

Nova Scotia Chemists' Society

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President's Report Annual General Meeting, April 21, 2010

Since my last annual report, your board has made great headway with our proposed legislation (The Act Respecting the Chemical Profession). We had it reviewed by a lawyer and some wording changes were recommended and made. This winter we sent the act off to the Minister of Justice and have received a letter acknowledging its receipt. We will be following up over the year and hopefully it will be presented to the legislature this fall.

The board has also been continuing to work on the by-laws that will eventually be connected to the Act. This task is also reaching completion.

I have continued to represent the NSCS on the National Advisory Committee for the Profession of Chemistry in Canada (NACPCC). This committee is still investigating five key areas. They are (1) Insurance, (2) Promotion of Chemistry and the Profession, (3) Transferability, (4) Core Competencies and (5) Professional Content into Curricula. We have continued to meet by teleconference about every two months. The insurance issue is ongoing and there are still possibilities that are being investigated. The transferability issue has made some progress since our meeting in Hamilton on May 31, 2009. At that meeting all the provincial representatives present signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). That document essentially stated that we would work to harmonize our provincial organizations in four key areas: 1) Definition of the Practice of Professional Chemists, 2) Membership Requirements, 3) Codes of Ethics and Practices, and 4) Disciplinary Practices. To achieve this MOU the NACPCC has employed a consultant to look at these four topics from present practices in each province and make recommendations for harmonization. The committee will be holding another face to face meeting in Toronto on May 30, 2010 and the above report will be presented and discussed. It is hoped that at this meeting agreements can be found to advance harmonization on these four points.

Our tasks in the New Year will be to get the Professional Chemist's Act passed and the by-laws ready and accepted and to continue to work with the NACPCC on the harmonization issues. The legislation should be a very exciting task, but will require a concerted effort from every one in the Society.

Respectfully submitted

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W.J. (Jim) Frazee, P.Chem. President