

DISTINGUISHED CONSULTANT AWARD IN HONOR OF NELSON J. SHAFFER

Gene Chartier, M.A.Sc., P.Eng



ITE—A Community of Transportation Professionals is proud to recognize **Gene Chartier, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.**, as the recipient of the [2026 ITE Distinguished Consultant Award in Honor of Nelson J. Shaffer](#).

The ITE Distinguished Consultant Award in Honor of Nelson J. Shaffer recognizes a consultant for outstanding contributions to the transportation engineering and planning profession. Gene exemplifies the spirit of this award through a 35-year career defined by technical leadership, professional service, mentorship, and an enduring commitment to advancing ITE and the transportation industry.

Gene's journey with ITE began as a student member and has grown into influential leadership at every level of the organization. He is a past president of ITE Canada, former Canadian District Director on the ITE International Board of Direction, current chair of the ITE Consultants Council, and a director of ITE Canada's Future Transportation Leaders Fund. He has also served on more than a dozen international and Canadian ITE committees, helping shape the organization through sustained service, collaboration, and strategic leadership.

As a transportation consultant, Gene has contributed to major transportation planning and traffic engineering initiatives across Canada. At Paradigm Transportation Solutions Limited, where he serves as Vice President and Chief Development Officer, he leads strategic initiatives and contributes to transformative transportation projects grounded in pragmatic, community-focused solutions. His work reflects a deep belief that transportation is not only a technical discipline, but also a commitment to public good, sustainability, quality of life, and community connection.

Gene's contributions to technical practice have helped advance how transportation professionals approach safety, mobility, and community design. Among his most meaningful ITE efforts are contributions to technical resources including the Canadian Guide to Traffic Calming, the Canadian Roundabout Design Guide, and ITE's Recommended Practice on Promoting Sustainable Transportation

Through Site Design. These resources have influenced contemporary practice in Canada and beyond, supporting more thoughtful, sustainable, and people-centered transportation solutions.

Gene's professional philosophy is rooted in relationships, service, and empathy. In reflecting on his career, he has emphasized that while technical skill matters, relationships fuel the work of transportation professionals by sparking collaboration, fostering mentorship, and providing support throughout every stage of a career. He also reminds practitioners that behind every traffic model, roundabout design, or transportation plan are real people—commuters, families, cyclists, and children walking to school.

His leadership has been recognized through numerous honors, including the 2025 Burton W. Marsh Distinguished Service Award, one of ITE's highest honors. In receiving that award, Gene noted that ITE has been a central part of his professional life for more than three decades and described the recognition as humbling and profoundly meaningful. He was also only the third ITE Canada member to receive the Burton W. Marsh Award in its 55-year history.

Gene's impact also extends to students and emerging professionals. He has consistently encouraged early-career members to stay curious, speak up while listening deeply, build relationships, remember who transportation serves, and say yes to leadership opportunities. His message to the next generation is clear: get involved, make the time, and help create space for others to thrive.

Through his consulting leadership, technical contributions, service to ITE, and commitment to mentorship and community-centered practice, Gene Chartier continues the legacy of Nelson J. Shaffer and exemplifies the highest ideals of the transportation consulting profession. ITE congratulates Gene on receiving the 2026 ITE Distinguished Consultant Award in Honor of Nelson J. Shaffer and celebrates his outstanding contributions to ITE, ITE Canada, and the transportation profession.

Learn more about [ITE's Awards Program](#).