

President's Report - October 2008



It is with great pride that I report on the activities of past year of the Canadian Association of Communicators in Education. In this, my last year as your President, we have seen many improvements to our organization and a focus on our future.

During the past year, CACE implemented an online payment system for the key areas of our organization's income: membership fees, conference fees, and BRAVO! Award entry fees. The information for these items is now completed online and members can either pay with a credit card or print out the receipt and mail in a cheque from their organization. This has reduced the workload and the paper blizzard we have experienced in the past. Now, all information is collected from the online data and compiled into a spreadsheet for our use. This process seems simple in today's times, but it has been a long road for us to have reached this point.

This online data collection has also made updating our membership system easier for both our executive and our members. You have access to your profile, where you can update your information as it changes, ensuring that we can always reach you. We can send out emails to current members or those who may have forgotten to send in their renewal. It is a much easier system for us to navigate and to get information out to you, our members.

Both of these items would not have been possible without the support of Virtuo.ca. The strong partnership we have formed with this business has moved us leaps and bounds ahead of where we would have been on our own. We also could not have afforded this type of technology upgrade without greatly increasing membership fees. Thank you, Alain, and your hard-working crew, for helping us take these steps forward. Our organization is truly grateful for your assistance.

I would like to thank the members of CACE for their support as we try new things to make our organization better. It is through your suggestions and input that we have investigated options beyond what we have previously thought possible. For those of you who have new ideas, we are waiting to hear from you!

I would also like to thank the people who have stepped forward to lead this organization as your executive. Thank you for your professionalism, your patience and your dedication to CACE. Your volunteer time and efforts have not gone unrecognized and your pride in our organization shines on all those around you.

It has truly been a blessing to be involved in this organization. I have learned so much, made many friends across the country and have had the pleasure of leading CACE into a new era. Be proud of the work you do for the students of our country. As my colleague Doug Strachan always says, it is a very noble cause.

I hope you have a wonderful conference and I certainly wish I could be with you to take part in the events of the week. I know the Toronto committee will host a conference that will be outstanding!!

Best wishes,

Carmelle Steel