The first Bay of Plenty & Waikato Young Geotechnical Professionals’ Symposium is happening on Thursday 27 February 2020.

What is it:
A one day event where the young people of the local geotechnical industry gather to share and learn from each other. Hopefully you will not only learn but leave more enthused and motivated for your career. It is a shortened, local, less formal version of the highly successful ANZ YGP conference.

Who is it for:
Bay of Plenty & Waikato young members (under 35 & less than 10 years’ experience – we won’t check!). We want people at all levels of experience in this range.

I’m going to NZGS 2020 National Symposium, can I still come?:
Yes but your topic needs to be different and others will be given priority for presentation slots.

What is the due date?
Your presentation summary is due by Friday 24 January 2020.

What is required of me
To register you need to provide a 100 to 200 word summary of a geotechnical topic which you can commit to making a 10 minute presentation on at the event. The topic should be something that your peers can learn from. This could be:

- A project in which you have learnt something
- An original investigation or examination of a topic
- A resource or paper you find valuable for your work
- An item of research
- Other – it just needs to be something geotechnically relevant that others can learn from.

The presentation should be at your level. We want to hear from graduates as well as those who are almost no longer “young”!

No written paper is required. There will be a short question time after each presentation.

Will everyone present?
Yes, all attendees will be expected to present on the day. We will advise the order of presentations approximately two weeks in advance.
What will the day look like?
An anticipated schedule is set out below. Note that some of the presentation sessions might be split into streams to maximise the number of presentations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.30am – 9.00am</td>
<td>Arrival/Rego, Tea &amp; Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.00am – 10.25am</td>
<td>Session 1 – Opening &amp; Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.25am – 11.00am</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00am – 12.30pm</td>
<td>Session 2 – Presentations</td>
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<td>12.30pm – 1.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.30pm – 3.00pm</td>
<td>Session 3 – Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.00pm – 3.30pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.30pm – 4.00pm</td>
<td>Mentor Talk 1</td>
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<td>4.00pm – 4.30pm</td>
<td>Game / Activity / Challenge</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.30pm – 5.00pm</td>
<td>Mentor Talk 2 &amp; Closure</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Dinner + informal awards to best presenters</td>
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Where will it be held?
The symposium will be held at the brand new University of Waikato Campus in Tauranga. (101 Durham Street, Tauranga).

I’m from Auckland and /or outside the Bay of Plenty & Waikato, can I still come?
No – this is arranged by Bay of Plenty & Waikato members for Bay of Plenty & Waikato members. NZGS will support similar events in other regions subject to members from that region volunteering to organise the event. Contact bopygp@gmail.com if you are interested in bringing this to your region.

How do I register?
Please register your interest by submitting your presentation summary to bopygp@gmail.com. We need to confirm a few more details and get a better idea of numbers, at which stage there will be a formal registration/payment process.

What is the cost?
The cost is $180 per person, including dinner.

It there a prize?
There are two awards to be handed out at dinner: one based on popular vote and one selected by the mentors. The best presentation (selected by the mentors) will have the opportunity to present (with registration and travel expenses covered) at the 21st NZGS National Symposium in Dunedin in October 2020.

Presentation Guidelines
For the day to be successful your presentation needs to be of a high quality. We expect you to have spent 5 to 10 hours ahead of the event preparing and practicing your presentation. We recommend you:

1. Be clear of a few key points that you are sharing, make sure they are clear to the audience

2. Don’t clutter your slides, you only have 10 minutes – pictures and graphs with a few words are best. Good presenters don’t just read from their slides.

3. Don’t have too many slides. As few as 7 or 8 may be adequate – more than 20 is probably too many.

4. The audience hopes to be informed, inspired and entertained. Try and include a good mix of examples, factual evidence, illustration and personal stories where possible.

5. Practice your presentation by yourself to hone your timing. The presentation time limit will be strictly enforced on the day and you don’t want to be cut short of your punchline!

6. Practice your presentation to a few others and improve it based on their feedback.

Any Questions?
Contact the organisers at bopygp@gmail.com

Thanks to our Sponsor for supporting this event