

Canadian Society for  
Civil Engineering



Société canadienne  
de génie civil



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## WELCOME

In summer, we might say that “It never rains but it pours” to indicate a state of busyness. Perhaps at this time of year, and quite realistically so across much of Canada, it never snows but it ‘blizzards’!! Aside from the great pile of snow that we have had this year across much of the country, there has also been a pile of activities taking place in CSCE-world. That said, this e-letter update is nonetheless perhaps my most brief communication with you to date.

## RECENT ACTIVITIES

It is with considerable regret that I had occasion to accept the resignation of our President Elect, Yves Cadotte, some two weeks ago. With his professional work-related commitments increasing more than had been anticipated, Yves simply got to the point where he felt that he could not take on the role of President as planned for next year. As most of us will understand, life often thows unanticipated curve balls that we simply have to address as best we can when they come our way. On behalf of the Society, I express gratitude to Yves for his work with CSCE and to his pledge for ongoing support of the work we do.

With Yves’ resignation, your leadership team has been very actively engaged in determining a course of action to pursue. I think that it is fair to say that, while challenging, we will come up with a plan to continue the work of CSCE as we must even with the loss of his contributions.

Our Senior Vice President, Reg Andres, was recently in Ottawa to attend a meeting in respect of the next version of a report card on Canada’s infrastructure. While there, he also attended the press conference on the Canadian Construction Association’s release of its report, *At the Intersection*, which addresses the case for sustained and strategic public infrastructure spending.

The Board's adhoc bylaw review committee continues to make progress on the review required as part of our filing of Articles of Continuance under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act with Industry Canada.

## **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

I am planning on attending three conference events near to the end of my term as President, including the Hydrotechnical Division's 21<sup>st</sup> conference in Banff, the EIC climate change conference in Montreal, and of course our own annual conference also being held in Montreal. More details about these events can be found below.

Members of the Board, and our various divisions and committees, are reminded about giving thought to their year-end reports for the annual report to be distributed at the annual general meeting during our conference in Montreal. Our Executive Director, Doug Salloum, will soon be advising of submission deadlines for the report.

I am yet hoping to visit some of our Sections before my term concludes in late May. Others from the senior executive team may also be doing the same as their time permits.

## **VISION 2020: Our plans for the future**

The three strategic directions that will guide and inform our decision-making over the next several years in realizing our mission and vision include:

- Strategic Direction #1: enhanced services to members (focus on improved programming for our members, including many of our traditional activities)
- Strategic Direction #2: growing with youth (focus on students and young professionals and their career development aspirations and needs)
- Strategic Direction #3: leadership in sustainable infrastructure (focus on the improvement of the planning, design, construction and maintenance of public infrastructure)

All members, and perhaps particularly those engaged in leading the Society, are encouraged to actively participate in helping us to take action to make the strategic directions come to life. It is the sum of all of our efforts that will result in meaningful impact on the vitality of our Society; please do not underestimate the importance of your contributions to our work!

## **WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES**

The CSCE's Hydrotechnical Division is hosting the 21<sup>st</sup> Canadian Hydrotechnical Conference in Banff, AB, May 14 – 17, 2013. The major conference theme is recent flood management lessons in Canada. Early-bird registration is open to March 31. Details about this conference can be found through link on the national web site [www.csce.ca](http://www.csce.ca).

Registration for the annual conference in Montreal is now open, with the early-bird registration in effect until April 15. Registration details and others can be found at [www.csce2013.ca](http://www.csce2013.ca). Aside from the regular topics of civil engineering, the conference will host four specialty conferences and a forum on professional practice and career development. Please consider making plans now to attend this major annual event of the Society being held in one of Canada's historic cities.

The Engineering Institute of Canada and 10 of its member societies, of which CSCE is

one, is holding the 3<sup>rd</sup> Climate Change Technology Conference (CCTC) at Concordia University, May 27 – 29 in Montreal, immediately in advance of the CSCE annual conference. A common hotel rate has been arranged at the Sheraton Centre for both events. More details about the EIC climate change conference can be found at [www.cctc2013.ca](http://www.cctc2013.ca).

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The term for CSCE Presidents is one year, although one exception was the term for President Peter Hart, who served for 19 months to accommodate a transition in the Society's fiscal year in 1978.