

Conestoga College Kitchener, Ontario

| Challenge

A new 2-3 storey wing at Conestoga College that was connected to an existing building to accommodate increased enrollment had subsurface conditions consisting of silty fill mixed with topsoil and amorphous peat to 4m to depth of exploration on half the site, as well as medium dense to dense sand and gravel on the other half. The dig-replace option to remove the poor fills and peat resulted in the consideration of an extremely deep excavation near the existing buildings. This option was dismissed as too costly due to the extensive shoring that would be required.

| Solution

The Geopier Rammed Aggregate Pier® system was used to support the one half of the building, reinforcing the existing fill and peat with the other half of the structure supported on footings on good native sand/gravel. Rammed Aggregate Pier® elements presented a viable solution to support one half of the structure as the settlement control and bearing capacity of the Geopier® elements in the organics and fill was matched to that of the footings on competent native ground.

| Outcome

Rapid installation and the ability to apply a “matched support” solution improved the overall construction project schedule and resulted in significant cost efficiencies.



Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning is a public college with an enrollment of over 44,000 students. This beautiful 2 storey building rests on Geopier® elements and native ground for matched support

General Contractor

Gateman Milloy

Geotechnical Engineer

LVM Naylor

Project Team

Architect

Stantec

Owner

Conestoga Collage

Ground Improvement - Rigid Inclusions - Piling Systems - Slope Stability - Ground Reinforcement

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