

Subject: Message from the President of CAEAL

Date: Thursday, May 20, 2004 4:47 PM

From: Webmaster <webmaster@caeal.ca>

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CAEAL

RUSS CALOW, B.SC., CCHEM

MAY 21, 2004

On behalf of the CAEAL Board of Directors I am making a special request to all CAEAL members to please attend the June 18th, annual general meeting in Vancouver. This particular AGM is key in that it will decide the future course and operation of CAEAL. In particular there are three key motions requiring membership scrutiny.

The first key motion deals with changes to CAEAL's by-laws that include:

- Recognizing the position of Chief Financial Officer as an officer of CAEAL and allow the incumbent the authority to sign cheques.
- Creating a process whereby the Board can remove directors that fail to fulfill their obligations to CAEAL by attending meetings and participating in Board related activities.
- To create a process whereby the Board can pass resolutions via email.

The above requested changes to the by-laws are key to ensuring that CAEAL and the Board function smoothly and cost effectively.

The second key motion deals with changes to CAEAL's fee payment policy. The Board is asking the membership to approve a 100% prepayment policy for all fees. This request stems from the Board's concern that the current payment policy leaves CAEAL open to significant bad debt should a member declare bankruptcy. The events of 2003/2004 have shown that CAEAL's current payment and bad debt policies do not adequately protect the membership.

The third and most important motion deals with the renewal of the SCC/CAEAL Partnership Agreement. As Mr. James Downie noted at the AGM in May 2003, CAEAL is at a crossroads. CAEAL has only two available options, re-new the SCC Partnership agreement under significantly new financial and operational terms, or choose not to re-new the Partnership and ask CAEAL to become an accreditor in its own right. The "status quo" is unfortunately not an option for CAEAL at this time. Both available options carry risk and if chosen will chart a new course for CAEAL. After one-year's delay it is now time for the Membership to clearly tell CAEAL which

fork-in-the-road it should take.

In order to improve your understanding of the issues surrounding the three key motions and in particular, the SCC/CAEAL Partnership decision, I would strongly recommend that you attend the AGM in person so that you are able to take advantage of the presentations and discussions that take place around these issues. However, in the event that you cannot attend, I encourage you to contact the CAEAL office, a local Director, or myself, and to research the issues from the CAEAL web site prior to completing and mailing your proxy form.

It is hard to believe that my tenure as President is almost completed. The months have gone by far too quickly. The last twelve months have been difficult for CAEAL, the Board and myself. I don't remember a "CAEAL-year" with as many challenges and complex issues. Yet, I believe that the Board and CAEAL's staff have risen to the challenges and have kept the best interests of the Membership front-and-centre at all times. I would like to thank the CAEAL staff for their dedication, professionalism and skill. I would also like to thank the Membership for the opportunity to act as your representative. I look forward to saying my official "goodbyes" in person in Vancouver.

I would once again encourage you to contact Rick Wilson, or myself with any questions and concerns. Rick's and my contact details are listed below:

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Thank you and I look forward to see you all in Vancouver.

Russ Calow
President CAEAL

CAEAL Annual General Meeting RSVP

Please email Monique Trapani (mtrapani@caeal.ca), CAEAL
Administrative Assistant, if you will be attending the CAEAL AGM
in Vancouver B.C. on Friday, June 18, 2004. We require this
attendance information for planning purposes.

For more AGM information, please see <http://www.caeal.ca/agm.html>.

Thank You.
