



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Levaque'.

Jean-Guy Levaque, RRC, RRO
President



Our Challenges & Opportunities

The passing of another year in RCI's history presents an opportunity to reflect as president on the issues in which I believe the members should be engaged.

Our challenge to address procurement issues received my attention about 30 seconds into my presidency. Since then, procurement issues have increased. Our profession is being challenged from different sources, and we must be vigilant to address these challenges head-on. Our Advocacy Committee has been restructured to meet these challenges, and is addressing the considerable work still needed on this front. RCI is increasingly vocal in many circles, and will continue to advocate for its members.

I am an avid believer in the value of grassroots contributions. In order for RCI to be successful, its members need to be willing to step up and serve. The Leadership Workshop, held annually in Raleigh, NC, for the last 11 years provides an excellent training ground for incoming chapter executives, and we will continue to strengthen that training.

We have also formed a task force to review and rework the roles and responsibilities of region directors and are excited that our region directors have embraced this opportunity. Our goal is to encourage members to serve as region directors to advance RCI membership.

Finally, we have begun the process of developing a new registration category for members providing exterior wall observations, as we anticipate increased market demand for this service. The Registered Exterior Wall Observer (REWO) registration will allow our

members another tool to differentiate themselves. I urge you to consider applying for this registration when it becomes available in 2016.

I would be remiss if I did not thank the excellent RCI staff under the leadership of CEO James Birdsong for its vision, energy, and support in the past year. Although James has given you a comprehensive look at accomplishments in 2015, I would like to mention a few that particularly excite me for the future of RCI.

We have seen an increase in education offerings over the year, with many building envelope-related programs developed and delivered by RCI, chapters, and branches. This, along with increased distance learning and local registration exam opportunities, provides flexibility for all our members. Our November Building Envelope Technology Symposium in Nashville, Tennessee, was the best-attended ever, and we are looking forward to the 2016 symposium in Houston, Texas.

We continue to enjoy a steady increase in membership and encourage all regions, chapters, and branches to provide value for the membership in their areas.

Our finances are strong, with a balanced budget achieved this year (one full year ahead of schedule). This provides the opportunity to strengthen our course offerings and to consider other options to benefit our members.

Other exciting and visionary ideas provide even more opportunities for membership support. 2016 will be another year of growth and transition for RCI, and I am looking forward to continuing to be a part of this growth.