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2024 Canadian Society for Chemistry
Nomination Packages
June 2024 AGM

Vice-President: One nominee - acclaimed

Nominee: Dr. Alex Brown, University of Alberta

Brief Biography – Alex Brown (he/him), MCIC



Alex Brown obtained his B.Sc. degree in Chemical Physics (Honors) from the University of Waterloo and his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Western Ontario (supervisor W.J. Meath). He then held post-doctoral positions at the University of Bristol (as an NSERC PDF with G.G. Balint-Kurti), the University of Alabama (R.H. Tipping), University of Western Ontario (W.J. Meath), and Emory University (J.M. Bowman). Alex Brown joined the Department of Chemistry at the University of Alberta in 2003, rose through the ranks, and he is currently a Professor and Department Chair. Prior to his appointment as Chair on July 1, 2022, he served (almost) 9 years as Associate Chair (Undergraduate). His group pursues diverse research in the field of computational and theoretical chemistry including photochemistry and

photophysics of fluorescent proteins, small molecule biofluorophores, and phosphorescent inorganic species; molecular quantum dynamics and potential energy surface fitting; optimal control theory for laser control; physical organic chemistry; as well as understanding novel bonding and structure in inorganic materials. In addition to his research activities, he has received a number of awards at the university, faculty, and department levels for teaching and mentorship including the University of Alberta's 2013 Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (one of the university's highest teaching honours), the University of Alberta Graduate Students' Association Graduate Student Supervisor Award in 2011, the 2012 Faculty of Science Award for Excellent Teaching, and also Awards for Teaching Excellence from the Chemistry Students' Association in the 2003-2004 and 2006-2007 academic years.

Statement of Interest to Serve as Vice-President

I am writing to express my interest in being considered for the role of Vice-President of the Canadian Society of Chemistry (CSC) in 2024-25, with the expectation that if the Board remains supportive, I will fulfill the roles of President and Past President in subsequent years. As outlined in my biography and fully detailed in the accompanying CV, I have extensive local, national, and international scientific and administrative experience. I have a long history with the CSC in a variety of roles: member (20+ years), co-organizer of eight symposia at the annual conference, PTC Program Chair for the 2018 meeting in Edmonton, PTC Division Chair (2022-2024), PTC Division Vice-Chair (2019-2022), and CSC representative on the PCCP Ownership Board (2019-Present, Executive member 2022-Present and Chair 2024). I also hold other roles supporting the Canadian chemistry community as Secretary-Treasurer for the Canadian Association of Theoretical Chemists (2009-Present) as well as Associate Editor (Computational Chemistry) for Can. J. Chem. (2018-Present). In putting forward my interest, I have considered the important roles the CSC plays in the maintenance and development of our Canadian chemistry community, including those of our student and other ECR members, both through the annual conference as well as other avenues. Moreover, I realize the important role the CSC plays in the international standing of our Canadian chemistry community. As such, I am willing to put my name forward to stand for nomination for the VP position.

Director, Student Affairs - Two Nominees

Nominee: Dr. Violeta Iosub (she/her), University of Victoria

Brief Biography - Violeta Iosub (she/her)



Violeta Iosub is an Associate Teaching Professor (July 2024) at the University of Victoria where she started in 2018. Violeta's PhD is in Organic Synthesis from the University of Calgary. Violeta has extensive experience teaching chemistry at all levels, with expertise in large enrollment introductory organic chemistry courses. She is the recipient of two teaching awards: Don Tavares Graduate Teaching Award from the University of Calgary and the 2021 Teaching Excellence Award of Faculty of Science at UVic. Violeta has been the Chemistry Education Division treasurer since 2020. She organized the Canada 2067 undergraduate research symposium at the Vancouver CSC conference in 2023. At the department level she serves on numerous committees tasked with undergraduate experience, recruitment, and curriculum development, while at the Faculty level she serves on the Teaching Advisory and the Convocation Committees.

Statement of Interest to serve as Director of Student Affairs

As Chemistry Education Division treasurer, I am familiar with undergraduate student initiatives, while as organizer of the Canada 2067 undergraduate research experience symposium, I learned more about Canada's chemistry programs and schools. I see teaching as the facilitation of learning, with learning being done by establishing connections between learners and the material to be learned. I'll use the same perspective as the director of student affairs: I'll work to make connections visible and strengthen the communication between students and the various divisions of CSC. I'll start by familiarizing myself with the processes and the procedures that CSC has in place for this position and once I identify a target, I'll proceed at filling that gap. As an international graduate student, I knew very little about CSC and how its conferences are community-building opportunities for students. I would like to be part of the change that makes knowledge of CSC integral to student experience – almost like a program requirement.

Director, Student Affairs - Two Nominees

Nominee: Isabella Liu (she/they), University of Toronto Schools

Brief Biography - Isabella Liu (she/they)



Isabella Liu has been a high school chemistry teacher for 10 years, and currently teaching at the University of Toronto Schools. As the recipient of the 2022 Beaumier Award for High School/CÉGEP Chemistry Teachers and a recipient of the 2023 Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence in STEM, she is formally recognized in the field of chemistry education. She is passionate about enriching students' chemistry understanding beyond the high school curriculum. To do so, she has been incorporating emerging technologies to create projects so that students can inquire about diverse chemistry topics such as chemistry in cooking, chemistry in biomolecules, etc. She has established experience working in secondary education and non-profit industries. Through Isabella's learning journey with technology, she

became an Apple Distinguished Educator, a Google for Education Certified Trainer and a Grosvenor Teacher Fellow through National Geographic Society and Lindblad Expedition to implement professional development programs for educators around the world.

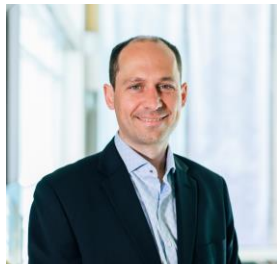
Statement of Interest to Serve as Director of Student Affairs

Throughout my academic and professional journey, I have demonstrated a consistent commitment to supporting and empowering students in their pursuit of excellence in chemistry. As the recipient of the 2022 Beaumier Award for High School/CÉGEP Chemistry Teachers and a recipient of the 2023 Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence in STEM, I am formally recognized in the field of chemistry education. My experience serving as a mentor for students in my school has honed my ability to connect with students from diverse backgrounds. I am particularly drawn to the role's emphasis on supporting the CSC Undergraduate Student Chapters and ensuring a strong CSC presence at regional conferences. My experience in event planning and coordination, including organizing summer programs, workshops, and conferences as an independent contractor for Apple and Google aligns well with these responsibilities. Moreover, the prospect of chairing the judging of the Student Chapter Merit Awards and other awards is one that I find especially rewarding. I have experience in judging various student competitions such as the Toronto Science Fair; I understand that recognizing the achievements of students is crucial for their academic journey. I am dedicated to ensuring that these awards receive the attention they deserve, and that the selection committees operate equitably. I am eager to contribute my skills to support the professional development of K-12 science and chemistry teachers. By working closely with the Board of Directors, I am confident that we can create impactful programs that inspire the next generation of scientists and educators.

Director of Local Sections: Two Nominees

Nominee: Dr. Kevin McEleney, Queen's University

Brief Biography - Kevin McEleney (he/him), MCIC



I received my PhD in materials chemistry from Queen's University under the supervision of Dr. Cathleen Crudden and then moved to a post-doctoral position at the University of Manitoba with Dr. Michael Freund. From that role, I transitioned to the Manitoba Institute for Materials (MIM), at the time a virtual institute at the University of Manitoba bringing together the materials research community across 5 faculties and multiple departments. MIM flourished during my tenure with the acquisition of new shared instrumentation, and the construction of a building to house the institute and its equipment. I am currently the Surface Facility Instrumentation Manager at Queen's University where I operate and maintain the microscopy suite and teach a graduate course in materials characterization techniques. I enjoy working with diverse groups of researchers across multiple departments and faculties tackling interesting research problems. When not around the lab I can be found on the soccer pitch officiating as a provincial level referee, on the baseball field coaching my son's baseball team, or at the farm helping my daughter ride ponies.

Statement of Interest to Serve as Director of Locations

During a recent cross-provincial networking activity, I was discussing the role and impact of the CSC board with a former colleague. Following the conversation, I decided to nominate myself as a Director of Local Sections, as our common goal of fostering and supporting the Canadian chemistry community became apparent. I look forward to making a positive impact with the Local Sections, building their community with my strong background in teamwork and collaboration. Furthermore, my experience at both a western and eastern university (University of Manitoba, Queen's University) gives insight into the similarities and differences experienced by institutions across Canada and serves me well as a coordinator for the Local Sections that will face different challenges across the country. Additionally, as an instrumentation manager, I bring a different perspective on the academic chemistry experience than faculty members. Shared service facilities housed in Chemistry departments are valuable resources that support research and academic programs but are often overlooked as members of the chemistry community. In the past, I have felt disconnected with the broader chemistry community and will strive as a board member to ensure that all chemists are encouraged to engage with the CSC.

Director of Local Sections: Two Nominees

Nominee: Dr. Kevin Stamplekoskie, Queen's University

Brief Biography - Kevin Stamplekoskie, he/him, MCIC



Associate Professor Kevin Stamplekoskie has been a faculty member at Queen's University in the Department of Chemistry since 2016. He has received recognitions for his teaching (i.e. Top 3rd year instructor in 2021) from the Department of Chemistry and is passionate about education and mentoring the next generations of chemists. Stamplekoskie's research is very interdisciplinary, but the broad goal is the engineering of novel materials for photonics applications such as light-harvesting, cancer therapy, chemical sensing, and more. He has trained 19 graduate students, 6 postdoctoral fellows, and 31 undergraduate students. His work in photonic materials has been highly cited and lead to numerous invited talks in his short tenure at Queen's and has helped net more than \$3 million dollars to his research program specifically and contributed to ~ \$50 million dollars in funding allocated to numerous teams at Queen's. He has significant experience organizing conferences such as Photonics North and the meeting of the Inter-American Photochemical Society (I-APS). Chemistry outreach and connecting with the greater local community is very important to Stamplekoskie. He has performed dozens of magic shows in the Kingston and surrounding area, including several events that hosted more than 5000 participants each at Kingston's Science Rendezvous. Over the past 6 years, Stamplekoskie has also become the chair and revived the Kingston local section of the CIC (which was previously dormant). The local section has organized a very large number of events to engage the local community and businesses and is a large part of the efforts of engaging the broader community in Canada.

Statement of Interest to Serve as Director of Local Sections

In 2017 I accepted the position as chair of the Kingston local section of the CIC a bit accidentally, not knowing at all what it was about. It has become the most interesting and rewarding administrative experience of my career! Two initiatives come to mind immediately that the Kingston local section has hosted over the past few years, a career fair, and the Bonds for Success program. The career fairs have hosted companies and potential employees from the Kingston area predominantly but also from as far as Ottawa, Montreal, and Toronto. These events are held at the impressive meeting spaces in city hall and are supported by the city. Bonds for Success is a mentoring program for industry leaders to help students and postdoctoral fellows bridge the gap from their academics to a career in the chemical industry. Both initiatives have done wonders for networking with industry and have highlighted the CIC's role in Canada. I believe encouraging events like these (there are many types of networking events that can be undertaken by local sections, not limited to career fairs or mentorship programs) would be a main goal if I was in the role of Director of Local Sections. This would hopefully engage industry and get more involvement at our national meetings. My experience is that industry representatives want this as well and struggle to make the connection; a role the local sections are perfectly positioned to play. I have attended the CSC for years and been in academia for even more time, but from some of the outreach with magic shows and the work with local sections, it should be clear that I have a passion for connecting with the broader chemistry community. I think that the local sections have the best opportunity to bring all sizes of businesses into the CIC community.

Director of EDI: One Nominee - acclaimed

Nominee: Dr. Tricia Carmichael (she/her), University of Windsor

Brief Biography - Tricia Carmichael (she/her), MCIC



Tricia Breen Carmichael is a Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Windsor. She currently leads an interdisciplinary research program on stretchable and wearable electronic devices, including stretchable light-emitting devices, textile-based wearable electronics (e-textiles), and stretchable transparent conductors. Dr. Carmichael has published influential papers in these fields and holds more than 25 worldwide patents. She is the Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Flexible and Printed Electronics* (Institute of Physics) and an Editorial Board Member of *Matter* (Cell Press). Dr. Carmichael served as a member and chair of the NSERC Evaluation Group for chemistry (2021-2024) as well as the Research Tools and Instruments Evaluation Group (2020-2021). She was also a member of the Security and Disruptive Technologies Research Centre Advisory Board for the National Research Council and the IEEE Flexible Electronics and Displays technical committee. Dr. Carmichael is the Chair of the EDI Taskforce at UWindsor, a multidisciplinary team of social and natural scientists who make evidence-based policy and program recommendations to the Dean to advance EDI. She is a member of WIDE and chairs the Policy Subcommittee. Dr. Carmichael has received many awards over her career, with several of these for her EDI work, including the Mary Lou Dietz Equity Leadership Award for demonstrating leadership through contributions to creating an equity culture on campus, the University of Windsor Office of Human Rights, Equity and Accessibility OHREA Award and University of Windsor Impact Award for co-organizing the first LGBTQ+ in STEM conference in Canada, and the Rotary Peace Chain Link Award.

Statement of Interest to Serve as Director of EDI

My work in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion is motivated by my own experiences as a woman in chemistry as well as the experiences of my students and those of my family. I use my privilege as a white, tenured full professor to advocate for equity and inclusion of multiple groups including – but not limited to – Black, Indigenous, and people of colour (BIPOC) communities, women, persons with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQ2S+ community. In 2019 I co-organized the first LGBTQ+ in STEM conference in Canada. With the conference team, I developed the program and events, invited speakers, and fundraised. I think of this experience as pivotal in my EDI journey. The success of this conference was very meaningful to me and ignited a passion to expand my EDI work. I subsequently went on to co-organize other conferences and symposia, such as the first 2SLGBTQ+ in Chem symposium for CCCE 2020 (rescheduled for CCCE 2021) and an upcoming LGBTQ+ in chemistry symposium at the international conference Pacificchem. I took on the role of Chair of the EDI Taskforce at UWindsor, focusing on evidence-based approaches to improve the climate at UWindsor. I became more involved in the EDI efforts of the CSC/CIC in 2021 when I joined as a member of WIDE. As lead of the Policy Subcommittee, I have developed policies that incorporate EDI principles, such as a new guide to organizing a symposium and a revision of CSC accreditation guidelines. I am also a co-founder of the first Member Resource Group, Pride in the CIC, and co-organized the first conference Pride mixer in 2023. If elected as Director of EDI, I am committed to work with the Board, WIDE, and the Canadian chemistry community to remove systemic barriers, enhance the diversity of the chemistry community, and ensure equitable and inclusive practices.

Director of Conferences: Two nominees

Nominee: Dr. Johanna Blacquiere, Western University

Brief Biography - Johanna Blacquiere (she/her/hers), MCIC



Johanna Blacquiere is an Associate Professor in Chemistry at Western University. Her research focuses on homogenous catalyst development and mechanistic analysis, with a specific focus on ligands that undergo reversible structural changes (protonation state or coordination mode) to modulate reactivity. Since 2013, Dr. Blacquiere has mentored 42 undergraduate and 18 graduate students (5 PhD, 13 MSc), and 1 post-doctoral associate. She is the recipient of several awards in recognition of her research (Ontario ERA, NSERC DAS) and teaching (Faculty of Science Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching). Dr. Blacquiere was recently named a Western Faculty Scholar (2024-2026) for her sustained excellence in teaching, research and service. Dr. Blacquiere has demonstrated consistent and impactful involvement in service at the National level. She was on the award selection committee for the NSERC RTI program (2024). She served as the Inorganic Chemistry Exchange (ICE) Student Recruitment Coordinator from 2019-2022, during which she greatly improved recruitment strategies, resulting in an increase in student applications from ca. 25 to ca. 80 per year. In 2022 she took on the role as ICE National Coordinator. She was the Volunteer Chair for both the 2014 International Symposium on Homogeneous Catalysis (Ottawa, 13 volunteers) and the 2019 CSC Conference (Quebec City, 55 volunteers). She organized and chaired the first symposium at the CSC Conference to showcase undergraduate presentations (2019). She has also co-chaired three other CSC Conference Symposia (2019, 2020, 2023).

Statement of Interest to Serve as Director of Conferences

Canadian Chemistry is the communities that exists within and between the sub-disciplines. These connections are developed and fostered at conferences, and have led to impactful research collaborations, development of new society initiatives, and lifelong friendships. All sizes of conferences are critical, but effective and quality execution of the CSC Conference is essential. To achieve this, transfer of knowledge is paramount. As is continued re-evaluation of the conference structure and protocols to ensure that it is accessible and inclusive to a diverse range of chemists, especially as we confront a range of challenges, such as increasing financial costs. I believe that I will be well suited to serve as the Director of Conferences due to my commitment to the chemistry community, and my prior experience in conference organization. I played a key role on the Organizing Committee for the 102nd CSC Conference, which was the first to be held in a different city than the host University. I have co-organized several CSC Symposia, and I have organized (ICE Workshop, 2016) and regularly attended (IDW) smaller subject-specific or regional conferences. I am an active member within the Inorganic Division of the CSC, in which I have taken on lead organizational roles for the Inorganic Chemistry Exchange program.

Director of Conferences: Two nominees

Nominee: Dr. Roland Roesler (he/him), University of Calgary

Brief Biography - Roland Roesler (he/him), MCIC



Roland Roesler is a Professor of Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Calgary, where his research focuses on ligand design and organometallic chemistry with applications in metal extraction, catalysis, and energy conversion and storage. This work primarily revolves around the development of N-heterocyclic carbenes and other polydentate ligands, and has wide-ranging applications in metal extraction, catalysis, and energy conversion and storage. It has attracted significant support from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Canada Foundation for Innovation, Alberta Innovates, Mitacs, and the Canada First Research Excellence Fund, along with various industry partners. He is dedicated to teaching, mentoring, and providing research training for undergraduate and graduate students, as well as postdoctoral fellows, and has served on several Faculty and University committees. Roland Roesler was involved in the organization of the 2012 and 2022 Calgary editions of the Canadian Chemistry Conference and Exhibition as Inorganic Program Chair and Conference Chair, respectively.

Statement of Interest to Serve as Director of Conferences

Conferences in general and the Canadian Chemistry Conference and Exhibition in particular are crucial for advancing science and training highly qualified personnel. I have valued my involvement in the organization of the Canadian Chemistry Conference, especially under the challenging conditions presented by the 2022 conference on the tail of the COVID pandemic. This involved the sustained effort of more than two hundred amazing people, including 90 student volunteers, the organizers of 75 symposia, 20 division chairs, the core organizing committee, the Canadian Society for Chemistry's National Team and its Board of Directors, and many others. It was both a pleasure and an honor to interact with this team and see the conference come together under less-than-ideal circumstances, and I learned a lot during this exercise. During this time, I became aware of the mounting pressures facing the Canadian Society for Chemistry and its flagship conference, driven by increased participant expectations, and rising organizational costs. The coming years will likely be a period of significant change, challenging the Board and National Team to balance maintaining the conference's impressive tradition with adapting to economic shifts and evolving participant expectations. I would be happy to contribute to this effort, and believe that my experience with conference organization, industry partnerships, and international collaborations will be a useful asset in this endeavour. I strongly believe that the Canadian Chemistry Conference can and should increase its pivotal role in providing an inclusive networking and knowledge sharing environment, bringing together academia and industry, mentees and mentors, science and engineering, and serving to promote Canadian chemistry on the world scene.

Director-at-Large: Two positions, Four Nominees

Nominee: Dr. Sanela Martic, Trent University

Brief Biography - Sanela Martic (she/her), MCIC



Sanela Martic (short bio):

Dr. Sanela Martic received M.Sc. degree in Chemistry from McMaster University (2005) under the supervision of Dr. Michael A. Brook. She then joined Queen's University where she obtained her Ph.D. degree (2009) in Chemistry under the supervision of Dr. Suning Wang and co-supervision by Dr. Gang Wu. Dr. Martic carried out her post-doctoral work at Western University and University of Toronto Scarborough with Dr. Heinz-Bernhard Kraatz (2009-2012). In 2012, she joined the Department of Chemistry at Oakland University (USA) as a tenure-track Assistant Professor, and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2017. In January 2019, she joined Trent University (Canada) as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Forensic Science, Environmental and Life Sciences Program and Materials Science Program. Currently, Dr. Martic is the Associate Professor and serves on the Board of Governors for Trent University. Previously, she served as the member of Senate, and the Associate Department Chair. The research program in the Martic lab is supported by NSERC DG, NSERC Alliance International Catalyst Grant, NSERC Alliance Mission Grant, CFI, ORF, MITACS, NIH, ACS PRF, and American Heart Association. Martic lab integrates various types of chemical sciences to address global challenges related to health, energy, forensic science, and environment.

Statement of Interest to Serve as Director-at-Large

I first attended the CSC conference 20 years ago, when I was an M.Sc. student at McMaster University and since have attended 14 CSC conferences, either in person or virtually. The CSC meetings are valuable to trainees and researchers in academia, industry and government, and I really enjoy attending and participating in such meetings. In addition, the CSC membership also offers extensive benefits to trainees and researchers. At this stage of my career, I would like to support CSC in new ways, by actively participating in the CSC society, and the Director-at-Large position is the great place to start.

Let me summarize my previous professional service experience (extensive list is provided in my CV):

- a. WIDE committee member (2023-2026); member of the Community Committee and the Education Committee
- b. Member-at-large for the CIC Analytical Div. (2021-present)
- c. CSC award committee member (2023-2024)
- d. NSERC DG EG 1501 committee member (2022-2025)
- e. CIC Analytical Div. awards committee member (2023)
- f. Secretary and treasurer for the Electrochemical Society Canada Section (2023-present)
- g. Member-at-large for two CSMB committees: Membership and Diversity Committee; Conference Committee

In the Director-at-Large position, I look forward to advancing chemical sciences and serving chemists at all career levels.

Director-at-Large: Two positions, Four Nominees

Nominee: Dr. Talia Jane Stockman (she/her), Memorial University-Nfld

Brief Biography - Talia Jane Stockman (she/her), MCIC



Talia Jane Stockmann received her Ph.D. in 2013 under Pr. Zhifeng Ding at Western University in Canada. She then moved to Switzerland to the group of Pr. Hubert Girault at EPFL as a postdoctoral fellow and performed numerical evaluations of O₂ reduction at soft interfaces. She then moved to France to work in the group of Drs. Fred Kanoufi and Catherine Combellas as a postdoctoral fellow, where she worked to characterize oscillating reactions using SECM, ensemble nanoparticle detection for biosensor applications, and single nanoparticle detection at soft interfaces, as well as develop novel nanocomposite materials. In 2018, she joined the Department of Chemistry at Memorial University of Newfoundland where she was given early promotion to Associate Professor in 2023 and has established a thriving electrochemistry and materials research group, winning the Dean of Science ‘Distinguished Emerging Scholar’ award in 2022-2023. Her work focuses on single entity electrochemistry, nanocomposite electrochemical method development, and carbon dioxide electrocatalyzed conversion.

Statement of Interest to Serve as Director-at-Large

In 2018, I was honoured to return to Canada to assume a position at Memorial University of Newfoundland and have encouraged my students to attend conferences like the CCCE to improve their understanding of the broad scope of science and its impacts. I have always viewed the CSC, as well as the conferences and agencies that it provides as a cornerstone in not only promoting chemistry and helping students and faculty network, but also as meaningful path to educate and build excitement for science. During my undergrad, the experiences I had at CCCE conferences were some of my most memorable and taught me a great deal about what it means to be a scientist. I’ve been delighted over the past 5 years to see the growth in symposiums like the one on EDI. Moreover, I was grateful to participate in the 2019 CCCE where I shared my experiences as a transwoman navigating undergrad, post-doctoral life, and academia in general. More importantly, at this stage in my career, I would like to give back to the CSC and continue to be a voice for marginalized groups, particularly in this uncertain political climate. I would be honoured to be considered for the *Director at Large* position. While I am transitioning from my earlier to mid-career, through this position I believe I can lend my support to the CSC in multiple ways from policy development, conference organization, and championing EDI. Regardless of the decision, I am immensely grateful to have been considered.

Director-at-Large: Two positions, Four Nominees

Nominee: Dr. Alex Veinot, Dalhousie University

Brief Biography - Alex Veinot (he/him)



Dr. Alex Veinot is currently a Banting Postdoctoral Fellow in the Ragogna group at Western University. During his PhD at Queen's University, Alex also held a Vanier Scholarship in the Crudden group. His research interests include main group and surface chemistry, 2D and 3D self-assembly and the chemistry of N-heterocyclic carbenes (NHCs). In July 2024, Dr. Veinot will join the Department of Chemistry at Dalhousie University as an Assistant Professor. Originally from Nova Scotia, Dr. Veinot is also a member of the Mi'kmaq community Glooscap First Nation and has actively promoted Indigenous academics and representation in science throughout his career. Dr. Veinot serves as a member of the CSC committee Working for Inclusion, Diversity and Equity (WIDE) and has shared his experiences as an Indigenous chemist through invited conference (102nd CCCE, 2019; 70th CCEC, 2020, ChemCon2023) and seminar (Saint Mary's University, 2020) presentations.

Statement of Interest to Serve as Director-at-Large

My name is Alex Veinot and I am writing to express my interest in being selected for a Director at Large position on the CSC Board. I am an early career chemist (PhD, 2022) and will join the Department of Chemistry at Dalhousie University as an Assistant Professor on July 1, 2024. Since 2020, I have served as a member of CSC WIDE (Working for Inclusion, Diversity and Equity) and have shared my perspective as an Indigenous chemist in Canada. As Director at Large, I am eager to bring my experiences as an early career chemist and EDI to the Board to further the direction of the CSC. Thank you for considering my nomination package, I look forward to my further involvement with the CSC.

Director-at-Large: Two positions, Four Nominees

Nominee: Raheleh Zafari, C. Chemist, Algonquin College

Brief Biography - Raheleh Zafari (she/her)



Raheleh Zafari is a Chartered Chemist eligible for EIT (Engineering in Training) certification and currently serves as a professor at Algonquin College in Ottawa. She earned her Ph.D. in Chemistry from Tehran Polytechnic and a second master's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Ottawa. Additionally, she completed a one-year postdoctoral research position at the University of Ottawa. She has been awarded multiple scholarships, including the Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) (providing \$15,000 for a year) and admission scholarships from the University of Ottawa (providing \$20,000). Additionally, she received an award from the Iranian Ministry to attend Université Laval as a visiting researcher in 2017-2018 through a competitive process (amounting to \$12,000 CAD). Her multidisciplinary research focused on material synthesis and development, wherein she demonstrated successful achievements throughout her academic journey by publishing her work in seven reputable journals. Raheleh served on the Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) Selection Committee to select 20 qualified Ph.D. students and the Scinapse Case Competition Scientific Committee for undergraduate competitions, evaluating around 50 proposals at the University of Ottawa. She also served on the editorial board of the Environmental and Biological Engineering Journal and as a scientific committee member of national and international conferences in Iran. She worked as an Environmental Chemist at Eurofins Environment Testing Canada, where she authorized and approved data for all testing at the Ottawa facility, overseeing more than 15,000 tests per day to ensure accuracy and compliance with regulatory standards. She also served as a Principal Chemist and project leader at IGC, where she researched and wrote SOPs for new methods, resulting in a reduction in experimental errors and a 100% increase in efficiency in method execution. She has presented her work done at the University of Ottawa at the CCEC 2021 - 71st and 70th Canadian Chemical Engineering Conference and IUPAC CCCE 2021 - 48th World Chemistry Congress & 104th Canadian Chemistry Conference and Exhibition.

Statement of interest to Serve as Director-at-Large

With my extensive background in chemistry, coupled with my passion for promoting the advancement of the field, I am eager to contribute to the continued success and growth of the CSC. Throughout my career, I have been deeply involved in various aspects of the chemistry community, including research, education, and advocacy. As a research scientist and Professor, I have gained valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities facing chemists today. I have also had the privilege of working with diverse teams and stakeholders, fostering collaboration, and driving positive change. I have demonstrated exceptional leadership and organizational skills in my careers. My ability to oversee complex testing operations, meet stringent regulatory standards, and drive efficiency improvements underscores my readiness to contribute meaningfully to the CSC. My vision for the CSC is to further strengthen its role as a leading voice for chemistry in Canada. I am committed to promoting excellence in research, education, and innovation, while also advocating for policies that support the growth and sustainability of the chemistry sector. I believe that by fostering a vibrant and inclusive community, we can inspire the next generation of chemists and address pressing societal challenges through scientific advancements. If selected as a director-at-Large, I pledge to leverage my expertise, leadership, and passion for the field to serve the CSC and its members diligently.