
University of Alberta  
Dept. Civil & Environmental Eng.  
Room 1-133 Markin/CNRL Natural  
Resources Engineering Facility  
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2W2



Internet:  
<http://www.ualberta.ca>

Email: [sally.petaske@ualberta.ca](mailto:sally.petaske@ualberta.ca)

## Enrollment Form

### Course Information

Please enroll me in **Permafrost Engineering**  
**May 10-to 15, 2006** in Edmonton, Alberta

**Fee:** (before April 20, 2007): \$1,900.00  
(after April 20, 2007): \$2,400.00

### Registration Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Prov./Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Cardholder \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_

VISA \_\_\_\_\_ MASTERCARD \_\_\_\_\_

\* Further communication with participants will be via email.