

eNews from Chris Ireland, Chair of STEP Canada

Good day members and friends of STEP Canada,

I hope this email finds you all in good health and spirits.

On Monday, February 7th the STEP Canada Executive Committee and Chairs of the 2022 National Conference met to determine the delivery format of this year's National Conference. Although we had hopes of a hybrid model, after much consideration, it has been decided that we will run a completely virtual event again this year. This decision allows the planning committee to secure the top speakers from across the country, removing the uncertainty over the status of organization wide travel bans, varying capacity restrictions for meetings and events, and prioritizing the health and well-being of our members, staff, and their communities.

SAVE THE DATES: June 15-16-17, 2022 Registration & Program Details Coming Soon!

The STEP Canada national conference remains the largest of its kind among STEP branches around the world and provides timely and technical content that cannot be found elsewhere.

Our last in-person conference in 2019 attracted close to 800 delegates; 70+ speakers & moderators; 20+ sessions (plenary and concurrent); 34 exhibiting sponsors in the trade hall; keynote speakers at both lunches; and media coverage. Since 2020 we have been delivering the conference sessions virtually, attracting even more delegates! In 2020 we welcomed 836 to the online Speakers' Series and in 2021 we broke all records and welcomed 945 delegates to the virtual platform!

The virtual model of the 2022 conference will see all sessions pre-recorded, professionally edited, and accessed from the STEP Canada conference app over June 15-16-17, 2022. Subject to any local restrictions, local in-person social events will be planned for all 11 STEP branches and chapters where members and delegates can gather for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres (as allowed) on the evening of June 16 to network with their local colleagues.

The STEP Canada Executive Committee and Conference Committee are confident the 2022 program will repeat its success in attracting hundreds of delegates, keen and loyal sponsors, and a lineup of outstanding sessions featuring over 40 respected experts who will deliver the highly regarded technical content this conference is known for. Our sponsorship campaign for the event will begin shortly, thank you in advance for encouraging your organizations to participate.

We remain hopeful the 2023 conference will be able to return to the traditional in-person experience, when STEP Canada will celebrate its **25th Anniversary**!

Watch your inbox for registration and program details!

Chris Ireland Chair, STEP Canada

> About STEP: The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners is the leading international organization for trust and estates professionals. Headquartered in London, England, it has more than 22,000 members worldwide in over 100 countries.

STEP Canada, founded in 1998, has over 3,000 members with branches in the following cities and regions: Atlantic, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver and chapters in Okanagan Valley, Saskatchewan, and Southwestern Ontario. STEP is a multi-disciplinary organization with the most experienced and senior practitioners in the field, including: lawyers, accountants, financial planners, insurance advisors and trust professionals. They provide domestic and international advice on trust and estates, including planning, administration and related taxes.

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