



The Canadian Society for Civil Engineering
La Société canadienne de génie civil



President Monthly E-Letter July 2015
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Introduction

To every member of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering, I am truly honoured and feel very privileged to represent our Society during this coming year. Thanks to my predecessors who have paved the way to facilitate the pursuit of a clear vision with strategic directions and a well-defined action plan.

On behalf of the board of directors which was recently appointed, thanks to all of you, the members, for your trust.

WE, as a team, will advance the growth objectives of our organization and we will work to meet your expectations.

- Firstly by making you proud as we will continue to be seen, to be heard and to be relevant.
- Secondly by making a Difference. Who can make this difference? It is us, it is you, it is everyone involved in this organization as a volunteer. It is all about people who are only asking to be inspired, to be respected and to be recognized.
- Thirdly by making things happen as we will move from the learning phase to the action phase. We dared to learn, we will now learn to dare.

To know more about the status of our on-going initiatives, I invite you to read the [Strategic Initiatives mid-year Report Card](#).

I have listed below some accomplishments related to our guiding principles:

Making you proud

- Successful addition of a practical case study track to the technical presentations program of the annual conference in Regina. This new value added practitioner-oriented content will officially remain part of the conference program in the future.

-Highest young professional member participation at our annual conference in Regina, who accounted for over 50% of all attendees. Our investment in initiatives for the young professionals of the last few years is starting to pay off.

-Request from the Federal government (Office of the Honourable Denis Lebel, Minister of Infrastructure, Communities and Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec) to address the Canadian civil engineering community at our annual conference in Regina. This is a clear indication that through its leadership in sustainable infrastructure strategic direction CSCE is recognized as an advisory organization having an influence on how public infrastructure is planned, designed, constructed and maintained.

Making a difference

-The publication of a CSCE position paper on the creation of a Sustainability Rating System for Infrastructure in Canada is being prepared by the Infrastructure Renewal Committee. This is aimed at helping the decision making instances prioritize funding requests for infrastructure projects (new, replacement, retrofit and/or maintenance) and facilitating public understanding of the funding process. The position paper is under review and validation by the Sustainable Development Committee and the Environmental Technical Division.

- Student Chapters now have a Practitioner Advisor from the CSCE Section who will provide support and guidance to the Student Chapter Executives in managing their chapter and developing and implementing their projects. Close to 75% of all Student Chapters across Canada have access to a practitioner advisor, and the volunteer student members really appreciate this link with a professional member.

-A letter of commendation will be sent to the supervisors of all active volunteer members of CSCE to thank their employees for the time they dedicate to support the Society and to recognize their valuable contribution to the management of CSCE and the development and implementation of our initiatives and projects. The letter will serve as a referral for the members' involvement in external work and their future performance evaluation.

Making things happen

-The launch of a Mentor and Protégé Program is under way. A call for mentors was published in mid - June. Please click [HERE](#) for more details and sign up today to be considered for the first round of the Program.

-CSCE Student Membership for all civil engineering students will be facilitated and extended for the duration their undergraduate studies. This initiative will be validated in the coming weeks in order to be effective at the start of the next academic year.

-Associate Members Recruitment campaign is being prepared to reach out all new civil engineering graduates considering the addition of benefit related the mentor and protégé program.

I welcome the following new members to the Society. I hope you will find it beneficial to you and that you take advantage of all CSCE has to offer!

- Mr. Tarek Abdel-Hamid
- Sami Abdulkhaleq
- Mr. Solomon Asantey
- Mr. Ronan Collins
- Mr. Chirag Patel
- Mr. Mohsen Rahmani
- Nidal Serhan

Enjoy summer and some vacation time to relax and come back full of energy in August. I will talk to you again then with more strategic orientation news and upcoming tangible action items.