

ROADBuilder

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 3

The quarterly publication of Ontario Road Builders' Association

STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE

ORBA MEMBERS MAKE A
POSITIVE IMPACT
DURING COVID-19

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COLUMNS

Message from the Chief Executive Officer	8
Around Queen's Park	10

FEATURES

Stepping Up to the Plate	14
<i>ORBA members make a positive impact during COVID-19</i>	
Carlo Bot Joins ORBA's Hall of Fame	20
<i>Honouring an industry veteran</i>	
ORBA's 93rd Annual Convention & AGM	22
<i>Staying ahead of the curve</i>	
Celebrating Excellence	24
<i>ORBA's 2019 Award Winners</i>	

DEPARTMENTS

Education	28
New Members	32
Professional Services Directory	34



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MAKING THE BEST OF IT IN TROUBLED TIMES



BRYAN HOCKING
Chief Executive Officer

It is my pleasure to introduce the Summer 2020 issue of ORBA's *ROADBuilder Magazine*. Although I do so from my home office, I assure you that my time away from our head office has been far from dull. These last few months have unearthed new obstacles for ORBA members, and our dedicated team of volunteers and employees are working all out to tackle these problems from our respective locations across the province.

If there's one unexpected benefit of this crisis, it has been increased communication with the Ministry of Transportation. At the request of the Hon. Caroline Mulroney, our President James McVeety, Second Vice President Rocky Coco, and our Director of Policy and Stakeholder Relations Andrew Hurd and I hold regular meetings with the Minister and her senior staff for the purpose of keeping her well informed on the state of the construction industry during the period of the pandemic. When possible, two additional members of our Board of

Directors have joined us for each meeting. These one-on-one discussions are an essential part of our week as they let us convey our members' concerns and table important issues directly with the Minister. I am happy to report that the Minister is very well informed on the issues of the day and is always engaged in discussions surrounding the issues that we bring to the table. I am also pleased to advise that she is more than prepared to intervene and take action on matters of importance to both the government and our industry as a whole.

The President, Director of Policy and Stakeholder Relations, and I also hold regular meetings with Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) Jennifer Graham Harkness and the senior management team at MTO in St. Catharines. At these meetings we address similar concerns to those raised at the meeting with the Minister, but in more granular detail. Since starting these meetings in early April, we have addressed major issues – some have

had successful outcomes, some are still part of ongoing serious discussions, and some are still on the table and yet to be resolved.

High on our priority list of issues to bring to the Minister's attention has been the clarity on the capital project pipeline. We have emphasized the need for early release of tenders to build confidence in the industry at this time. Equally important is the need for more explicit language in contracts regarding how contractors can be reimbursed if their work is hindered by unforeseen delays and extra costs related to health and safety. Without this clarity, contractors are left with little choice but to submit higher bids to protect themselves from the unknown, ultimately leading to higher costs for owners. To that end, we have provided the MTO with clearer language for consideration and hope to see this issue solved sooner rather than later. MTO is currently gathering information from a cross section of our contractors to help determine the impact that COVID-19 is having on their operations. This will hopefully provide them with enough data to assist in the development of appropriate contact relief language.

These are not the only issues on our radar, of course. Working with OAPC, ORBA has taken the matter of End Result Specification (ERS) bonuses/penalties to MTO and made a strong case for change in how end result specifications are calculated. So far we have been unable to convince MTO of the need for change, but we have not conceded and will continue to fight for a win in this regard. Speaking of



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wins, with the help of many of our sister organizations we did win on the subject of releasing holdbacks. We continue to work with MTO on revisions to the OPSS 127 rental rate schedule and expect to see a resolution in this regard. Bonding is another issue we raised with MTO, for which we now have a resolution for the upfront repayment of bond premiums. We have raised concerns about availability of PPE, the RAQS legacy problems, and a host of other issues that topped our agenda before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout, we have told the Minister and MTO that ORBA members are ready and willing to work and will do so with the highest regard for health and safety.

We are also taking this time to build on ORBA's outreach. Our team hosts regular meetings with industry stakeholders, keeps our website and social media feeds updated, and is connecting ORBA members at every opportunity. Additionally, through the dedicated efforts of the ORBA COVID-19 Response Team and our Head Office staff as a whole, we have developed and hosted a series of COVID-19 related webinars that continue to grow in popularity across the industry. This webinar program will continue in the days and months ahead as things return to "normal."

That being said, pandemic safety guidelines have unfortunately led to the cancellation of several ORBA and OAPC events, such as the Spring Operations Seminar, the Summer

Round Up and the Members' Golf Tournament. The Partners in Quality Tour was replaced with a webinar and we are reviewing our calendars with regard to future events. Where we can adapt these programs or "go virtual" we will, but the reality is that many of our plans are up in the air until we can assure the health and safety of attendees, our guest speakers and the staff.

Even though we are unable to meet in person, we can still celebrate individuals and team achievements in our industry this past year. In the pages ahead, we look back at the award winners from our 2019 ORBA Honours program and spotlight how some members are supporting their communities during this difficult time. Our industry is facing one of its most difficult years on record, but these trying times are bringing out the best in everyone.

Finally, I want to thank everyone who has stepped up during this crisis, including the ORBA members that continue to build upon our reputation. Though we may be spread out among home offices and remote operations, I am encouraged to see that we are committed to moving forward together.

Please stay safe, everyone.

Bryan Hocking
Chief Executive Officer, ORBA



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By **ANDREW HURD**
Director, Policy and
Stakeholder Relations

AROUND QUEEN'S PARK

I'd like to begin by sharing with you something that I'm acutely aware of throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. At almost every opportunity, the road building and wider construction industry has led the way on pandemic-related issues faced by the sector. This is especially true on safety. A consistent theme in our meetings with senior government and agency leaders is that the construction sector is hailed as an example to follow as the economy reopens. I'm sure I speak for all of the members and staff engaged in government relations on behalf of ORBA when I say I am proud to advocate for an Association that engages heads and hearts in equal measure. Full credit to ORBA members for the care, innovation and adaptation you've shown in keeping everyone as safe as possible during exceedingly difficult circumstances.

I'm a firm believer that a simple plan in times of crisis is a strong plan. I believe the ORBA COVID-19 government relations strategy that we put in place at the beginning of the pandemic is evidence of that. This strategy involves a two-pronged approach: ORBA to government and ORBA through our alliances to government. This approach serves three main goals: an amplified safety-first culture (always #1 for our members), pipeline integrity and clarity, and contractual fairness for all parties. Significantly enhanced with the regular meetings with Minister Caroline Mulroney and senior Ministry leadership, this

basic strategy has worked well. We haven't won on every issue, but in most cases, we've been able to advance discussion on ORBA priorities. The following summary highlights some of the work we've been engaged in and issues we continue to advance.

ESSENTIAL SERVICE DESIGNATION

One of the first major hurdles we faced was ensuring that member operations were declared essential services. This occurred on March 23, with ORBA receiving written confirmation from MTO on April 1. Through direct conversations with Minister Mulroney, multi-ministry roundtables, and through our input into multi-association submissions to the provincial cabinet, ORBA helped to expand the essential service designation to residential and ICI projects already underway on April 3. Members of the ORBA Executive Committee were especially effective in advocating for the start of below-grade work on new residential projects, which occurred on May 6.

SAFETY

With the road building sector declared an essential service, developing new safety protocols was key. ORBA joined partner associations to assist in developing general industry protocols, which was then endorsed by the IHSA Labour Management Network. The bulk of those recommendations were included in the Ministry of Labour health and safety guidelines overseen by the Chief Preven-

tion Officer (CPO). We continued to press for clarity to address protocol when working within the six-foot rule until it was addressed. ORBA also provided input into a working group with MTO and partner associations that led to the creation of electronic ticket collection and sample collection guidelines.

Between March and mid-June, the ORBA Occupational Health and Safety Committee met every week to discuss these and other important issues and to share enhanced best practices. Committee members have been integral to the success of our ORBA webinar series and continue to provide valuable insight used by ORBA Board members in our weekly meetings with Minister Mulroney and senior government leadership. OH&S Committee meetings now continue on a biweekly basis. ORBA has also participated in discussions with the WSIB. Together with our sector partners we successfully advocated for COVID-19 claims costs to be spread across the rate base, with no individual employer liability. When it comes to pandemic-related claims, the WSIB has indicated to us that the construction sector is performing well.

CONTRACT RELIEF LANGUAGE

I'm well aware that there continues to be a lot of member frustration with the lack of information on this crucial issue. In a letter to MTO in March, ORBA recommended that the government present a policy statement with a commitment to intro-

duce relief language for current and future contracts. That letter formed the basis for future wider construction sector submissions to the provincial cabinet, including draft legal language. This language was meant to cover the broader sector, and as such, we thought it would be best placed under the *Emergency Management Act* for purposes of speed of enactment.

We have raised this issue at every opportunity with the Minister of Transportation, senior Ministry leadership and the CEOs of Metrolinx (MX) and Infrastructure Ontario (IO). We continue to receive verbal assurance that this is being worked on in the background, however all signs point to a coordinated “whole of government” approach with MTO, IO, MX moving in concert with one another, further exacerbating timelines. Recently, the Minister and her Ministry notified us that a centralized provincial government outreach effort with MTO input has begun to better understand COVID-19 impacts on construction projects as objectively as possible. This is a positive step in the right direction.

PIPELINE

In May we received a letter from Minister Mulroney with a commitment to rolling out \$2.3 billion of capital projects for 2020/21. This is a similar total to each of the previous two years of funding. Further MTO capital information was provided in subsequent meetings, including the tendering of a projected 154 projects this year, slightly higher in volume than last year. Q1 was slower than anticipated, and 34 additional rehab projects were released in April in part to compensate. We continue to ask for a list of outstanding tenders by quarter and remain hopeful that this will arrive soon.

In July, MTO released their North/South Highway Plan, offering an interactive map and information on tenders underway and planned for the next three years. While we think this program is a good start, we've indicated several concerns to the Ministry about the level of detail and the frequency of updates. The Ministry has indicated

they're working on these issues. Infrastructure Ontario released their P3 Spring Market Update on June 18. Thirty-seven P3 projects worth over \$60 billion were identified, including three projects in procurement and 24 projects in the pre-transaction stage. New to this update were DBF plans for Highways 3 and 17. Both of these procurements, first announced in Ontario's spring fiscal update, are scheduled to be in market during the first half of next year.

MUNICIPAL STIMULUS

In the early days of the pandemic, several members brought to ORBA's attention municipalities that were delaying and shutting down projects, with some being cancelled outright. Although there are signs that this situation has somewhat stabilized, the pandemic exacerbates a problem that long pre-dated it: municipalities own more than 50 per cent of the infrastructure in the province, yet before the pandemic they were struggling with a \$28-billion deficit in roads and bridges funding (\$60 billion if the ICI backlog is included).

In conversations with the Ministry's senior leadership, we've reiterated that many of our members are primarily municipal contractors and

that members bidding on provincial work also depend on a steady supply of municipal contracts. ORBA contributed to two wider sector submissions to the provincial cabinet with recommendations on a phased economic reopening, including seeking opportunities to regionalize the management of infrastructure in small and medium-sized municipalities to establish economies of scale.

Projects that are funded through the federal Investing in Canada Plan, with contributions from provincial and municipal governments, are scheduled to move ahead. On July 27, Minister Mulroney joined Premier Doug Ford to announce \$4 billion in assistance to Ontario's municipalities, inclusive of federal funding, which is certainly welcome news.

BONDING

I'm pleased to report that there has been a resolution on the upfront repayment of bond premiums. Members can now expect a new line item to be added to MTO contracts in the coming weeks. Thank you to the ORBA members who volunteered their time and expertise in assisting us in getting this over the finish line. ■



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STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE

ORBA MEMBERS MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT DURING COVID-19

By **MATTHEW BRADFORD**

The road building community has a history of coming together in times of adversity, and these days are no exception. Across the provinces, ORBA members are going the extra mile to support their respective teams, colleagues and communities through the COVID-19 pandemic.

As Taylor Cavanagh, a Brand Management Professional with Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited, aptly states: “We were all faced with the same challenge, and our ability to work together and support our community proved how resilient our industry is.”

One of the most common ways ORBA members have stepped up during the pandemic is with the donation of vital healthcare supplies. Thomas Cavanagh Construction, for example, has given over 2,700 of its N95 masks to local nursing homes and hospitals throughout the Ottawa region. “When the COVID-19 outbreak began, we saw a dire need for masks within healthcare. We repurposed the heavy-duty masks we use in our garage and body shop for internal use so we could donate our supply of

N95 masks to our healthcare heroes who needed them most,” Cavanagh explains.

Nearby, the Tomlinson Group also leveraged its size and resources, contributing over 20,000 N95 masks to Ottawa’s healthcare professionals. “Tomlinson has always had deep roots within our communities, and when COVID-19 started, we received a lot of feedback and testimonials from our employees who had family members working as frontline workers and struggling to protect themselves,” says Stephanie Tessier, Vice President, Business Development with the Tomlinson Group. “We decided right then and there that we had to take action and ensure we were helping as many organizations as possible.”

Material support has also been given by members in and around the GTA. When Toronto Zenith Contracting Limited learned of PPE shortages at nearby healthcare facilities, its team dug into its own supply of PPEs to donate N95 masks to both Providence Healthcare and West Mississauga Medical.

THOMAS CAVANAGH CONSTRUCTION LIMITED



According to the firm's President, Aldo Paganelli, "I've sat on the Providence Healthcare Foundation Board for a number of years, which is how I found out that there was an immediate need for COVID-19 supplies. We already had some N95 masks that we weren't using... so we had no issue with giving them to people who were out there saving lives."

In addition to sharing its masks, Toronto Zenith contributed \$10,000 to Providence Healthcare's "Tim Rutledge COVID-19 Emergency Fund." Paganelli says the motivation behind the firm's donations was simple: "That's what we do in this business - we help build communities. We're out there every day building critical infrastructure, and in times like these we need to show leadership."

Member contributions to healthcare have also extended beyond provincial borders. When Black & McDonald caught wind of the British Columbia-based Vernon Jubilee Hospital Foundation's desire to install a rooftop beacon that would highlight the dedication of its staff, it was quick to answer the call. The firm supported the design, construction and installation of a 20ft by 20ft "beating heart" structure on the hospital's tower and donated all labour costs for the project.

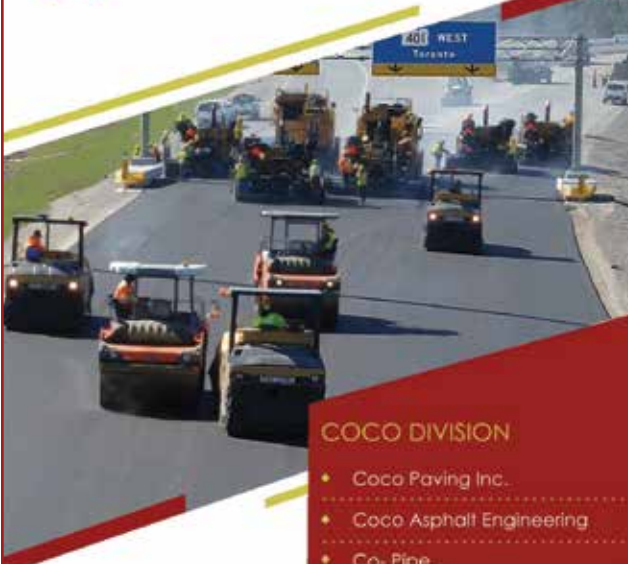
This is one of the many initiatives that Black & McDonald has been involved in across the country. In southwestern Ontario, the firm donated special protection kits to support Hamilton's homeless community. It also donated to Kitchener-Waterloo's COVID-19 Emergency Fund. "At Black & McDonald, we are strongly committed to serving our customers and supporting our communities and those in need. In all our work, B&M employees are motivated to go above and beyond to support the communities that we serve while delivering quality solutions that stand the test of time," says Tareq Ali, Director of Corporate Marketing and Communications with the company.

NOURISHING COMMUNITIES

Quarantine conditions and record unemployment have made fresh and nutritious meals hard to come by for many Canadians. Here again, ORBA members have helped keep vulnerable community members and frontline workers safe and fed throughout the crisis.



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BLACK & MCDONALD



For the Tomlinson Group, that support took the form of a \$50,000 donation to the Ottawa Food Bank after discovering demand for its services had risen nearly three times since the start of the pandemic. For Black & McDonald, it was teaming up with Nando's Canada during National Nursing Week 2020 in May to deliver free lunch and dinner to hundreds of staff at Toronto's Kensington Gardens long-term care home and the Women's College Hospital's COVID-19 Assessment Centre.

Meanwhile AMICO Infrastructures Inc. made a company-wide donation to the Breakfast Club of Canada to help provide meals to more than 7,700 children who were no longer able to access breakfast through their schools. "Most of our staff have children and can't fathom being in a position where you can't give them a bowl of cereal, a fresh muffin, or glass of milk to start their day. That's what really drove us to select Breakfast Club of Canada as our charity of choice," says Dave Hunter, Senior Manager of Business Development with AMICO, noting, "By looking out for our children, especially during times like these, you are looking out for your future."

On top of this donation, AMICO launched a program to deliver fresh meals to healthcare workers who had chosen to quarantine themselves in a nearby hotel. As Hunter recalls: "I had heard there were over 50 doctors, lab technicians and nurses

who were choosing to self-isolate away from their families while they worked. When I brought it to the attention of AMICO's leadership, their immediate reaction was to do whatever we could to get them a home-cooked meal once a week."

Soon after, AMICO teamed up with Spago, a popular Windsor Italian Eatery, to do just that. Spago agreed to provide meals for the initiative at cost, and the program took off. "What started as an initiative meant to last a few weeks turned out to be something completely unexpected," says Hunter. "The reaction on social media and within our community was incredible; eventually, we had nine companies donating to the program. That allowed us to deliver over 60 meals a week for a period of 10 weeks."

Big things can also come from humble ideas. This was demonstrated at EllisDon Civil Ltd. Project Manager Russell Lomibao Abelido was arranging food delivery for his girlfriend at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto when a colleague suggested launching a GoFundMe fundraising campaign to take the idea further. "At first, we thought we'd just deliver meals to people at St. Mike's and it would be a one-off program, but the donations kept coming in and we realized could do a lot more," says Abelido.

Donations for the initiative quickly swelled to nearly half a million dollars. Thanks to the full support of EllisDon and discounted meals from their newfound partners at Paramount Fine Foods, the team served over 6,500 meals to 77 institutions.

AMICO INFRASTRUCTURES INC.



The initiative didn't end there. With industry support mounting and donations continuing to pour in, Abelido created Stand Together Canada (standtogethertocanada.org), an official non-profit organization dedicated to the effort. Through it, the EllisDon team has donated 5,000 pounds of dried goods to women's shelters in the Greater Toronto Area and launched the Access to Success campaign, which provides school supplies to Indigenous communities in Northern Ontario and Nunavut and is on track to donate 5,000 refurbished laptops to children in need throughout the province.

"Many of the social inequalities that existed prior to the pandemic have been amplified by COVID-19, so Access to Success is our way to try to even the playing field as we transition into this new, virtual learning environment," notes Abelido. After all, he adds: "You never know who is going to be the next business leader – the next Elon Musk or Bill Gates – so if we can help support these kids and make their lives a little easier, we need to do whatever we can."

KEEPING CONNECTIONS

Accurate, timely and reliable communication has been crucial throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, especially among those clients and vendors whose livelihoods depend on their ability to stay current on COVID-19 trends, developments or guidelines. With this in mind, ORBA members have taken this time to step up as leaders within their respective business communities. Tomlinson, for example, continues to provide regular COVID-19 updates on its different websites and regularly sends newsletters and weekly emails with focused pandemic safety information and updates to its network.

"Many of our customers and partners are small- to medium-sized businesses that lack the resources to conduct extensive searches on how to stay safe during COVID-19 and what is recommended for businesses," says Tomlinson Group's Tessier.



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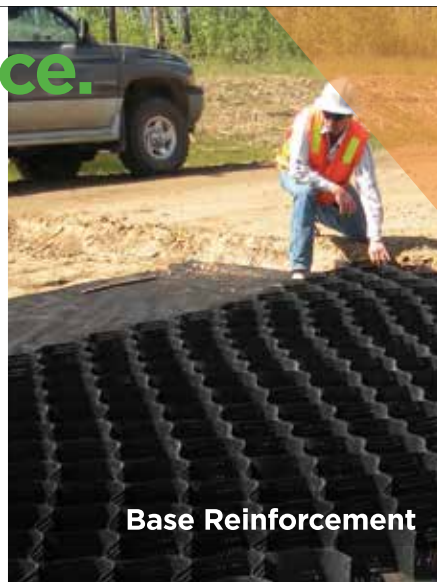
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"A lot of them reached out to us for guidance, and we've been working on getting clarity on what was necessary for them to operate safely in their segment of operation. And for those who cannot work right now, we try to offer them guidance on how to prepare for when they will be able to start operating again."

Black & McDonald has also recently set up a new dedicated website, www.blackandmcdonaldhealth.com. The portal provides updates and information to employees, customers and other stakeholders on all the different steps it is taking as a company to carry out essential services safely and effectively, as well as resources on a variety of COVID-19 topics that range from health and wellness to jobsite safety practices.

These are only a few examples showing how ORBA's member companies have stepped up to the plate during the time of COVID-19. Similar acts of compassion and industry leadership can be found throughout the association's extensive provincial network. Common among all these stories is an understanding that difficult times call for a united front, both for the benefit of communities and the road building industry.

"We have all felt vulnerable throughout this crisis, whether you are a company owner, an employee, trade partner, or a customer," says Cavanagh. "Fortunately, we're seeing the industry do what it always does best when it runs up against large-scale issues, which is we come together and do what we can to help everyone pull through." ■



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CARLO BOT JOINS ORBA'S HALL OF FAME

HONOURING AN INDUSTRY VETERAN

By **MATTHEW BRADFORD**

Carlo Bot is among the most reputed names in the Canadian construction community. This year, that name was added to ORBA's Hall of Fame in honour of the Sudbury roadbuilder's lengthy 60-plus year career.

"Carlo is one of those guys who lives and breathes construction," says Malcolm Croskery, Chief Operating Officer at Pioneer Construction Inc., who nominated Bot for the induction. "He built two large and successful companies and knows an incredible amount about road building. Even after all these years, he's still one of the go-to guys up there in Sudbury."

Bot's career stretches back to 1954 when, at the young age of 18, he immigrated to Canada from Italy with his sister to join their father. One year later, he found employment as a foreman with Halton Paving, which saw him working on high-profile road projects such as Highway 7 and Highway 401.

In 1957, Bot ventured out with his brothers Silvio, Luigi and Jack to form Bot Construction in Oakville, Ontario. The firm cut its teeth as a curb and gutter forming business and quickly expanded to offer a broad slate of services to clients across the province. Eight years later, Bot went north to run the firm's office in Sudbury and committed himself to building the company from his new northern home over the next three decades. "I like working here better," Bot reflected in an interview for ORBA's Keeping Ontario Moving book. "Traffic here isn't a big problem, and we don't have to work at night. People from down [south] don't want to come north, but most construction people like to work in the north. Very few go back."

The following chapter in Bot's career was written in 1993 when he decided to leave Bot Construction to create Teranorth Construction & Engineering Limited with his son James. "We started Teranorth when



I was 57 and everybody told me, 'Oh, you're gonna retire,' and I said, 'What? I'm not going to retire, I'm good for at least another 10 years,'" Bot recalls.

Today, Teranorth is among the largest companies of its kind in the province. Over the years, it has contributed to major road work for the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) along the Trans-Canada Highway 11/17, interchange construction on Highway 400, many provincial and municipal projects throughout the north, and a broad portfolio of bridgework, structure development and repair throughout the province. "We started slowly in the beginning," Bot says. "When Teranorth began, I was happy to do about five or six million a year. But then we just

went up and up from there, and in the last few years we've hit over a hundred million."

At 84, Bot continues to guide the company's growth as its Chairman. He is a familiar face both within the office and on the field, and a welcome guest at industry events. And while the success of his businesses is most certainly owed to his talents in the field, Bot's coworkers and industry colleagues are quick to cite his long-running passion and people-first approach as contributors to his legacy. "Carlo has been successful because of his work ethic and because of his care for his employees," said Gary Cooper, construction manager at Teranorth, following Bot's induction. "He's a generous man that looks after those around him."

"As successful as he's been, Carlo is still a down-to-earth blue-collar guy," agrees Croskery. "He's humble and a man of his word. In fact, one thing that I really respect about him is that he wants to make sure he gives a quality job to the owner. He will often say, 'It's not about the price; it's about giving the owner what they want or what they deserve.' He's got pride in the work that he does, and he loves his workforce like they're his family."

BUILDING A LEGACY

It has now been 28 years since Teranorth first hung out its shingles. And while Bot may have initially planned to retire 10 years after founding the company, he remains active in the company to this day. Reflecting on his trajectory so far, he says he is proud of the career he has built and to see his other son, Glenn, do the same with his company GDB Constructeurs. Moreover, Bot is honoured to join the ranks of ORBA's Hall of Fame, which includes his brother Silvio, who was inducted in 2017.

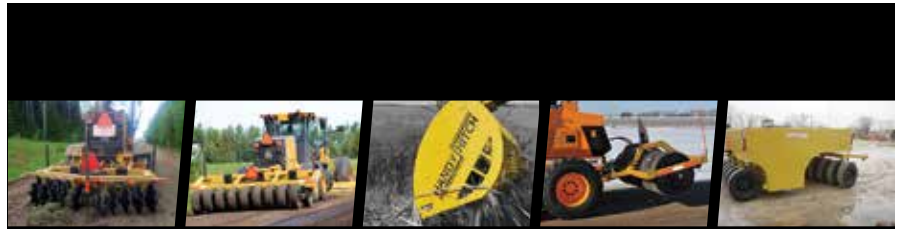
The induction ceremony took place at ORBA's 93rd Annual Convention on February 4, 2020, at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto. During the ceremony Bot expressed his gratitude for the association and his industry partners, noting, "I'd like to thank the MTO and the fine staff I've met over the last 60 years and the Province of Ontario for making it all happen."

Bot is the 24th inductee to ORBA's Hall of Fame, which was created in 2006 to honour professionals like Bot who have shaped the road building industry. In his statement to the media, ORBA Chief Executive Officer Bryan Hocking spoke about the impact that its Hall of Fame inductees have had on the profession, noting, "These individuals are a valuable asset to the Association and industry through their hard work and dedication to excellence. Their contributions have had a positive impact on not only the road building industry, but also on the communities in which they serve." ■

For the full list of ORBA Hall of Fame inductees, visit www.orba.org/awards/hall-of-fame/hall-of-fame-inductees/.

"As successful as he's been, Carlo is still a down-to-earth blue-collar guy. He's humble and a man of his word"

— Malcolm Croskery, Pioneer Construction Inc.



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ORBA'S 93RD ANNUAL CONVENTION & AGM

STAYING AHEAD OF THE CURVE

The Ontario Road Builders' Association's (ORBA) 93rd Annual Convention and Annual General Meeting took place on February 2 to 4, 2020, at the historic Fairmont Royal York Hotel in downtown Toronto. The convention brought together researchers, policy leaders and the best minds in the industry to provide attendees with the information needed to gain a clear perspective on how to stay ahead of the curve in meeting Ontario's ever-changing and growing infrastructure needs.

The gallery on these pages highlights key moments at the 2020 Convention, including the keynote presentation by Canadian author, environmentalist and politician Jim Harris, who is an expert on disruptive innovation, and our President's Inaugural Dinner guest speaker, former Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion, who during her 36-year tenure as mayor grew Mississauga from a small collection of villages to one of Canada's largest cities.

Thank you to all of our attendees and sponsors who made ORBA's 2020 Convention a success! To view a listing of the 2020 Convention sponsors, please visit <https://orba.org/orba-annual-convention-agm/>.



Keynote Presenter Jim Harris asks road builders the pivotal question: How much change is possible in the construction industry? A lot. He illustrates how the industry is going through a time of tremendous transformation.



During the luncheon, JP Gladu, then President and CEO of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB), addresses the current opportunities and challenges associated with building a modern economy in concert with Canada's Indigenous entrepreneurs.



2020 ORBA Board of Directors at the 93rd Annual ORBA Convention and AGM.



Jon Callegher, Executive Director at Job Talks, speaks candidly about the challenges of attracting young people to the road building industry. After his talk, he joins the youth panel to discuss and discover what motivated them to enter the industry. Participants in the panel discussion include: Amma Callegher (moderator), Canadian Regional Engineer, Asphalt Institute; Dan Currie, ORBA Scholarship Recipient; Nick Armstrong, Rankin Construction; Justin Ryan, R.W. Tomlinson Construction; Abigail Roberts, Aecon Construction.



Hazel McCallion, CM, former Mayor of Mississauga, touches on the importance of road builders working closely with municipalities.



Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation, expands on the development of infrastructure, noting: "The longstanding relationship between MTO and ORBA is such a crucial one." She also announced the 2019 MTO Paver of the Year Award and 2019 MTO Concrete Contractor of the Year Award.



James McVeety, ORBA President, Black & McDonald Limited, gives his inaugural president's address at the ORBA Convention 2020. McVeety was the chair of the 2020 Convention Planning Committee. Thanks to his leadership, attendees had an excellent time connecting, innovating and collaborating.



Fantastic comradery on the tradeshow floor at ORBA's 2020 Convention. Thank you to our exhibitors, sponsors and 900 delegates for making this an unforgettable convention.



Road builders network at the Contractors' Round Up. Thank you to everyone who participated in the silent auction. Together, we raised \$2,320 for the Canadian Cancer Society.



Congratulations to the Guess the Gross winner, Matt Mayer of Aecon Construction & Materials, who won a \$2,000 travel voucher. Thank you to our Guess the Gross Sponsor, HUB International Limited.

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

ORBA'S 2019 AWARD WINNERS

At ORBA's 93rd Convention & Annual General Meeting – *Staying Ahead of the Curve* – individuals and companies were presented with several awards for their exemplary service and dedication to the association and the road building industry in Ontario.

ORBA HONOURS

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

Established in 2015, the ORBA Community Leadership Award recognizes an ORBA member company, or an individual employed by an ORBA member company, for selflessly undertaking philanthropic activities or providing community service for the betterment of their community and the world around them. At the Awards Breakfast on February 4, the 2019 ORBA Community Leadership Award was presented to Powell Contracting Ltd. for the installation of 27 highly visible, newly designed, Crime Stoppers roadside signs throughout York Region.

ORBA Community Leadership Award presented to Powell Contracting Ltd.



L-R: James McVeety, ORBA President, and Philip Breault, Sustainability Manager, Powell Contracting Ltd.

ROUTLY SAFETY AWARDS

ORBA is dedicated to promoting the highest standards in health and safety and to the goal of an accident and injury free workplace. ORBA has presented the Routly Safety Awards since 1940 to member companies that have achieved superior performance in worker health and safety. The Routly Award was created in memory of ORBA founding member Herbert T. Routly, who died as a result of a workplace injury. The following Routly Safety Awards were presented at the Awards Breakfast.

Main Safety Award, Category I presented to Upper Canada Road Services Inc.

The Main Safety Award, Category I is awarded to member companies that have worked 100,000 average-person hours or less without a lost-time injury for three consecutive years.



L-R: James McVeety, ORBA President, and Jean Brunet, General Manager, Upper Canada Road Services.

Main Safety Award, Category II presented to Dagmar Construction Inc.

The Main Safety Award, Category II is awarded to member companies that have worked more than 100,000 average-annual person hours without a lost-time injury for three consecutive years.

Safety Milestone Award presented to Capital Paving Inc.

The Safety Milestone Award is awarded to member companies for reaching 500,000 and 1,000,000 consecutive-person hours without a lost-time injury. Capital Paving Inc. achieved 1,036,345 consecutive-person hours without a lost-time injury.



L-R: James McVeety, ORBA President, and Rick Feddema, Health and Safety and Risk Manager, Capital Paving Inc.

ORBA SCHOLARSHIPS

ORBA scholarships are presented annually to two high school and two post-secondary students who are enrolled in a civil engineering program at an Ontario university or a civil technology or technician program at an Ontario college. The 2019 recipients were recognized by ORBA President, James McVeety, during the Awards Breakfast. Videos were presented of each scholarship recipient highlighting the next generation of road builders.

ORBA Civil Engineering Technology Scholarship presented to Gavin Waugh, Conestoga College

Awarded to a student entering their first year of a civil engineering technology program at an Ontario college (\$2,000).

ORBA Civil Engineering Technology Scholarship presented to Angus MacRae, Queen's University

Awarded to a student entering their first year of a civil engineering technology program at an Ontario university (\$2,000).

J.D. Chick Scholarship presented to Maria Banayoty, Ryerson College

Awarded to a student entering their final year of a civil engineering program at an Ontario university (\$3,000).

Joe Bunting Scholarship presented to Stephen Vasilopoulos, Georgian College

Awarded to a student entering their final year of a civil engineering program at an Ontario college (\$3,000).



L-R: Angus MacRae, Maria Banayoty, Stephen Vasilopoulos and James McVeety, ORBA President.



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OAPC AWARDS

The OAPC Awards recognize and celebrate individuals who make a positive difference in the asphalt industry. During the Awards Breakfast at ORBA's 2020 Convention, incoming OAPC Chair Ivan Levac presented two awards. The first, the Honorary Life Membership Award, was awarded posthumously to William "Bill" Graham and accepted by Graham's son-in-law, Frank Steblaj. The second, the King Beamish Excellence Award, was presented to Christina Wright of BCX Environmental Consulting.

OAPC Honorary Life Membership Award presented posthumously to William "Bill" Graham, December 12, 1937 - January 15, 2019

The OAPC Honorary Life Membership Award recognizes members for their dedication to advancing the objectives of the Ontario Asphalt Pavement Council and who have performed notable service to the council.



L-R: OAPC Chair Ivan Levac and Frank Steblaj, Vice President of Administration, Graham Bros. Construction.



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OAPC King Beamish Excellence Award presented to Christina Wright, Senior Environmental Scientist and Partner, BCX Environmental Consulting

The King Beamish Excellence Award recognizes an ORBA member who has made an exemplary voluntary contribution to the works of the Association over a period of time and has demonstrated qualities that exemplify leadership, motivation and inspiration related to participation in the council.



L-R: OAPC Chair Ivan Levac and Christina Wright, Senior Environmental Scientist and Partner, BCX Environmental.

MTO PAVER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER

Presented annually at the ORBA Convention, the MTO Paver of the Year Award recognizes one provincial winner and three provincial finalists for excellence in hot mix paving. Projects are judged on a number of criteria such as smoothness, night paving, completion, workmanship and mix quality. The award was presented during the luncheon on February 3 to R.W. Tomlinson by the Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Ontario Minister of Transportation.

2019 MTO Asphalt Paving Contractor of the Year: R.W. Tomlinson Limited

Contract 2019-4001, Eastern Region, for their work on Highway 401 between Cobourg and Brighton.



L-R: Deputy Minister of Transportation, Shelley Tapp; Minister of Transportation, Hon. Caroline Mulroney; Ken McIntyre, Contract Manager, R.W. Tomlinson.

Finalists:

Coco Paving Ltd. – Contract 2019-4003, Eastern Region, for their work on Highway 33, near Picton.

Dufferin Construction – Contract 2018-2023, Central Region, for their work on Highway 8, near Cambridge.

MTO CONCRETE CONTRACT OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER

Established in 2016, the MTO Concrete of the Year Award recognizes one provincial winner and finalists for excellence in all aspects of concrete work. Projects are rated on material quality, aesthetics and workmanship for production and placement of pre-cast and cast-in-place concrete, as well as concrete removal operations. The award was presented during the luncheon on February 3 to Dufferin Construction by the Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Ontario Minister of Transportation.

2019 MTO Concrete Contractor of the Year: Dufferin Construction

Contract 2017-2019, West Region, for their work on Highway 7 & 85, in Kitchener. The prime contractor on the project was Dufferin Construction Company. The concrete for cast-in-place operations was supplied by Dufferin Concrete's Kitchener plant.

Finalist:

Clearwater Structures – Contract 2018-2019, Central Region, for their work on the Queen Elizabeth Way, at Walkers Line in Burlington.



L-R: Vincent Gangaram, Dufferin Construction Company; Minister of Transportation, Hon. Caroline Mulroney; Deputy Minister of Transportation, Shelley Tapp.

ONTARIO ROAD BUILDING HALL OF FAME 2020 INDUCTEE

The Hall of Fame designation is ORBA's highest honour and the Association is proud to have inducted Carlo Bot, Chairman of Teranorth Construction & Engineering Limited, at the President's Inaugural Dinner during the 2020 ORBA Convention.

For more than six decades, Bot has dedicated his life to building roads in Ontario. His contributions have had a positive impact on not only the road building industry, but also on the communities that road builders serve. At the President's Inaugural Dinner, Bot offered some advice to the next generation of road builders looking to get a start in the industry: "Start small and pay off the bills; then carry on and be consistent," he said. "Never give up."



L-R: Hall of Fame Inductee, Carlo Bot, Chairman, Teranorth Construction and Engineering Limited, and ORBA CEO Bryan Hocking.



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For more information and to register, go to www.orba.org/onlinecourses.



ORBA WEBINARS



ORBA Webinars is an ongoing series covering the hard-hitting issues that matter most. Kicking off on August 13, 2020, the series aims to provide the road building community with a virtual space to stay informed and connected in the new normal. ORBA Webinars features a diverse range of topics and speakers to help you gain unique insights and perspectives on the transportation infrastructure sector.

Go to www.orba.org/orba-webinars/ for more details and register today!

ORBA HONOURS – NOMINATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

ORBA Honours recognize individuals and member companies that demonstrate exemplary dedication and service to the Association and the road building industry in Ontario. The recipients of these honours are recognized at ORBA's annual convention. Deadlines for nominations are soon approaching in November.

Go to www.orba.org/awards/ to learn more.



ORBA MEMBER TOWN HALL MEETING



On April 24, ORBA began hosting Member Town Hall webinars featuring senior ORBA directors and staff to offer an opportunity to discuss challenges the industry is facing and what ORBA is doing on behalf of the industry and members in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please go to <https://orba.org/member-town-hall-meeting-webinars/> to download recordings of past ORBA Member Town Hall webinars and stay tuned for more details on future meetings.

ORBA WEBINAR SERIES

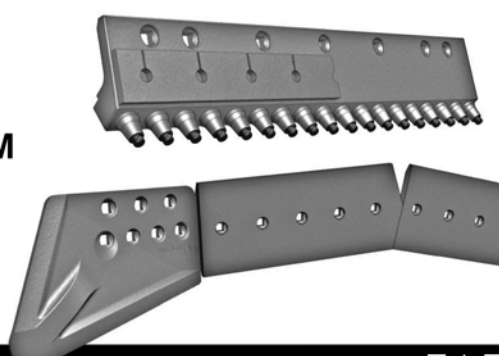


On May 1, ORBA kicked off its complimentary COVID-19 & The Road Building Industry Webinar Series, which featured seven webinars that ran through June 26. The webinars featured experts who covered topics such as occupational health and safety, innovative solutions in worksite safety, labour and employment law, cash flow and government relief programs, paperless operations and technologies and the greater construction sector's approach to the reopening of Ontario's economy. The series, open to both ORBA members and non-members, drew 417 attendees. Webinar recordings are available to download for free. Please visit <https://orba.org/weekly-webinar-series-covid-19-the-road-building-industry/> for more information.



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ORBA will be publishing its 2020/2021 Sourcebook in the coming months. If you have updates to be made to your company listing, please let us know by reaching out to Abhinav Gupta, Supervisor, Finance & Admin at abhinav.gupta@orba.org. To view the online version of the 2019/2020 sourcebook please visit <https://orba.org/sourcebook-2019-2020/>.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ORBA JOE BUNTING CIVIL ENGINEERING/TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP AND J.D. CHICK CIVIL ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP COMING UP NOVEMBER 30, 2020

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SAVE THE DATE – THE ONTARIO ASPHALT PAVEMENT COUNCIL'S VIRTUAL FALL ASPHALT SEMINAR – NOVEMBER 26, 2020

This year the OAPC is bringing Canada's largest single-day asphalt educational seminar to you virtually on November 26, 2020. Highlights of this dynamic seminar include keynote speakers Gerry Huber, Associate Director of Research, Heritage Research Group, who will present on "The Superpave 5 Concept," and Matthew Sweezie, Paving Engineer, Construction Branch, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure-New Brunswick, who will provide insights into "Warm Mix Implementation: New Brunswick's Experiences." Stay tuned for more details coming soon.



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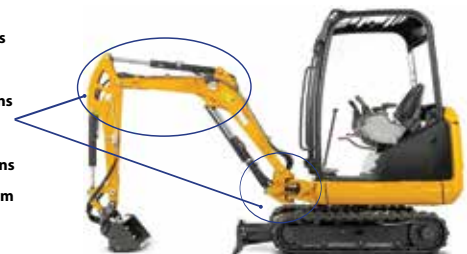
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