



Report of the CIC Chair (2010 – 2011)

1. International Year of Chemistry

IYC 2011 is now well underway with many international, national, and community-oriented initiatives. Planning began early in 2010, and the affiliated committees have been meeting frequently. IYC in Canada is headed by CIC Past Chair David Dolphin, O.C., FCIC, and supported by Roland Andersson, CIC Executive Director, and staff. The committee comprises of volunteers from academia, industry and trade associations. Dwayne Miller, University of Toronto, chairs the activities sub-committee, Greg Wilkinson, Canadian Plastics Industry Association (CPIA), chairs the communications sub-committee and Bernard West, Westworks Consulting, chairs the fundraising sub-committee.

There has been a tremendous range of activities at the national and local level, including a Canadian delegation in the UNESCO IYC kick off, Science Rendezvous, which had record participation in 2011, the "It's Chemistry, Eh!?" YouTube Contest, release of an IYC 2011 commemorative stamp, the Canadian Chemistry Olympiads, the Canadian Chemistry Milestones, a public lecture series featuring Joe Schwarcz and Pierre Beaumier, and Canadian participation in the Global Water Experiment.

The CIC has put in great amounts of sponsorship effort, and has had great success with trade associations, companies and chemistry and chemical engineering departments resulting in \$231K as of May 16, 2011. There have been some difficulties with government, whose only support came from NSERC, and also with foundations (40 applications were sent out, with no responses).

2. Conferences

Canadian Green Chemistry and Engineering Network (CGCEN)

The 3rd International IUPAC Conference on Green Chemistry was held in Ottawa on Aug 15-18, 2010. The conference drew great bio-based industrial participation, creating and strengthening valuable relationships between the CIC and industrial sector.

A new awards program was introduced at the conference, and for the first time the Canadian Green Chemistry and Engineering Award (Individual), Ontario Green Chemistry and Engineering Award (Individual), and the Ontario Green Chemistry and Engineering Award (Organization) were presented. The recipients were C.J. Li, Leo W.M. Lau, and Woodbridge Foam Corporation, respectively. The Ontario Minister of the Environment, the Honorable John Gerretsen made the Ontario awards presentations.

SCI/CIC "Clean, Green and Sustainable" Chemistry Awards Dinner and Afternoon Seminar

This year, the Canadian Section of the Society for Chemical Industry (SCI) and the CIC partnered to host the annual SCI Awards Dinner, preceded for the first time by an afternoon seminar. The business-focused seminar featured leaders from government agencies (GreenCentre Canada, Ontario BioAuto Council, Sustainable Chemistry Alliance), and from industry (Lanxess, Woodbridge Foam Corporation, Ecosynthetix) who spoke on current developments in the biobased sector and the future of green chemistry and engineering. The seminar series was very well received and the awards dinner attendance was one of the highest yet at 160 delegates. This seminar was chaired by the CIC chair.





The CIC was also a supporting organization of the 8th World Congress of Industrial Biotechnology and Bioprocessing held May 8-11 in Toronto.

Relationships established with industry at their "green" events were strengthened and will continue to be built upon in the future.

Pacifichem

The CSC was the host society for Pacifichem 2010, which drew in over 12,000 delegates. The CSC is expecting a \$100K plus surplus.

CSChE 2010 Saskatoon; 2011 London

The CSChE 2010 conference in Saskatoon drew less delegates than budgeted, resulting in a slight deficit.

CSChE 2011 in London, Ontario is expected to see higher attendance than in 2010. The CSChE is aiming for higher industry participation due to its Southern Ontario location and connecting with Sarnia, Canada's Chemical Valley. The Canadian Society for Chemical Technology will run a chemical technology symposium at CSChE 2011, which is expected to draw 100 plus students from Southern Ontario community colleges.

CSC 2010 Toronto; 2011 Montreal

CSC 2010 in Toronto was the largest yet, drawing in 2,300 delegates and generating a larger than budgeted surplus.

CSC 2011 in Montreal has already received a record number of 2,400 abstracts; 2,700 plus delegates are expected. The conference has a very strong scientific program and over \$175K in sponsorship has been received.

3. CIC Communication Channels

New cheminst.ca Website

The CIC Website was completely redesigned and officially launched at the CSC 2010 conference in Toronto. National Office staff meets routinely to discuss alterations and improvements, in particular how to improve searchability and interlinking between cheminst.ca, accn.ca, and iyc2011.ca.

Analytics are run routinely to monitor traffic to the website and how it can be increased; unique hits to the accn.ca website has increased drastically with the new design, promotion with social media and select free editorial content.

ACCN, the Canadian Chemical News

Significant improvements have been made in the past year in regard to both the design and editorial content, clearly visible January as of 2011. Ad sales have also increased due to a newly signed contract with Gordon Group, a 3rd party advertising company. A Chemical News section has been added, with the help of Science Writer Tyler Irving. Roberta Staley has been hired as Acting Editor while Jodi Di Menna, Editor, is on maternity leave in 2010-2011.

4. Government Relations

The CIC continues to represent the interests of its members and the chemical community to the federal government. The CIC is well represented and provides leadership to the Partnership





Group of Engineering and Sciences (PAGSE), and is also a partner in the Canadian Consortium for Research (CCR).

In 2010, the two groups submitted briefs to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance, and their recommendations can be viewed below:

PAGSE

- That the government compete aggressively for global research talent by establishing programs to bring international students to Canada and by providing expanded opportunities for Canadians to study abroad;
- That the government make data generated from federally funded research freely available online and provide the capacity to ensure data stewardship and preservation in the long term;
- That the government establish a centre for engineering and technology in the North to support innovation and sovereignty in Canada's Arctic regions.

CCR

- That the federal government augment the basic (curiosity-driven) research portion of the Granting Councils' budget by 5%;
- That additional graduate level scholarship programs be developed and sustained over the long term to support emerging researchers, as current stimulus programs expire;
- That the funding for the indirect costs of university research rise over the course of the next five years to represent 40% of the direct costs funded by the granting councils.

The CIC is looking at making its own presentation in 2011 while still maintaining an active role in PAGSE and CCR.

5. Internal Office Operations

Summer 2010 brought major construction upgrades to the CIC National Office, including the addition of open offices and the conversion of all paper files to electronic.

The staff has also undergone some changes and additions, including a part-time graphic designer, Kelly Turner, a new ACCN science writer and reporter, Tyler Irving, MCIC, and a new Executive Assistant, Bobbijo Sawchyn, MCIC. The CIC staff was heavily involved in planning Pacifichem 2010 and in the International Year of Chemistry 2011. There are now five staff members with chemical science and engineering degrees.

Hadi Mahabadi, FCIC
CIC Chair 2010 -2011

