Dr. Hughes has worked most of his professional life as a geotechnical engineer specializing in *in-situ* testing techniques for assessing the properties of fractured rocks and soils. Most of these techniques and method of analysis were developed while at the University of Cambridge, University of Auckland and the University of British Columbia. Since establishing his own company Hughes Insitu Engineering Ltd. he has worked in four provinces in Canada and fifteen States in the U.S., as well as twenty countries, including Romania, Australia, Israel, Vietnam and India.

In general, the projects that he has been involved with are large civil engineering works such as tall buildings, tunnels, bridges and dams. They include the tallest building in the Western United States – the 80-storey Columbia Tower in Seattle – and well-known bridges such as the Tacoma Narrows Bridge and the Bay Bridge in San Francisco. He has worked for the U.S. Corps on the failed levees in New Orleans. He has been involved in the foundation studies for five nuclear power plants in the United States.

Dr. Hughes has published for 50 years, since 1964. His latest publication is in the ASCE Journal, May 2014, on the lateral stresses on the Route I99, a 17.5 m, diameter tunnel through Seattle.*

* Hoopes, O. T. and Hughes, John, 2014, In situ lateral stress management in glaciolacustrinve Seattle clay using the pressuremeter: Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering, v. 140, no. 5, paper 04013054, 11 p. May 2014

