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President, Canadian Society for Civil Engineering

What's up?

Almost six months into my term as President, I will give you an executive update on what are we doing to enhance your CSCE membership experience and to speed up our growth.

Since last year the total number of members has reached almost 4,500, an increase of approximately 1,000 and a record high in the last three years. The number of students joining CSCE accounts for this growth. There is definitely a momentum which bodes well for the future of our Society.

Over 400 volunteers give time and energy to CSCE through civil engineering departments of universities, our student chapters, sections, regions, technical divisions, committees, programs, conferences organizing teams and the board of directors. I thank them for their dedication and valuable contribution. The best way to reward them is to participate in the activities, conferences and meetings that they organize for you.

I had the honor and privilege to represent our learned Society in the past few months. I really enjoyed meeting with some other association partners such as the Engineering Institute of Canada (EIC), the Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS), the Canadian Construction Innovation (CCI), the Canadian Institute of Steel Construction, the Canadian Construction Association (CCA) and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). Many cooperation initiatives are under way. Together we will be stronger and our collaboration will help us grow faster and better serve the interests of our respective members.

Key initiatives have been pursued and some tangible products/services have been delivered in line with our Vision 2020 Strategic Directions. Here are the highlights:

Enhancing Services to Members:

- Over 50 letters of commendation were sent by the president to the work supervisors of CSCE's volunteer executive members. We thanked them for the support of their employees and we informed them of their involvement in, and their contribution to CSCE's programs and activities;
- Local sections, conferences program and networking activities;
- Two (2) issues (Summer and Fall) of the Canadian Civil Engineer Magazine containing articles on civil engineering practice and the dissemination of know-how and best practices;
- Twenty issues of the e-bulletin carrying the latest news on the Society as well as a compilation of very interesting articles published in the media on civil engineering topics;
- New initiative to communicate the president's video messages on YouTube;

- Publication of videos of the projects that won the 2015 Innovation in Civil Engineering Award and the Governmental Leadership in Sustainable Infrastructure Award on YouTube;
- Easier access to ASCE's library of webinars (e-Learning, Live and On-Demand) with discounted fees for CSCE's members.

Growing with Youth:

- Free CSCE membership for students with an automatic yearly renewal for the duration of their studies;
- Involvement of practitioners from local sections as advisers to the student chapters;
- Launch of a new CSCE student competition for Steel Bridge Design and Construction. The first edition will be held in May 2016 in conjunction with the Concrete Canoe Competition at McGill University in Montreal;
- Start of a new Mentor and Protégé program with a mentor recruitment campaign that generated more than fifty (50) registrations over the last few months.
- Watch for the upcoming Protégé sign up information.

Leadership in Sustainable Infrastructure:

- Upcoming publication of the second edition of the Canadian Infrastructure Report Card. A press conference will be organized to launch the document;
- Preparation of a National Lecture Tour (NLT) in Spring 2016 on this topic;
- Development of an Infrastructure Sustainability Rating System with a CSCE position paper and policy statement. The economic, environmental and social impact factors will be taken into consideration.

The entire civil engineering community is motivated by the mission of building better sustainable infrastructure in the future. We want to provide guidance and assistance to government and municipal leaders as well as developers of new construction projects in the prioritization of expenditures and investments.

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!

Ahmed Kafafi	Haiyan Fu
Amin Alvanchi	Hugo Dionne
Amin Rahbaran	Jan Jaieun
Amir Elmaraghy	Kasra Rezaee
Atmane Laouati	Li Tao
Behzad Iranpanah	Louis Maltais
Bogdan Dushenko	Miad Moarref
Changping Chen	Michael Hatzinkolas
Colin McCreath	Olivier Turcotte
David Langis	Omayma Motaleb
Dustin Hayward	Richard Fortier
Frederic Marquis	Scott Mathers
Girsh Zilberbrant	Sreekanta Das
Gustavo E. Aguilar	Wang Yi
	Yi Li

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