

ANNOUNCEMENTS

B.C. CHAPTER HONOURED WITH PRESIDENT'S AWARD



LIKE A BUSINESS, raising the profile of an organization's chapter takes time, patience and dedication. Over the past decade, the British Columbia Chapter executive has worked tirelessly, volunteering countless hours to elevate the local branch of CHES and it has paid off. The chapter is now on a

stronger footing than it was in the mid-2000s — its membership has grown along with its educational offerings, and it has representation on all CHES National committees — and it was honoured for its efforts this past year with the first-ever President's Award.

"I'm thrilled that CHES National recognized the significant effort that everyone on the executive consistently puts forward to make the chapter successful," says B.C. Chapter chair, Steve McEwan, about the award, which he accepted on behalf of the chapter at last year's national conference in Saint John, N.B.

The President's Award was created in 2014 to foster engagement and encourage participation in executive and committee work. It is presented annually to the CHES chapter that demonstrates its commitment to education, administration and representation in the activities of the chapter and national board. Each chapter is scored on accounting practices, conference/education day, membership, chapter executive practices, committee work and additional offerings (from submitting articles to *Canadian Healthcare Facilities* to providing extra member benefits). Specifically, points are given for activities that benefit members and the work of the society, such as number of meetings attended in the course of committee work and special education sessions.

"We've really worked hard to strengthen our education component of our annual chapter conference," notes Mitch Weimer, who served as chapter chair for 4 years, from June 2010 to June 2014. "This has allowed us to attract higher quality speakers who are experts in their fields, which is of more value to conference-goers."

The B.C. Chapter has also created a number of bursary programs to assist with education and training costs. Every year, it offers \$1,000 grants to chapter members to help fund special education courses. It also invests in students at six provincial colleges through bursary funds. This past year it awarded a total of \$15,000. Most recently, it committed to annually fund up to \$3,000 per B.C. health authority for training in facilities management disciplines.

"We get a lot of satisfaction from helping out the healthcare community," says McEwan. "It's important to keep engineering and maintenance staff, as well as students studying in the field, engaged."

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS

2015

Hans Burgers Award

For Outstanding Contribution to Healthcare Engineering

DEADLINE: March 31, 2015

To nominate:

Please use the nomination form posted on the CHES website and refer to the Terms of Reference.

Purpose

The award shall be presented to a resident of Canada as a mark of recognition of outstanding achievement in the field of healthcare engineering.

2015

**Wayne McLellan Award of Excellence
In Healthcare Facilities Management**

DEADLINE: April 30, 2015

To nominate:

Please use the nomination form posted on the CHES website and refer to the Terms of Reference.

Purpose

To recognize hospitals or long-term care facilities that have demonstrated outstanding success in completion of a major capital project, energy efficiency program, environmental stewardship program, or team building exercise.

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**Send nominations to; CHES National Office
ches@eventsmgt.com Fax: 613-531-0626**