

March is National Engineering and Geoscience Month

National Engineering and Geoscience Month (NEGM) is an annual celebration of engineering and geoscience across Canada. As ASTTBC technologists, technicians and technical specialists are a vital part of BC's engineering teams, ASTTBC and its over 10,000 members join APEGBC in showcasing the application of engineering and geoscience and its contribution to BC's economy.

This month-long event promotes awareness of the engineering, geoscience and technology professions, highlights career choices in these fields, and reminds the public of the many ways in which engineering and geoscience touch everyday life.

"Today's youth are already immersed in technology, daily using computers, smart phones, robotics and games," said ASTTBC CEO John Leech, ASCT, CAE. "Through NEGM we hope students and their parents and teachers realize they can build great careers using and advancing technology, within engineering, geoscience and technology teams."

ASTTBC is sponsoring many events and activities in the science and technology community and promoting technology education and careers. Here are some of the highlights:

- ASTTBC is running radio ads and public service announcements on Radio NL in Kamloops and stations in other communities with the message "Technology Sizzles – Get Cooking with ASTTBC!"
- ASTTBC is placing a full-page ADVERTORIAL in a special NEGM section of the Kelowna Courier on February 28, 2014.
- ASTTBC is partnering with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC) to sponsor the 2014 NEGM Drawing Contest to engage kids in science.
- ASTTBC is Title Sponsor of the Okanagan College Annual Spaghetti Bridge Building Contest on March 7, 2014.
- ASTTBC is a Gold Sponsor of the Wood Design Awards of BC, Canadian Wood Council (WoodWORKS!) on March 3, 2014 in Vancouver.
- ASTTBC is a Silver Sponsor of Association of BC Land Surveyors AGM, March 19-21, 2014.
- ASTTBC is a Platinum Sponsor of the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies of BC Annual Awards for Engineering Excellence on April 12, 2014 in Vancouver.
- ASTTBC is creating awareness among BC Members of the Legislature and federal Members of Parliament of the importance of education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) by distributing a book called Science Fun for Home and School authored by ASTTBC Honourary Member Gordon Gore, founder of BIG Little Science Centre in Kamloops.
- ASTTBC is participating with Science World in the rollout of a new Science Charter, developed to engage a broad coalition in support of science and technology.

- ASTTBC is working with the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies of BC (ACEC-BC) to consider how the two organizations might better address the skills shortage.
- ASTTBC and the Canadian Home Builders Association (BC) are exploring a high level ‘Skills Charter’ for BC.
- ASTTBC is meeting with the BC Road Builders to consider areas of common interest and enhanced linkages between the two organizations.
- ASTTBC will meet with the other leaders in Technology Professionals Canada to map out strategies to better serve the profession nationally.
- ASTTBC will formally launch a renewal of the Fire Protection Registration program, involving enhanced measures to assure professional accountability.
- ASTTBC will roll out an Onsite Wastewater Advisory Roundtable to help guide ASTTBC’s decision-making for this technical specialist program.

Follow ASTTBC on Twitter @asttbc and @techsizzles for updates during National Engineering and Geoscience Month.