



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

President's Monthly E-Letter – August 2010



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VISION2020:

CSCE's Vision2020 of "Leadership in Sustainable Infrastructure" – under the chair of Randy Pickle, CSCE President Elect, a Road Map to achieve the vision is being developed. Plans are to have a draft Road Map to roll out at the CSCE annual meeting in Ottawa, in June 2011. Comments, suggestions or offers to assist should be directed to Randy (rpickle@morrisonhershfield.com).

CONFERENCES:

8th International CSCE Short & Medium Span Bridge Conference, Niagara Falls, ON – August 4-6, 2010 – this conference co-chaired by Roger Dorton, FCSCE and Bala Tharmabala, MCSCE held by CSCE every four years, was a large success with over 500 attendees, including 127 attendees from 53 foreign countries. While in attendance the President was Master of Ceremonies for the Banquet. The *9th International CSCE Short & Medium Span Bridge Conference* will be held in Calgary in 2014 and will be chaired by Mamdouh El-Badry, FCSCE.

PROGRAMS:

Canadian Infrastructure Report Card – under the chair of Reg Andres, FCSCE, CSCE, FCM, CCA and CPWA are developing a "Report Card" on the condition of Canada's Infrastructure. Plans are to have the Report Card ready to publicize in the summer of 2011.

Town Hall Meetings - during the winter/spring of 2011, CSCE is planning a series of cross Canada Town Hall Meetings to seek widespread input into creating a clear vision of "Sustainable

Infrastructure”. While there are many excellent initiatives on-going to improve the sustainability of infrastructure, nobody today can point to clear examples or terms of reference that allow civil engineers to compare current designs with truly sustainable designs. If we can define the measurable terms of sustainable infrastructure, then civil engineers will have a target.

MAINTAINING VIABLE SECTIONS: (an edited note from the Senior VP and Chair of the Regional Coordinating Committee)

It can be challenging for a CSCE section to maintain a continuous viability and vitality. To ensure continuity, a three-pronged approach to program delivery is suggested. First, establish a core program that is delivered every year. Examples include a monthly luncheon or an occasional dinner with speaker and a yearly or twice-yearly section newsletter. Second, take advantage of offerings from CSCE National such as a National Lecture Tour or some continuing education initiatives. These activities enhance the CSCE’s appeal to our membership when the opportunity arises. And third, consider taking on a 'one-time' initiative, such as a seminar in a particular area of interest (e.g., new bridge code provisions). With this model, the delivery of core, occasional and specialized infrequent activities is likely to lead to a strong Section over the long term. For assistance or comments, please contact Jim Kells (jim.kells@usask.ca)

HONOURS & AWARDS:

Canadian Hall of Fame, Science & Engineering – The CSCE National Management Committee is assembling a list of potential CSCE Members with the intent to nominate distinguished engineers for this award. If you have suggestions, please forward them to louise@csce.ca.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS / MEETINGS OF THE PRESIDENT AND/OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Engineers Without Borders Canada – the President and Executive Director met with the Co-CEO of EWB in Toronto in August to discuss opportunities for both organizations to work closer together. The positive meeting led to several areas for both organizations to explore, particularly in the area of mentorship.

IStructE - on behalf of the President, President Elect Randy Pickle, FCSCE, FEC, met with the President of IStructE, on July 20, in Toronto, and opened up communications towards a working relationship between CSCE and IStructE.

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Coalition for Fair Construction Practices – The CFCP, is an organization formulated by over 12 national Canadian organizations to communicate with government on government policies that could undermine fair construction practices. CSCE is represented on CFCP by Tony Bégin, MCSCE (tony.begin@canam.ws). The CFCP is currently working with government on Bill C-429: An Act to Amend the Department of Public Works and Government Service Act.

Letter to the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities – the CSCE President and Executive Director are arranging to meet with the new Minister, the Honourable Chuck Strahl, to discuss the roles of civil engineers in the future of Canada's Infrastructure.

PRESIDENT'S FALL MEETINGS & TRAVEL PLANS:

Conferences:

- CGS 63rd Geotechnical Conference, Calgary, AB – September 12-14, 2010.
- 2nd International Conference on Waste Engineering & Management (ICWEM 2010), Shanghai, China – October 13-15, 2010
- ASCE Annual Meeting and Conference, Las Vegas, USA – October 21-23, 2010.

Meetings:

- CSCE Vancouver Section, BC – September 3, 2010.
- EIC Council Meetings, Kingston, ON – September 11-12, 2010.
- CSCE 2014 Local Organizing Committee, Halifax, NS – September 28, 2010.
- CSCE/SSCE- Commemoration – Aerocar Commemorative Function (with Spanish Society of Civil Engineers), Niagara Falls, ON – September 30, 2010.
- CSCE National Management Committee – October 5, 2010.
- Hong Kong/Shanghai/Tokyo (visit with sister civil engineering societies) – October 7-17, 2010.
- CSCE Fall Board of Directors Meetings, Montreal, QC – November 27/28, 2010.

Presentations:

- Dalhousie University Civil Engineering Class, Halifax, NS – September 28, 2010.
- Engineers Without Borders, University of Calgary Chapter – Oct/Nov, 2010

Additionally, the President will be arranging to speak to local civil engineering students and local Section meetings during his travels whenever possible.