

# TORONTO CHAPTER E-SPECIFIER

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## WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome Back!

The Summer is almost over. And though CNE marks the end of one, the beginning for our 2024/25 season to our members gets into gear. For those not aware the new Executive Term started back in June, and we've all

been working hard to make this year's Term as engaging as possible. Not just from our dinner topics, but to how our Executives volunteer within their respective portfolio.

First, I'd like to thank all those that supported me entering the Vice-Chair role last term. I was eager to learn more from last Terms Director, Chair, and Treasurer. I realize there is much more to learn. Thank you to Iain, Kiyoshi, and Roger for the patience to share with me.

Second, I want to extend my sincere appreciation to all the returning Exec volunteers. You will make my time much more fun. That includes myself as I'm returning for my 3<sup>rd</sup> year as Co-Chair Program Officer with Charles. I don't want to forget about Bob Hartogsveld' hard work as Expo Chair over the years and welcoming back Iain Stuart to our new Expo Chair. And to our newest Team member Natasha, Education Officer I welcome your quick wit and fresh thinking during our upcoming executive meetings.

Third, I would like to express my humility as being your Toronto Chapter Chair 2024/25 season. Though I've been in the construction industry 20+ years, I still get the heebie-jeebies that first bungee off the cliff. So, I might fumble a bit or

roll my eyes now and then, but I plan to represent the CSC values to their fullest, be a solid backbone to the Execs to rely on, and hopefully bring on some fresh ideas only I know how to.

And though I got many of you excited with my Summer Social that didn't happen. I'm still working in the background to try again for 2025. Stay tuned.

Lastly, I would like to reinforce the hard work all CSC volunteers do at all Chapters and Levels across Canada. Over the past years I see how much we balance our work-life to help make the construction industry a better place. We're only as good as our weakest link and I never get the feeling the Toronto Execs aren't putting in 100% effort. A lot of the hard work we've done since the term started will be outlined in their articles. No need for me to steal their thunder.

Whether it's the many CSC Golf Tournaments, cross-promotional table tops with other associations, socials, or student competitions, I plan to get out there to represent CSC Toronto. Please don't be shy if you see me. Your feedback good or bad is welcomed. And I need to put names to faces...

I am CSC (except on my wife and kids' birthdays),

**KEVIN BECESSAR, PMP,  
LEED GREEN ASSOCIATE  
TORONTO CHAPTER CHAIR 2024/25**

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2024/2025 CSC Toronto Chapter program year. I hope everyone got some vacation time to be able to rest and enjoy the summer season.

For those who don't know me, I've just finished two terms as your CSC Toronto Chapter Chair. I'm excited to transition to the role of your Chapter Director this year and I am looking forward to working with Kevin Becessar and the rest of the Chapter Executive to further CSC's mandate and provide exciting opportunities to the members.

I have been at Aercoustics Engineering for 25 years, working primarily in Contract Administration for the past 15 years. I have been a CSC member since 2015, but I wished I had joined the CSC family earlier. I have learned so much from all the various members about the built environment, both in design and construction. This is what makes CSC unique. We are all members who work together, learn from each other, and build lifelong friendships that go beyond work. CSC's mission to educate, connect, and lead to achieve excellence in project delivery as well as the vision to be a trusted resource speaks to me on a personal level.

As Chapter Chair, I was looking for ways that the Chapter can support the Toronto members. Now, as Chapter Director, I'm looking for ways that the Chapter can support the larger Association initiatives, and vice versa. I'm looking forward to working with the CSC Executive, President Russ Snow, and all the directors from the wonderful chapters across the country. In subsequent e-Specifier articles I hope to be able to share some of the Association initiatives that sometimes goes unseen. I know that work is being done on the education and CCDC, among other initiatives.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding larger Association initiatives, please feel free to contact me. I've already had some interesting discussions with members that I plan to bring up at the next Board of Directors Meeting in October.

I am CSC!!

**KIYOSHI KUROIWA  
CHAPTER DIRECTOR**





*Thank You to Our Sponsors*  
*2023-2024*





*Thank You to Our Sponsors*  
2023-2024



# VICE CHAIR'S UPDATE

WELCOME to the CSC Toronto Chapter 2024/2025 year!

I am excited, thrilled and curious on what my new role with the CSC Toronto Chapter will bring, in the 2024/2025 CSC year! Thank you to everyone for providing this opportunity, to be your Toronto Chapter Vice Chair.

I have been the Administrative Officer (who over sees the membership and e-specifier) for many years now and continue to be but now have the privilege to work, learn and understand the Vice Chair role. There are many wonderful people who have had this position before me, that I consider my role models and look to for advice.

Many of the Executive Committee started to work on the 2024/2025 courses/dinner meetings/events as soon as the 2023/2024 year came to a close. The Toronto Chapter Professional Development Officer has worked hard to be able to offer 2 courses, the Principles of Construction Documentation (PCD) starting September 16th and

Specifier Course (SP) commencing September 4th. Program Committee is always working hard on providing the Toronto Chapter members with very informative and thought-provoking dinner meeting topics.

Please go to our website <https://toronto.csc-dcc.ca/> to register for these courses and attend any or all of our dinner meetings. Not only will you be taught by industry professionals but the networking available at all events is outstanding!

The Executive Committee is also working on the Sponsorship Packages. Once they are completed, the packages available will be e-blasted to you. Please support the Toronto Chapter but becoming a valued sponsor. The packages are designed to support the efforts of the Chapter and also providing savings to the sponsor for attending all events.

I also want to thank the Director, the Chair, the Administrator and the rest of the Toronto Chapter Executive Committee for all their hard work that is not seen, to run a busy Chapter. I am looking forward to serving the Toronto Chapter as the Vice Chair. Please feel free to contact me if you have any wonderful and exciting new ideas, that I can take accolades for, on how the Toronto Chapter can serve you better. ....LOL!



**STACEY BOGDANOW**

**ADMINISTRATOR OFFICE/MEMBERSHIPOFFICER/VICE CHAIR**

# LOOKING AHEAD: BUILDING ON SUCCESS FOR 2024/2025

As summer winds down and all the industry golf tournaments are drawn to a close, we are gearing up for another exciting year. I'm honoured to continue serving as the Manufacturer and Supplier Officer for a second term, with a clear focus on building upon



last year's successes. The 2024/2025 year promises growth, collaboration, and professional development, and I'm eager to contribute to our chapter's ongoing achievements.

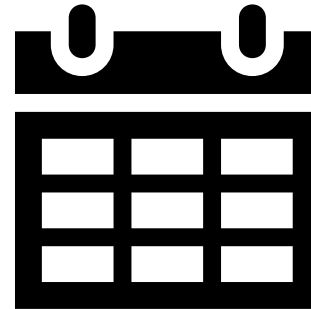
The goal of the Manufacturer/Supplier Officer is to build and nurture relationships. Over the past year, we've made significant progress in connecting with key organizations and manufacturers, and I'm committed to further strengthening these ties. By growing these relationships, we can create a robust support network that our members can rely on for industry insights, professional growth, and collaborative opportunities.

Professional development remains a cornerstone of our chapter's activities, and this year, I'm particularly focused on promoting the CTR designation. The CTR designation is a valuable credential that enhances the professional standing of our members, and I'm dedicated to supporting current CTRs in maintaining their designations.

As we transition from summer into the new business year, I'm energized by the opportunities that lie ahead. The 2024/2025 year holds great promise for our chapter, and I'm excited to join on this journey.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer! See you in September.

**JOSH TREVISAN, CTR**  
**MANUFACTURER & SUPPLIER OFFICER**



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

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### TORONTO CHAPTER EVENTS:

[September 17<sup>th</sup> – Dinner Meeting](#)

[October 22<sup>nd</sup> – Dinner Meeting](#)

[November – Plant Tour](#)

[January 14<sup>th</sup> – Dinner Meeting](#)

[February 11<sup>th</sup> – Dinner Meeting](#)

[April 8<sup>th</sup> – Dinner Meeting](#)

[May 14<sup>th</sup> – Dinner Meeting](#)

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### THE 47TH CSC TORONTO CHAPTER BUILDING EXPO

February 26, 2025

## SPECIFICATIONS UPDATE

Time flies when you are having fun, especially with all the events happening with CSC. Even though we are quick to start off this year with many new fun, and exciting events, I would like to report back on one that happened during this summer. In June, Kiyoshi Kuroiwa and I kicked off a two-part presentation representing CSC Toronto Chapter for the Toronto Society of Architects (TSA) for their TSA Technical Series on Contract Documents and Specifications. The goal of the presentation was to give a brief overview introducing elements of



documents, defining specifications, their purpose, and to review where specifications generally fit in the design and construction process. Part One of the presentation explored the relationship between specifications and drawings, to showcase the importance of precise format, language and to ensure consistency in documentation. There was a great turn out with over 100 attendees, and it was very well received by TSA' audience. Part Two will be in November and presented by our new Professional Development Officer, Natasha Brin and Kiyoshi Kuroiwa. The presentation will be on the process of writing a specification, including the importance of understanding its content (products, applicable codes, and standards), procurement, and general requirements. It will expand upon the topics introduced already in Part One. Our goal is to continue to reach out to various communities to not only promote CSC and our message but to educate, connect and lead the design and construction community to achieve excellence in project delivery.

**KENNY TAM,**  
**SPECIFICATION OFFICER**

## INTERIOR DESIGN OFFICER UPDATE

We started 2023/24 with our most well attended dinner meeting showcasing our partnership with the interior design community. In 2024/25 we will be looking for more opportunities to collaborate with our partners in the design community at emerging design and architecture events.

This consistency will continue to be our focus. I look forward to working with the design community to broaden CSC's reach and further develop synergies between CSC and our trusted design partners.

If you have any suggestions or comments on how we can better partner within this space, please don't hesitate to contact me on my cell at 437-777-3495 or by email at [sarah.lake@rockfon.com](mailto:sarah.lake@rockfon.com)

Kindest regards,

**SARAH LAKE**  
**INTERIOR DESIGN OFFICER**



# ENGINEERING UPDATE

Welcome to the summer edition of the e-Specifier article update from your CSC Toronto Engineering Officer. As we embark on the 2024/2025 term for the CSC Toronto Chapter, I'd like to congratulate Kevin Becassar as our new CSC Toronto Chapter Chair, Kevin is a dynamic leader with innovative ideas, and we're excited about the direction he will guide us in for this term. Congratulations Kevin, we look forward to a successful year ahead under your leadership.

On June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> CSC Toronto Chapter had the pleasure of participating in the OACETT Annual Conference & Awards Gala at the Sheraton Toronto Airport Conference Centre. Over the course of these two days, we engaged with attendees at the tabletop conference, sharing information about the CSC courses and availability, and introducing our organization to technicians and technologists involved in building design. It was a great opportunity to connect and discuss how CSC can support their professional growth.

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual CSC Student Design Challenge, hosted by CSC Grand Valley and Toronto Chapter, has concluded for the 2023-2024 term. Our judges will be reviewing all submissions throughout the summer, with the top three winners announced at the CSC Grand Valley Chapter Connections Café. This year, the event will take place at the Waterloo International Airport Flite Line Service Hangar, on Wednesday September 11<sup>th</sup>. We invite you to register and join us to celebrate the students hard work and dedication, they are the future CSC members that will continue to grow our association and community. For more details or to express your interest in attending, please contact me at [karthick.kanagalingam@somfy.com](mailto:karthick.kanagalingam@somfy.com).

The 2024-2025 CSC Student Design Challenge will kick off in September 2024 and continue through May 2025. We anticipate increase participation from students across Ontario as George Brown College and University of Waterloo School of Architecture has incorporated the challenge as a capstone project into their curriculum. This inclusion promises to bring even more engagement and innovation to the competition.

For our members, if you have any new ideas or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'd be happy to discuss them with your further.

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





# HERE'S TO AN EXCITING NEW SEASON AHEAD, 2024 – 2025!



I trust everyone has had an enjoyable summer so far. It seems to have flown by and I can't believe that Labour Day is just around the corner. It will certainly be a memorable one with the amount of rain and flooding that we have had.

Unfortunately, nothing much has happened with the final decision on the AATO versus the OAA Court case, with respect to the Licensed Technologist OAA. However, I hope to be able to report on the outcome in future issues of our e-specifier.

It all started a couple of weeks ago actually, when I received an invite from the Professor and Program Coordinator at Georgian College, Engineering and Environmental Technologies, department of Architectural Technology to evaluate fourteen of the third-year student's Architectural Project Presentations.

I attended this significant academic event on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, to sit on a panel of evaluators and I, personally, was extremely impressed at the high standard of work that the students achieved. Each student was required to include in their residential presentations a general project overview, site information, architectural design and technology, local zoning requirements. Conformance with the Ontario Building Code and renderings and animation visualization.

It was definitely a rewarding experience to witness the next generation of architectural technologists joining the construction community and in addition, it was amazed at the gender count; three males and eleven females. Women are definitely making waves in this discipline. Bravo!

As I mentioned earlier, rather than reflect on the past, I want to let you know that in the coming months, I will continue to attend college Program Advisory Committees (PAC), Townhall meetings and Award ceremonies. I also intend to continue inviting Professors and four of their accomplished students to attend our dinner meetings as our guests, while encouraging them to network and learn from the presentations.

For some time now I have contemplated involving Durham College in our student activities and my intention to reach out to them early in the upcoming semester to invite them to participate.

I look forward to bringing more updates in future editions of the e-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@adtekbuilding.com](mailto:brian.abbey@adtekbuilding.com)

Kindest regards,

**BRIAN L. ABBEY INT'L. ASSOC. AIA. PPM.A.A.T.O. BSSO. A. SC.T. CIAT CIQS. NFFA. BCQ.  
ARCHITECTURAL OFFICER AND STUDENT LIAISON.**

# MEET YOUR NEW PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Being willing to learn is a requirement in our industry and, in order to be successful, you need to be a reliable source of information. When we are not able to provide an immediate answer, it is extremely beneficial to have a network of individuals who will not only help you, but work with you, to get that answer. The concepts of education and learning go hand in hand, which is why it is one of CSC's core missions.

I would like to thank both Kiyoshi Kuroiwa and Alex Moroz for their contributions to the Professional Development Officer role, as I am now taking over for them. My hope is to continue their work in providing courses for both Fall and Winter, as well as providing additional informative presentations. Kiyoshi and I will be presenting in November to the Toronto Society of Architects (TSA), a continuation from a series started by Kiyoshi and Kenny Tam earlier on from this year.

Just recently, we released the fall course offerings for the Toronto Chapter earlier this month which includes the Principles of Construction Design (PCD) and Specifier Practitioner (CSP). I would like to thank our Education Teachers: Ted Katsoris, Shamanna Kelamangalam and Tim Lee for their time and willingness to help mold the future of CSC through these courses. Having gone through them myself, I understand the importance of having knowledge concerning the construction process and why understanding those basic building blocks truly makes the difference. For those asking about the Certified Technical Representative (CTR) course, we are actively searching for a potential instructor to take on this role to get the much-needed course back into rotation. If you know anyone who would be interested, or if you are that person, please feel free to reach out.

Even though I am new to the Executive Committee, I am looking forward to networking at the monthly CSC dinners as well as the Building Expo on February 26th, 2025. Please don't hesitate to say hello. One of the main reasons I joined is that I consider myself as part of the newer side of the industry and would like to remedy that. My goal is to be surrounded by like-minded individuals whose goal is to do better, whether by networking, informative presentations and continuous learning.

**NATASHA BRIN, CSP**  
**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**



## MARKETING UPDATE

During my visit to the NeoCon show in Chicago, I attended a fascinating presentation on Artificial Intelligence. Since then, I have been exploring AI seminars offered by other trade shows, and it's evident that AI is a prevalent topic everywhere. Traditionally, the construction industry has been slow to adopt new technologies. However, with the rise of Artificial Intelligence, the adoption rate has significantly increased.

Social media is significantly overtaking traditional media. It will be intriguing to observe the speed and transformation in marketing strategies now influenced by Artificial Intelligence.

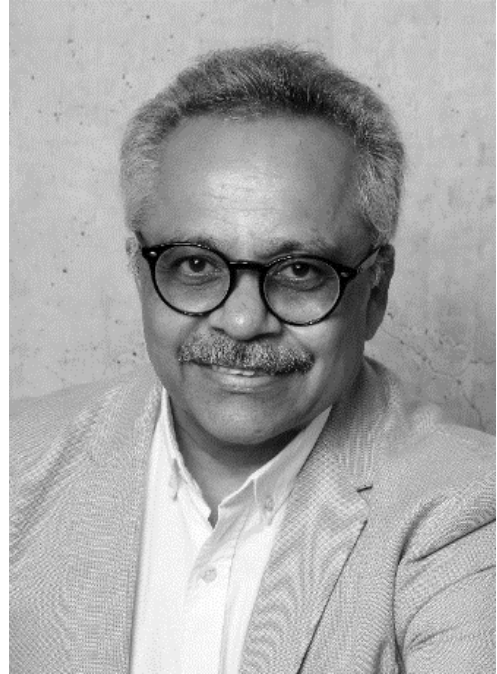
At the CSC Toronto chapter, we have shifted our marketing efforts towards social media. Our promotional materials for the Building Expo are now primarily digital rather than print. Even minor adjustments to the days we post on social media have significantly impacted the number of visitors viewing our feed.

Hopefully, the chapter will include one or two sessions on Artificial Intelligence and its influence on construction methods and practices.

I will make sure to post more information about AI and its impact on the construction industry. While there's plenty of material available on this topic, I promise not to overwhelm you with just AI content. Instead, I will provide a variety of information covering various advancements in construction. Stay tuned for some exciting and interesting posts/ blogs and articles.

I am CSC.

**SHAMANNA KELAMANGALAM, PCD, CTR, WELL AP**  
**MARKETING OFFICER**





## THE 47TH CSC TORONTO CHAPTER BUILDING EXPO

Planning is underway for the CSC Toronto Chapter's marquee trade show scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, 2025, with all committee members returning. Their return speaks well to the efforts and success of the committee in 2024. Even more so the steadfast leadership of Bob Hartogsveld who has held the position of CSC Building Expo Chair since 2018. I want to thank Bob and the CSC Building Expo committee for their fantastic work to deliver a show in 2024 that really brought out a diverse group of attendees as well as more Premium Table sales.

As the new Building Expo Chair, I have worked on this committee in years past and am keenly aware of the hard work needed. Rest assured that as a Past Treasurer, Past Chair, and Past Director I will carry out the duties of Building Expo Chair with a renewed intensity to the role. Currently we are transitioning contacts between myself, and Bob with the Metro Toronto Convention Centre and other key contacts needed behind the scenes to make the show run smoothly.

At this time, we are exploring themes, floor layout changes, presenters, registration table efficiencies and more. As always, I welcome criticism and feedback towards how we can improve the show and make it more impactful for our members, exhibitors, and sponsors.

Save the date: Wednesday,  
February 26, 2025. 11am to 6pm  
Location: Metro Toronto  
Convention Centre, South  
Building, Level 800.

**IAIN STUART, CTR**  
**BUILDING EXPO**  
**SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR**



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

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

## April 16, 2024 to August 6, 2025:

### **Adriana A. Chang**

- Senior Project Manager at Cadillac Fairview

### **Eduardo Alonzo**

- Contract Administrator at Heavy Engineering and Shipbuilding Co.

### **Roopinder Aulakh**

- Professional Engineer at Self

### **Tiffany Foran**

- Architectural Representative at Lexsuo Construction

### **Naresh Patel**

- Entuitive

### **Shane Archdall**

- SRP Canada Inc

### **Charles Gonzales**

- Mechanical Field Representative (Contract Administrator) at Smith+Andersen Consulting Engineers

### **Robert Valitutti**

- President at P.C.L. Finishes Inc.

### **Nicoy Delos Reyes**

- Student at Lambton College

### **Ryan Strachan**

- Sales Representative at Brocklin Concrete Products

### **Brittany Moss**

- National Sales Manager at NBS

### **Michael Kustra**

- Project Coordinator at City of Mississauga

### **Abdias Castillo**

- Architectural Representative at IKO Industries



**STACEY BOGDANOW**  
**ADMINISTRATOR OFFICE/MEMBERSHIP**  
**OFFICER/VICE CHAIR**

# AND JUST LIKE THAT, WE ARE BACK!

We are super excited to be back and cannot wait to see everyone at our monthly dinner meetings again. We are looking to build off a successful 2023/2024 CSC Toronto season with engaging topics and great group discussions as well. We hope everyone had a wonderful summer and that you were able to find some time to relax and unwind with family and friends.

Here is a small glimpse to what we have planned for the 2024/2025 CSC Toronto season:

- In September, we have Gerald Moore of RSM Building Consultants presenting and he will be updating us with the new Ontario Building Code(s). This is a great way to keep up-to-date with the most recent changes to the building code. Questions and comments are always welcome.
- In October, we have Richard Rosenbaum of Sherwin-Williams presenting AAMA exteriors coatings for commercial projects. We expect some exciting commercial project examples, along with some great talking points. More information to follow.
- In November, we have our annual Plant Tour. This year we will be visiting the facility of Saint-Gobain to see how drywall/gyprock is manufactured. We are still planning/organizing details. More information to follow.
- December 2024 – We are reviewing/discussing some interesting options... More details to follow.

Lastly, we'd like to thank all the members, students, and guests that have attended the chapter dinners in past. Your continued support and engagement help keep our dinners successful.

As always, we are open to suggestions for technical presentation topics. Please contact us directly at

[charles@cpd.ca](mailto:charles@cpd.ca)

[associations.kevin@gmail.com](mailto:associations.kevin@gmail.com)

[toronto@csc-dcc.ca](mailto:toronto@csc-dcc.ca)

WE ARE CSC!

**CHARLES BOSWORTH & KEVIN BECESSAR  
PROGRAM COMMITTEE CO-OFFICERS**



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



# TREASURER'S UPDATE

Welcome back for the CSC Toronto Chapter 2024/2025 Term. I am pleased to represent the membership as Treasurer on the Executive Committee. With a new Term comes new beginnings or new roles such as Kiyoshi Kuroiwa as our new Chapter Director, Kevin Becessar as our new Chapter Chair, Stacey Bogdanow as our new Vice Chair and Iain Stuart as our new Building Expo Chair. All four have a wealth of experience in managing the Chapter and I look forward to working with them to maintain the Chapters finances.

The Executive Committee will be meeting in September to establish budgets, determine the continuing education needs of our chapter membership for PCD,

CTR, CCCA and RSW courses, as well as updating our Sponsorship packages. We would like to thank everyone who attended our recent annual CSC Toronto Golf Tournament at the Richmond Hill Golf Club, we certainly hope that everyone who attended had fun. The Building EXPO 2024 show was also a great success from a financial perspective, and we hope to see everyone back again in 2025 for a sold-out show.

Since moving to our new accounting process, working directly with HFPC Accounting Services, we have improved our efficiencies with general accounting and servicing cheques while using cloud storage instead of having a paper trail. As the cost for services and venue rentals have increased over the years, we will continue to search for new ways to be more efficient to keep our costs down to you, our members.

As you can appreciate, this brief article only highlights what has occurred over the past few months and I can assure you there will be a lot more happening in the coming months.

I look forward to working with the Executive Committee on another successful fiscal year. Your questions or concerns are important to us, especially as it relates to the Chapter's financial health, so please reach out by email or in person at the next Chapter event.



**ROGER ALI, CTR**  
**CHAPTER TREASURER**

## CONTACT US

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Toronto, Ontario M5C 2H8

## COMMENTS?

If you have comments or suggestions, or would like more information about the E-Specifier, please reach out to Laura Herbert at [lherbert@dialogdesign.ca](mailto:lherbert@dialogdesign.ca).

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

