

# CELEBRATING THE NEXT GENERATION

BY  
**ANDREW MACKLIN**



Donald Chisholm | President, Nova Construction Ltd.

## Rock to Road presents its inaugural Top 20 Under 40.

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> Working diligently to find qualified, skilled young labourers to mine gravel and build roads for generations to come is not just the responsibility of the individual company. It takes a concentrated effort from contractors, corporations, associations and other primary stakeholders to promote the benefits of the rock to road industry to students across Canada looking for the right opportunity for their working career.

For the inaugural Rock to Road Top 20 Under 40, we are pleased to promote 20 of this country's best young workers who are providing the example for the next generation of Canada's aggregates and roadbuilding industry. From an excavator operator in the Yukon to a project co-ordinator in Toronto, the 20 individuals on this list cover a vast spectrum of the people involved in the day-to-day operations in this industry.

The information provided on each individual is a combination of the content provided by the person they were nominated by, conversations we have had with people in the industry, and what we have learned through our own research.

Without further delay, we present the inaugural Rock to Road Top 20 Under 40!

**DONN BERNAL | GM OF YELLOW LINE, AECON CONSTRUCTION**

Donn Bernal has worked hard to get to the level that he has achieved.

At 37, Donn Bernal is currently heading up the development of Yellow Line Asphalt Products Limited, a new start-up asphalt cement terminal that will transform the way joint venture partners Aecon and Dufferin conduct their road construction and paving businesses.

He started his career at the ground level, working as a summer student Laboratory Technician for Ashwarren Engineering Services while studying civil engineering at the University of Toronto. Ashwarren hired him full time following his graduation, becoming the Assistant Lab Supervisor. Four months later he was promoted to Technical Supervisor, where he consulted with clients to produce mix designs, implemented RAP and MSM additives into current Marshall Mix designs, and also designed microsurfacing and Slurry Seals. His success at Ashwarren was followed by successive management roles with Lafarge, Lafarge/Capital Paving and Oxford Sand and Gravel before landing in his current role with Aecon.

Throughout these career advancements Donn has served on the board of the OHMPA and been active in committee work and on the executive. He also finds time to mentor young people getting started in the industry.



**Donn Bernal | GM of Yellow Line, Aecon Construction**

**TYSON CRAIGGS | VP SALES, DISTRIBUTION AND PIT OPERATION, MISSION RIDGE AGGREGATES**

Excelling in today's rock to road industry is much like excelling at football: both take hard work, dedication and a ton of strength. No wonder Tyson Craiggss shines at both.

As a teenager with a budding football career ahead of him, Tyson worked at the family's aggregates business during his spare time. Following four years as a star linebacker with the University of Saskatchewan Huskies, Tyson signed as a free agent with the B.C. Lions. But even with the success of his football career, he never forgot to help the family grow



**Shane Fuller | Project Superintendent, Aecon Construction**



**Tyson Craiggss | VP Sales, Distribution and Pit Operation, Mission Ridge Aggregates**

Mission Ridge Aggregates.

After four years with the Lions, Tyson left the game and returned home to help the family business full time. Since then, the 31-year-old has been instrumental in helping Mission Ridge move forward. Tyson was instrumental in starting a customer appreciation program, C.A.R.E., which stands for Customers Are Really Everything. The program has paid major dividends to MRA's continual annual growth. Since 2011 Tyson has been responsible for

the operation of the DeBench gravel pit in Deroche.

Despite the demands of his career, and raising a young family, he still finds time to work with youth in his community through either coaching or mentoring youth.

**SHANE FULLER | PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT, AECON CONSTRUCTION**

It's not easy for a young project leader to impress an industry veteran. But on 34-year-old Shane Fuller's last job site, the Highway 401 expansion near Woodstock, Ont., Shane did just that.

During the project Gary Brown, a 37-year veteran of the construction and material supply business and now the owner of Oxford Sand & Gravel Limited, had opportunity to meet the young man in charge. After a brief introduction, he was given a complete tour of the project where his many questions were clearly answered. On his return after the meeting Brown concluded that this was not "this youngster's first rodeo and the project was in good hands."

Shane worked well with his aggregates supplier, as he has with many suppliers.