

# concrete pipe & precast journal

FALL 2025



## Plant Tours

Let CCPPA organize a plant tour for your team. Member facilities produce a wide range of concrete pipe and precast products. Our tours address:

- Quality Control
- Manufacturing QA Programs
- Dry cast manufacturing
- Wet cast manufacturing
- Three-edge bearing strength testing
- Hydrostatic testing
- Product examination

Email [resources@ccppa.ca](mailto:resources@ccppa.ca) to book your tour today.



## Lunch & Learns

Educate your staff on topics such as Protecting Yourself as a Gravity Pipe Designer, the Marston Spangler Method or PipePac Software with a free Lunch & Learn from CCPPA. You pick the topic and invite key staff, and we bring lunch and a 60-minute presentation — at no charge to you.

Email [resources@ccppa.ca](mailto:resources@ccppa.ca) to book your Lunch & Learn today.



## Go Paperless

For current recipients of the Concrete Pipe & Precast Journal that would like to receive the publication by email instead of hard copy, please follow the steps below:

1. Go to the [ccppa.ca](http://ccppa.ca) website
2. Under the “Resources” TAB select “Concrete Pipe & Precast Journal”
3. At the bottom of the page, you will find the form to request a copy of the CPPJ.
4. Select “Digital Copy” and enter the remaining fields.
5. To discontinue the “Hard Copy” please send a request to [admin@ccppa.ca](mailto:admin@ccppa.ca).

For any new recipients follow the steps above and select the appropriate “Digital” or “Hard” copy.

## Moving Traffic Through a Capital: Yellowhead Trail Freeway Conversion

**Talianna Solis**  
Project Manager  
Amrize Canada

Precast Producer: **Amrize Canada**

In Edmonton, the Provincial Capital of Alberta, a major roadway cuts through the city’s north side. Labeled “Highway 16” or the “Yellowhead Highway” on each side of Edmonton and the Yellowhead Trail within, this section of road stretches 24.6 kilometers.

Current traffic data shows the section of road carries nearly 80,000 vehicles per day through the city with about 20 percent of those vehicles being large trucks. The traffic projection for the road estimates that in 2044, the volumes could reach 125,000 vehicles per day.

Beginning in 2019 and projected to finish in 2027, the current road is being converted into a freeway consisting of 3 “free flow” lanes in each direction. This requires the removal of several at-grade intersections, construction of freeway interchange bridge structures, rehabilitation of existing buried utilities and infrastructure, and the installation of several new buried utilities and infrastructure. All while accommodating 80,000 vehicles safely, each and every day.

A major section of the conversion project is the section between St. Albert Trail and 97th Street. This section includes new freeway interchange bridges, a pedestrian bridge, new service roads, and a storm sewer system to handle the drainage of the road surfaces.

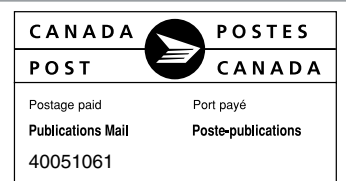
The new storm system was designed for a depth of between 9 to 16 meters to the crown of the pipe. Installation of the storm trunk at that depth using traditional open cut methods wasn’t feasible due to



Finished 2500 mm Diameter micro tunneling pipe.

the space and traffic constraints in the project location. Reducing the traffic lanes for installation was not a preferred option as the traffic congestion was already an issue prior to construction work beginning. The only solution was to implement micro-tunneling in the construction design.

*continued on page 2*



Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:  
Canadian Concrete Pipe And Precast Association, 1575 John Counter Blvd., Unit 4, Kingston, Ontario, K7M 3L5



# Moving Traffic Through a Capital: Yellowhead Trail Freeway Conversion

continued from page 1

The Shanghai Construction Group (Canada) Corp. was the successful bidder on the micro-tunneling work through the larger contract awarded to PCL Construction. The Shanghai Construction Group (Canada) Corp. enlisted the manufacturing expertise of Amrize Canada (formerly Lafarge Pipe Canada) to design and produce the required microtunneling pipe.

The 3 sections of micro-tunneling work required 151 metres of 1350 mm diameter pipe, 171 metres of 1800 mm diameter pipe, and 1350 metres of 2500 mm diameter pipe. This totaled 50, 57, and 450 pieces for each section respectively. Each piece is manufactured in a 3.0m lay length and is bare concrete on the inside (unlined). Every 4th pipe had an injection port installed. These ports serve two purposes. First, during installation, the ports allow tunneling lubrication to be injected into the annular space between the pipe and the undisturbed soil to reduce the friction during



2500 mm Diameter micro tunneling pipe ready to be loaded and installed under the Yellowhead Trail.



2500mm diameter microtunneling pipe stockpiled at the launch shaft site.

the tunneling operations. Second, after construction, the ports are used to inject annular grout into the space to eliminate any potential settlement around the newly installed pipe.

The Shanghai Construction Group (Canada) Corp. and Amrize Canada have worked together on many similar projects, and they look forward to the next construction challenge they can complete together.

## Lafarge Holcim becomes Amrize in North America

On June 23, 2025, Amrize announced its debut as an independent, publicly traded company with the completion of its 100% spin-off from Holcim.

Amrize is building North America, as the partner of choice for professional builders with advanced branded solutions from foundation to rooftop. With over 1,000 sites and a highly efficient distribution network, Amrize delivers for its customers in every U.S. state and Canadian province. Its 19,000 teammates uniquely serve every construction market from infrastructure, commercial and residential to new build, repair and refurbishment.

Jan Jenisch, Amrize Chairman and CEO: "This is exciting for all our teammates across North America as we begin our journey together as Amrize. As an independent, publicly traded company, Amrize will capitalize

on North America's attractive construction market driven by long term mega-trends from infrastructure modernization and onshoring of manufacturing to data centre expansion and the opportunity to bridge the housing gap. With our track record of profitable growth, market-leading operations and broad range of advanced building solutions, we are ideally positioned to be the partner of choice for the professional builders of North America and to unlock value for all stakeholders.

"It has been a privilege to be part of Holcim since 2017 and I thank the entire Holcim team for their outstanding performance and contributions over the years, including the exceptional execution of our spin-off creating two distinct, independent champions. I wish the Holcim team every success as they begin their next chapter."

## Amrize Acquires Langley Concrete Group Inc.

In June, Amrize acquired the operations of Langley Concrete Group Inc., a leading provider of precast solutions based in British Columbia. This strategic move marks the company's entry into the precast concrete market in the province, expanding its national capabilities and strengthening its footprint in the rapidly growing infrastructure sector.

"We are pleased to welcome 180 talented Langley Concrete Group Inc. employees to our team," said Jaime Hill, President of Amrize Building Materials. "This acquisition is a natural extension of our growth strategy. By combining Langley Concrete Group Inc.'s technical capabilities with our operations, we are better positioned than ever to deliver enhanced value to our customers through expanded reach, service, and a strong portfolio of advanced and high-quality products."

\* note: This article was edited to reflect current titles of persons referenced herein.



The acquisition includes two state-of-the-art production facilities in Chilliwack and Duncan, British Columbia. These facilities will serve the local region and manufacture a wide range of dry-cast and wet-cast concrete products for both above- and below-ground infrastructure applications. The portfolio includes various products such as manholes, concrete pipe, box culverts, and other custom components essential to municipal, commercial, and industrial products.

Mark Omelaniec, president of Langley Concrete Group Inc., added, "We're proud of the 75-year family-based business legacy we've built, and confident that Holcim is the right partner to carry it forward as the growth opportunities continue in B.C. This transition brings long-term opportunity for our team and customers, all while building on the quality and service standards that define who we are."



# Benefits of Utilizing Precast Concrete Box Standards

**Original version (2020) by Paul Imm, P.Eng.**

*Director of Engineering (Canada)*

**Rinker Materials**

*Updates by CCPPA*

Concrete box culverts are extremely popular due to their availability in a wide range of sizes and their versatility with many uses. In addition to conventional conveyance of stormwater or wastewater under roadways, box structures as applications that include: pedestrian passages or wildlife crossings under roadways and railways, utility corridors, vehicle grade separations for highways, buried stormwater retention chambers, irrigation canals and more. Like circular concrete pipe, the availability of factory-made precast concrete box sections has simplified the process of constructing box culverts over traditional cast-in-place construction methods. Precast concrete box sections consistently offer a high-quality product to contractors and owners.

Due to the infinite number of cross-sectional dimensions and structural reinforcing details for box, the precast concrete industry has worked closely with Provincial and State highway departments in both Canada and the United States for the past 40 years to standardize the structural designs and develop manufacturing standards for precast concrete box sections. Current precast box standards with additional features and special fittings such as bends, and a variety of end treatments allow design engineers to customize a precast box structure to any site condition with very little to no structural design calculations required.



In Ontario, the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and Ontario Provincial Standards (OPS) collaborated with the producer members to develop OPSS 1821 for the design and manufacture of precast concrete boxes, and OPSS 422 for their installation. OPSS 1821 lists nine (9) standard box sizes up to a maximum span of 3.0 metres, while OPSS 912 continues the range of precast box availability with spans greater than 3.0 m to suit most hydraulic requirements.

Both specifications provide reinforcing steel area tables for a range of burial depths based on the CL-625-ONT design truck live load. The specifications also address product quality concerns by requiring every manufacturing facility to be audited by a recognized third-party plant certification program. Collectively, these specifications for precast boxes facilitate easy work for the consulting engineer since design, manufacturing, and installation/construction requirements have already been established for use.

Both specifications provide reinforcing steel area tables for a range of burial depths based on the CL-625-ONT design truck live load. The specifications also address product quality concerns by requiring every manufacturing facility to be audited by a recognized third-party plant certification program. Collectively, these specifications for precast boxes facilitate easy work for the consulting engineer since design, manufacturing, and installation/construction requirements have already been established for use.

Similarly, parts of Western Canada will typically specify ASTM C1433 (or occasionally C1577) which provide standard designs that meet various design codes like CHBDC loading conditions CL-800 required in Alberta, or in British Columbia when necessary. Again, ASTM C1675 is a complementary reference to the previously noted design and manufacturing Standards, covering the installation requirements for those ASTM precast box sections.

The development of these design and manufacturing standards and specifications in OPS and ASTM, has prompted many precast concrete producers to invest in equipment for common dimensions to mass produce box sections using Dry Cast (zero slump) concrete combined with structural welded wire reinforcing (WWR). This has resulted in a more efficient production process and shorter delivery lead times. Wet Cast production, albeit a slower method of precast production than Dry Cast, produces an equally high-quality product. Wet Cast is a very viable option for manufacturing precast boxes, and with early planning and coordination between the precast supplier and contractor or owner, can easily accommodate a demanding construction schedule. Ultimately, precast concrete boxes lead to accelerated construction of projects, opportunities for cost savings, and less disruptions to the general public.

For the many reasons stated herein, it is strongly recommended that design engineers specify the standard precast box sizes available in their local market. Highway departments and municipalities would also benefit from using standard precast box sizes from the perspective of lower initial construction costs, ease of maintenance, and less complicated extensions of box culverts in the future.

#### References noted herein:

OPSS.Prov 1821 – Material Specification for Precast Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts and Box Sewers

OPSS 422 – Construction Specification for Installation of Precast Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts with Span 3m or Less in Open Cut

OPSS.Prov 912 – Construction Specification for Precast Concrete Culverts with Spans Greater than 3.0 m

ASTM C1433 – Standard Specification for Precast Reinforced Concrete Monolithic Box Sections for Culverts, Storm Drains, and Sewers

ASTM C1577 – Standard Specification for Precast Reinforced Concrete Monolithic Box Sections for Culverts, Storm Drains, and Sewers Designed According to AASHTO LRFDF

ASTM C1675 – Standard Practice for Installation of Precast Reinforced Concrete Monolithic Box Sections for Culverts, Storm Drains, and Sewers

Other reference material available to design engineers include the *Association's Precast Box and Culvert Guideline*.

## Coldstream Concrete Celebrating 80 Years!



**Coldstream Concrete's story began in a barn in 1945—and it's been shaped by three generations of hard work, innovation, and a commitment to quality ever since.**

From humble beginnings making concrete drain tile to becoming a leader in custom heavy precast, our journey reflects the people, projects, and values that continue to move us forward.

#### 1946 – The Beginning

Chester and Florence Brown began making concrete drain tile in their barn while waiting for their orchard to grow—unknowingly laying the foundation for what would become Coldstream Concrete. Their hands-on approach and work ethic set the tone for a business rooted in quality and determination.

#### 1980's + 1990's – Industry Leadership

In 1980, Bob Brown was President of the Land Improvement Contractors of Ontario (LICO), strengthening Coldstream's influence in the industry. During this time, the company continued to build on its reputation for reliability, quality, and leadership in precast innovation

#### 2000's - Heavy Precast Milestone

Coldstream completed and installed its first heavy precast culvert on Petty Street—a major milestone that marked their entry into custom heavy precast work and showcased their growing capabilities in infrastructure-grade solutions.

#### 2010's - Industry Leadership

The company continued to grow its offerings and, in 2013, expanded into reinforced concrete pipe by purchasing new forms. This move completed their product line for the site servicing industry and positioned them to serve larger and more complex projects.

#### 2020's - A New Chapter with Deep Roots

The 2020s have been a time of growth and transition for Coldstream Concrete. In 2023, Amy Koteles—third generation—became the sole owner, continuing the legacy built by her family with a renewed focus on innovation and expanding their custom precast capabilities.

In December 2024, the company lost their respected leader and mentor, Bob Brown. His dedication, integrity, and influence shaped the business for decades, and his legacy continues to guide the team forward.



# Producer Highlight – Groupe Brunet



For over a century, Groupe Brunet has personified excellence and resilience in a multi-generational family business, founded in 1922. Since that time, Groupe Brunet has continued to grow and innovate with respect to concrete pipe and precast structures. Groupe Brunet has become a major player in the construction and infrastructure sectors in eastern Canada. With over 500 employees and 8 divisions that are strategically positioned in both Quebec and Ontario, Groupe Brunet provides precast concrete solutions to the most challenging of infrastructure projects. Groupe Brunet also offers a high level of expertise when providing stormwater management products and services.

At its core, Groupe Brunet combines deep product knowledge and local insight with international vision and forward-thinking leadership. From project design to final delivery, its team brings the expertise, scale, and commitment to tackle any infrastructure challenge.

For more information on Groupe Brunet please visit our website at <https://brunet.cc/en>.



Groupe Brunet manufacturing facility located in Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, Québec.

## Groupe Brunet Key Supplier for Major Project in Châteauguay: The Saint-Eugène Construction Site

**Jean-Kristian Fournier**  
*Directeur Assurance Qualité*  
**Groupe Brunet**

*Precast Supplier: Groupe Brunet*

The City of Châteauguay, in collaboration with Ali Excavation, is currently carrying out a major \$13.5 million project: the construction of a diversion sewer for the Saint-Eugène sanitary collector, along with the installation of a sanitary retention basin.

This project stands out due to the complexity of its execution conditions. In fact, the high groundwater table and the unusual depth of the pipes for this type of infrastructure create significant challenges. This increased depth exerts considerable pressure on the materials, making the choice of technical solutions critical to the project's success.

Initially, polyethylene was the specified material. However, Groupe Brunet

proposed an alternative solution that provides equivalent watertight performance. The pipe's properties were tested directly at the Brunet Concrete Laboratory, in the presence of Ali Excavation and representatives from the City of Châteauguay. The tests confirmed a precise resistance of 13 PSI, ensuring the system's reliability.

To guarantee maximum sealing, Groupe Brunet partnered with Hamilton Kent to use Tylox® Deep Seal™ Gaskets. These gaskets can withstand pressure up to 35 PSI, ensuring durability and safety of the installations even under extreme conditions.



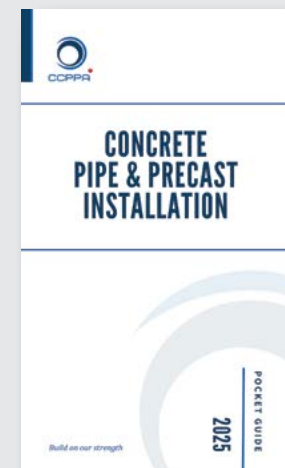
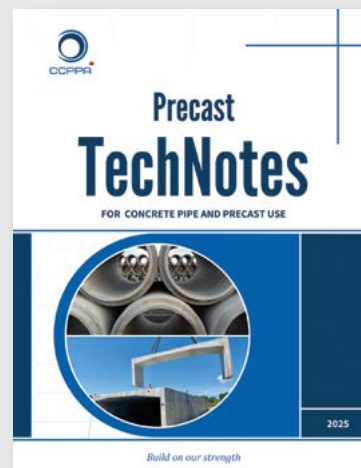
Testing of Concrete Pipe Joint using "Deep Seal" gasket

The Saint-Eugène project is a clear example of the importance of combining expertise, innovation, and technical rigor in the development of municipal infrastructure. Thanks to the collaboration between the City of Châteauguay, Ali Excavation, and Groupe Brunet, this construction site will strengthen the resilience and efficiency of the sanitary network, while addressing the technical challenges posed by the site's unique conditions.

## New Look, Same Resource

For those of you well-invested in the technical support offered by the CCPPA, you will be glad to hear about some recent updates for two well-used technical resources. A refresh was overdue to update these Ontario-based resources into national references, reflecting CCPPA's membership across provincial jurisdictions from British Columbia to Nova Scotia. Prior to the last update in 2019, there were (8) producer members in Ontario; today there are (20) CCPPA producer members across Canada. Furthermore, the use of precast concrete structures is growing. More owners and designers are seeking greater use of precast structures to facilitate accelerated construction options for buried infrastructure.

The Information Booklet was renamed **Precast TechNotes**. This CCPPA technical resource offers insights to design, material specification, and the latest industry advancements in precast.



*continued on page 5*



# Returning in 2026! Inspector Information Sessions



Inspector information Session - Attendees discuss proper pipe to maintenance hole connection requirements

Over the past several years, the CCPPA has facilitated Inspector Information Sessions across Ontario, Alberta, and in Vancouver.

These sessions are FREE, interactive half-day events specifically designed for municipal inspectors and engineering consultants, focused on the use of concrete pipe and other precast concrete structures for buried gravity drainage infrastructure systems.

The areas of focus are:

- 1. Design** – Basic design including reinforcing, manufacture techniques, and cement types.
- 2. Box Culverts & Precast** – How are box culverts and other precast components manufactured and installed as well as some interesting case studies where box culverts were used.
- 3. The Gasket** – How the gaskets work, how to properly install a gasket, and how to care for them so they aren't damaged.
- 4. The Maintenance Hole** – How they are manufactured, installed, and how are pipe connected to them.
- 5. Crack Evaluation** – When there are cracks beyond the design crack, how to evaluate the required action.
- 6. The Good, Bad, & Ugly** – We look at installations where there are issues and show how the proper installation should look.

The sessions are excellent opportunities to learn about precast concrete or serve as a refresher for experienced staff, and to discuss common issues seen on job sites.

The 2026 sessions are going to be held in Vancouver British Columbia, Saskatoon Saskatchewan, Greater Toronto Area Ontario, and in a yet to be determined city in Atlantic Canada (likely Dartmouth/Halifax area). The dates are yet to be determined but will likely be held between January and March, 2026.

Email, [resources@ccppa.ca](mailto:resources@ccppa.ca) to inquire about a session in your area.

## New Look, Same Resource

*continued from page 4*

This resource is not only relevant to the industry itself, but also for designers and specifiers utilizing reinforced concrete pipe and precast concrete structures for durable and resilient options in buried infrastructure.

The **Concrete Pipe & Precast Installation Pocket Guide** is one of CCPPA's most desired technical resources in our library. It provides concise and simple guidance on many of the installation and inspection practices recommended for field construction. Engineers, inspection field staff and contractors can all find good use with this resource when installing concrete pipe and precast structures.

Both technical resources can be found on the CCPPA website ( [www.ccppa.ca](http://www.ccppa.ca) ) under the Resources page. Purposely printed in hard copy, the Installation Pocket Guide can also be collected at any of our future CCPPA events.

**MCON**  
LEADERS IN PRECAST  
CONCRETE INFRASTRUCTURE  
PRODUCTS SINCE 1989.

PROUDLY CELEBRATING  
**35**  
YEARS OF  
STRENGTH

Visit our website to learn more  
[mconproducts.com](http://mconproducts.com)

2150 Richardson Side Rd.,  
Ottawa, ON K0A 1L0

+1 800 267 5515  
[info@mconproducts.com](mailto:info@mconproducts.com)

**Engineered Pipe & Precast Solutions**

UTILIZING THE BEST FEATURES OF CONCRETE AND STEEL

ENGINEERED AND MANUFACTURED TO MEET YOUR EXACT SPECIFICATIONS

24/7 SUPPORT FROM DECAST'S EXPERT FIELD SERVICES TEAM

**DECAST**  
Leading Infrastructure Solutions

T 705.734.2892 8807 County Road 56  
TF 800.461.5632 Utopia, ON L0M 1T0  
F 705.734.2920 [decastltd.com](http://decastltd.com)

Only a name changed-not our quality or services!

Rinker Materials™ is a QUIKRETE® Company! Rinker Materials is one of the nation's largest and leading manufacturers of concrete pipe and related products for the collection, treatment, safe storage, and treatment of stormwater. Founded in 1963, Rinker Materials produces a full range of sustainable products including concrete piping and precast products from numerous facilities across North America. Our goal is to provide high-quality products and services that our businesses have offered in the past – plus much more! Please continue to reach out to your current representative!

**Rinker**  
MATERIALS®  
A QUIKRETE® COMPANY

[www.RinkerPipe.com](http://www.RinkerPipe.com)

**NUMESH**

PRODUCTS

- COILS
- PIPE MESH
- ENGINEERED MESH
- STRAIGHT & CUT WIRE
- TUNNEL MESH & LADDERS

1 800 363-0847 | [NUMESH.COM](http://NUMESH.COM)

PROUDLY PRODUCING QUALITY CONCRETE PRODUCTS FOR OVER HALF A CENTURY

OUR WIDE RANGE OF PRODUCTS INCLUDE:

- ▶ Concrete Pipe & Box Sections
- ▶ Maintenance Holes & Catchbasins
- ▶ Ready Mix Concrete
- ▶ Standard & Architectural Blocks
- ▶ Architectural Stone, Blocks & Bricks
- ▶ Landscaping Products
- ▶ Septic Tanks & Accessories
- ▶ Precast Concrete
- ▶ Packaged Materials
- ▶ Electrical Structures
- ▶ Construction Accessories
- ▶ Mining Products
- ▶ Prestressed Hollowcore Slabs
- ▶ Architectural Precast
- ▶ Custom Precast

2477 Maley Drive, Sudbury, ON P3A 4R7  
Ph:705-566-1740 1-800-461-6281 Fax:705-566-4813  
[www.rcil.com](http://www.rcil.com)

**RAINBOW**  
Concrete Industries Ltd.



# Rinker Materials Provides a Precast Accelerated Construction Solution

**Aliu Abdul\_Hamid, P.Eng.**  
Engineering Manager  
Rinker Material Ottawa

**Bassel Haskour, P.Eng.**  
Project Manager  
Rinker Material Ottawa

Precast Producer: **Rinker Materials Ottawa**

Bank St. is a major north/south corridor in Ottawa, the nation's capital. City engineering officials recognized the need for upgrades along this corridor to support the ever-growing population in the city's southern bedroom communities, as well as to renew aging infrastructure. Given the importance of Bank St. and the proximity of this work to a major shopping plaza, minimizing traffic delays and/or closures is a major concern when preparing for this work.

The Findlay Creek Culvert crosses Bank St. just north of the Blais/Miikana Rd. intersection. The existing cast in place crossing was nearing the end of its useful life and the need to widen Bank St. necessitated its replacement. The plan was to install a 4900mm X 1800mm – 3 sided culvert 34m in length to replace the existing 27m one. The initial solution called for cast in place footings secured with rock anchors, overlain with precast culvert sections built with galvanized steel reinforcing, in an effort to reach the desired design life of 75 years as required by CSA S6-19.

Rinker Materials Ottawa reviewed the original tender documents in the early spring of 2024 and proposed several changes to the design team at Robinson Consultants Inc. Firstly, Rinker proposed that significant cost savings could be achieved by proposing alternate materials that still permitted the required design life to be achieved. This suggestion was approved and became integrated by addenda, into the tender. Rinker's second proposal was to switch to a precast footing system.



Side view of culvert installation



Front view of culvert installation

This proposal was reviewed by both the city and their consultant however it was not accepted during the tender period.

Afterward, it was determined that due in part to over-blasting from the original construction the depth of the bedrock was considerably deeper than expected, making the installation of the rock anchors less appealing. This led to further discussion of the precast footings option with the owner's team, Thomas Cavanah Construction Ltd. (the successful bidder) and Rinker Materials. Ultimately, the group saw significant benefits in going the route of a precast footings. These included reduced road closure times, fewer traffic disruptions, and most significantly minimizing the required bypass pumping of the creek flow. Although this required the contractor to achieve high bearing capacities for the footings (200 kPa), it still allowed for much quicker installation and restoration of the creek bed to accept flow.

During construction, a redesign of the shoulder grades on both sides of the crossing necessitated the height of the headwalls to increase from approximately 500mm to closer to 1000mm, with a resultant increase in transferred moment to the precast culvert sections. Rinker came forward with a modified headwall design, adopting an L-shaped precast section with epoxied dowel connections to address the increased height and loads. This eliminated the need for costly moment couplers integrated into the originally designed cast-in-place headwall system. The value of this change was also recognized by the owner and the consultant, and was integrated into the final construction.

Phase 1 of the project (including the Finlay Creek Culvert replacement) was successfully completed in the fall 2024. The use of precast structures, and in particular the addition of the precast footings and headwalls helped to keep this project on schedule and had a very positive impact in reducing traffic delays and road closure times associated with this major undertaking.

# Innovative Product Use at Huff Estates Winery

**Chris Phippen, P.Eng.**  
Region Engineer  
CCPPA

Precast Producer: **M CON Products**

I recently had the pleasure of spending a leisurely Labour Day holiday in Prince Edward County ("The County" for those in the know!) with my lovely wife Lisa. Along with the visits to the scenic villages of Bloomfield and Picton, we took the opportunity to enjoy lunch at the Huff Estates Winery.

Lanny Huff, a chemical engineer by training, must have seen the movie *The Graduate* in 1967 and took the advice - "There's a great future in plastics" to heart. Over many years and through founding several companies, Lanny had a long and successful career making all manner of plastic conduit, pipe and wire loom for the automotive, trucking, aviation, boating and even the vacuum industries.

In 2004, Lanny and his wife Catharine opened Huff Estates Winery in the County, where they were both born and raised. They expanded

operations to include an on-site Inn in 2006 and then developed a partnership with the OENO art gallery in 2009 that includes an extensive sculpture garden. Over the years the winery has amassed an impressive array of industry accolades, gold medals, and other recognitions for the quality of their product.

After lunch, Lanny graciously invited my wife and me to join him in his newest addition to the property - the 'Pipe Dream' private seating area - for a conversation about this installation. With competition ever increasing (almost 30 new wineries have opened in the County in the last ten years), new and innovative approaches to marketing are always being sought out. Lanny thought that converting large reinforced concrete pipes into private dining areas for up to eight would be a terrific addition to his restaurant and tasting area. The raw industrial aesthetic paired well with the concrete and glass of the winery's main building in a sort of homage to the brutalist style of architecture, and complemented the large sculptures located along the estate entrance road. Apparently, research on-line revealed similar upcycling projects in Blue Mountain, Colorado and Adelaide, Australia.

*continued on page 7*



# Innovative Product Use at Huff Estates Winery

continued from page 6

Local area carpenter Andy Smith completed the conversion with custom cedar benches and heavy laminated slab tables suspended on galvanized treaded rod from the obvert of the pipe. Andy's family was also involved in building the on-site Inn, and the Huff's private home, while MCON supplied the three sections of Class 100-D, 2400mm dia. concrete pipe from their Ottawa plant keeping this a truly local project.



According to Andy, finding a supplier and then finding a supplier willing to sell only 3 pipe sections was initially a bit of a challenge. However, with a little tenacity he was able to work with MCON who he said were incredibly helpful.

"Every single piece had to be custom fit to the curvature; it was a bit fiddly but worth it in the end" said Andy of having to work inside a tube. He did indicate he was

very pleasantly surprised how tight the tolerances were when moving from one section to the next, allowing him to reuse templates and jigs.

Beyond serving excellent handmade pizza, paired with exceptional wine, the next plan for the "Pipe Dream" is to have local artists decorate the ceilings of each pipe with original artwork. Lisa made me promise we will return next spring for a sampling of the next vintage and to see these new murals.

# The Mel Marshall Engineering Scholarship

## For Undergraduate or Graduate Civil Engineering Students



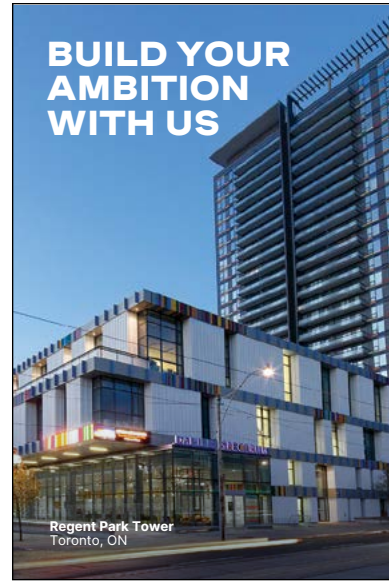
Once again, the **Canadian Concrete Pipe & Precast Association** and the **Canadian Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute** are very pleased to jointly announce the offering of the Mel Marshall Engineering Scholarship. This is the second year that this scholarship is being offered.

The scholarship honours an industry titan Mel Marshall, who dedicated his entire career to advancing the precast industry by educating younger generations on the use of materials for the design and manufacture of precast

concrete. The scholarship is available to students enrolled in undergraduate or graduate Civil Engineering programs in an accredited Canadian University. The scholarship has a value of \$10,000 per year.

Completed applications must be received no later than December 12, 2025.

More information about the scholarship or the application procedures can be found on the CCPPA website under the "Education" tab, at [www.ccppa.ca](http://www.ccppa.ca).



### BUILD YOUR AMBITION WITH US

Amrize is the partner of choice for the professional builders of North America, covering every project need from foundation to rooftop. With over 1,000 sites, 19,000 teammates, and a highly efficient distribution network, we deliver advanced building solutions for infrastructure, commercial and residential projects in every U.S. state and Canadian province. We are ready to build your ambition.

Learn more at [amrize.com](http://amrize.com)



**PROFORM CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS**

Your One Stop Shop For Precast Solutions In Western Canada

- Concrete Pipe
- Manholes
- Catch Basins
- Box Culverts
- Vault Structures
- Trench Boxes

[WWW.PROFORM.CA](http://WWW.PROFORM.CA)

RED DEER PLANT 403-343-8000    CALGARY PLANT 403-261-3851    HEAD OFFICE 403-343-6099

CERTIFIED QA PLANT

Save on Aggregate Heating costs with Direct-Fired Steam

Save 50% on water and fuel

**AFINITAS**

Learn more at [Afinitas.com/agg-heating](http://Afinitas.com/agg-heating)

**GCI PIPE PRODUCTS INC.**

GCI have been manufacturing for over 25 years and is successful in designing machine concepts in advance that enable efficient and cost-effective everyday production.

American Concrete Pipe Association    Canadian Concrete Pipe & Precast Association    NPCA

GCI PIPE PRODUCTS INC. PHONE 418-654-6569    P.RANCOURT@GCIGROUP.COM    WWW.GCIGROUPS.COM

PIERRE RANCOURT SALES MANAGER CANADA

**OMNI PRECAST**

The Groundwork for Growing Communities.

[sales@omniprecast.ca](mailto:sales@omniprecast.ca)    [www.omniprecast.ca](http://www.omniprecast.ca)

2691 Greenfield Road, Ayr ON N0B 1E0

The world needs concrete solutions

Providing a more resilient infrastructure... That's our job.

**Heidelberg Materials**

Vancouver 604 269 6700    Calgary 403 279 5531    Edmonton 780 448 1351    Winnipeg 204 334 4300



# business pipeline

## Concrete Pipe/Drainage Products Producer

**Coldstream Concrete Limited**  
 Location: Ilderton, ON  
 Tel: 519-666-0604  
 Fax: 519-666-0977  
 Email: akoteles@coldstreamconcrete.com  
 Website: www.coldstreamconcrete.com  
 Contact: Amy Koteles

**DECAST Ltd.**  
 Location: Barrie, ON  
 Tel: 1-800-461-5632  
 Fax: 705-734-2920  
 Email: jtully@decastltd.com  
 Website: www.decastltd.com  
 Contact: Jim Tully

**Heidelberg Materials**  
 Locations: Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Winnipeg, Vancouver  
 Tel: 1-800-268-0785  
 Fax: 403-261-6751  
 Tech Inquiries: Justin Arnott  
 Email: Justin.Arnott@HeidelbergMaterials.com  
 Website: www.heidelbergmaterials.com

**Amrize**  
 Locations: Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Thunder Bay  
 Tel: 780-479-5232  
 Fax: 780-410-3699  
 Email: ryan.finlay@lafargeholcim.com  
 Website: www.lafarge.ca  
 Contact: Ryan Finlay

**M CON Products Inc.**  
 Location: Ottawa, ON  
 Tel: 1-800-267-5515  
 Email: info@mconproducts.com  
 Website: www.mconproducts.com  
 Contact: Marco Mion

**Miller Precast**  
 Location: Rosslyn, ON  
 Toll-free: 1-888-290-8986  
 Fax: 1-807-939-1788  
 Email: sales@millerprecast.ca  
 Website: www.millerprecast.ca  
 Contact: Tracy Miller

**OMNI Precast**  
 Location: Ayr, ON  
 Tel: 519-632-9112  
 Fax: 519-632-7440  
 Email: sales@omniprecast.ca

**Proform Construction Products**  
 Locations: Edmonton, Red Deer & Calgary, AB  
 Toll-free: 800.859.5541  
 Email: info@proform.ca  
 Website: www.proform.ca  
 Contact: Travis Paterson

**Rainbow Concrete Industries Ltd.**  
 Locations: Sudbury, ON  
 Tel: 1-800-461-6281  
 Fax: 705-566-4813  
 Email: sales@rcil.ca  
 Website: www.rcil.com  
 Contact: Boris Naneff

**Rinker Materials**  
 Locations: Whitby, Cambridge, Ottawa  
 Tel: 1-888-888-3222  
 Fax: 519-621-8233  
 Email: Shane.Egan@RinkerPipe.com  
 Website: www.RinkerPipe.com  
 Contact: Shane Egan

**S3 Precast**  
 Locations: Sherwood Park, AB  
 Tel: 780-742-8265  
 Fax: 780-478-5699  
 Email: Amir@s3precast.com  
 Website: www.s3precast.com  
 Contact: Amir Azizi

**Souris Valley Industries**  
 Locations: Weyburn, SK  
 Tel: 306-842-5854  
 Fax: 306-842-1011  
 Email: dustin@sviprecast.com  
 Website: www.sviprecast.com  
 Contact: Dustin Bell

## Gaskets and Connectors

**Hamilton Kent**  
 Location: Etobicoke, ON  
 Tel: 1-800-268-8479  
 Fax: 416-674-6960  
 Email: randy.reimer@hamiltonkent.com  
 Website: www.hamiltonkent.com  
 Contact: Randy Reimer

**Press-Seal Corporation**  
 Location: Fort Wayne, IN  
 Toll-free: 800-348-7325  
 Cell: 617-803-1750  
 Email: mtomkinson@press-seal.com  
 Website: www.press-seal.com  
 Contact: Matt Tomkinson

## Reinforcing Steel

**Laurel Steel**  
 A Division of Harris Steel ULC  
 Location: Burlington, Ontario  
 Tel: 800-265-6811  
 Fax: 905-634-7888  
 Email: Colin.odonnell@nucor.com  
 Website: www.laurelsteel.com  
 Contact: Colin O'Donnell

**Numesh Inc.**  
 Location: Laval, QC  
 Tel: 1-800-363-0847  
 Fax: 450-663-9049  
 Email: David.Metcalf@Numesh.com  
 Website: www.numesh.com  
 Contact: David Metcalfe

**StelCrete Industries Limited**  
 Location: Niagara Falls, ON  
 Tel: 1-866-924-0837  
 Fax: 905-735-3955  
 Email: bhansen@stelcrete.com  
 Website: www.stelcrete.com  
 Contact: Bob Hansen

## Precast Manufacturing Equipment and Accessories

**GCI Pipe Products Inc.**  
 Location: Québec City, QC  
 Tel: 418-654-6569  
 Email: p.rancourt@gcipipeproducts.com  
 Website: www.gcigroups.com  
 Contact: Pierre Rancourt

**Afinitas**  
 Location: St. Louis, MO  
 Tel: 314-726-2178  
 Email: derek.voncannon@afinitas.com  
 Website: www.afinitas.com  
 Contact: Derek Von Cannon

**Mel C. Marshall Industrial Consultants Inc.**  
 Location: Surrey, BC  
 Tel: 604-541-1998  
 Fax: 604-541-1668  
 Email: Braden@mcmsales.ca  
 Website: www.precastconcretebc.com  
 Contact: Braden Marshall

**Quality** ...products and service  
**Service** ...long-term  
**Value** ...reduced costs

**Our pipeline is open.**  
 Contact us now to explore a better way to help your clients with their projects.

StelCrete Industries Limited  
 P.O. Box 837  
 7771 Stanley Avenue  
 Niagara Falls, ON Canada L2E 6V6

t: 905.354.5691 / 1.800.263.7110  
 f: 905.356.1679  
 info@stelcrete.com



www.stelcrete.com

manufacturers of pre-welded reinforcement and structural hardware.



THE LEADER IN CUSTOM HEAVY PRECAST CONCRETE ELEMENTS



coldstreamconcrete.com | 519.666.0604



Providing Northern Ontario with Quality Concrete Solutions



Manholes | Box Culverts | Concrete Pipe | Catch Basins

1 888 290 8986 www.millerprecast.ca



Building Foundations for Communities across Saskatchewan

www.sviprecast.com  
306-842-5854



SERVICE WITH A SMILE ONLY MEANS SOMETHING IF THE CUSTOMER IS ALSO SMILING.



BURLINGTON, ONTARIO  
1-800-265-6811  
www.laurelsteel.com

Your reinforcing depot for  
PRECAST - MINING - CONSTRUCTION  
ISO 90001 ISO14001