2021 CSC Director-at-Large Candidate – Nimrat Obhi

Statement of Interest

If I am elected Director-at-Large, I commit to serving the broader chemistry community by ensuring their perspectives, ideas, concerns, and needs are addressed at the highest level. Specifically, I will act as the intermediary between early-career chemists and CSC policy-makers to prioritize initiatives and activities that serve undergraduates, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and professionals outside academia. I will also work to increase communication in English and French with these communities to ensure the actions of the CSC are transparent and accessible to all. I am extremely committed to equity initiatives and will prioritize that the CSC Board of Directors and their mandates are equitable and serve the whole chemistry community. My years of experience as an executive member of the CSC Committee for Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity has allowed me to understand and liaise with the different power structures throughout the Chemical Institute of Canada when implementing policies and initiatives. I have experience with the coordination of major events through my past work as co-chair of the Working towards Inclusivity in Chemistry Toronto group (WICTO) and the first Leaders Overcoming Gender Inequality in Chemistry Retreat (LOGIC). Finally, my current position as a Program Manager at Beyond Benign means that I will uplift the work of chemistry educators and green chemists to encourage that future directions of the CSC are sustainable for both the environment and the next generations of young scientists.

Biography

Nimrat Obhi (“Nim-ruht Oh-bee”, please use she/her/elle) is from Ottawa and completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Ottawa in 2014. She completed her PhD in chemistry at the University of Toronto in 2020, where her research focused on the synthesis and investigation of organic semiconducting polymers with complex architectures for electronic applications. Nimrat is committed to equity initiatives and has served as an executive member of the CSC Committee for Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity for three years. She has also held past executive positions on two Working towards Inclusivity in Chemistry teams (WICTO and CWIC). She has been the recipient of numerous awards, including being named as an element (hassium) in the IUPAC Periodic Table of Young Chemists in 2019. Nimrat is currently a Program Manager at Beyond Benign, where she aims to bring her combined passion for open-access science, equity advocacy, green chemistry, and science education to her role. Outside of work Nimrat is an avid skier, chef, swimmer, and bookbinder.