

SWO-ISCEBS

Education Committee Annual Report for 2024

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 Pension industry.

The SWO board has taken a shared accountability on delivery of education events leveraging checklists to ensure all requirements have been addressed. For 2024, we continued to offer virtual education events, delivering 2 education sessions via webinar and 2 multi-day webinar series events.

2024 Events:

Year-to-date in 2024, our Chapter delivered 4 successful events:

- *“2023 Drug Trends Report”* was presented via Zoom on May 16, 2024 with 82 registrations and 50 attendees. Ned Pojskic, Greenshield, presented on Greenshield’s 2023 Drug Trend report which included insight on claims requests such as biosimilars, non-specialty drugs, future and emerging trends, etc.
- *“Fundamentals of Group Benefits”* was run as a webinar series over the period of May 27th to May 31st. SWO and Toronto Chapters ran these sessions together and promoted across both Chapter areas. We had 32 registrants for this webinar series.
- *“Fundamentals of Group Pensions”* was run as a webinar series over the period of October 21st to October 24th. SWO and Toronto Chapters ran these sessions together and promoted across both Chapter areas. We had 13 registrants for this webinar series.
- *“Is your Workplace Age Friendly? Strategies to Retain the Wisdom of your Older Workers”* was presented via Zoom on November 13, 2024 with 12 registrations and 9 attendees. Michelle Oram, CEBS, presented on workforce management implications as a result of Canada’s aging population. Michelle discussed why organizations should be aware of older workers can be part of the solution and the importance of creating strategies to make workplaces age-friendly.

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.

Feedback:

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

Closing Comments:

In addition to local chapter work, our chapter is supporting the ISCEBS Chapter Webcast Committee and has provided input into the Canadian sub-working group.

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 the team at ISCEBS Headquarters was greatly appreciated especially and helps ensure we can run local events smoothly with greater ease.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Hesch, CEBS
Vice President, ISCEBS Southwestern Ontario Chapter
November 29, 2024