



Canadian Society for Chemistry | **For Our Future**  
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## 2021 CSC Director of Conferences Candidate – Jennifer van Wijngaarden

### Statement of Interest

As a member of the Canadian chemistry community for more than 25 years, I have had the great privilege to work with many colleagues across the country in various capacities. In addition to service contributions within the University of Manitoba as Associate Head (among many other roles as outlined in my CV), I have served our chemistry community as a member of the NSERC Discovery Grant Evaluation Group (2016-2019) including one year (2018-2019) as the Section Chair for the physical and analytical chemistry stream and as a member of the Research Tools and Instruments panel for two terms. I have demonstrated leadership and longstanding commitment to the CSC through my contributions as the Treasurer of the Physical, Theoretical, Computational Division (2008-2013) and as a member of the Accreditation panel (2012-2018). In late 2017, I accepted the role of Technical Program Chair for CCCE2020 in Winnipeg and worked diligently with CIC/CSC staff and colleagues from across the country until March 2020 to plan an exciting program with over 70 technical symposia and special sessions in support of EDI allies, the 2SLGBTQ+ community, undergraduate student flash talks and the science news cycle. While disappointing that CCCE 2020 did not come to full fruition due to the global pandemic, I believe that I can put my skills and experiences to good use in support of future CSC related conferences. As a result, I hereby express my interest to serve the CSC and its membership in the role of the Director of Conferences.

### Biography

Jennifer van Wijngaarden completed her Honours B.Sc. degree in Chemistry at the University of Western Ontario followed by her Ph.D. at the University of Alberta where she developed expertise in rotational spectroscopy as a means to characterize the structure and dynamics of weakly bound complexes. Following NSERC postdoctoral training in laser spectroscopy of transient molecules of astrochemical interest at the University of Basel (Switzerland), she accepted her first academic position at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts in 2004. In 2006, Dr. van Wijngaarden moved to the University of Manitoba where she has risen through the ranks to become a Full Professor and served as Associate Head (Graduate) from 2014-2018. Dr. van Wijngaarden leads a competitive research program that uses custom built instruments to probe the microwave rotational energy signatures of potential astrochemical species. This work is complemented by her research at the Canadian Light Source that aims to capture and analyze the detailed far infrared fingerprints of transient species. Her research has been described in over 60 peer reviewed articles and she has actively mentored more than 30 trainees in the process. Dr. van Wijngaarden's research contributions have been recognized through the receipt of NSERC University Faculty Awards (2007, 2010), a competitive German DAAD fellowship (2020) in astrophysics and her invitation to join the Board of Directors of the Canadian Light Source (2017-2024). At the University of Manitoba, Dr. van Wijngaarden is well-known for her dedication to student learning through receipt of teaching awards (2007, 2020), to the tireless support of her colleagues through awards for service (2012, 2017) and to establishing outreach activities (2019) in support of women in STEM.