

International Society of Certified Employee Benefit Specialists (ISCEBS)

Southwestern Ontario Chapter: Education Report 2025

The role of the Education Committee is to facilitate the delivery of educational sessions and other chapter events. Education sessions primarily focus on emerging and current issues and trends relating to the benefits and retirement industry.

The SWO board has taken a shared accountability on delivery of education events leveraging checklists to ensure all requirements have been addressed. For 2025, we continued to offer virtual education events, delivering 2 education sessions via webinar. In collaboration with the Toronto Chapter, we also delivered 2 multi-day webinar series Fundamentals events

2024 Events

Year-to-date in 2025, our Chapter delivered 4 successful events:

- *Pharmacy Landscape & Impacts on Benefit Plans* was presented via Zoom on June 11 with 50 registrations and 35 attendees. Scott Campbell of Cubic Health presented pharmacy trends including drug pipelines and their potential impact on benefit plans in the coming years.
- *Benefits Fundamentals* was run as a webinar series over the period of May 27 to 29. The Toronto chapter organized and ran these sessions that were promoted across both chapter areas. Approximately 40 attendees consistently attended each day of the series.
- *Retirement Fundamentals* was run as a webinar series over the period of October 27 to 30. The SWO chapter organized and ran these sessions that were promoted across both chapter SWO and Toronto Chapter areas. We had 21 registrants for this webinar series.
- *Legal Update: Canadian Group Disability Case Law* was presented via Google Meet on November 27 with 13 registrations and 10 attendees. Gabe Flatt of Sun Life Financial presented on recent case law with implications for the benefits industry

The lower costs associated with running these events virtually, has allowed us to offer free registration to members of ISCEBS chapters to help ensure they continue to gain value from membership within a local chapter.

In addition to local chapter work, our chapter is represented on the Canadian working group of the ISCEBS Chapter Webcast Committee. Participation on this committee meets one of the three education sessions required by our bylaws.

Feedback

All sessions were well received by attendees. The flexibility and ease of delivering virtual events will continue to make this a viable delivery method in years to come.

Closing Comments

For two years in a row, attendance at our November education event was much lower than our spring event. It could be related to the topics presented, but it may be worth reconsidering the timing of our fall event for 2026.

The team approach continues to work well for running education events. It provides greater flexibility, allowing board members to participate to varying degrees throughout the year without putting the full weight on any one individual. The support of ISCEBS headquarters staff was greatly appreciated and helps ensure we can run local events smoothly with greater ease.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Oram, CEBS
Secretary, ISCEBS Southwestern Ontario Chapter
December 4, 2025