

CANADIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY

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ANNUAL

R E P O R T

1999  2000



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am extremely pleased to note that with my mandate ending, the Canadian Evaluation Society is in as healthy a position as it has ever been. Membership has been growing, and continues to grow, in leaps and bounds, proving that more and more people are seeing the CES as being a very crucial entity.

The CES has managed to straighten out its finances by simultaneously keeping a lid on administrative expenses and maintaining a decent level of service for members. To achieve this, we were forced to make difficult and painful decisions, but I am proud to say the sacrifices have not been in vain. I, however, owe it to everyone to reiterate the fact that if the CES is in good shape today, it is thanks largely to the involvement of the numerous volunteers who compensated by giving freely of their time and other resources to make the reductions in staffing expenses a reality. Were it not for the volunteers and the exceptional contributions of the members of Council and of the members of the executive of each Chapter, I fail to see how the CES could have managed to stay the course with our activities.

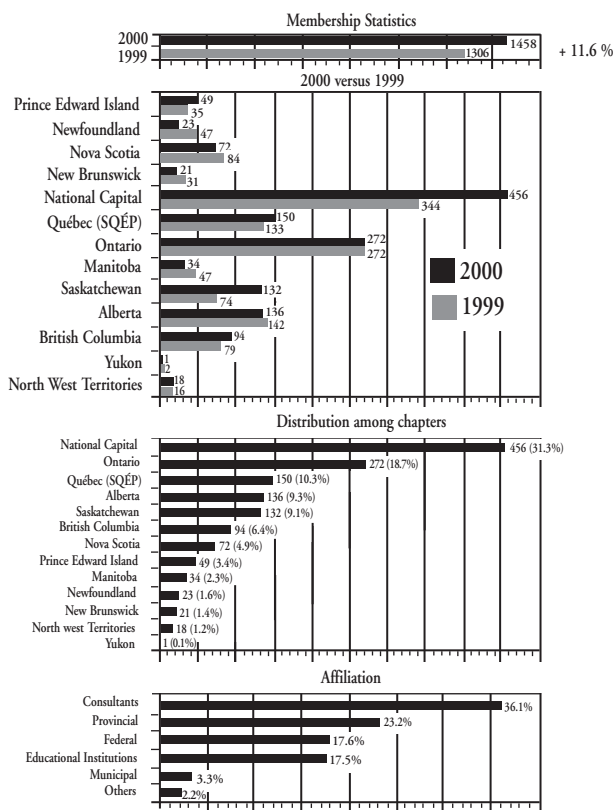
The different Chapters of the CES indeed constitute the backbone of the association. I believe one could never overstate the importance of the dimension of the association as a body made up of professionals from the regional tributaries of the profession. In fact, the motivation to come together is fostered primarily within the provincial/territorial levels, where professionals are in a position to effect tangible exchanges, taking advantage of proximity to increase memberships, and where activities and services translate into direct transfers within the work environment. At the same time, the vast majority of these individuals continue to see the need to broaden the territory across which experiences are exchanged and shared. That is where their membership in the CES comes into play. There are therefore two counterbalancing forces in place, one retaining members within their local or regional core, and the other leading them to seek out a wider world. Moreover, the language barrier continues to limit full exchanges, and to make it difficult to discover the achievements of the major linguistic communities across Canada. The CES must never give up on its efforts to iron out these difficulties.

A global examination of this reality has caused the CES to become ever more committed to the world-wide co-operative movement between evaluation associations. As a matter of fact, the CES was at the centre of this movement during the very first international evaluation conference held in Vancouver in 1995. Since then, it has maintained its commitment by participating in all meetings aimed at transforming the movement into a true international forum. Based on the results obtained when the CES consulted its members through Chapters, the administrative council reiterated the determination of the CES to participate in discussions aimed at making available to the world-wide community of evaluators all the means and tools needed to allow evaluation professionals to broaden their universe of reference.

Internationally, the number of evaluation associations keeps growing. More and more evaluators are making themselves heard. That may be an indication of the ever-increasing importance attributed to the evaluation activity in societies around the world. Closer to home, at the level of provincial and territorial administrations, discussions are now being conducted on "results-based management" or on "new governance." Nonetheless, there is a wide gap between talk and the actual ability of these administrations to follow up on the words. The ball is therefore entirely in our court.

Specifically, it is our duty, both collectively as an association, and also as professional individuals, to keep the talking alive and relevant, and to make sure any actions taken are pertinent. Evaluation is the only

way of truly accounting for the value of the consequences of public policies and programs. Within some Chapters, the CES has begun to get itself into position to demonstrate as much. It is all the more urgent since administrators rely on traditional management follow-up methods, and often limit their attention to management or to operational results, mainly from a service quality and satisfaction measurement point of view. Nevertheless, the attention paid to the actual efficiency of goods and services and to the impact of results remains weak, and in some cases completely unavailable; however, it is these results that matter the most to ordinary people. Increasing awareness among public administrators on the true nature of evaluation has therefore become a priority for your association. The CES has also spent some time reflecting on the usefulness of exerting greater pressure on elected officials. That is a new approach for your association – one that brings with it brand new challenges. In this respect, the CES has taken note of the direction adopted by the SQEP somewhat successfully at the political action level.



At a very practical level, the Montreal annual conference was a huge success from all perspectives. On behalf of the CES, I would like to thank the co-chairs, Natalie Kishchuk and Jim Cullen, as well as all their staff, for this gift to us. I was able to take a close look at just how dedicated these individuals are when it comes to helping us achieve our goals, even if it meant acting at the expense of their private lives.

Some members have reached the end of their mandates at the Council of the CES. To them, I would like to express my complete gratitude for their never-ending support. I send out thanks to Linda Lee, whom I succeeded as President, and who was a very generous guide for me in that role. I'd also like to thank Gordon Framst (ON), Michelle Sullivan (NF), Susan-Chalmers Gauvin (NB), Kaireen Chaytor (NS) and Kathryn Koots (MB), who were always very wise advisors. I would like to point out the exceptional contribution of Bob Segsworth, Editor of

the *Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation*, for his indefatigable work. Thanks to Robert Costain of the Quebec English Schools Network, and to the Quebec Ministry of Education, for their very crucial contribution in maintaining the CES Council's computerised exchange list.

Thanks to all the members of the Council for their help and dedication, particularly to the chairs of the permanent committees. I would like to end by expressing my sincere gratitude to Kathy Jones, the CES executive secretary, for all the support she has provided to the CES.

It was an absolute privilege being at the helm of this association for two years.

Jean-René Bibeau

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I. Councillors

Many of the operations and programs of the Society which have significantly increased in recent years are carried out by volunteers. They come to Council as representatives of their Chapters and usually have executive responsibilities in those Chapters. Although they have general and specific responsibilities within a committee, they frequently take on roles in general council activities and contribute to the work of other committees of Council.

Most of their efforts and contributions to the CES Council get lost or forgotten in the Minutes of Council or Executive Council. As time passes, much of their important work rarely is acknowledged by Council or the Society.

On behalf of Council and the Society, I would like to recognize the following Councillors and members of the Executive Council and thank them for their commitment, initiative, and many contributions to Council and the Society.

Kaireen Chaytor, Nova Scotia Councillor (May 1998-May 2000), was a member of the Professional Development Committee. Among her many activities, we particularly thank her for her efforts, research, and initiatives in the Essential Skills Series.

Kathryn Koots, Manitoba Councillor (May 1997-May 2000), was a member of the Administration Committee. Among her many responsibilities, we should particularly recognize her efforts on our Communications Policy, Database Policy and contributions to the strategic planning process.

Michelle Sullivan, Newfoundland Councillor (May 1997-May 2000), was a member of the Professional Development Committee. Michelle's initial efforts were in the revision of Essential Skills and then took responsibility for our annual Contribution, Service, and Student Essay Awards.

Gordon Framst, Ontario Councillor (May 1997-May 2000), was an invaluable member of the Administration Committee. Last year, he was appointed Chair of the Committee and became a member of Executive Council. Gordon took responsibility and developed many of our current administrative policies and procedures. As a member of the Executive and despite his vast portfolio, Gordon initiated and

contributed to many of our new initiatives and took the major responsibility for strategic planning in Council.

Linda Lee, Manitoba (May 1993-May 2000), started her long career in the CES as a member of and soon after Chair of the Member Services Committee and member of Executive Council. In 1996, after only two years in Council, Linda was elected President of the CES and guided Council through some very difficult times. Despite her numerous official roles, she always had an active role in all Committees and regularly interacted with Chapters. For the past two years, Linda has been assisting and supporting both Council and the Executive as Past-President. Her list of accomplishments and contributions to the CES and Council are immeasurable as is her commitment to evaluation, friendships, and the Society.

To each, on behalf of the Canadian Evaluation Society, adieu and thank you.

II. Conferences

The Conference Review Committee was created by Council in the Fall of 1999 to address a number of issues/problems concerning our annual conferences. It is now comprised of the Vice-President, Richard Allingham (Secretary-Treasurer), Kathy Jones (Executive Secretary) and representatives of past Conference Organizing Committees.

The initial work of the Committee has focused on the revision of conference contracts, costing, arrangements and scheduling. The Committee is now trying to address assistance to Organizing Committees, monitoring expenditures and planning. In the future, the Committee will address conference evaluation, the distribution of conference returns, and sponsorships.

Conference 1999, "Evaluation: An Essential Contribution", organized by the Ontario Chapter was a great success. There were 435 three-day registrations for the conference, 137 of whom became new members of the CES. The excellent program and workshops combined with cost controls and sponsorships generated nearly \$90,000 in profits for the host Chapter and the CES. We salute Arnold Love and his Organizing Committee for a superb event and not to mention an unforgettable evening at the Bamboo Club.

Conference 2000, "Evaluation and the New Governance", hosted by SQEP and expertly guided by co-chairs, Natalie Kishchuk and Jim Cullen appears to be another grand success. Montreal was an absolute pleasure and all reports indicate that the program was well very organized and engaging. There were 379 three-day registrants and 46 one or two day registrants, 130 of whom became new or renewing members of the Society. Calculations by Fernand Bourgault, Budget Chair, is that the conference will generate close to \$65,000 in revenue. This final figure seemed to be greatly helped by the nearly twenty-five sponsors the Committee had for the Conference. The Conference theme of "Role of New Technologies and the Evaluation Function" was timely and very well received.

We are now looking forward to Conference 2001, co-chaired by Gail Barrington and Penny Mosmann which is scheduled for May 20 to 23 at the Banff Centre. The Review Committee now has in place agreements/contracts for Halifax in 2002 and Vancouver in 2003. The Review Committee will soon be requesting proposals from interested Chapters for conferences in 2004 and 2005.

III. Advocacy

As a result of our strategic planning process, Council acknowledged that advocacy is a primary goal of the Society. In the Fall of 1999, it decided that a dedicated effort was required and began to develop an action plan. In the initial phase, Jean-René Bibeau, then the current President, began some very successful advocacy initiatives with each of the Chapters in the Atlantic Provinces. Council also commissioned a discussion paper for Council on the many elements and strategies involved in the advocacy of evaluation. In the discussions that followed, Council agreed upon a working definition to help guide future planning, strategies and initiatives.

Council came to recognize that advocacy has many meanings and purposes for both Chapters and Council. Before it became a formal initiative, discussions and strategies had to involve Chapters. To this end, the general discussion paper was distributed to Chapters and their Executive were invited to a meeting in Montreal during the Conference. The highly attended meeting was facilitated by Linda Lee (Past President) and the Vice-President and it primarily focused on our separate and joint understanding of advocacy, its purposes and our experiences and problems in being evaluation advocates.

We came to learn that advocacy is not only an organizational responsibility, but every member's "responsibility". Also, any national initiative had to recognize the differences of Chapters in terms of their resources and requirements. Most important, a coordinated effort is required which involves mutual support, sharing and partnerships. It was proposed to Council that a National Committee be formed primarily comprised of Chapter representatives and co-chaired by the Vice-President and a CES member. The initial mandate is to devise a structure, assess priorities, and develop an initial action plan.

In the Spring, it was proposed to Council that an advocacy action plan also include an "outreach" strategy which increased our exposure to and involvement in other national and international organizations. As a first step, Council approved and funded our membership in the Coalition of National Voluntary Organizations (NVO) in an attempt to create a greater profile for evaluation in the voluntary sector. Nancy Porteous will represent us in the NVO.

In terms of advocacy and the internationalization of evaluation, Marie-Hélène Adrien (SQEP), Charles Lusthaus (SQEP) and J.P. Kopachevsky (CES) will deliver an invited paper, entitled "Advocacy for Evaluation" to the African Evaluation Capacity Development Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa in September 2000. It is sponsored by numerous international organizations and the CES will make an offer of assistance in the development of advocacy strategies.

Council invites all Chapters and members of the Society to become active partners in our advocacy planning and initiatives. We look forward to your contributions to the National Advocacy Committee.

J.P. Kopachevsky

TREASURER'S REPORT

The audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2000 with comparative figures for 1999 are included for your review in this Annual Report starting on page 13.

As required by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, the CES, as a non-profit organization, has adopted a financial statement presentation known as *fund accounting*. Under fund accounting, the statements are disaggregated into the Operating Fund for general operations of the Society, the Scholarship Fund for awards to students of evaluation, and the SSHRC Fund for the administration of grants received from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). SSHRC funds are earmarked to reimburse travel expenses paid by eligible participants attending the CES national conference and annual meeting. Please note that the term "members' equity" used in the past has been replaced by "Fund Balances", referring to the three Funds described above.

As noted, the Operating Fund encompasses revenues and costs of the general operations of the Society, including the membership and Council support operations of the National Office, committee activities, and includes the net profit (loss) of the CES Annual Conference. A profit for the year in the Operating Fund of \$52,136 was achieved, resulting in an increase of the Operating Fund Balance from \$88,806 to \$140,942. In response to significantly declining members' equity in recent years, Council voted at its Fall 1999 Meeting to maintain a minimum of \$55,000 in the Operating Fund. The current level is now substantially greater and will allow Council to improve services to CES members.

While membership fees grew significantly, another key factor in Operating Fund Revenues was the contribution of a net profit to the Society of \$52,614 by the very successful Conference 2000 held in Montreal. As an additional and growing source of revenue, Essential Skills fees rose to \$9,415 from \$2,397 due to offerings in more Chapters. With respect to Operating Fund Expenses, it can be seen, in comparison to 1999, that some categories have increased. *Journal* expenses grew with the inclusion of a Special Issue along with the two regular issues. However, this was, in part, balanced by increased SSHRC funding for the *Journal*. National Council increased from \$29,838 to \$46,732 and all three Committees' expenditures have increased.

Growth in these operating expenses was budgeted to begin to achieve strategic goals of the Society in advocacy and professional development, and to provide enhanced services to members. For example, National Council's Fall 1999 meeting was held in Montreal in order to be able to liaise in advance with the Conference 2000 organizing committee. Examples of Committee and Council spending initiatives include continuing to upgrade the Society's web site and *Newsletter*, and strategic investment in the development of a core body of knowledge for evaluators.

Details on expenditures by Council Committees are complemented by descriptions of Committee projects and activities, beginning on page 7 of this Report. In addition, the Notes to Financial Statements provide further details and explanations for the reader.

Expenditures from the Scholarship Fund and the SSHRC Fund demonstrate the Society's commitment to the development of evaluation skills in students. The Scholarship Fund supported three prizes in the Student Essay Contest, including travel for the first prize

winner to Conference 2000. The SSHRC Fund also supported travel and subsistence for 25 recipients, mostly students, including Case Competition participants, to attend the Annual General Meeting and Conference 2000 in Montreal.

For the second straight year, the Society has been able to increase its members' equity, primarily due to the financial successes of Conferences 1999 and 2000. The Society is now in a better position to invest in services, projects and initiatives consistent with its mission and strategic goals, while maintaining an acceptable level of members' equity. However, dependence on conference profits is still necessary for overall financial health, so that Council is continuing to:

- monitor and control expenses;
- explore additional revenue sources, such as corporate sponsorships; and,
- support the Conference Review Committee in its work with the Annual Conference Organizing Committees.

Richard Allingham

CES STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST 2000

Thank you to all of the students who competed in the annual CES Essay Contest. Thanks also to the instructors who encouraged their students to enter the contest. Thank you to the Ontario Chapter of the CES for sponsoring the Honorable Mention Award.

As with any initiative, a lot of volunteer time and energy make it happen. Special thanks to the panel of judges: Tim Aubry, Leslie Buckle, Kaileen Chaytor and Judy Evans. Appreciation is also extended to Patrick Moran who co-ordinated the Contest.

Winner, Graduate Division

Chantal Langevin

Psychology Department, Carleton University

(Student of Shelley Borys)

"An Evaluation Framework for the Maison Decision House Substance Abuse Treatment Program" (to appear in upcoming issue of the *Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation*)

Honorable Mention, Graduate Division

Molly den Heyer

Rural Planning and Development,

Ontario Agriculture College, University of Guelph

(Student of Harry Cummings)

Winner, Undergraduate Division

Ryan Sommers

Medical Informatics, Faculty of Science,

Dalhousie University

(Student of David Zitner)

"How Information Technologies and Health Decision Support Systems can Improve Clinical Practice Guidelines".

CASE COMPETITION 2000

The CES annual Student Evaluation Case Competition had its "national debut" this year. The final round was held in conjunction with the National Conference in Montreal on May 15, 2000 to give Society members from across Canada an opportunity to watch the three finalist teams in action.

In February, fifteen teams had competed in a preliminary round. Their task was to develop (in five hours!) an evaluation framework for a federal government web site organized by the Department of Canadian Heritage «www.CanadaPlace.gc.ca». Competitors came from the following nine institutions (listed alphabetically):

Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario

Masters of Public Administration Program (coached by Martin Abrams)

Georgian College, Barrie, Ontario

Two teams from the Research Analyst Post Graduate Program (coached by Robert Wong)

Memorial University, St. John's, Newfoundland

One team from the Masters of Business Administration Program (coached by Simon Tagar) and also an interdisciplinary team (coached by Bea Courtney and Melissa Outhouse)

McGill University, Montreal, Quebec

School of Social Work (coached by Sydney Duder)

University of Guelph, Ontario

Rural Planning and Development (coached by Harry Cummings)

University of Ottawa, Ontario

Two teams from Education (coached by Bernie Andrews) and one from the Masters of Health Administration Program (coached by Russel Armstrong)

University of Quebec National School of Public Administration, Quebec City, Quebec

Two teams (coached by Pierre Simard and Richard Marceau)

University of Quebec at Montreal, Montreal, Quebec

Community Psychology (coached by Daniel Fortin)

University of Waterloo, Ontario

One team from Planning and another from Health Studies and Gerontology (co-coached by Anita Myers and Mark Seasons)

A panel of judges tackled the difficult task of selecting three finalists from the 15 participating teams. Thanks to François Bureau (Andersen Consulting), Heather Hopwood (Treasury Board Secretariat of Canada), and Susan Morris (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council) for devoting many hours of their time to the review.

The finalist teams were from McGill University, the University of Quebec at Montreal, and the University of Waterloo (the team from the Health Studies program). On the morning of May 15 they were asked to review a study of Industry Canada's Community Access Program (rural component) and develop a framework for the evaluation of its urban component. The teams presentations at an afternoon session of the CES Conference were outstanding. After tough deliberation, judges Heather Hopwood (Treasury Board Secretariat), Benoît Gauthier (Réseau Circum) and Vince Roberts (Andersen Consulting) selected the team from the University of Waterloo as winners of Case

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Comp 2000. The crystal trophy was thus awarded to the team comprised of Liz Cyarto, Tricia Gavin, Candace Nykiforuk, Adam Spencer and Jenn Yessis. Congratulations to them and their coaching duo, Anita Myers and Mark Seasons.

Following the presentations by each of the three teams, Roger Lamothe, (Industry Canada) spoke about the Community Access Program. Then Anne Scotton (Heritage Canada) discussed the CanadaPlace web site and the role of evaluation in federal government and in society. Many thanks to the staff of Industry Canada and Heritage Canada who helped prepare this year's cases. Case Comp 2000 ended with a truly splendid reception hosted by Heritage Canada!

This event would not be possible without the generosity of our sponsors! Many thanks to all contributors to the Student Prize and Travel Fund:

Human Resources Development Canada, Evaluation and Data Development

Heritage Canada, Corporate Review

Industry Canada, Community Access Program

Health Canada, Program Evaluation Division

Transport Canada, Program Evaluation Division

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

Ontario Chapter of CES

Quebec Society for Program Evaluation

The competition was organized by the National Capital Chapter of the CES.

Many thanks to the sponsors, coaches, competitors and organizing committee members who made Case Competition 2000 a success! A special thank you to the Montreal Conference organizing committee!

We are looking forward to Case Comp 2001 and send out a special challenge to members of the Society in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island! Get students interested in evaluation! Organize a team for next year's competition!

To learn more about the Case Competition, check out our web site at «www.magma.ca/~evalucom».

Susan Farrell

Member Services Committee

Members: Karyn Hicks (Chair), Northwest Territories; Lynn Bryant, Newfoundland (November 1999 to May 2000); Michelle Sullivan, Newfoundland (May 1999 to November 1999); Olive Moase, Prince Edward Island; Michelle Greene and Francis Gagnon (co-editors of the Newsletter), and Dr. Robert (Bob) Segsworth, (Editor of the Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation)

The Membership Services Committee exists as a standing committee of the Canadian Evaluation Society. The mandate of this committee is to monitor and plan services to the membership. Recruitment and retention of members, the *Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation*, the *Newsletter*, and development of the web site, all contribute to this

committee. There are a number of people who worked very hard this year – Bob Segsworth as our most esteemed *Journal* Editor, Michelle Greene and Francis Gagnon as *Newsletter* co-editors, and Jean-René and Anthony Bibeau for web site development and maintenance. Appreciation for the hard work of the committee must be noted as well: Olive Moase, Lynn Bryant and Len Beerschoten have been wonderful contributors. A big thank you is owed to Kathy Jones and Susan Licari (The Willow Group), the Council directors, and Chapter representatives who have contributed to the work of the committee.

In addition, the CES would like to acknowledge Laurentian University for the support that they provide to Dr. Segsworth for his work on the *Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation*.

Newsletter

Last year, in order to ease the pressures on one *Newsletter* Editor, the Committee recommended that two Editors be recruited to work together to share the workload. However, the logistics of having two managers was difficult when dealing with deadlines and the coordination of articles, so as Francis Gagnon stepped aside, Michelle Greene stepped forward to assume sole editorship. We had two trial runs of an e-mail distribution this year. The runs went very well, and we were able to correct a number of erroneous e-mails and update many others. We had a number of letters back from people asking for better identifiers in the subject line so that people would know that they were opening legitimate attachments. We have taken this advice. All in all, the membership has responded well to the electronic distribution of the *Newsletter*. Until sponsorship is forthcoming, our *Newsletter* will be posted to the web site as a cost efficiency, but only after members have had the first opportunity to read it at their leisure.

CES Web Site

Our Past President, Jean-René Bibeau, had generously donated his time to further develop the CES web site and his son Anthony has helped us as well. We switched servers in 1999 as we found a site that had lower overhead costs. If you have visited the site lately, you will notice the changes to the look of the site and the number of resources and links it now contains. We recognize that as a national organization, the web site will be our number one tool in keeping members informed of topical issues and the concerns of both Chapter and Council.

For example, we have been receiving contracts/job opportunities and posting them at «www.thewillowgroup.com/EvaluationOpportunities». They can also be found under the CES web site «www.evaluationcanada.ca» in the professional development category. Old postings are removed and new ones posted as they are received. So far we are testing this service to see if it is a service that is wanted by the members. To post an ad is free, for now, but once the site has been marketed, a small charge for the site maintenance may be instituted. If you have a contract or a job posting, remember us, and give the CES National Office a call to post your message!

The Membership Services Committee is also asking that Chapters review their CES web site information on changes to local administrative or executive council information. This would be a great job for one of your local volunteers, and would be greatly appreciated.

Pending sponsorship, more resources will be made available to you on line, so stay tuned to further developments in this area.

Karyn Hicks

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Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation

At its Fall meeting, the CES Council authorized two additional special issues for the coming years. The first will contain a collection of papers dealing with Evaluation Policy and Practice in the provinces. This should help to fill a large gap in the published evaluation literature and I expect it will be in members' hands early in 2001. The second special issue, on Human Services Evaluation, is scheduled for publication in early 2002. You should have received your copy of the special issue on education evaluation. I want to thank Alan Ryan for his excellent work in editing the issue. I also want to thank the members of the editorial board for their efforts to ensure that the *Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation* maintains its recognised high standards and reflects a broad spectrum of views and approaches to the subject of evaluation research.

Finally, my sincere appreciation to Kathy Jones for her patience and professionalism and to Karyn Hicks, my boss, for her constant support for the *Journal*.

Robert Segsworth

Administration Committee

Members: Gordon Framst (Chair), Ontario; Richard Allingham (CES Treasurer); Kathryn Koots, Manitoba; Enid Markus, Alberta; Nancy Porteous, National Capital Chapter

The mandate of the Administration Committee is to oversee the administrative functions of the Society. This includes providing day-to-day advice to Council members on interpretation of by-laws and policies, as well as development of new or revised administrative policies for Council approval. The Committee is also responsible for the CES awards. Harry Cummings was the recipient of the 2000 CES award for Contribution to Evaluation in Canada. Harry has been a member of the Canadian Evaluation Society (CES) since 1989. He teaches program evaluation, rural development planning, regional economics and research methods at the University of Guelph and provides consulting services through his company Harry Cummings and Associates (HCA).

An exciting development this year has been the use of the internet for making Council decisions which prompted the development of a set of communications guidelines. A New Councillor Orientation Manual was also developed and distributed in advance to members joining Council this May.

On-going projects you should watch for over the next year include a translation policy which is currently under review, a strategic plan, and a joint membership agreement with AEA. Thanks to Enid Markus (Alberta), the good work of Kathryn Koots (Manitoba) in developing a draft strategic plan has been augmented with new information from Chapter consultations, analysis of the membership database, and a visioning exercise conducted with National Council.

Included in your conference notification package was a proposal to remove the Corporate Membership category from the CES by-laws. It is my duty as Chair of Administration Committee to seek member's approval of this proposal. (Motion presented and approved.)

Thank you to our colleagues on the Committee and Council for their input and support over the past year, and welcome to Joan Kruger (Saskatchewan) as the new Chair of Administration Committee and member of the Executive.

Gordon Framst

Professional Development Committee

Members: Bud Long (Chair), British Columbia; Susan Chalmers-Gauwin, New Brunswick; Kaireen Chaytor, Nova Scotia; Joan Kruger, Saskatchewan

Core Body of Knowledge (CBK)

The development of a CBK is seen by the Council as an essential requirement for a coherent professional development program and for effective advocacy initiatives.

As a first step in the development of the CBK, the Committee began the collection of the outlines of post-secondary evaluation courses. This was for the purpose of finding out, for Canada, what is actually being taught as evaluation and required as prerequisite knowledge. By the time of the May Council meeting, about 35 outlines had been collected and the Council asked that the Chapters be requested to collect additional ones.

It was found, however, that few course outlines included information that was sufficiently detailed to provide an adequate understanding of course content. The Committee therefore began to examine the feasibility of getting the necessary information by an analysis of the readings prescribed in the outlines.

Essential Skills Series (ESS)

The ESS comprises four one-day workshops on program evaluation. They are conducted by the CES Chapters for their members in return for a fee to the National Council of \$20 per registrant. The Series is of interest to newly appointed evaluation officers, managers with evaluation responsibility, and those who would like an update on the main concepts and issues in evaluation.

With the earlier completion of both the facilitator's manual and the participant's manuals, the Committee prepared and issued formal guidelines to the Chapters for the general implementation of the Series. Funds were allocated for, and work began on, a French translation of the manuals. The Council agreed to a review of the ESS late in 2000-01.

Joint Committee on Standards for Educational Evaluation

The Council reviewed the need for the Society's continued participation in the work of this U.S.-based committee. It concluded that a number of factors argued in favour of continuing to bear the relatively modest cost of CES participation. Among them were the potential relationship with the development of the CBK and the growing interest in international collaboration in evaluation.

During the year, the Joint Committee completed its student evaluation standards and arranged, through its membership, for their field review in both Canada and the United States. It also re-validated its program evaluation standards. Finally, the Committee worked during the year on the revision of its personnel evaluation standards, which apply to human resource development both outside and within the field of education.

Bud Long

COUNCIL 1999-2000

Richard Allingham,

B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A., is Director of the Research and Evaluation Branch with the Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (formerly the Workers' Compensation Board). He has served as Chair and Past Chair of the Ontario Chapter and has served on National Council since 1994.

Jean-René Bibeau,

graduated from McGill University (economics and political science) and from Université Laval (public administration). He has worked for the Québec government since 1972 and is currently working on a special project at the Ministry of Natural Resources. He worked for two years at UNESCO in Paris, and is a founding member of SQÉP.

Kaireen Chaytor,

Ph.D., is Principal of Chaytor Educational Services, a consulting firm specializing in evaluation of social, health and education programs. She teaches program evaluation in Management Development for Women, the Non-Profit Leadership Program and in the School of Public Administration, Dalhousie University. She has been on the Executive of the Nova Scotia Chapter since 1991 and has served as the Chapter president.

Gordon E. Framst,

B.Sc, M.Sc., is Principal of Foremost Consulting Services, specializing in program evaluation and planning. He is chair of the Ontario Chapter and joined Council in 1997.

Karyn Hicks,

B.A., B.Sw., M.Sc. (Lond). Concentration in child welfare, social science research, evaluation, social policy and operational research. Currently works for the Financial Management Board Secretariat as Programs Advisor in the Government of the NWT. Has been a member of CES since 1989 and has served as Director-at-Large, NWT President and National Representative.

Kathryn Koots,

M.A. (Economics) presently holds the position of Program Evaluation Specialist with the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation. Her specialization is in the areas of marketing, communications, and strategic planning. She has been an active member of the Society since 1989 and served as President of the Manitoba Chapter for the 1997-1998 term.

Joan Kruger,

M. Ed. (Curriculum/Instruction), is A/OIC of Training Program and Evaluation Unit, RCMP Training Academy in Regina. Has represented Saskatchewan on Council since 1999 and served as President of the Saskatchewan Chapter from 1995 to 1999. She is currently Council's representative on the Joint Committee on Standards for Educational Evaluation and is currently Administration Chair of Council.

Joseph P. Kopachevsky,

is a member of the Sociology and Anthropology Department at U.P.E.I. and specializes in the areas of formal organizations, statistics/research methodology, and tourism. He has served in various administrative posts and as a consultant in the public/private sector. He is a Past President of the PEI Chapter.

Linda E. Lee,

M.A., is Vice-President and Partner in Proactive Information Services Inc., a Manitoba-based social research company specializing in program evaluation. She has worked as an evaluator for over 20 years and has been on CES National Council since 1993.

Bud Long,

M.H.A., is an evaluation consultant in British Columbia, where he is President of the provincial Chapter. He was Director, Program Evaluation, in Health and Welfare Canada, and also held a number of planning, financial and managerial positions during his 31 year career in the federal government.

Enid Markus,

M.B.A., has been a member of the Executive of the Alberta Chapter since 1996, and joined National Council in 1999. She is President of Infact Research and Consulting Inc., an Edmonton-based management consulting company that specializes in information gathering, interpretation and use of data, evaluation, performance measurement, and strategic and marketing planning

Olive Moase,

is a Health Promotion Researcher, Evaluation Services Section, PEI Department of Health and Social Services. This past year she has served as the Chapter Chair, Professional Development Committee, and National Representative. With training in Home Economics, Human Nutrition, and Health Education she is now applying evaluation skills to health research.

Nancy Porteous,

M.Sc. (Social Research Methods), with a decade of internal and external consulting experience in organizational planning, evaluation and performance measurement, she currently manages the Planning and Performance Measurement Unit, Social Services, Region of Ottawa-Carleton. An active member of CES since 1993, organizing Chapter professional development events and the national Student Case Competition, Nancy served as President of the National Capital Chapter in 1998-2000.

Robert Segsworth,

is professor of political science at Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ontario and has served as Editor of *The Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation* since 1994. He has published in *Canadian Public Administration*, *The International Review of Administrative Sciences*, *Knowledge and Society*, *The Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation* and contributed to a number of books on evaluation and Canadian public administration. He has been a member of INTEVAL, a research group currently sponsored by the World Bank, since its inception in 1986.

Michelle Sullivan,

has been a member of the Canadian Evaluation Society in both the Ontario and Newfoundland Chapters, is currently Chapter President in Newfoundland and Labrador and has been on Council since June 1998. Her private consultation practice, Aspens & Oaks, includes contractual program evaluation and planning in the health and social services fields as well as an active clinical practice in child and family mental health.

President	Jean-René Bibeau
Vice-President	Joseph P. Kopachevsky
Secretary & Treasurer	Richard Allingham
Administration Chair	Gordon Framst
Member Services Chair	Karyn Hicks
Professional Development Chair	Bud Long
Past-President	Linda E. Lee
Councillors	Marie-Hélène Adrien Kaireen Chaytor Susan Chalmers-Gauvin Kathryn Koots Joan Kruger Enid Markus Olive Moase Nancy Porteous Robert Segsworth Michelle Sullivan

Newfoundland

Professional Development Committee Activities

The work of the NF Professional Development Committee continues to be active and interesting. Work is proceeding to identify a market for Essential Skills in settings outside the immediate St. John's area as is the clarification of the timeliness of presenting a repeat series in the capital city region.

Activities to date include:

- Member Survey to review topic interests, venues and time slots for professional development events;
- Fall Meet and Greet for members and new participants interested in the activities of the Chapter.

This year's professional development events have included luncheon presentations on the following topics:

- ACOA's (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency) Program Evaluation/Monitoring Approach;
- Evaluation of the Acute Care Health System following Re-structuring;
- The Development and Implications of the Unique Personal Identifier (within health care) for Program Evaluation;
- Confidentiality Issues as they relate to the Unique Personal Identifier.

Further, a half-day workshop on the topic of RFP's (Requests for Proposals) has been developed and will be presented before the end of March 2001.

National Case Competition Subcommittee

For the third year, the NF Chapter sponsored a team in the National CES Case Competition. This year's team of five master's level students came from various faculties at Memorial University of NF and was the Atlantic team in the competition. They worked tirelessly for several months in preparing for the competition. This was a very challenging, but satisfying experience, for all who participated. The team put in a great effort and learned a lot from the process. Several members of the Chapter helped in various ways in coaching the team.

Membership Update

The NF Chapter has grown to a total of 99 members overall. Thirty-seven people became members by way of their participation in the Essential Skills Series delivered through the Public Service Commission. Thus, the majority of the National members in NF are provincial government employees and this trend will continue upward with further offerings throughout the Province.

Communication Committee Activities

The Communications Committee has made some improvements to the web site and is using it for a wider range of functions. The NF Chapter now has its own domain name at «www.ces.nf.ca» and it is registered with the major search engines, making it easier for members and potential members to find. The site includes contact information for Executive and Committee members, membership applications and regular notices of Professional Development events, as well as links to the National CES site, the 2001 Conference site, and others.

Lynn Bryant

New Brunswick

In 1999-2000 the NB Chapter continued to host professional development workshops for its membership and interested parties in the areas of Questionnaire Design and the Use of Focus Groups in Evaluation. The Chapter also sponsored a luncheon to introduce our CES President, Jean-René Bibeau, who in turn addressed a sizeable audience concerning program evaluation issues in the public sector – "Management by Results".

Over the past couple of years the NB Chapter has faced and continues to face a number of significant challenges, two of which encompass the areas of communication and declining membership. To address these issues, in 2001 the Chapter plans to introduce a quarterly Newsletter, and to set up a web site for its members and interested parties.

Linda Robertson

Prince Edward Island

The PEI Chapter is pleased to outline its activities for 2000-2001. It is an excellent means of sharing our program with other CES Chapters, and vice versa. This report is organized according to the three major committees and their activities for the year 2000-2001.

Membership and Communications Committee

Membership grew, and numbered 54 at the time of writing. The increase was attributed to the relevance of the Professional Development Committee events and the active recruitment efforts of the PD Committee. The Chapter Newsletter was published Spring and Fall, and shared with other provinces (a practice encouraged by the PEI Chapter). Group e-mail communication was the norm for newsletters, PD announcements, and other communications. Each committee developed content and one person electronically mailed the content to the "long list" (evaluation community) or the "short list" (Chapter members). New segments of the evaluation community are being identified to build membership. Membership and Communication and Professional Development Committees have worked closely together to provide member services supportive of their mandates.

Professional Development Committee

Three workshops were held during the year. On October 26-27, 2000 the PD Committee presented "Satisfaction: What Is It? How Do We Measure It?". Local evaluation expertise was provided by Katherine Clough and Shirlee Hogan (Agriculture and Forestry), Tina Pranger (Health and Social Services), and Dolores Griffin (Veterans Affairs Canada). The team planned and conducted the two-day workshop which was filled to capacity by persons wanting to learn more about the team's approach to measuring "satisfaction" at provincial and federal levels. The Executive Committee invited Dr. Love to present a one-day workshop on November 20, 2000, the day of the Annual Meeting, which was titled "Practical Performance Measurement: Using Logic Models for the Evaluation of Public and

Non-Profit Organizations." The last workshop of 2000-2001 will be held in April 17-18 and 19-20, 2001 and will concern the use of qualitative research by evaluators. The presenters will be Drs. Will and Debbie van der Hoonaard, Fredericton, NB. In addition to the three workshops, one panel was held on December 7, 2000 entitled "Making Connections: Evaluation and Health Promotion". The panel targeted a specific segment of the evaluation community and was actually a video conference between Charlottetown and Halifax to accommodate the schedules of the panelists who were located in each city.

Strategic Initiatives Committee

With regard to Strategic Initiatives, the Chapter used past work in the area of strategic planning. The use of internet and listserv are under consideration, but the national web site and e-mail communication are serving members well thus reducing the need to provide these services locally. Atlantic Linkages is on hold although some provincial newsletters have been received for sharing with PEI members. The long-standing objective of using video conferencing technology was realized, as noted earlier. A Needs Assessment is being considered to update the information collected several years ago.

National Representative

Being assigned to the Member Services Committee, Olive Moase's contribution has been to revise Check Us Out!, and research past executives and prize winners in preparation for the 20th Anniversary of the founding of CES (and the International Year of the Volunteer, IYV). Visual Identity Guidelines were developed. Content was written for the new Job Board launched on the national web site in Fall 2000. Some research was completed for sponsorship. The work also included responding to national messages and proposals, and sharing information. Two members plan to present posters at the CES National Conference in Banff in May of 2001. Lastly, PEI members are being informed that the CES National Conference will be in Halifax in 2002 so that a substantial proportion of the PEI evaluator community can participate in this very worthwhile conference.

Executive Committee

In addition to the above-mentioned activities to promote evaluation and serve the membership, the Executive Committee promoted evaluation in yet other ways:

- Financial support for members to attend the Annual CES Conference in Montreal;
- Development of Chapter guidelines to reimburse members who conducted workshops;
- Development of an article re PEI evaluation policy for the *Journal* (Stephanie Mowry);
- Profiled Micheline Charest's volunteer activities for the national newsletter;
- Reviewed the Chapter Operational Planning Guidelines and the Chapter objectives;
- Decided that each committee would prepare a work plan with a budget for FY '00-'01.

The Executive Committee for 1999-2000 is as follows:

President
Stephanie Mowry
Past President
Bill Harper
Secretary-Treasurer
Micheline Charest
Professional Development
Olive Moase
Membership and Communication
Carl Doucette
Special Initiatives
Margaret Ann Coles
National Representative (1999-2002)
Olive Moase

In addition to the executive members and trainers, many other members regularly perform tasks in support of the Chapter's work. It is this type of co-operation among the Chapter membership and the wider PEI evaluation community that allows the PEI Chapter to report this range of activities for 2000-2001.

Olive Moase

Nova Scotia

I am pleased to report on the accomplishments of the NS Chapter of the Canadian Evaluation Society. The highlights of our previous and current year's activities are outlined below.

We offered lunch hour sessions over the 1999-2000 year covering a wide range of topics. These included:

- "Evaluating Learning: An IWK-Grace Model", Meg McCallum (Director, Learning and Organizational Development, IWK-Grace Health Centre);
- Presentations on "Evaluation Issues", Students in Program Evaluation (School of Public Administration, Dalhousie University);
- "Blades of Grass: Community Development, Citizen Participation and Program Evaluation", Jeff Jorgensen (MPA Program; Dalhousie University);
- "Evaluation as a Guiding and Coordinating Vehicle", Norman Greenberg (Psychologist, Nova Scotia Hospital) and Cathy Stevens (Social Worker);
- "Sharing Participation and Power in Evaluation: Are We Ready?", Kaireen Chaytor (Chaytor Consulting Services Ltd.)

In our past year Kaireen Chaytor and Heather Perkins of Chaytor Consulting Services Ltd. offered the Essential Skills Series (I-IV) (Understanding Program Evaluation, Building an Evaluation Framework, Improving Performance, Evaluating for Results). As well, one of the highlights of our past was the visit of our then national President, Jean-René Bibeau, who gave a presentation on "Management by Results" and who also addressed the School of Public Administration. In our current year we offered numerous lunch sessions including:

- "Internet Surveys: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly", Geoff Stroppe (Information Technology Institute);
- "Evaluating Partnerships", Stephanie Heath (Heart Health Nova Scotia, Dalhousie University) Susan Lilly (Health Promotion Consultant), Rosemary Landry (Management Consultant);
- "A Management Framework for the Government of Canada", Keith

Coulter (Treasury Board Secretariat);

- "Increasing the Use of Evaluation as a Tool for Decision-making", Bill Collins (Collins Management Consulting and Research Ltd.);
- "The Use of Research in Evaluation", Mike Pennock (Public Health Research Unit, Dalhousie University);
- "The Community Toolbox: A Resource for Community Development and Evaluation", Janet Rigby (Community Health and Epidemiology, Dalhousie University); and
- "Effective, Efficient and Compassionate Health Care: The Role of Evaluation", Drs. David Zitner (Dalhousie University Medical School) and Brian Lee Crowley (Atlantic Institute of Market Studies).

As well, our Chapter is now partnering with the Institute of Public Administration of Canada. We have agreed to distribute notice of events to both membership lists in an effort to increase the profile of evaluation within the public administration field.

Finally, we are busy preparing for the 2002 Annual Conference that we are hosting!! We have secured a beautiful location on Halifax's waterfront and expect to have many other professional and social activities to entice the evaluation community to Nova Scotia for a fun-filled and informative meeting.

Deborah Langille

SQEP

The assessment of last year's activities, put together to coincide with the annual general meeting of the SQEP, which took place in the shadow of the Annual Symposium held in Quebec last November, was extremely positive. It is of course the success of the Conference of the CES held in Montreal in May 2000 that dominates the assessment: success at the level of participation, with over 544 attendees present; success at the level of appreciation, as evidenced by the evaluation forms; and finally, financial success, as the profits realised exceeded all expectations. This positive assessment

cannot be attributed simply to chance. It is due instead to the very hard work of the Organizing Committee, presided by Natalie Kischuk and Jim Cullen, and mainly made up of the Montreal area members of the SQEP.

Even though a lot of energy was mobilised for the organisation of the CES Conference, the assessment for the year also lends significant importance to other strategic aspects of the mission of the SQEP, including member training and the organisation of its Annual Symposium. Three training activities were thus presented, the first covering logical models, the second, the art of communicating evaluation results, and the last one, the evaluation of customer satisfaction. Our Annual Symposium, dedicated to "the economic approach to program evaluation," made it possible for program evaluators to explore the oft-misunderstood world of contributions made by economic science to evaluation methodology.

Patrick Moran

National Capital

Membership

As of May 2000, the NCC had 470 members, roughly one third of the CES's membership.

Chapter Events

The Chapter offered a variety of professional development and networking events, many of which were free for members.

- Breakfast session on September 16 with Steve Montague of the Performance Management Network on "Performance Measurement in Australia";
- Essential Skills Series: September 28 with Maria Barnes; October 5 with Jennifer Birch-Jones and Phil Carr; October 19 and November 1 with Shelley Borys;
- Pub Night on September 23;
- 13th Annual Workshop on December 8;
- Performance-Based Management course December 13 - 14;
- Performance Management and Performance Indicators for Evaluators January 17-18 (French) and January 19-20 (English);

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- Pub Night on February 10;
- Breakfast Session on April 11 with Sherri Torjman on “Are Outcomes Really the Best Outcomes?”
- Pub Night on May 25; and
- NCC Annual General Meeting Luncheon on June 8, including a talk by Shelley Borys from Ekos Research Associates on “Logic Models: Worth a Closer Look”.

Outreach

The National Capital Chapter has been invited to participate, on a volunteer basis, in an evaluation task group. This group is composed of evaluators from a number of health, educational and social service agencies and universities in the Ottawa-Carleton area who are involved in a collaborative, prevention/early intervention project aimed at improving services for young children and their families. The project is called “Success By Six/6 ans et gagnant” and is being lead by the United Way/Centraide of Ottawa-Carleton. The work of the evaluation task group is in its early stages but it promises interesting prospects for the outreach efforts of the NCC.

Activities for Students

Thank you to the teams from the National Capital Region who participated in the fifth annual national Student Evaluation Case Competition, which is organized by the National Capital Chapter each year:

- *Carleton University*: Masters of Public Administration Program (coached by Martin Abrams); and
- *University of Ottawa*: Two teams from Education (coached by Bernie Andrews) and one from the Masters of Health Administration Program (coached by Russel Armstrong).

Congratulations goes to the winner of the graduate division of the CES Essay Contest, Chantal Langevin, Psychology Department, Carleton University. Thank you to her instructor, Shelley Borys, for encouraging her students to enter the Contest.

Partnerships

Many individuals and organizations contribute to the activities offered by the National Capital Chapter. We would like to thank the following partners:

- Treasury Board Secretariat of Canada for continued partnership in offering high quality professional development activities, and in particular Karl Boudreault and Aileen Pangilinan;
 - Steve Montague and the Performance Management Network for partnering in the delivery of the Performance Based Management course; and
 - The local chapter of the Professional Market Research Society for help in promoting our events.
- Karen Traversy for her work on the Success by Six initiative and other not-for-profit outreach activities;
 - Case Competition Organizing Committee: Mike Obrecht, Heather Ouellette-Richardson, Aileen Pangilinan, Tammy Simpson, and John Wall; and
 - Annual Workshop Organizing Committee: Heather Buchanan, Maureen Donaghue, Roy Maddocks, Paul Prier, Don Smith, and many others who contributed along the way.

Sponsors

We would also like to express our appreciation to our very generous sponsors:

- Canadian Heritage, Treasury Board Secretariat, Human Resources Development Canada, Results-Based Management Group, ARC Applied Research Consultants, Goss Gilroy Inc., and Jua Management Consulting Services (The Annual Chapter workshop)
- Evaluation and Data Development, Human Resources Development Canada; Corporate Review, Heritage Canada; Community Access Program, Industry Canada; Program Evaluation Division, Transport Canada; Program Evaluation Division, Health Canada; Ontario Chapter, CES; and Quebec Society for Program Evaluation (The Student Prize and Travel Fund for the fifth annual student evaluation Case Competition).

Chapter Volunteers

The time and effort of many volunteers was greatly valued throughout the past year. Thank you to:

- Board members, including those completing their terms: Susan Farrell (1998-2000), Jennifer Hills (1999-2000) and Henno Moenting (1994-2000), as well as Alexandra Dagger who left the Board in December (1994-2000);
- Everyone who has so generously volunteered their time to give a talk, teach a course, or organize an event including Steve Montague, Maria Barnes, Jennifer Birch-Jones, Phil Carr, Shelley Borys, and Sherri Torjman;

Professional Development

In the Spring, Harry Cummings and Fred Ashbury conducted a “Qualitative Analysis” workshop, and Nancy Porteous conducted a workshop on “Using the Internet in Evaluation” at the AGM in November.

Financial Support

Four students were provided CES memberships for conducting the evaluation of the National Conference, and \$500 was again given to support the Student Evaluation Case Competition organized by National Capital Chapter. For the second year in a row, a team from the University of Guelph, School of Rural Planning and Development, coached by Dr. Harry Cummings, won the competition. Additional support was available for students not receiving SSHRC funding for attending the Conference, but was not needed.

Strategic Planning

The Board had hoped to begin a planning exercise in June, to support the National initiative and provide needed guidance to the Chapter, however, this was postponed due to an unexpectedly high turnover rate on the Board. Due to expiring terms and changes in Board member’s lives, five new Board members were recruited (50%). The outgoing Chair made a commitment to members at the AGM that the Board would undertake a planning exercise involving public conversations and focusing on strategic investment. With revenue of approximately \$18,000 from the National Conference, it was recognized that the Board has an obligation to ensure that these resources are used to support a program that will make a significant difference to evaluation in the province and for our members in the coming years.

As a result of activities during the year, membership reached an all-time high of over 300, the Chapter is in a strong financial position, and plans are in place to make Y2K a banner year for CES Ontario.

Gordon Framst

Board of Directors for 1999-2000

Len Beerschoten
Marilyn Boake
Karl Boudreault (ex-officio)
Ainslie Clark, Treasurer
Jack Cramer, Vice President
Alexandra Dagger, Past President
Susan Farrell
Gerald Halpern, Secretary
Jennifer Hills
Henno Moenting
Werner J. Müller-Clemm
Nancy Porteous, President and National Council Representative
Paul Welsh

Nancy Porteous

Ontario

Two words capture the main focus of CES Ontario Chapter activity for 1999 – National Conference. CES Ontario would like to thank again all of those who participated and made the conference a great success. It was very gratifying to host a conference that participants judged to be excellent from a program and organizational perspective, and also contributed significantly to rebuilding members’ equity in CES.

In addition to the Conference, CES Ontario continued to provide other professional development opportunities to members and potential members, and to provide financial support to students. The Board also embarked on a major strategic planning effort.

Manitoba

The Manitoba Chapter continued its efforts to provide enhanced opportunities in program evaluation for its members and other stakeholders in this field by conducting five luncheon seminars during the year. All five sessions were well attended and the feedback we received from participants was favorable. The dates, names and topics of the seminars were as follows:

- January 26, George Ato Eguakun, Ph.D., Senior Business Analyst, Manitoba Public Insurance, "The Impact of MPI's Road Safety TV Commercials";
- February 18, Jon W. Singleton, CA, Provincial Auditor, "Performance Reporting and Accountability: What Do Legislators and Citizens Need?";
- March 15, Barry Warrack, Ph.D., Chief, Strategy Coordination, Workplace Safety and Health Division, Manitoba Labour, "Using Large Databases to Make Policy and Program Decisions";
- April 19, Guy Gordon, MBA, Executive Director, Service First Manitoba, "The Common Measurement Tool: Customer Service Measurement Made Easy";
- May 26, Ken Clark and Pierre Brochu, Assessment Consultants, Assessment and Evaluation Branch, Manitoba Education and Training, "Measuring Students Performance: Assessment and Evaluation".

In addition, the MB Chapter offered the Essential Skills in Program Evaluation Series in co-operation with the University of Manitoba Continuing Education Division.

At the Annual General Meeting held in June the following officers were elected:

President: Barry Warrack
Vice-President: Bong-Hwan Kim
Secretary-Treasurer: Michael Salter
Director-at-large: Nancy Anderson
National Council Representative: Kathryn Koots, Past President

Bong-Hwan Kim

Saskatchewan

The Saskatchewan Chapter has 132 members (February 2000), an increase of 57 in the past year. This was due, in part, to offering the Essential Skills Series in Spring 1998. We hope to conduct a needs assessment to help the Executive match next year's professional development plans to member's needs.

We have had a busy year responding to National's strategy planning request, offering workshops and developing a web page. We are still receiving kudos from our members for bringing Michael Quinn Patton to SK last October. As well, we offered a Performance Management Workshop with Steve Montague prior to Christmas. Member's in Saskatoon and area held regular luncheon meetings featuring presentations and discussion on current evaluation topics the second Tuesday of every month.

Due to a lack of registrations, two sets of workshops were cancelled this year. The Essential Skill Series and a Performance Management Workshop in Saskatoon did not receive enough registrations by the deadline to reach budget requirements.

The geographical challenges of Saskatchewan, with a split in membership of 74 in the Regina area, 46 in the Saskatoon area and 3 members equidistant from either centre (January 2000), encouraged us to conduct the annual meeting by conference call with locations in Saskatoon and Regina this year. We will be asking participants how well this change has met their needs.

Thank you to each one of the 1999/2000 Executive this year for their assistance. On behalf of the Chapter members I extend appreciation for the time you volunteer with the Saskatchewan Chapter.

Frankie Jordan

Alberta

During fiscal 1999-2000, the Alberta Chapter sponsored a full program of activities, which were well attended by our members. Our Edmonton luncheon speaker program included Rich Goodkey of Alberta Treasury, who discussed the Government of Alberta's performance measurement and accountability framework in front of a large audience; Bill Wong of Alberta Children's Services followed with his provocative perspectives on the roles of performance measurement and evaluation; Dr. Christopher Smith reflected on the surprises and challenges he faced in evaluating the Yakutsk Municipal Democratization Project in Siberia; and Alana LaPerle discussed the evaluation of behaviour-changing social marketing programs, contrasting social with commercial marketing. We also offered all four modules of the Essential Skills Series to participants from around the province.

The Board recognized the 10-year commitment and contribution made by Alana Gowdy through a special presentation at the AGM. Alana was our featured speaker and we saw many heads nodding as she described what can go wrong in an evaluation consultant's life.

With the purchase of administrative support services, our Chapter members enjoyed a single point of contact for the first time. The administrator facilitated our entry into the electronic age, by switching to e-mail as the basis for regular communications with members and interested others. Several issues of the Alberta Chapter newsletter, CES Updates, were mailed to all members.

The Alberta Chapter's Board provided feedback to the National Council on some high profile issues, including internationalization and the new CES strategic plan. We promoted the Montreal Conference through the newsletter and at all meetings, while planning for the 2001 National Conference in Banff moved into high gear. We look forward to hosting members from across Canada in the Rockies.

Many thanks are extended to all members of the Board who contributed their time and talents in making the Chapter's activities a success, and to all our active members who enjoyed learning and networking at our functions.

Enid Markus

British Columbia

Thanks to the organizing committee chaired by Lori McElroy, the Chapter held a very well-attended, stimulating and financially successful Chapter conference in Victoria in October. The theme was "Effective Evaluation in Today's Performance Measurement Environment".

Work began on a conference for 2000-01, to be held in the Lower Mainland. The first step was an e-mail survey of the membership, to which there was a good response rate, to obtain views on a theme for the conference and to ascertain the degree of interest in assisting with its organization and in participating in it. (This conference, since held, was another major success.)

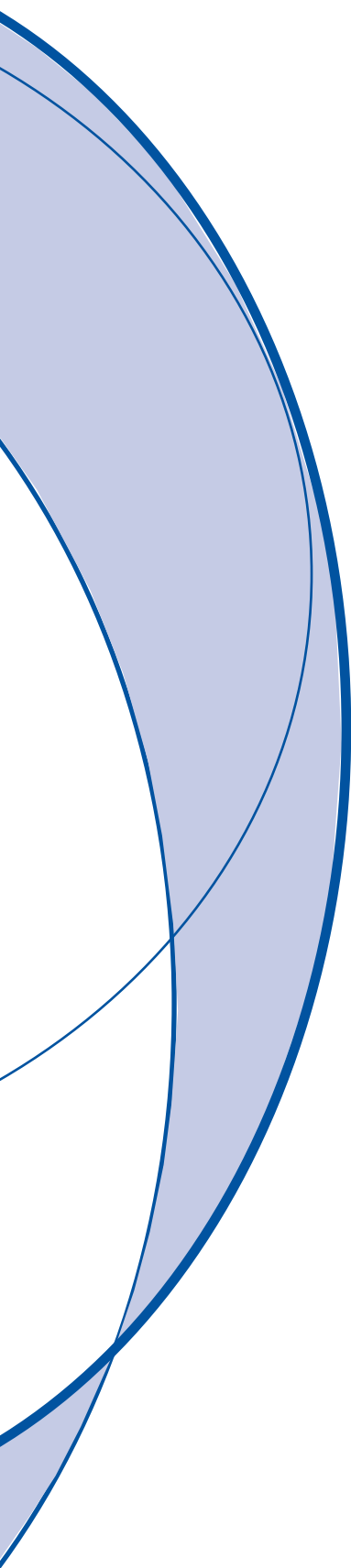
Four well-attended ESS workshop sessions were held in June in the Victoria area, and plans were laid for an extensive program of additional workshops in that location (since carried out). Partly as a result of these sessions and the conference, the Chapter membership rose significantly.

The Chapter executive informed the National Council that BC was ready to host the National Conference in 2002 or 2003. (The Council has since accepted the offer for 2003).

Strategic planning focus groups were held in both Victoria and Vancouver and by e-mail. The five principal "reasons d'être" that emerged were advocacy (promotion), professional development, utilization, networking and sustaining the CES.

In keeping with the high tech spirit of the West, at our Chapter AGM, our membership agreed to a process for the amendment of the Chapter by-laws by e-mail.

Bud Long



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Ottawa, Ontario K1Z 7S8