

Annual General Meeting - President's Report
Southwestern Ontario (SWO) Chapter of ISCEBS – November 21, 2018

2018 was a positive year for the Southwestern Ontario Chapter of ISCEBS and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our board members for their time and effort spent on all of our Chapter activities and events.

Chapter Board Meetings

Including today's Annual General Meeting, the Board of Directors met eight times throughout 2018:

- January 11, 2018
- February 16, 2018
- March 23, 2018
- April 27, 2018
- June 8, 2018
- September 7, 2018
- November 2, 2018
- November 21, 2018

Chapter Education Opportunities

During the year our Chapter planned three relevant and informative education events:

- "Mental Wellbeing – How Are We Doing?" on March 1st. This was a two-speaker event, with Peter Gove from Green Shield Canada presenting "The Medicalization of Unhappiness" and Lindsay Bell from Manulife presenting "Financial Issues and the Impact on Mental Health".
- "Shining the Light on Bill 148 – HR Best Practices" on October 16th. Hali VanVliet from BDO provided an overview of legislative changes (January 1, 2018) and an update on Ontario's Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act (2017).
- "Cannabis: What it Means for Benefit Plans and Your Workplace" on November 21st. Mark Wright from Goldblatt Partners LLP will provide an update on the implications of the recent legalization of marijuana on benefit plans and workplaces.

Fundamentals of Pensions and Group Benefits was scheduled to take place on October 3rd, but due to low registration, was cancelled and will be rescheduled for May 2019.

Our Chapter continues to be in good financial standing.

Chapter Communications

In 2018, we continued to focus on Chapter communications and public relations. Our Chapter continued to actively post on Twitter and LinkedIn, in addition to relying on the ISCEBS Virtual Assistant for public relations activities.

Chapter Membership and Sponsorship

The membership drive for 2018 resulted in our current numbers dipping from 51 members in 2017 to 42 members in 2018. The Board continues its focus on providing benefits to its membership in order to attract and retain members. Board members check Chapter completers' lists periodically to identify and reach out to potential new members. An email was sent out to all 2018 grads and exam completers to attend the November education session and social at no charge and there have been some responses to this offer. Members in the Chapter were also encouraged to participate at all educational sessions. In addition to a reduced member fee for attending, we continued to offer:

- Discount on education sessions offered by the Toronto Chapter of ISCEBS (and vice versa)
- Each member is encouraged to bring a guest to one SWO Chapter education session during the year at no additional charge.

The sponsorship program for 2018 remained successful. The Chapter was able to attract three annual sponsorships from The Co-operators, Manulife and Sun Life Financial. We hope to have the sponsorship program continue in 2019 to assist the Chapter in attracting interesting speakers for our members.

Other

- Michelle Oram orchestrated our Chapter website move over to a new platform in February/March.
- I attended the ISCEBS Leader Workshop in Brookfield in March.
- The Chapter sent two delegates to the ISCEBS Symposium in September – Tammy Phelps and Trudy Parker. Michelle Oram also attended and all three board members professionally represented our Canadian Chapter and attended the educational and social events.
- On September 26th, our chapter hosted a booth at Partnerships for Employment at the Manulife Sportsplex at Rim Park. This job fair was attended by approximately 2,500 to 4,000 college and university students. Although there was not a huge amount of interest in ISCEBS and our chapter (as students were primarily looking for employment), there was still a good opportunity for our board members to chat with some students and employers.
- Our chapter's social event planned for January was moved to follow the AGM and education session on November 21st. We will be hosting bowling and appetizers at Bingeman's.

Proposed Board of Directors for 2019

The list of officers and board members up for election today are:

President:

Tammy Phelps, CEBS

Vice President:

Trudy Parker, CEBS

Secretary:

Kim Francis, RPA

Treasurer:

George Elliot, CEBS, ISCEBS Fellow

Past President:

Gail Enever, CEBS

Directors:

Michelle Oram, CEBS, ISCEBS Fellow

Carrie Kurtz, CEBS, ISCEBS Fellow

Barbara Puddy, RPA

This year we have four board members who are not returning:
Susan Healey, Sandy Edwards, Sharon Piesz and Heather Lackner

I am very appreciative of the SWO Chapter Board members' efforts over this past year. Thank you for your dedication and support and I am looking forward to being part of a strong and successful SWO Chapter Board in 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Enever, CEBS
President, Southwestern Ontario Chapter of ISCEBS