



Sameer Hasham

Sameer Hasham, 39, is an associate and group leader with RJC Engineers, specializing in building science. As a Certified Passive House Designer (CPHD) and board member of the British Columbia Building Envelope Council (BCBEC), he focuses on designing enclosures for buildings with consideration for both structural and thermal engineering of the façade.

After emigrating from Kenya at 17, Hasham completed high school in Canada. He was drawn to physics, learning how things work at a fundamental level.

“My father was a steel fabricator who designed and built structures,” he explains. “I initially wanted to be an architect, but found myself enjoying the engineering side of putting things together.”

While attending the University of British Columbia (UBC), he joined RJC as a co-op student.

“As soon as I started studying civil engineering, I knew it was exactly where I wanted to be,” says Hasham. “It’s the connection between learning concepts from books and practical, hands-on construction work.”

After completing his degree, he rejoined RJC as a

design engineer. He has since contributed to national best practices, e.g. by developing design tools for fenestration assemblies’ structural and thermal performance. He also contributed research to a guide for mitigating thermal bridging in wood-frame balcony assemblies and to a digital twin-based analysis of deep-energy retrofit strategies, both for the B.C. Housing Excellence Grant.

“It’s interesting to apply building science to designs for retrofitting existing buildings while they are still occupied,” he says.

Projects where he has served as building envelope engineer of record have included Vancouver Island’s McLoughlin Point Wastewater Treatment Plant and Victoria’s LEED Platinum-certified Capital Park office and retail building. Today, he leads a team of engineers and technologists on Vancouver Island and has overseen hygrothermal analysis and reporting for the retention of heritage fabric in the redevelopment of Ottawa’s Block 2, across from Parliament Hill.

“Our Victoria office has doubled in size since I joined,” he says. “Building science was not well-known when I was in school, but now the young talent coming into the industry is amazing. And I’m in a position now where I can teach and mentor, which gives me a great sense of fulfilment.”

Jonathan Palmer

Jonathan Palmer, 34, is president and CEO of Extropic Energy in Kelowna, B.C. Over his career, he has con-

sulted for such utilities as FortisBC, BC Hydro, FortisAlberta, ENMAX, SaskPower and Manitoba Hydro, developing electrical master plans and modelling growth for campuses, communities and cities across Western Canada.



Palmer’s path to the profession started at a young age. His father, who had studied engineering technology and worked as an electrician and millwright, fostered an interest in technology.

“He once bought seven computers for \$10 from an auction and gave them to me,” he says, “so I could take them apart and put half of them back together!”

By high school, not only was Palmer taking standard math and physics classes, but he also studied Internet business technology at the college level. To develop both technical expertise and business acumen, he followed a degree in electrical engineering from the University of British Columbia (UBC) with an MBA from the University of Saskatchewan.

“Engineering gave me hard skills that could be applied in a business context,” he explains.

Palmer worked for two

consulting engineering firms: Primary Engineering and Construction, for whom he launched Saskatchewan operations, and CIMA+, which enabled a return to Kelowna.

Then, in 2021, he launched Extropic.

“I’ve always had a high entrepreneurial drive,” he says. “I wanted more flexibility to pursue other opportunities and take a holistic approach to energy, from planning and conceptualization to engineering, implementation and asset management.”

Palmer also identified opportunities to collaborate with Indigenous communities in a spirit of partnership and reconciliation. In 2023, he helped create Aurora Renewables, a construction company that partners with the Des Nedhe Group and English River First Nation to build solar, battery and microgrid projects in Northern Saskatchewan.

Today, Palmer enjoys seeing Extropic’s early energy roadmaps yielding real-world implementations.

“We’re just getting started!” he says. “I hope to see more projects come to life and solve the challenges of the energy transition in a positive way.”

Jennifer Routhier

Jennifer Routhier, 34, is AECOM’s decarbonization lead, overseeing greenhouse gas (GHG) quantification and reduction strategy for all business sectors across Canada. Based in Mississauga, Ont., she is a certified EnVision Sustainability Professional (ENV SP) through the