

An Unforgettable Professional and Personal Experience

On October 17–18, 2025, I had the honor of receiving a grant to attend the **FIG Young Surveyors 2nd Americas Regional Meeting**, held jointly with the **NSPS (National Society of Professional Surveyors)** and the **Young Surveyors Conference** in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA.

I arrived with great excitement and gratitude for the opportunity this represented, not only to gain new knowledge, but also to meet people who could help shape the direction of my professional path as a surveyor in training. My expectations were far exceeded, turning this event into one of the best professional and personal experiences of my life.

For me, the adventure began the moment I boarded the plane in **Guadalajara**, the city where I currently live; it was my first time leaving my country. Once in Minneapolis, everything ran smoothly thanks to the event's excellent organization. From transportation and lodging to registration and all logistical details, everything was carefully prepared to ensure we were ready to fully engage in the meeting.

One of the most rewarding parts of the experience was meeting the other attendees. Everyone was incredibly kind, motivated, and eager to share their experiences and build both friendships and professional connections.



During the welcome dinner, we had the opportunity to listen to a meaningful speech by **Bryn Fosburgh**.

Besides being an excellent speaker, Bryn encouraged us to broaden our horizons as professionals and to take every opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences with colleagues from other regions of the world. His message made a strong impression on me.



I was also very inspired by the words shared by the **YSN members**, which motivated me to stay actively involved in activities carried out alongside the FIG Young Surveyors community.



Another significant moment was the keynote delivered by **Byron Freeman**, who spoke about the responsibility we assume when taking on leadership roles within an organization, as well as the tremendous opportunity this represents for our growth, both professionally and personally.



Listening to **Rami Tamimi** was also especially meaningful to me. His words encouraged us to build a presence on social media, and he shared his personal journey, how creating valuable content for the industry helped propel his career forward. His perspective was both inspiring and practical, highlighting how our profession can benefit from greater visibility and digital engagement.



Additionally, I found all the presentations to be an excellent selection. They ranged from discussions on soft-skill development to highly technical talks delivered by **Leica** and **Trimble** representatives, focusing on how artificial intelligence and new scanning methods are revolutionizing our industry, improving precision, enhancing workflows, and significantly increasing productivity.



I am deeply grateful for this incredible life experience. My thanks go not only to the event organizers, but also to all the participants who helped make this meeting a unique and unforgettable moment in my professional journey, Bryn, John, Trish, Byron, Fernanda, Paula, Hunter, Milad, Alex, Marcus, Zach and all the other friends I made on this experience. I am confident that everything I learned will continue to guide my development as a surveyor in training, supported by the peers I met and the many more I hope to meet as I stay involved in FIG and YSN activities. I also hope to contribute real value to the organization in the near future.

Sincerely,

Josue de la Torre Flores.





I also had the chance to explore a little bit of the city of **Minneapolis** and to experience its excellent public transportation system. I visited the downtown area, which I found truly impressive, a place that blends historic character with modern development in a very harmonious way. To me, it stands as a remarkable example of good urban planning: clean, well-organized, and very enjoyable to walk through.

