

**CANADIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY  
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND CHAPTER  
2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
REPORTS**

**President's Report**

This year marks the seventh anniversary of the Prince Edward Island (PEI) Chapter, Canadian Evaluation Society. Over the years, the Chapter has pursued its mission which is to promote the function of evaluation by providing members with opportunities for professional development, information exchange and networking, and to ensure that the discipline and practice of evaluation is valued and credible on the Island. As well, the Chapter continues to be an active participant and advocate on the national board.

Current membership stands at 28 members - - a number which has been decreasing. We are a small province and the number of program evaluators is few; however, that does not reflect the amount of program evaluation that is occurring. There is a significant level of Program Evaluation happening in government, private sector and in non profit organizations. There are so many individuals who could benefit from membership in the CES. The CES offers professional development for people who are often tasked with program evaluation but do not have the skills required. It also provides a venue to networking with professionals in the area. The Chapter is continuing its efforts to sustain its membership and attract new members. We are small but have lots to offer as you will see from the reports you are about to hear from our board members.

This year has been one of reorganization and renewal. Our board has all but recreated itself over the past year or two. We have a full complement after today and are keen to get to work on some exciting pd opportunities this fall. We had some well attended and successful PD opportunities last year including the Essential Skills series (which is exactly what you budding evaluators need to give you the basics of program evaluation). We also held a Cost Benefit Analysis workshop. Stay tuned for the next events which are being offered in the fall and winter of 2008.

It isn't all about work, we always like to get a social event in as well. The Special Initiatives Committee hosted a successful social event for the membership.

In terms of administrative matters, the Chapter plans to updated its Strategic Plan 2004-2007, we will be calling on you to engage in the planning process. The Chapter remains in a positive financial situation.

I would like to thank the Board members, past and present, for their support and commitment. They have been so patient and understanding in my first year. A special thanks to Anne Marie and Micheline who have acted as mentors to me. It has been my pleasure to work with them. To retiring Board member Tara O'Connor, we have valued your contributions during your term on the Board and we will miss you around the board table.

Cindy Wood  
President

## **Membership and Communications Committee Report September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008**

The membership was at 28 in August 2008. Several members did not renew their membership the year after the CES National Conference was held in Charlottetown.

The membership is made up of representatives from the provincial and federal governments, the academic sector, community organizations and the private sector.

### **Activities:**

- 1) Attended and contributed to Board meetings.
- 2) Maintained a membership information list and monitored membership renewals (sent out reminders, general information and renewal fees).
- 3) Ensured communications were e-mailed to all members of the Chapter for Chapter activities, Professional Development events, subjects of interest to members and also several communications from National and other Chapters.

### **Note:**

Over the last year, the Chapter has continued to subsidize renewing members by paying \$30.00 towards annual membership renewal fee. Since the cost of membership increased last winter to \$165.00 per year, the Board agreed to increase the Chapter contribution toward renewal going from \$30.00 to \$60.00. With the renewal subsidy, the cost to renewing PEI members is now \$105.00. The PEI Chapter hopes to continue to offer this subsidy to recognize the contribution and participation of our members.

Respectfully submitted,

**Micheline Charest  
Chair**

**Professional Development Committee  
September 1, 2007 - August 31, 2008**

**Cost-Benefit Analysis Workshop:**

This three-day workshop was offered in September 2007 as an intermediate-advanced level training. The objective was to help individuals in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors design, conduct or commission quality Cost-Benefit Analysis and to improve their understanding of CBA findings. Maximilien Tereraho, Director of Feedback and Knowledge Management within the Evaluation Directorate at the Department of Human Resources and Social Development Canada facilitated the workshop. The participants rated the workshop as satisfactory.

**Needs Assessment:**

A membership survey was conducted in September 2007 to determine their Professional Development (PD) requirements and to support activity planning for the future. It was determined that members would be interested in PD or training events and that the priorities should be put on: Survey design, Writing and responding to RFPs, Logic model, Essential Skills Series and Cost Benefit Analysis workshops or seminars.

**The Essential Skills Series:**

This three-day workshop was offered in April 2008. The Workshop facilitator was Dr. Paul Favaro, Chief of Assessment and Accountability with the Peel District School Board, Mississauga, Ontario. Dr. Favaro has conducted numerous training workshops in assessment and evaluation for the Canadian Evaluation Society. All workshop participants rated the Essential Skills Series Workshop as highly satisfactory.

Respectfully submitted,

**The Board of Directors**

**Special Initiatives Committee Report  
September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008**

The Special Initiatives Committee hosted one events during the past year:

- Social Event: On December 13, 2007 we hosted a Wine and Cheese Reception at the Delta Hotel to celebrate the season. We had guest speaker Patsy Beattie-Huggan of The Quaich. The wine and cheese event was well attended and enjoyable.

Respectfully submitted,

**Board of Directors**

## **National Council Representative Report Fiscal Year 2007-2008**

The Canadian Evaluation Society's vision is to be the professional community of evaluators, positioning and building evaluation theory and practice. Progress towards the vision takes place through leadership, advocacy and professional development. In keeping with the mandate of the CES in 2007-2008, the National Council focused on four key priorities:

- Leadership in program evaluation;
- Appropriate evaluation professional development initiatives;
- Service responsive to members; and,
- Prudent stewardship of CES resources.

### **Leadership**

In 2007-2008, CES demonstrated its leadership nationally and internationally through its continuing, active role in the Joint Standards Committee and the International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE).

The Canadian Evaluation Society continues to advocate nationally and locally to promote the Society, the profession and the field of evaluation

As well, we continue discussions with the Canadian Evaluation Society Educational Fund to establish shared activity agreements such as the Benefit Auction held at the AGM in June. This year an overarching agreement that describes the components of the relationship between the two organizations was solidified.

### **Professional Development**

In 2007-2008 CES National continued its support of professional development initiatives at the Chapter level by working with Chapter members responsible for professional development to produce a renewed professional development policy framework and an evaluation package.

Over 450 delegates attended the conference in Quebec City in May 2008. The theme was Sharing Heritage. Next year the conference will be held in Ottawa by the National Chapter. In 2010, Victoria is hosting at the Empress Hotel.

### **Service Responsive to Members**

This year one component of the CES's response to members was the credentialing and professional designation project undertaken by CES National Council. The intensive process had an impact on the activities of other Council Committees, delaying some of their intended results. It has strengthened Chapter involvement and interaction with Council. This project and the Consortium that put together the background documents is another example of the volunteer climate that supports the work of CES.

This year CES continued to maintain the membership base at over 1,700. The web site remained strong and the highly acclaimed Journal continued to be produced.

## Prudent Stewardship of CES Resources

Policies were developed in the area of professional development and chapter reimbursement of membership fees. Overall, CES National is in a fairly stable financial position.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as CES National Member it has been wonderful to work with other program evaluators from across the country.

Respectfully submitted,

**Cindy Wood**  
**PEI Chapter Representative**