



## Minutes for IEEE Canada – TISP Committee Meeting

**Date: Wednesday February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013**  
**Time: 8:00- 9:00 PM**

**Teleconference call #:**  
**1-866-512-0904**  
**access code: 8514573#**

### 1. Roll Call of Participants

See annotated table attached at the end.

### 2. Adoption of Agenda

Adopted as distributed and will be on the Website.

### 3. Review of Minutes from January 23<sup>rd</sup> telecom call

Approved.

### 4. Action Plans for Vancouver & Seattle Workshop 2013

Yvonne Pelham / Lynn Bowlby will not be present as they will have a separate meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup> and Anader will report on launching the IEEE Workshop 2013 program.

Steven McClain, VC for Vancouver section reported on preparation of an active planning team for covering the following:

- a. Logistics & Venue - need to decide
- b. Identify participants – Teachers (K-12), Education students, IEEE Student, Branch, IEEE members interested in becoming champions.
- c. Promotion flyer – Dirk provided the .pdf for brochure. **Staples** can print it at a reasonable cost.
- d. Registration process
- e. Steven will follow up on involving the educators from Seattle.

The preparation calls on the program, identifying activities and speakers.

### 5. Status on upcoming 5th issue of TISP Canada's Newsletter (Courier #5)

Courier # 5 is already completed and posted on [iee.ca/tisp](http://iee.ca/tisp). Distribution will be in .pdf that could be printed in Staples.

Bruce will be stepping down as an active Region 7 contributor to TISP, since he has undertaken the role as The Editor for the IEEE Canadian Review.

Teacher's Corner which was prepared by Bruce, it will be run by rotating the role to different sections from all regions within Canada. Dirk to be the first one for Courier #6 at the end of May that will also cover the workshop 2013.

### 6. Status on Website(s) and Distribution links.

Davy Zhu has made some progress. Although he does not have much to report as so far he has been working on the backend. So far, there are couple of logos and menu items uploaded. But, in a week or



so he will be ready to upload other content. Then we can review and identify any additional features be added as per need/want. Davy will register a domain name for the site.

## 7. Report STAO 2013 Conference in Ontario

Dave and Patrick reported that the preparation is in good shape; it has been confirmed the booth to be at the same location of last year, which was a good spot. Everyone has paid up except \$35 from Kingston, which will be followed-up with the section. Presentation at STAO is being confirmed to be for two hours – could be split into two one hour lesson plans. There is still a question about the Private Schools participation at eth STAO (there are approximately 200 schools). Toronto Section – GOLD is also very enthusiastic to participate in TISP Canada program..

## 8. Review of TISP activities of all sections:

- o Sections reporting and plans for the rest of the year activities

### Newfoundland

No report provided.

### Canadian Atlantic

Email message received from Dirk Werle for the minutes:

“Here in Nova Scotia we are making modest but steady progress to integrate an *Engineering Design Challenge* for students into the annual National Engineering Month (NEM)- school competition spearheaded by Engineers Nova Scotia. Our Engineering Design Challenge now runs for the second year in a row. The Challenge is inspired by TISP and [tryengineering.com](http://tryengineering.com). We used the 'robot arm' and 'wind mill' modules in 2012 and this year. The attached poster and information sheet for this year's challenge provides further detail. Have a look! For reason internal to the machinations of NEM in Nova Scotia, the Challenge is pitched to high schools, but maybe the more ideal age group would be junior high kids, perhaps even elementary.

At one of our last preparatory meetings, a person new to the group remarked: “*Why don't you try run this kind of challenge across the country during Engineering Month?*” Nobody came up with a straight answer, but the thought occurred “Well, why not?!” There are several reasons why this could be a workable proposition. For one, there is already an infrastructure in place across the country through NEM, and local / regional TISP champions could partner with regional / provincial NEM organizers. We could complement and enrich planned NEM events through a coordinated *TISP Canada Engineering Design Challenge*, possibly using a [tryengineering.com](http://tryengineering.com) module as the core activity for student teams to compete. Or, why not use some of the exciting modules that are 'in the works' by our own TISP Champions here in Canada?!

Given my rather limited experience, I'd see the main, first-stage "action" focus on the local/regional NEM events across the country. That's where teams of students would physically meet to compete and build their modules, in public, and with support from the regional TISP co-organizers of NEM. The organization requires some resources, but these are not out of reach. They include, for example, materials, prizes, and possible sharing in the layout of NEM event



logistics and PR, in short, the nuts & bolts of event organization. Now, in order to make the TISP Canada Challenge a *national* challenge, one would need to organize and establish additional 'event infrastructure' and commonalities: address the same age group, supply the same set of material to work with, apply the same guidelines for judging the entries at NEM, etc.

Once the first, second and third winner are determined and recognized at the "local/regional" NEM event (stage 1), how, then, could we possibly organize a national winner of the TISP Canada Challenge? Bringing the winning regional teams together in one place would be too costly and seems out of the question. But we could use communication technology, social media to \*stage a virtual event\*, say, via Skype conference connections. During this 2-3 hour event, the winning six or eight teams would demonstrate their design live, via online camera, to the national judges who would then determine first, second, third winner, with appropriate recognition (prizes, plaques, feature on TISP web site and article in the TISP Canada Courier).

I think an important element in this second-stage, national competition needs to be the technical preparation, good information flow with common understanding of what's going on, and a positive perception that this is indeed a competition beyond provincial borders. While the first stage (hands-on events at NEM) relies on good cooperation with other NEM activities, the second competition stage would be under the purview and coordination of TISP Canada alone, along with the regional winners (incl. their teams, schools, teachers). Our Committee and 'champions' would have to make a concerted effort and allocate some resources to make this final part happen."

### New Brunswick

No report provided.

### Montreal

No report provided.

### Ottawa

No report provided.

### Toronto

No report provided.

### Hamilton

Hamilton Section has voted \$100 for a prize at the next "Niagara Region Science and Engineering Fair", which will be held April 5, 6 & 7. The organizers have decided to split this into two prizes of \$50 each, one for Junior and one for Senior. The wording on the certificate will be words to the effect "The IEEE Prize for the Best Demonstration of Basic Electricity and Magnetism".

Similar prizes will be awarded to a science fair to be held in the "Bay Area Science Fair" which is in the Hamilton area.

### Kitchener/Waterloo

No report provided.

### London Ontario



Murray: Can't get volunteer time due to public works cancelling the volunteer time  
For engineering week doing two activities

Email from Murray:

"Activity at the London public board may pickup as the Ontario Secondary Teachers Federation has recommended their teachers return to doing volunteer activities. Need to follow up. Still working with contacts at London Catholic board and at Althouse College of Education to develop an opportunity.

Scheduled to do two activities on March 23 at London Children's Museum for National Engineering Month

Planning started for a program at 5 schools with itinerant teacher for gifted programs. This year she has chosen "building a dam"

([http://tryengineering.org/index.php?page=lesson\\_disqus&lesson=79](http://tryengineering.org/index.php?page=lesson_disqus&lesson=79)), so I am recruiting PEO members with experience with dams (as more than an expletive!)"

### Saskatchewan

No report provided.

### Calgary

Anis Haque reported:

Calgary section had one hands-on activity for grade three students. There were two sessions and the activity reached about 80 students. Anis Haque conducted the activity with the help of four University of Calgary student volunteers.

There is one more program scheduled for March. In this program the TISP team will reach about another 80 students in an elementary school and will do hands-on activity in the classroom.

### Edmonton/Northern Canada

We have plans for March 10<sup>th</sup> to hold several sessions that will include Rubber band Race car, Wind Energy, Hand Biometrics and design a Candy bag jointly with the Math Kangaroo Clubs at Concordia. These workshops will have approximately 150 participants.

Volunteers from the section are helping with the Math Kangaroo Training (March 17) and Math Kangaroo Contest (March 24) in Edmonton.

### Vancouver

No report provided.

### Victoria

No report provided.

### Winnipeg

No report provided.

### Peterborough

No report provided.

### Kingston



No report provided.

#### Quebec

No report provided.

#### St. Maurice

No report provided.

#### Sherbrooke

No report provided.

- Plans for the rest of the year activities - School Boards Liaisons

Nothing to report at this time

### **9. Action items**

Jennifer Ng, as she was the IEEE MGA Pre-University Coordinator until January 2013, has written letter to the TISP Canada committee:

Showed her interest and support for the R7 TISP Committee's great work and her desire in getting copy of the minutes created by Rossitza and Mooney and thanking them for their well-done job.

She also informed us that as of January 2013, the VP MGA has decided not to fill the MGA Pre-University Coordinator role. The liaison activities (EAB-MGA) will continue via the EAB representatives to the MGA but no more special focus role on pre-university education.

She then added that R7 (Canada) has been very proactive in creating a TISP Chair appointed position at the board level and this appointment shows the level of commitment to support pre-university education by our R7 leaders. We should all be very proud of this accomplishment and continue to keep it an active role in Canada. In her role as MGA Pre-University Coordinator, she was asked many times to present on the "TISP Canada Model" that has made many other regions very impressed.

### **10. Time for the next meeting?**

**Wednesday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013, 8:00 PM.**

### **11. Varia**

Dirk Werle: "As editors of our newsletter we are looking for all kinds of contributions for the next issue of the TISP Canada Courier (#6). We'd like to focus on the Vancouver Workshop and cast it as the main feature. Are there any volunteer reporters out there who we might rely on for a teachers' Corner interview, or an interview with our IEEE colleagues and veteran "TISPer" Yvonne Pelham? We also need to keep our "notes from the regions" column going, so please keep them coming. We look forward to your contributions!"

### **12. Adjournment: 9:14pm**



**IEEE Canada – TISP Committee Members 2013:**

**Chair, Anader Benyamin-Seeyar,**

**TISP Secretaries, Rossitza Marinova & Mooney Sherman**

**Newsletter Editors, Dirk Werle, Patrick, Dave Hepburn, Murray MacDonald**

**School Boards Liaison, Patrick Finnigan & David Hepburn**

**Treasurer, Kaveh Moezzi**

**Webmaster: Davy Zou**

**Note: Absentees in red and attendees in black font colors.**

**Sections**

- Newfoundland :
- Canadian Atlantic :
- New Brunswick:
- Montreal :
- Ottawa :
- Toronto :
- Hamilton :
- Kitchener/Waterloo :
- London Ontario :
- Saskatchewan :
- Calgary :
- Edmonton/Northern Canada :
- Vancouver :
  
- Victoria
- Winnipeg
- Peterborough
- Kingston
- Quebec
- St. Maurice

**Section Champion(s) / Guests**

**Brian Kidney**  
**Dirk Werle**  
**Brian Scott / Esam Ghanem**  
**Samir Kharaf / Manijeh Khataie**  
**Janet Davis**  
**Patrick Finnigan & Dennis Cecic**  
**Dave Hepburn**  
**Amin Mobasher / Amir Khatibzadeh**  
**Murray MacDonald**  
**Wahid Khan / Craig**  
**Anis Haque**  
**Rossitza S Marinova / Mooney Sherman / M. Hassan**  
**Zahra Ahmadian, Steven McClain, Fernando Arroyo**  
**Nina Selak, Mahshid Karimi**  
**Amirali Baniyadi / Kelly / Alexandra**  
**Witold Kinsner & Dario Schor / Shaahin Filizadeh**  
**Sean Dunne / Luc Matheau**  
**Basel Nabulsi, Alireza Safaee / Shahram Yousefi**  
**Hoang Lehuy / André Morin**  
**Adel-Omar Dahmane**