


Lay Councillors' Report

2016 BRINGS TO a close the long tenure of two lay members of the Council, David Hughes and Maureen McDermid. Both David and I were appointed in 2006, early years for the College, and our appointments have been renewed four times by the Minister of Environment. There is provision under the **College of Applied Biology Act** for three lay members to be appointed, and this past year we have been joined by Cairine Green. The College is currently working with the Ministry to appoint two new lay members to join Cairine. Lay members, who sit as fully functioning members of the Council, are part of the checks and balances considered by government when it extends the privilege of self-governance to a profession. Our primary function is to offer the perspective of the public interest on issues before the Council, and they always give this perspective most careful attention.

Both of us have taken on active roles in the work of the Council during our appointments: David has worked on Finance and Ethics Committees during his tenure, and I have chaired the Communications Committee and sat as the required lay member on the Audit & Practice Review Committee (APRC). Cairine is actively involved with the Communications Committee and is working on developing an orientation experience for new Council members. All three of us agree that it is a privilege to have been appointed to serve on the College Council and David and I will miss being part of this important organization devoted to high standards for the practice of biology in our province, where sound scientific management of our environment is so critical to the quality of life we enjoy.

As we have been able to report each year, we believe the College understands the importance of professionally competent members who have high ethical standards and are held to account for their practice in their stewardship of the biological assets of this province. We are confident that the College is in good hands, and remind members that their organization is only as strong as their members' commitment and engagement. 

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen McDermid, Lay Councillor



From top Maureen McDermid, Cairine Green, and David Hughes.