



Report of the CSCT President

Tony Ciarla, MCIC, CSCT President

June 3rd, 2021

Focus for 2021

Welcome members and guests to the 2021 AGM of the Canadian Society for Chemical Technology. Still faced with the challenges of the COVID-19 global pandemic, our Society continues to drive and maintain focus on our most important assets, our Membership. Though 2021 continues to be challenging for all of us, it also provides an opportunity to think of new ways to promote and generate new ideas. A great example of this is the expanded dialogue and collaboration with the CIC National Team. The efforts and commitment by this team has injected refreshing ideas and interaction, that spans all of the Societies of the CIC.

The CIC National Team continues to bring new ideas and initiatives forward and are facing challenges head-on – with a passion to succeed.

The priorities of the CSCT defined for 2021 are 3 fundamental requirements for the growth of the CSCT and benefits to our Members.

1. Grow our Student and Full-Fee Membership groups
2. Work with the CIC National Team to develop new ways to engage the Membership to provide valuable information and programs that assist them in advancing their careers
3. Engage Industry to understand emerging issues relevant to the CSCT Membership and bring value to them as Corporate supporters of the CSCT.

The CSCT is an important component to the Canadian Chemical Profession and our Members contribute to the discovery, development, education, and application of their diverse knowledge and skill set across Canada and multiple industries. We must continue to promote and support our Membership and grow awareness.

Our Membership looks on track to maintain 2020 numbers, but we are still well shy of our strong and active membership group of a decade ago, with half of the numbers of those in 2008. Though the membership has declined over the last decade, we must continue, on all fronts, to engage students, industry, and our colleagues in the other Societies and the CIC National Team to grow.

Our world has indeed changed – and the CSCT must adapt to these changes and identify new ways to attract members, deliver programs, and support our Members in their journey.

Beyond 2021 – Challenging the Status Quo

This changing dynamic has provided an opportunity for the CSCT, and the other Societies of the CIC to embrace change and look to challenge the status quo. The CIC is tapping into all of the Societies to bring new ideas and look at ways to transform. At the end of 2020, a Governance Task Force (GTF) was commissioned to evaluate the CIC structure and process with a mandate of,

- Reduce complexity,
- Improve operational efficiency,
- Reduce decision making time,
- Streamline cost,
- Clarify accountability of all directors and staff and,
- Improve communications between the Societies



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The CSCT is proud to have members contributing to the GTF and the development of recommendations. The final report is currently being finalized and will be made available to the Societies very soon. This joint task force truly represented collaboration and has proven to be a catalyst for increased communication and idea sharing amongst all of the Societies.

The CSCT Board provides a strong foundation of experience and commitment. We also recognize that adding new Board Members to the CSCT Board is both a catalyst for new ideas and evolution. We are excited to see new members joining the Board and existing Board members committed to contribute to new initiatives. We must continue to promote bringing on new and inspired Board Members – this will grow our membership and increase value.

The CSCT Membership is the engine that; drives us forward, grows our voice, and represents the successes and value of the CSCT.

All of us can and should share why the CSCT is important. This conversation can result in providing valuable information and support to a new member and can also reinvigorate existing members to share ideas and be more involved.

I hope our Membership has a healthy and prosperous 2021 and utilizes and views the exciting changes as building blocks to drive success and growth in 2022 and beyond.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Ciarla', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Tony Ciarla, MCIC
President, CSCT