

March 6, 2008

Dear Colleague,

Thank you all for pre-registering at the website and uploading your abstract. To date we have about 65 participants pre-registered with approximately 60 speakers over the three and a half day workshop, thus allowing us with ample time reserved for discussion. As we are still soliciting a few more participants, this number may ultimately increase to 70.

We are currently developing a preliminary technical program for the workshop, including the one day post meeting at Caterpillar in Peoria. For the latter, we intend to select about ten abstracts from the Lake Louise program that will be presented on Monday June 2, 2008 in Peoria. As originally planned, travel funding will be available for the Peoria meeting.

Based on the level of funding that has been firmed up to date, the Committee has finally set a participation fee of CAD\$600 which includes meals and coffee breaks during the workshop. Due to limited funding, we will provide assistance (e.g. participation fee waiver) to only those who require support. All requests should be sent to my attention at [wan@ucalgary.ca](mailto:wan@ucalgary.ca) by March 21 explaining your needs as well as the reasons why support is required and the committee will review and decide accordingly.

As a reminder, please ensure that you book your room directly with Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise as soon as possible but prior to April 27<sup>th</sup> to take advantage of the preferential group rates. Hotel information can be found at:

<http://www.schulich.ucalgary.ca/civil/IWBDG2008/hotel.html>

We will keep you posted on the progress of the technical programs (Lake Louise and Peoria) as well as the modalities of payment for the participation fee. The information will be posted at the website very shortly.

Looking forward to seeing you soon in Lake Louise.

Our very best regards,

Richard, Mustafa and Joe