

Written Submission to the Elliot Lake Inquiry:

From: J. David Adams PEng.MBA, President, Maple Leaf Engineering.

Thank you for declaring the Elliot Lake Inquiry will accept a personal written submission.

My submission, founded on forty years of practice, is based on the installation in legislation, of an 'Engineer of Record' concept, which in my opinion represents a proven solution to engineering failures as encountered at Elliot Lake. It was advanced personally in September 2011, some nine months before the roof collapse at the Elliot Lake Mall.

I confirm the 'Engineer of Record' motion has been successfully integrated into legislation in British Columbia and applied in substance to Government Regulations in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

This 'BC Engineering Solution', enacted after their mall collapse in Burnaby in 1988, some 25 years ago, addressed a similar problem of roof collapse, in a public shopping centre, as subsequently happened at Elliot Lake.

Following the Burnaby BC Mall collapse, authorities established a clear line of authority and responsibility for Professional Engineers, in all building design and construction.

The 'BC Solution', required that all design drawings and specifications be stamped and the Engineer's seal applied, by the 'Engineer of Record' for each applicable engineering discipline required in the project – structural, mechanical, electrical etc. Also, that the same design engineer, be held responsible for the field review upon completion of construction for his/her discipline.

Further, a 'Co-ordinating Engineer' was appointed under Regulation, to report under contract to the Owner, to insure compatibility among the engineering disciplines.

In the case of the Elliot Lake Mall collapse, compatibility would have required adequate sealing of the roof, to prevent the leaking of salt water, caused by parking cars on the roof; thereby preventing severe corrosion of the structural steel.

It is proposed that the 'Engineer of Record' solution be extended to all engineering works in factories etc.

By this I mean the concept would then include applying the 'Engineer of Record' concept to bridges, overpasses, aeroplane design and manufacture, dust extraction systems, complex manufacturing cells to name a few applications in Ontario, not presently covered under Engineering Regulations in the Act.

I personally stand ready to provide detail explanations and Regulation wording to put the 'Engineer of Record' concept to work in Ontario.

This will require amendments to the Professional Engineers Act, the Ontario and Municipal Building Codes and professional practice in all areas of our housing, infrastructure and industrial factories in Ontario.

Thank you ,

Yours very truly,

J.David Adams, PEng., MBA, FEC

Nov. 30, 2013.