
CSBMCB President's Report

The bold step that your Society took to organize its own Annual Meeting has been a resounding success so far. The Alliston meeting succeeded by any measure. The science was exceptional, the venue was wonderful, the attendance was great, we didn't lose money (and may have made a bit) and we attracted new members to the Society. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our three immediate past-presidents for their outstanding work in ensuring the success of the meeting. Peter Lewis organized the program and obtained many of the leaders in genomics, proteomics and bioinformatics to speak. Peter Davies did an incredible job obtaining contributions from a variety of sources to offset the costs of holding the meeting. Frances Sharom worked with Council member Reinhart Reithmeier on the local arrangements. She also arranged the highly successful Web registration process and upgraded the Web page, which served an effective advertising function.

Our next task is to host a successful Winternational Symposium March 21-24 in Banff, which will serve as this year's Annual Meeting. Council has decided that the organization of two meetings per year would be too large a burden for an organization of this size. The Winternational in Banff will be followed in 2003 by the International Congress in Toronto in July. In 2004, the Winternational will be held in Quebec. The 2005 meeting will be held in Central Canada, probably returning to Alliston.

The IUBMB Congress will be our overriding concern for the next year and a half. There is a

strong team looking after the details. Joel Weiner chairs the Executive Committee, and Mike Walsh chairs the Scientific Program Committee. They will be calling upon members of the Society to contribute time and effort to help make the meeting a success. Please be generous in contributing to make this the best International Congress yet. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Peter Dolphin, who played a key role in securing the Congress for Canada. He will be missed by all of us.

As I write this report, the events of September 11 in New York and Washington are all too fresh in our minds. The future has become more unpredictable. As governments shift their priorities and the economy absorbs these events, we may find that our jobs as advocates for our disciplines become more difficult. But, as a community, we will meet the challenge. Trivial matters fade into insignificance, and family and friends become our comfort zone.

I would be happy to hear from you at any time. Your ideas and assistance for improving our effectiveness as a Society are always welcome. My email address is browder@calgary.ca.

Sincerely,
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