

Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists
of the
Province of Manitoba

Professional-in-Training Award

Presented to

TIMOTHY J. KRAHN

B.Sc. (Civil), M.Sc., E.I.T.

Timothy Krahn received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering at the University of Manitoba in 2003 and his Master of Science in Geotechnical Engineering in 2005. He holds a Certificate in Carpentry and Woodworking from Red River Community College and a Diploma in Bible Studies from Winkler Bible Institute. During his undergraduate and postgraduate studies, he held a variety of part-time positions including teaching assistant, laboratory technician, researcher on building codes, draftsman, child care worker and carpenter. He is currently a designer and researcher with Building Alternatives Inc. in Altona, Manitoba, where he is developing new technologies for private housing.

Timothy Krahn was the sort of graduate student every academic advisor wants. He is bright, hard-working, independent, receptive of guidance, good-natured, and a pleasure to have around. His research was about understanding how sandbag dikes perform during flood conditions and how they can be made stronger to provide better margins of safety against failure. The research is a shining example of how to benefit the local community, while at the same time providing new breakthroughs in fundamental scientific knowledge. The project involved laboratory studies at the University of Manitoba and Queen's University, Kingston. More importantly, he built an innovative large engineered wood structure in Winnipeg to load full-scale sandbag dikes up to ten feet tall with ponded water. The dikes included sensors to monitor movements and water flow during testing. The results are a world-first and have captured considerable attention from local politicians and media. The project was featured in the Winnipeg Free Press, Winnipeg Sun, newscasts on CBC and CJOB, and a documentary for Prairie Public Television. Tim Krahn values opportunities. He had to listen to citizens' flood stories, learn from their experience and incorporate their suggestions into his work. This has now been incorporated into instructional films in both English and French that will provide better levels of guidance for home-owners in future flooding events. They will be used not only in Manitoba but elsewhere in Canada and abroad.

There is a whole other side to Tim Krahn's life through his volunteer service to his community, the university and his profession. He has served as a volunteer carpenter and bricklayer in Mexico, a volunteer at the Winnipeg Folk Festival, a design-code consultant for Lazarus Housing, Winnipeg, and on the local executive of the Canadian Geotechnical Society. He was an excellent Teaching Assistant at several courses in Civil Engineering at the University of Manitoba, where he was awarded an Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award in 2004. At the University, he served on the Civil Engineering Department Council, the Graduate Student Association, and the Civil Engineering Graduate Student Association, where he raised support for 'Engineers without Borders'.

Timothy Krahn is a stellar example of outstanding professional accomplishment and community service early in his career. It is a pleasure to present the 2006 Professional-in-Training Award to Timothy Krahn.