

Deirdre O'Reilly, CHSC, Cert.Ad.Ed. – Candidate for Vice President

I am pleased to put my name forward to serve as Vice President on the CSSE Board of Directors. I have been privileged to serve CSSE in a volunteer leadership capacity – at both the Chapter and National levels – on a continual basis since becoming a member nearly 18 years ago. In that time, I have seen CSSE develop into a financially-stable, globally-respected organization. We are influencing the landscape of health and safety in this country, and are well-positioned to expand that influence internationally.

My volunteer leadership within CSSE began with the Nova Scotia Chapter's NAOSH Week Committee – on which I served for seven years. During that time, I also served on the Nova Scotia Chapter Executive, and have continued to do so for the past 17 years. I presently serve as Immediate Past Chair. A personal highlight for me this past year was being recognized by my colleagues on the Nova Scotia Chapter Executive with a Chapter Award for Outstanding Service to CSSE.

At the National level, I am presently serving a second two-year term as Secretary on the Board of Directors, having been first elected to that role in 2014. In that role, I also serve as Board Liaison to the CSSE Awards Committee. I served for four years on the NAOSH Week Committee, five years on the CSSE Conference Committee – including one year as Chair – and have served on CSSE's "Contact" Committee since 2012. Serving in a volunteer leadership capacity with CSSE has been both personally and professionally rewarding, and I am grateful to have gained this experience.

I have been employed by the Workers' Compensation Board of Nova Scotia for 25 years, the past 14 of which have been focused on workplace injury prevention and education. I achieved my CHSC certification in 2008, and I hold a Certificate in Adult Education from Dalhousie University. In addition to education and experience in the field of workplace health and safety, I bring a strong administrative background and skill set, coupled with a passion for supporting personal and professional growth and development in others.

I believe the experience I have gained in my volunteer leadership roles within CSSE over the past 17 years have equipped me with the skills necessary to fulfill the role of Vice President, and I welcome the challenge of taking on a new role.

CSSE is nearing the end of a five-year Strategic Plan. I had the pleasure of being involved in both developing that plan and identifying the strategic outcomes against which the plan would be measured. We have accomplished a great deal since the Strategic Plan was developed, and yet there is much work remaining. I still have the enthusiasm and passion to serve CSSE to best of my ability, and would welcome the opportunity to continue building on the work that has been done to date.

I encourage you to participate in shaping the future of your professional association by voting in this year's election – and I would be honoured to be your choice as Vice President on the CSSE Board of Directors.

Thank you.