



2019/2020 Executive Committee

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2019 CGS-SOS Special Dinner Lecture
A Tale of Two Towers: Big Ben and Pisa
By: Professor John Burland

Thursday, September 12, 2019
Pearson Convention Centre, 2638 Steeles Ave. East, Brampton, ON

Evening Program:	5:30 PM	Cocktails and Socializing
	6:30 PM	Dinner
	7:30 PM	Lecture

Abstract: This lecture will describe the response of two famous towers to the stabilisation works and present the latest achievements. The Leaning Tower of Pisa has been inexorably increasing its inclination to the point where it was about to collapse. Rehabilitation works on the tower dates back to over 200 years ago and the most recent one was commissioned in 1990. In a similar context, the inclination of the Big Ben Clock Tower has been influenced by a number of activities including the construction of the underground car park beneath New Palace Yard in the 1970's and, more recently, by the construction of the Jubilee Line Extension tunnels and the 40m deep new Westminster underground station. The movements of this tower were controlled by a different, equally novel method of injecting grout beneath the low side of the foundation. Dr. Burland was involved in both of the rehabilitation projects and will share his experiences regarding these two cases.



Distinguished Speaker:

Professor John Burland, CBE, DSc(Eng), FREng, FRS, NAE, FIC, FCGI was educated in South Africa and studied Civil Engineering at the University of the Witwatersrand. He returned to England in 1961 and worked with Ove Arup and Partners for a few years in London.

After studying for his PhD at Cambridge University, Professor Burland joined the Building Research Station in 1966, became Head of the Geotechnics Division in 1972 and Assistant Director in 1979. In 1980 he was appointed to the Chair of Soil Mechanics at the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine. He is now Emeritus Professor and Senior Research Investigator at Imperial College.

In addition to being very active in teaching (which he loves) and research, John Burland has been responsible for the design of many large ground engineering projects such as the underground car park at the Palace of Westminster and the foundations of the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre. He specialises in problems relating to the interaction between the ground and masonry buildings. He was London Underground's expert witness for the Parliamentary Select Committees on the Jubilee Line Extension and has advised on many geotechnical aspects of that project, including ensuring the stability of the Big Ben Clock Tower. He was a member of the international board of consultants advising on the stabilisation of the Metropolitan Cathedral of Mexico City and was a member of the Italian Prime Minister's Commission for stabilising the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

**The Canadian Geotechnical Society
Southern Ontario Section**



**La Société Canadienne de Géotechnique
Section Sud de l'Ontario**

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He has received many awards and medals including the Kelvin Gold Medal for Outstanding contributions to Engineering, the Harry Seed Memorial Medal of the American Society of Civil Engineers for distinguished contributions as an engineer, scientist and teacher in soil mechanics and the Gold Medals of the Institution of Structural Engineers, the Institution of Civil Engineers and the World Federation of Engineering Organisations. He has been awarded six Honorary Doctorates and he is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, the Royal Society and is a Foreign Member of the US National Academy of Engineering. In 2002 he was President of the Engineering Section of the British Association and he was Vice President (Engineering) of the Institution of Civil Engineers, London from 2002 to 2005. In 2005 he was appointed CBE for services to Geotechnical Engineering.



<p>Early Bird: CGS/TAC/Government Members \$70 Non CGS/TAC/Government Members \$75</p>		<p>Sponsorship Categories: Gold Level: \$400 Silver Level: \$300 Bronze Level: \$200 Student Sponsorship: \$70 Students*: Please note that a limited number of tickets are available. Free tickets will be given on a first-come, first-served basis</p>
<p>Regular Registration: CGS/TAC/Government Members \$90 Non CGS/TAC/Government Members \$95</p>		
<p>Students*: Free Tickets Regular</p>	<p>Free \$30</p>	

If you have difficulties using Eventbrite, please contact Matt Macintosh (mmacintosh@recocanada.com) for assistance.