

TORONTO CHAPTER E-SPECIFIER

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Board of Directors meeting was held late January 2024. Membership renewal across Canada at the time of meeting was above the renewal rate when compared to the same time one year earlier which is great and we

other Chapters are, in fact, growing. The Toronto Chapter, on the other hand, has seen its membership shrink year-over-year since the COVID-19 outbreak. A concerning trend for this Director.

Is it apathy? Was it a pull back from corporate not renewing their employee membership dues? If so, that begs the question if there was enough value for a person to remain a member? Value is defined as relative worth, utility, or importance. I ask myself, are we worth it? Relative to what? Another association, staying at home, or simply attending our events as a non-member?

Kevin Kaiser and S. David Young write in their book *The Blue Line Imperative* about The Opportunity Cost of Capital and the investment in Positive Net Present Value or Negative Net Present Value. If the Return on Invested Capital is more than The Opportunity Cost of Capital, the investment is net positive or what is also known as Value Creation. The book is geared towards the long-term health of a



corporate organization, however, I believe the same can be applied to our members' decision-making process. "Is being a member worth it to me"?

Short answer, yes. Long answer, at the Board of Directors meetings we continue to highlight the importance of our education courses and the value these courses bring to the A&D and Construction communities. Those firms who invest in their human capital at CSC will benefit from an array of both tangible and intangible value creation. Their staff will feel valued and likely to work towards a common goal. A better understanding of the specification writing process, or the contract administration can lead to fewer errors earlier in the process, greater efficiencies and more money for the firm. This list could go on.

And with this positive Net Present Value investment for a firm, why not give back? Becoming a member or renewing your membership is the least you could do. It requires no effort. Your membership dollars help CSC improve its courses and grow our name and relevancy to the A&D and Construction communities. This is a volunteer run, non-profit organization. Become a member, get certified, network at our technical meetings, sign up for the fun stuff like golf, register for our courses, be present at the trade shows and network the heck out of these opportunities. You can learn an immense amount of information by sharing in a conversation with the people who attend CSC. There is always something to learn.

I AM CSC!

IAIN STUART, CTR
CHAPTER DIRECTOR

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Even after my 2nd year as your Toronto Chapter Chair, I can't believe how fast it has gone by. Time flies when you are having fun... As we look forward to the Annual Chapter Meeting on May 7th, 2024, and the CSC Conference in Montreal on May 22-26, 2024, I want to say, "Thank you!".

Thank you for all the members who have come out to the events, taken courses, got involved, and contributed to everyone's knowledge on the built environment. I appreciate the trust that the sponsors have put into the CSC Toronto Chapter. It's when we all work together that we create buildings that inspire and function to meet people's needs.

Thank you to the Building Expo committee for organizing an amazing show this year. We had about 100 exhibitors, including the partnership with Interior Designers of Canada (IDC). It was great to see everyone out to learn about different products and catch up with old friends, and network and meet new friends. Thank you to the student volunteers from George Brown College and Humber College. They were a great help at the registration desk and were also able to walk the floor to meet the exhibitors and industry representatives. I am so grateful to the 2023/2024 Executive Committee members for allowing me to be your CSC Toronto Chapter Chair for a 2nd year. It has been a pleasure to lead such a dedicated group of people, who worked hard to promote and live out CSC's values and goals. We couldn't do what we do for the Toronto membership without each and every one of you. Thank you! We are CSC!

KIYOSHI KUROIWA, CCCA
CHAPTER CHAIR





Thank You to Our Sponsors
2023-2024





Thank You to Our Sponsors
2023-2024



TREASURER'S UPDATE

The Toronto Chapter Executive established a budget for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024. Each Officer was asked to submit expected revenue and expenses for their positions. The annual financial statements highlighting the



Committees' revenue and expenses will be available upon request for the Annual General Meeting to be held on May 7th, 2024. Even without specific financial statements, I can assure you that the Chapter is entering the new fiscal year in better financial shape.

During the past year, there were some changes that were necessary when the Treasurer's role had to be expanded to include managing the day-to-day financial activities, which Melissa Abbey, our previous Chapter Administrator, used to oversee with proficiency. As a solution, the Executive Committee voted to hire an Accountant on a year-to-year basis, to share the burden and to utilize the accounting software previously used by the Chapter Administrator for day-to-day financial activities. Wendy Kuroiwa also joined us as our new Chapter Administrator to closely monitor the day-to-day Chapter activities with a slightly reduced role for financial transactions.

We believe that this partnership trio of the Treasurer, Chapter Administrator and Accountant, managing the Chapters financial well-being, will continue to be beneficial as a cost savings measure and by ensuring our financial transactions are always being supervised while Executive Committee members are in transition at the end of their terms.

As stated in previous reports, one of the Treasurer roles is to continue the established mindset of preserving existing funds on behalf of the membership, while remaining open to financially support new potential revenue generating concepts. If you have a revenue generating idea, on behalf of the Toronto Chapter membership, we welcome the opportunity to discuss it with you at any time.

ROGER ALI, CTR
CHAPTER TREASURER



MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

TORONTO CHAPTER EVENTS:

MAY 07, 2024
["Finding Their Voices: A Case Study in Architectural Archaeology" & Annual Chapter Meeting](#)

OTHER ONTARIO CHAPTER EVENTS:

June 20, 2024 – [CSC London Annual Golf Tournament](#)
September 26, 2024 – [CSC Hamilton-Niagara/HBSA Charity Golf Tournament](#)
May 16, 2024, – CSC Bridge Presentation: [The Truths of Stainless Steel](#)

[CSC CONFERENCE 2024 - MONTREAL](#)

May 22-26, 2024

ENGINEERING UPDATE

I would like to express my gratitude to Patricia on the excellent work she's completed as the former engineering officer with the CSC Toronto Chapter, a very successful student design challenge competition, and maintaining effective communication with the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) and fostering a new relationship with Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT).

As I assume the role of engineering officer, my objective will be to continue the work that has been done during Patricia's term and continue the mission of educating the engineering and technology community that specifications are more than just a project construction manual. We recently participated at the OSPE Engineering Conference in November 2023, to raise more awareness about CSC. In the engaging discussions at the event our executive team provided advice to industry professionals and students on specification writing, documentation, and CSC courses. It was surprising to find that many participants, particularly those not directly involved in the building space, had limited understanding of specifications. But it led us to believe that we need to do a better job at building the recognition that specifications are a key part of the projects they're working on and will be working on. That will be my objective as engineering officer, to help cultivate the engineering and technology community to better understand Construction Specifications and build more interest in joining the CSC Association. For all engineers and technicians needing continuing education, please consider the CSC courses or the engineering societies such as [OSPE](#) and [OACETT](#) have continuing education courses/workshops that you can consider.

In addition, the engineering officer extends to support a collaborative role in the Student Design Competition, a joint initiative between CSC Toronto Chapter and CSC Grand Valley Chapter. We're reaching out to the many universities and colleges in Ontario to encourage their participation in the CSC Student Design Competition, urging them to incorporate it into their curriculum, and presenting the challenge to their architectural and interior design students. The competition will run until April 29th, 2024, with the award ceremony in September 2024 at the CSC Grand Valley Chapters connection café, get ready for some exciting results! If you're interested in learning more about the Student Design Challenge check out our [website](#), our partners on this project are Planitar who's created the iGuide platform for a virtual 3D tour, and HIP Developments.

**KARTHICK KANAGALINGAM, CTR, WELL AP, M.SC. ENG,
ENGINEERING OFFICER**



GOOD NEWS RELATED TO ISSUING OF OAA LIMITED LICENCES



Following my January 2024 Report, I can inform you that a group of former Licensed Technologists OAA and OAA Technology Program participants were invited to attend a virtual information session earlier in the month of February that was hosted by OAA President, Settimo Vilardi and Executive Director Kristi Doyle. The intent and purpose of the information session was to discuss the strategy in preparing for the Standing Committee on Justice Policy public hearings that were held on February 21 and 22, to discuss Bill 157, Enhancing Access to Justice Act, 2023. If passed, this omnibus bill's Schedule 1, would achieve the regulatory foundation for the OAA to, once again, issue Limited Licenses and reinstate the OAA Technology Program. It was stressed that this would be a critical step forward in the efforts toward getting licenses reinstated to those who formerly held status with the OAA as a Licensed Technologist OAA.

The OAA did receive confirmation that they would be able to appear in person before the Committee. The goal of the OAA was to speak to their support of Schedule 1 and the ensuing that the changes to the Architects Act and, subsequently, a change to Regulation 27 of the Act.

On February 28, OAA's Executive Director, Kristi Doyle sent out an email informing former Licensed Technologists that Bill 157, Schedule 1 was passed, and this is an important step as Schedule 1 contains the necessary amendments to the Architects Act that will allow the OAA to issue Limited Licenses to specific classes of individuals, namely Licensed Technologists. Following the previous week's hearings before the Standing Committee on Justice Policy, she advised former licensed technologists that the Committee approved Schedule 1 on that morning, as written, and it will proceed to third reading shortly. This is also a very important step in the process to get the OAA's Technology Program back online, and to reissue licenses.

Despite that, Kristi Doyle advised that the OAA still have much work to do as the related amendments to Regulation 27 of the Act, needs to be approved as well. Efforts on that front will continue, and she reconfirmed that those efforts remain a high priority for the OAA as they move forward with the next steps in this process.

Further to Kristi Doyle's email of February 28, she sent out a quick update regarding Schedule 1 of Bill 157, that would affect the Architects Act and the ability to establish Limited Licenses and reported that Bill 157 received third reading in the Legislature late in the afternoon of March 05, as tabled. That meant that the Bill was passed, and now awaits Royal Assent. While the timing of Royal Assent, signalling that the Bill and its Schedules are in force, is not known, the OAA anticipates that it will happen soon. She also advised that certain sections of Schedule 1 are also subject to an effective date set through proclamation by the Lieutenant Governor.

I look forward to bringing more updates on the future of Licensed Technologists in upcoming editions of The Toronto Chapter Specifier but in the meantime if you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me on 416 571 5322 or by email brian.abbey@adtekbldg.com

Kindest regards,
BRIAN L. ABBEY INT'L. ASSOC. AIA. PPM.A.A.T.O. BSSO. A. SC.T. CIAT. BCQ.
ARCHITECTURAL OFFICER AND STUDENT LIAISON.

NOTE: I wish to acknowledge that some of the above material has been taken from the OAA's and Justice for Former Licensed Technologists websites.

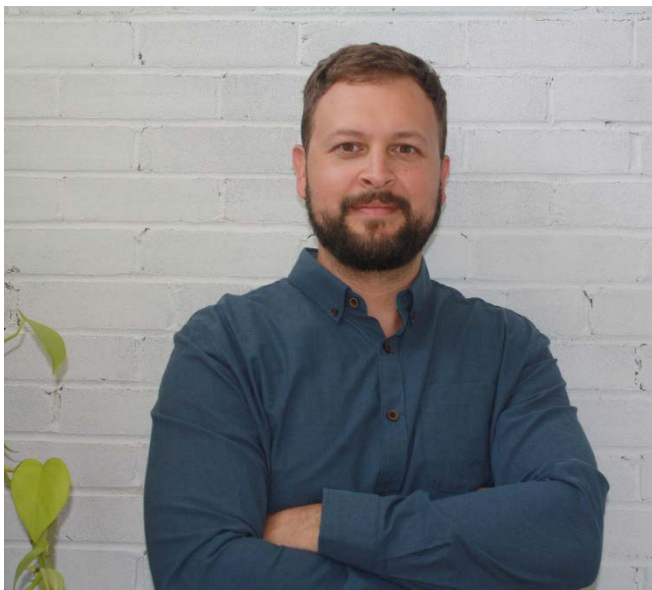
MANUFACTURING UPDATE

I want to express my genuine appreciation to all who supported our recent building expo. It was a remarkable success, with a significant number of new manufacturers joining us this year. We were excited to witness such amazing participation, and we are deeply grateful to our longstanding manufacturer partners for their ongoing support. We couldn't have pulled it off without each and every one of you.

Clear and precise specifications are paramount in ensuring a project's success, and the manufacturers' involvement in our expo play a pivotal role in promoting industry standards and best practices. By attending the expo and providing a platform for manufacturers to showcase their products, we are helping design professionals access the best products available and ultimately contributing to a project's success, by constructing the best buildings possible.

As we reflect on the success of the expo, let's continue collaborating to raise the bar for excellence in construction, driving innovation and advancing the industry as a whole.

JOSH TREVISAN, CTR
MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER OFFICER



VICE-CHAIR UPDATE

Hey everyone! Excited to learn, collaborate, and contribute.

Since my last report I've continued to learn more about each Executive Committee members position to better help them when needed.

I'm excited to network with other Chapter Chairs for ideas on driving membership through fun ways. I have some ideas upcoming. Still fine tuning the final details. Stay tuned.

I welcome feedback from the members as your incoming Toronto Chapter Chair.

KEVIN BECESSAR,
VICE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE CO-PROGRAM
OFFICER



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

Please welcome the following NEW members to CSC, Toronto Chapter:

January 2024 – April 15, 2024

Joy Najem El Khoury

- Specification Consultant at ACO Systems Ltd.

Yavor Aleksandrov

- Building Envelope EIT at FORSMITH Building Science Consultants Ltd.

Martin Miville-Dechene

- Business Development Manager at Gentek Building Products

David Smythe

- Senior Associate at KPMB Architects

Erin Holwell

- Intermediate Restoration Engineer at Entuitive

Victor Da Rosa

- Triumph, Inc.

Michael Robbins

- VP/GM at Greco Architectural Metals

Robert Kuh

- Opportunity Builder – Eastern Canada at Thermal Systems

Yadira Rotscholl

- Senior Contract Administrator at Metrolinx



STACEY BOGDANOW
ADMINISTRATOR OFFICE/MEMBERSHIP
OFFICER

PROGRAM COMMITTEE UPDATE

I cannot believe we are nearing the end of our 2023-2024 CSC Toronto Chapter season. The grass is growing, the birds are chirping, and the construction season has started.

In January, it was our Celebration Dinner. As a Chapter, we took the time to show appreciation to our local CSC Life Members and Fellows. A big thank you to everyone that attended. Additionally, we had a designer panel discussion with Tara Mackenzie, Program Director at BGIS, Lori Urwin, Principle, Practice Leader at HOK and Lily Kim, Senior Design Manager at Pomerleau. Attendees gained a greater understanding of how designers work with the 3-Part Specifications - Specifiers, Project Owners, and Manufacturer Reps to design their projects. This was a very successful event with over 75 people in attendance – a chapter milestone! Also, we would like to thank Sarah Lake of Rockfon for being the moderator.

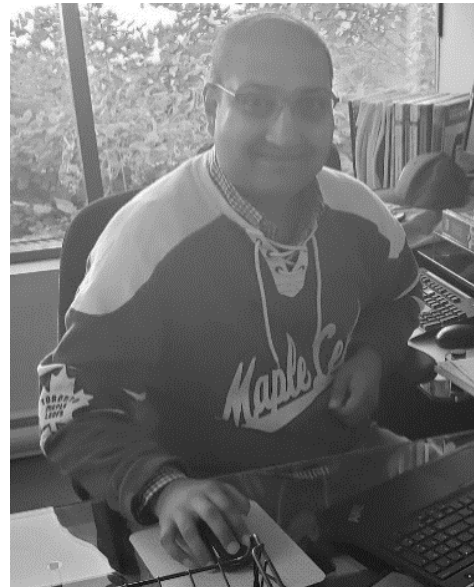
In February, we had Robert Simpson of Vantex presenting to our membership – How to Specify Industrial Louvers. Rob was able to highlight the key factors for selecting louvers, discuss coordination between architectural and mechanical disciplines, and provided guidelines for specifying and incorporating louvers into the building's exterior. This was another successful event as we had over 50 people in attendance.

In April, we had Douglas Fishburn, President of Fishburn Roofing Sciences Ltd. presenting. Douglas Fishburn is part of a working group who has been reviewing the intent of the new CSA A123.26 – Performance Requirements for Climate Resilience of Low Slope Membrane Roofing Systems. This presentation provided an overview of the framework of the standard, including the climate zone severity classes, the roof resilience indices, and Climate RCI tool. Further, it showed the application of the standard, including guidance on strategies to improve the durability of roofing systems in anticipation of increased severity of weather events. We had over 30 people in attendance for this event.

Our last dinner meeting of the season will be held on May 9th. We have Steffanie Adams, a professor at George Brown College, presenting – **“Finding Their Voices: A Case Study in Architectural Archaeology”**. As Canada continues the process of Truth and Reconciliation (TR), many Indigenous communities need healing and are looking to recover, preserve and strengthen their place, culture, and language. Technologies.



“As always, we are open to suggestions for technical presentation topics. Please contact us directly at associations.kevin@gmail.com or [charles@cpd.ca!](mailto:charles@cpd.ca)”



...Continued

This research project focusses on an Algonquin built log cabin for the digitization of lost culture, heritage, and language of the providing an opportunity to engage, educate and redevelop.

Lastly, we would like to thank all the members, students, guests, and our Fellow & Life Members that have attended the Chapter Dinners. Your continued support and engagement keep our Dinners successful.

WE CANNOT FORGET OUR CHAPTER SPONSORS. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

As always, we are open to suggestions for technical presentation topics.

Please contact us directly @ charles@cpd.ca or k.becessar@mapei.com

We are CSC!

**KEVIN BECESSAR AND
CHARLES BOSWORTH
PROGRAM COMMITTEE OFFICERS**

SPECIFICATIONS UPDATE

This year's CSC Toronto Chapter Building Expo 2024 was another amazing success. We were completely sold out with over 130 exhibitors at our tradeshow hall, and we had amazing speakers on the subject of Constructing Healthy Buildings. The expo

was truly unique as it was the first time we had collaborated with another industry association, the IDC. Through this collaboration, we were able to create some synergy and attract different attendees and exhibitors to the expo. We hope to continue with this collaboration and perhaps partner with other industry associations to bring more value to this must attend event.

As part of the Building Expo Committee, I want to thank everyone involved with the planning and execution of the Building Expo. Without everyone's unwavering commitment, the Expo will not be possible. The committee would also like to thank all our new and long-standing exhibitors for their participation in this event, without their support the event will not be possible.

The Building Expo Committee is continuously committed to bring innovation to the event. If you have any comments, suggestions or like to participate in future Building Expo. Please contact toronto@csc-dcc.ca.

**KENNY TAM,
SPECIFICATIONS OFFICER**



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COMMENTS?

If you have comments or suggestions, or would like more information about the newsletter, please reach out to Laura Herbert at lherbert@dialogdesign.ca.

In-Person Dinner Meeting Location:
Toronto Cricket Skating and Curling Club
141 Wilson Ave, Toronto, ON M5M 3A3

