

CSSS Soil Education Committee Terms of Reference

The Soil Education Committee of the Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS) was established in 2014 with the goal of enhancing soil science education in Canada at both the post-secondary and K-12 levels.

The Committee has four main objectives:

1. Compile and disseminate information about the soil science courses and programs at Canadian postsecondary institutions,
2. Enhance soil science education at the K-12 levels,
3. Establish and maintain contacts with the international soil science community regarding new developments in soil science education, and
4. Support informal education through communications and outreach with both specialists and the general public (including via social media).

Membership and Governance

All members of the CSSS are welcome to join and participate in the work of this Committee. Members may attend a committee meeting or email the Co-Chairs to become a member of the committee.

Three (3) Co-Chairs administer the activities of the Committee to ensure it is meeting its responsibilities to the society (as specified below).

Co-Chairs are appointed by the committee membership by election for a 3-year term with an option of renewal for an additional term. A Co-Chair may serve a 3rd term or additional terms after a hiatus of at least 3 years.

The Co-chairs are a rotating triumvirate with the terms of service to be staggered, so that a new Co-Chair starts each year.

Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the Co-Chairs include:

- Organization of conference session(s) focused on the soil science education
- Holding of an annual meeting for Soil Education Committee members during the CSSS conference
- Reporting to the CSSS membership at the AGM about the annual activities
- Organize and facilitate the election of a new Co-Chair at each annual meeting
- Facilitating the identification of activities such as inventory studies, development of various educational resources, outreach events, etc., to be carried out by the members of the Committee that support the Committee's goals and objectives

Reporting

The Committee reports to the CSSS Council annually at the Annual General Meeting, and more frequently as required.

Review:

The terms of the reference of this Committee are to be reviewed and updated every 6 years.