

Canadian Society for
Civil Engineering



Société canadienne
de génie civil



Susan L. Tighe, PhD, PEng, MCSCE
President, Canadian Society for Civil
Engineering

Présidente de la Société canadienne de génie
civil

president@csce.ca

Tel: 514-933-2634, ext 2

Greetings to all and Happy New Year! We have started the year off with a bang with our renewal campaign as noted in my last eletter! I do hope you took me up on my challenge to renew your CSCE Membership. If you are not a member, there are many compelling reasons to become one! To learn more, the videos are on [our website](#). Get to know your CSCE leaders who participated in the videos, Glenn Hewus, Michel Khouday, Jean-Luc Martel, Jennifer Tran, Hadi Aghahassani, Frédéric Brunet, and Sarah Rankhory.

I am pleased to introduce the Pin Challenge Campaign. March is National Engineering Month in Canada! To celebrate this yearly event we are launching our CSCE PIN CHALLENGE! You are our best ambassadors and we challenge you to recruit new members and be rewarded by doing so. Please consult the [CSCE website](#) for all the details as of March 1st.

See our Facebook page and the CSCE website that will feature video challenges recorded by members of our board of directors, and committee and section chairs. If you have been challenged, you must respond! Record your challenges and post them on our social media, Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/CSCENationalOffice/>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/csce2>). We are counting on your support and participation to recruit new talent to help our learned Society grow. Be a proud CSCE member!

I am also very pleased to announce that we have formed a President's Task Force on Accessibility to provide input to the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) B651. The Task force recognized that there have been many advances in terms of infrastructure accessibility over the last decade, but more needs to be done to address critical issues, particularly spacial requirements for wheeled mobility devices (WhMD) such as power wheelchairs. In most situations, the CSA B651 proposed minimum levels could be

exceeded at low or minimal cost to provide security, safety, ease of maneuvering and comfort to persons relying upon WhMD. Three critical dimensions above all others must be upgraded to enable these persons to actively utilize all elements of the built environment, but particularly air, rail, and bus travel where the constraints are critical. These dimensions include clear floor area, door width and turning radius. Without sufficient space, persons in WhMD are excluded from economic and social inclusion in society. The CSA proposed revisions to B651 and these have been reviewed by the CSCE Task Force. The Task Force has subsequently offered advice concerning these three critical areas of the standards that would greatly improve accessibility. Further follow up with other interested parties will be pursued to ensure these issues are raised to help make Canada more accessible. For more information, please contact CSCE Past President Alan Perks, FCSCE, perksahn69@gmail.com. Thank you to the other members of the group, Saeed Mirza, FCSCE and CSCE Past President, Glenn Hewus, CSCE President Elect, and Ahmad Jrade, MCSCE. Great work!

The CSCE International Affairs Committee (IAC) has been working hard to co-organize a conference with the China Civil Engineering Society (CCES). A meeting was held in Beijing at the offices of CCES on January 28, 2018 to discuss the co-organization of a joint international conference. Jeanne Huang, Deputy Chair and Special Envoy to China and CSCE IAC member, Ningyuan Li, MCSCE and myself participated in the meeting on behalf of CSCE. Various members of the CCES met with us as noted in the below photo. More details of this interesting conference to be held in 2019 in Canada will be available soon.



You may have received an email recently that the organizers of the 2018 Annual Conference in Fredericton June 13 – June 16, are seeking Case Studies. If you have an interesting case study that you would like to share with the CSCE Community, please submit a case study abstract through the conference website at: [Fredericton 2018 Technical Program](#). These are an important part of the conference and very important for

sharing current state-of-the-art-practice!

As I close this e-letter, I would like to again say, Happy New Year and wishing you all the best in 2018! We look forward to hearing from you! Get involved, we want your feedback! As a previous President said, Be Seen, Be Heard, Be Relevant and I would add, Be Proud!

Warm regards, Susan

Susan Tighe, PhD, PEng, MCSCE is President of CSCE, and Deputy Provost and Associate Vice-President Integrated Planning and Budgeting and the Norman McLeod Professor in Sustainable Pavement Engineering at the University of Waterloo.

*Copyright © *|2018|* The Canadian Society for Civil Engineering/Civil Engineering/Société canadienne de génie civil, All rights reserved.*

Our mailing address is:

300 St. Sacrement, Suite 521, Montréal, QC

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
