

President's Report – June 2020

What a difference a few months can make. When we met in February, we had a small discussion about contingency planning and how we would respond if the coronavirus became an issue in Ontario. Fast forward a few months and our work, our homes, our family relationships, and how we connect to each other and to each of those things has changed.

Almost every aspect of our daily lives have changed and it's easy to get lost in managing the realities and practicalities of the day-to-day. We're all doing what we have to do and what we can do to get through today. For a few hours at our board meeting though, we're going to spend some time thinking about the future. More than tomorrow, or next week. We're going to look out beyond the next few months and talk about the next few years.

Of course, the loss this pandemic has caused, the damage from isolation and anxiety, and the fear and uncertainty that we, and those we care about, have experienced cannot be ignored. We will be shaped by this experience. But it's important, as leaders, that we shift our focus from the micro to the macro and ask ourselves what we have learned from this experience and who will we become because, or in spite, of it.

I'd like us all to find some time before the meeting to review our current strategic plan. To think about how it relates to who we are as we emerge from the current crisis. Please come prepared to help us shape the next steps for CLO.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Jill Teeple
Board President