



## *2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 Newsletter*

### From the President's Perspective:

Two newsletters in one month! What the heck is going on here? There are 2 topics I want to share with the Members of the Niagara Frontier Chapter that are aligned with my “emotional intelligence” or EMO.

On Friday, February 12, 2021, I attended the Region VIII Regional Operations Committee meeting or ROC. The ROC is all of the Chapter Leaders getting together to discuss operations within the Region and how ASSP is working for all of our benefit as well as where they need to support the Chapters in achieving the Society's Goals.

Our Chapter is doing very well compared to some of the other Chapters in the Region. Honestly, we are not a high wealth Chapter, there are some that have a Treasury balance I would like to see us have. In terms of Membership, we are not the largest Chapter, nor the Smallest; we are doing OK with Membership (although I and the other Chapter Leaders would like to see more new Members). Where we are doing very well is that we made the transition from in person meetings to virtual meetings fairly smoothly and continue to provide you, the Members with quality programming. We are being good stewards of the financial resources of the Chapter; and will continue to provide virtual meetings at no additional cost to the Members as long as the Pandemic restrictions are in place. The recommendation from ASSP is that meetings remain virtual until the Society returns to in person education events (sometime in the future). As I stated, if the ASSP gave awards to Chapters for doing more with less, we would have a string of Platinum awards. That speaks to the skills of our Members and Leaders.

Regarding our Members, you folks ROCK! After listening to the presentations done by other Chapter Leaders, it reinforces the idea that Niagara Frontier Chapter Members are among some of the most Professional, Skilled and Talented Safety Professionals in ASSP as an organization. Our Chapter has had influence with the Society way out of proportion for a Chapter our size. Past Members have been on the Editorial Board of Professional Safety Journal, published Authors of textbooks and other articles, served in Leadership roles in the Society at high levels as well as presented at National Conferences. That's an awesome achievement to be proud of. It is one reason I stepped in to the role of Chapter President; like the tough Buffalo Strong region we are, the Niagara Frontier Chapter must continue to exist.

The second is regarding ASSP's Hardship Exemption. This is a 1 year grace from Dues for Members who are suffering through lean financial times. I urge any Member who finds paying dues to be a financial burden that they cannot accept, to think very carefully about maintaining Membership and use the Exemption application. ASSP is a great value if you are in need of employment with our network of personnel who know what is going on and where opportunities may lie for employment. This Board does not want to lose Members because some may have lost jobs, or had hours/wages reduced because of this Pandemic. I know, I have been there in the past and ASSP has been a resource to help me get back on my feet. The Hardship Exemption is posted on our LI Group page and will be on our Website:

<https://nf.assp.org/>.