



# PROFESSIONAL INSPECTION GETS A MAKEOVER

## To improve our practice

**A great many of you like the new professional inspection format: Nearly 98% of the members\* who answered the survey after their inspection stated that the experience helped them improve their practice. Now that's an encouraging result, to say the least!**

You undoubtedly recall that professional inspection has embarked on a major change in direction since April 2016. In fact, its purpose is no longer solely to verify that engineers' practices comply with professional requirements: It is first and foremost meant to check their technical competencies.

For that purpose, every year, the OIQ determines the fields of practice it considers risky as part of its professional practice supervision program. Thus, in 2017-2018, the program targeted 13 different fields, including temporary structures, onsite domestic wastewater treatment, machine safety, building services and industrial processing procedures.

Two fields were added for 2018-2019: road and construction site signage and geotechnical engineering.

**CREATING THIS LIST WAS  
ESSENTIAL, BECAUSE 80% OF  
MEMBERS WHO ARE INSPECTED IN  
A GIVEN YEAR PRACTICE IN ONE OF  
THE FIELDS INCLUDED ON IT.**

Les autres membres (20 %) sont choisis de façon aléatoire ou font l'objet de signalements – du public par exemple.

### **AND THAT'S JUST THE BEGINNING!**

This change of direction is so important that it resulted in creating a brand new team of inspectors. Now permanent and part-time employees of the OIQ, the inspectors specifically rely on their own experience as engineers when they make their visits. The fact that they share their expertise in the inspected engineer's field of practice as well as their professional experience surely explains to some degree the extremely high number of members who benefit from their inspection.

The OIQ is very satisfied with this result. And for good reason! Professional inspection is specifically meant to be a positive action that helps reduce the risks involved in engineering practice and strengthen public trust in engineers and the profession.

However, the new professional inspection format is still being put into place. Notice to interested engineers: Eventually, the team of inspectors needs to grow from 17 to 22 members. There will be no shortage of work; starting in 2019-2020, the OIQ will perform 3,000 professional inspections per year, which is twice as many as in 2017-2018!

\* More specifically, 97.68% of the 517 members who answered the satisfaction survey, from November 8, 2016 to February 26, 2018.