



Celebrating 125 years since our founding in 1887 and 40 years as a constituent society of the Engineering Institute of Canada



President's Monthly E-Letter – August 2012



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WELCOME

I trust that you are enjoying what our summer has to offer, which certainly has been interesting in a variety of ways, no less than with the weather we have experienced. Unfortunately for some, drought is playing havoc with the growing of crops, which in turn will have some impact on all of us in the fullness of time. From my vantage point in Saskatoon, water has not been in short supply, with our wetlands and rivers being a bit more full than usual. None of this, of course, has had any positive impact on my 'limited' golf game!!

You will note that we have shifted the timeline for the delivery of this e-letter by a week or so to avoid overlapping in time with the monthly e-bulletin. As such, there is no July issue of the e-letter for this year!

RECENT ACTIVITIES

We recently launched our re-designed website, which perhaps you have had occasion to visit already. The new site has a great new look and feel, and in many ways is cleaner and more professional. Navigation has been improved considerably. Please take a look (www.csce.ca)!

You should also have very recently received by email a notice of the Call for Papers for our 2013 annual conference, which will be held in Montreal May 29 – June 1. The theme of the conference, which is being chaired by Jean-Pierre Pilon, is Know-How! The conference will comprise of four specialty conferences along with the general conference, as well as a forum on professional practice and career development. Details for submitting an abstract for a conference paper can be found on the conference website (www.csce2013.ca). Please mark your calendars now!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

As noted in the last issue of this e-letter, my first major activity will be to attend the joint CSCE-ASCE Cold Regions Conference in Quebec City, which is being held August 19-22. Details about this conference can be found at www.csce.ca/2012/iccre. While in Quebec City, I will also be meeting with some of the executive members of the Quebec Section and the Quebec Region.

I will be visiting our Hong Kong Branch in early September, which will include attending the Branch's annual general meeting and dinner on September 6. On my return trip, I am also planning to meet with some members of the Vancouver Section executive.

Plans are currently being developed for a National Lecture Tour this fall, which will be on the infrastructure report card that we have been engaged in developing along with our partners, including the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Canadian Construction Association and Canadian Public Works Association. More details will follow on this exciting initiative in very soon.

Renewal of student memberships is coming up shortly; more information will follow from Membership Services in due course. Civil engineering faculty members who are serving in the Faculty Liaison position are encouraged to assist in getting our student members registered at the earliest possible opportunity. Your efforts in this regard are greatly appreciated!

We are currently working on developing some areas of cooperation with our partner societies in the USA (ASCE) and UK (ICE) in the area of infrastructure, including financing, codes and standards, and sustainability. CSCE will provide leadership in the area of infrastructure sustainability.

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!

DID YOU KNOW?

Each year, on average, a total of 760 participants attend CSCE's annual Lifelong Learning presentations across Canada.