




# THE BEAVERS

A HEAVY ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

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 The Beavers was founded in 1955. The purpose of the Beavers is to promote goodwill, friendliness, and to encourage and support entry of promising young individuals into the heavy engineering construction industry.

## STUDENT DAY

March 30-31, 2023

The trip cost will be covered by the Purdue CEM

Departure time and location: March 30, 2:00 pm - Hampton Hall, Purdue University

Arrival time and location: March 30, 7:00 pm - Detroit, MI

Check In: March 31, 8:30 am- Event will begin at 9:00 am sharp and will end at 1:00 pm



### Gordie Howe International Bridge Project

1001 SPRINGWELLS COURT,  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Host Contractor: Bridging North America  
(A joint venture between Fluor, Dragados, and Aecon)

### About the Gordie Howe International Bridge Project

The Gordie Howe International Bridge project is a Private Public Partnership to design, build, finance, operate and maintain the Ports of Entry and cable stayed bridge, and to design, build and finance the Michigan Interchange. This C\$5.7 billion project will deliver much-needed transportation improvements for international travelers. It includes a six-lane cable-stayed bridge with a clear span of 2800 feet (the longest main stay of any cable-stayed bridge in North America) using no piers in the water, along with a multi-use path that will accommodate pedestrians and cyclists.



**Personal Protective Equipment:** *All students and faculty are expected to arrive on site with long pants and construction work boots. Please bring your safety vests and hard hats if possible. The Beavers will have a limited supply of safety vests and hard hats. Protective glasses and gloves will be provided.*



**The Beavers host a Student Day twice a year for civil engineering and construction management students and faculty members** from colleges and universities where The Beavers provide academic scholarships. The day begins with a briefing of the work they will see. The students embark on a site tour, escorted by members of The Beavers that are executives in the construction industry. Everyone will then return to the briefing point to enjoy lunch and discuss the project.

**Questions?** Dr. Tom Iseley  [diseley@purdue.edu](mailto:diseley@purdue.edu)

## Comments from Future Underground Construction (UG) Leaders

33 representatives of the Purdue CEM Department		
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Tom Iseley		
Addison Paige Baue	Edeh Chijioke George	Saleh Behbahani
Ajinkya Dnyaneshwa Kale	Jayant Gupta	Samarth Srinivas Joshi
Alejandra Lopez Diaz	Landon W Clouser	Sanskruiti Rajesh Dhanwate
Ali Aqa Yaqubi	Mannoush Mohseni	Shreeyansh Amar Patil
Aman Tripathi	Matthew R Blount	Shubhang Gaur
Ashutosh Suhas Mangle	Nicolas Francesco Castracani	Smit Sachin Patil
Bhanusarathy Lankapalli	Oluwatobi Seun Osilaja	Sumedh Vijaykumar Kharat
Brant W Plowman	Paul Nikhilesh Chintala	Vaishnavi Youvaraj Chumbalkar
Devendra Sunil Nimse	Philip Malcolm Friery	Vedant Khanna
Drew Brennan Beveridge	Rishitha Reddy Kasarla	Venkat Varun Galla
Edeh Chijioke George		Yashu Singh

“Especially as a freshman, this trip helped solidify my desire to study Civil Engineering. Before going on these tunnel and bridge visits, all I had heard about Civil Engineers was that they calculate the strengths of concrete and steel. After going on these visits, however, I've realized how Civil Engineering projects can be as magnificent as an Aerospace Engineer's rocket or a Mechanical Engineer's high-power engine. This Detroit trip has especially shown me the diverse work that goes into these projects, and the many different ways that I can improve society by pursuing Civil Engineering. Nobody I've talked to has gotten the same incredible opportunities that I've gotten this year.” **Drew Beveridge**

“I am extremely grateful for the opportunity I had to visit the Gordie Howe International Bridge project. I was astonished at the complexity and scale of the project they are working on. I found many aspects of the project interesting, and it intrigued my thinking as I look towards starting my career soon. I would like to thank CEM and the Beaver's for making this trip possible as I believe the opportunity to extend what I learn in the classroom to the real world to see how the industry actually operates.” **Brant Plowman**

“We were able to witness the latest technologies being used in the construction of the bridge such as cable stayed technology, Self-climbing formwork, FRE robots for ice removals, noise walls, multi-layer Expansion joints, Pilling techniques, manpower management, and most importantly the experiential learning from the industry leaders, which were both informative and inspiring. The exposure to these technologies and networking opportunities with professionals in the industry will undoubtedly be beneficial to us in our future careers.” **Yashu Singh**

“It was my pleasure to visit the Gordie Howe International Bridge and I would like to thank you for providing us the opportunity to visit this grand project. I personally enjoyed my time during the visit and gained quite a lot of insights about the challenges faced in the project by interacting with the engineers and project managers. Having an interest in heavy civil engineering, the information I got through the interactions proved quite fruitful and added to my knowledge.” **Sumedh Kharat**

“Thank you to you and the Beavers for providing us with this opportunity. It was a great experience to witness an international project of this magnitude in real life and understand about all the work that goes into bringing it to life. In addition to that, we also got an opportunity to meet with team that is responsible for this project, learn more about their experience and to network with them.” **Samarth Srinivas Joshi**

“For the first time, I had the opportunity to visit a \$5.7 billion USD bridge project under construction. Meeting the Fluor Corporation team and learning about their various construction techniques for these megaprojects was a fantastic opportunity. Seeing a joint venture project between the American and Canadian governments was a fantastic opportunity for all the students.” **Aman Tripathi**

“One of the most significant benefits for me was firsthand witnessing the complexities of such a large-scale project. Seeing how different teams worked together to accomplish a common goal was fascinating. Additionally, the trip provided a great networking opportunity as we met and interacted with professionals in the industry.” **Bhanusarathy Lankapalli**

“I did talk about safety on the construction site with the site safety manager of Bridging North America. I learned that the safety protocols are implemented so properly that they had only a single injury condition where the employee was hospitalized. This is while 2,000 are involved in this project directly. It was also interesting to see that they use BIM models in order to better plan and schedule their activities for the construction of the PoE on both the Canadian and American sides.” **Ali Yaqubi**

“Visiting the job sites and talking to people involved in the work can provide us with the chance to touch the work up close and reach a better understanding of what we have learned from other courses. Your willingness to go out of your way, make your time, and stand the inclement weather for hours just to help us learn things more practically mean a lot to us”. **Mahnoush Mohseni**

“It was a great experience. Both the UCT conference and the Gordie Howe International Bridge site visit provided us with a great opportunity to learn. Such practical experiences give us an opportunity to actually experience how our textbook knowledge is applied in the real world. These experiences were fascinating, intriguing and exciting and were one of the best moments I got to spend at Purdue University.” **Ashutosh Mangle**

“Interacting with some of the engineers and project managers handling various aspects of the projects has afforded me the opportunity to hear directly from them about some of the difficulties encountered in projects of that magnitude and how they were able to creatively overcome them.” **Edeh Chijioke George**

“As a student of Structural Engineering, it was an excellent opportunity for me to learn more about Construction Engineering Management. I feel looking at the ongoing project and talking to the engineers on the field helps the students to understand what they are learning better.” **Sanskruiti Dhanwate**

“It was an incredible learning experience to witness a project of such grandiosity and cross-border relevance. Visiting the site and interacting with the members of The Beavers Association gave me a profound understanding of the problem solving involved in managing a project of this size and complexity.” **Smit Patil**

“It was a phenomenal opportunity for the UCA/NASTT Student Chapter to visit such a remarkable project site and learn from the industry professionals of top-ranked companies, including *Fluor* and *Dragados*.” **Ajinkya Kale**

“Thank you very much for availing us of such a wonderful experience to interphase with the industry. The ability to see and appropriate what we’ve learned in class with what is going on in the industry was such a delight to behold.” **Oluwatobi Osilaja**

“Being in the early stages of my career, I had not yet had the chance to witness such world-class projects. Thanks to the assistance of the Construction Engineering Management department and the Beavers, I was able to participate in a highly informative and rewarding site visit. During my time there, I had the privilege of interacting with the project team and gaining insight into the management of large-scale projects.” **Shubhang Gaur**

“This trip was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for young graduates like myself and provided a glimpse into what the future holds for us in our careers. I’m grateful for the opportunity to have participated and would like to extend a special thank you to the Beavers Association for making it possible.” **Rishitha Reddy Kasarla**

“The experience was truly unforgettable, and I was thrilled to see the innovative technical solutions being employed to bring together communities and economies across North America. It was especially inspiring to interact with the engineers who are making this project a reality. Their stories, dedication, and expertise are a testament to the impact we can all make when we work tirelessly to develop projects that serve society.” **Alejandra Lopez**





Prof. Tom Iseley  
Beavers Heavy Construction Distinguished Fellow  
Construction Engineering & Management  
**Faculty Advisor**



Prof. Dulcy Abraham  
Civil Engineering  
**Faculty Advisor**

**Purdue UCA of SME Chapter Officers for the 2023-2024:**

President: Yashu Singh  
Vice-president: Matthew R Blount  
Treasurer: Bhanusarathy Lankapalli  
Secretary: Piyush Patil / Samarth Srinivas joshi  
Outreach: Ashutosh Suhas Mangle

**Purdue NASTT Chapter Officers for the 2023-2024:**

President: Vishaal Sundar Raj  
Vice-president: Shubhang Gaur  
Treasurer: Alejandra Lopez Diaz  
Secretary: Paul Nikhilesh Chintala  
Outreach: Rishitha Reddy Kasarla

