

## Day One - Track Two

Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

## The Evolution of ESC Monitoring and Environmental Risk Management: Where We Were, Where We Are, Where We Are Headed and What We Need to do to Get There

**Presenters:** Sam Morra, Condrain Group

Imshun Je, Groundwater Environmental Management Services (GEMS)

### Biographies



Sam, P.Eng., GSC., has over 30 years of experience in linear construction engineering, construction management, and project management. Sam has a diverse technical and government relations background, having managed numerous projects during the course of his career. Sam recently successfully completed a major environmental lead remediation project in Orlando, Florida working collaboratively with such agencies as the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). He also gained valuable government relations experience as the Executive Director of a prominent Construction Association where he remains active as its current President. Sam continues to nurture relationships at all levels of government including environmental regulatory agencies. Sam is currently the Chief Corporate Officer at Condrain Group.



Ms. Je, M.Sc., P. Geo., QP, is the General Manager at GEMS and has over 19 years of experience as an environmental science professional with specialization in hydrogeology and contaminated sites management. She brings a unique perspective on environmental issues having worked in the public sector at the Ontario Ministry of the Environment as a regulator, at Infrastructure Ontario representing the project owner and in the private sector as an environmental consultant in the U.S. and Canada. Ms. Je is passionate about helping clients in the construction industry, working collaboratively with regulatory agencies to achieve practical and reasonable solutions to environmental issues.

# TRIECA | CONFERENCE

## **Abstract**

The last thing a contractor wants is for things to go wrong on their construction project; especially when it comes to the environment. The reality is that the construction industry operates on a low bid process, no payment line items for vaguely defined and ambiguous environmental requirements in tenders and permits, and changing unpredictable weather and dynamic working conditions, all while performing under the pressure to get the project done on budget and on schedule.

Over the last 10 years, awareness and enforcement related to construction activities and their associated impacts to the natural environment has gained greater momentum, where permits are being obtained prior to construction timing windows are understood and followed, tenders are starting to better specify environmental requirements, qualified environmental professionals are being retained for projects; but we are not consistently “there” yet.

More needs to happen in the industry to create consistency, accountability and enforcement in order to improve protection of the environment. The Contractor’s greatest frustration is from the inconsistency encountered and the unpredictability of what standards need to be met and the cost implications that cannot be recovered.

This presentation will look at two block development projects; one from 10 years ago and the second currently under construction to discuss changes that have happened in the industry, changes that still need to happen and why, all tied together under the theme of Environmental Risk Management. These project examples will show the evolution from a reactive environmental mitigation approach to a proactive environmental monitoring and mitigation plan overseen by environmental professionals in partnership with the contractor and engineer on the project.

## **Learning Objectives**

1. Construction and Environment Risk Management spectrum with respect to ESC & Monitoring;
2. Reactive vs Proactive approach to environmental management on construction sites: Impacts and costs; and
3. See where the industry was 10 years ago, and where we are now to discuss what changes still need to happen to determine where we need to be headed and what needs to be done to get there.