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RCI is Doing and Planning Even Greater Things



As I write this, I can't believe the year is almost over; it seems as though it went so fast—especially the time between composing president's messages. I'm told it is due only once a month, but it really seems like every week and a half. Thank goodness Kris Ammerman and the staff keep the train (and *RCI Interface*) running on time.

The big news of this month is that the board has finalized the five-year Strategic Plan. We had the best people, and we have the best plan—the best plan ever. Believe me. (As president, I have to talk this way).

Seriously, it was a great experience to get together with some of the sharpest minds in the organization and come up with a strategy to move RCI into the future. We were joined by both CEO James Birdsong (who retired at the end of December) and Lionel van der Walt (incoming CEO). Much of the emphasis was on developing a building commissioning certification and taking advantage of technology. Our core values remain unchanged. We continue to base everything we do on our Core Purpose and Vision, and these are:

Core Purpose: To advance the profession of building envelope (roofing, waterproofing, and exterior wall) consultants

Vision: RCI will be universally recognized as the leading authority for roofing, waterproofing, and exterior wall consulting.

The new plan will be implemented immediately. The driving force behind the commissioning certification is consistent with our vision to be the authority on all things building envelope. Organizations and code developers see the benefit of commissioning, and we expect most, if

not all, buildings in the future will require some form of commissioning. The General Services Administration (GSA) is demanding commissioning, LEED 4 effectively requires it, and the next ASHRAE code update is expected to stipulate it. RCI is the organization most qualified to provide the education and expertise for future BE commissioning authorities.

I would like to acknowledge a great job by Brian Gardiner and RCI staff because another recent achievement is that RCI has published a white paper regarding publicly funded construction procurement, and it will be disseminated to news media throughout North America in support of RCI's stance on the subject. Check out <http://rci-online.org/publicly-funded-construction-procurement/>.

I am proud to announce Brian "Rick" Craig has been named chairman of the RCI Manual of Practice (MOP) Task Force. We need about a dozen folks on the task force, so if you want to contribute to a very important document, please contact Rick or me to discuss. I want to thank Second Vice President Bob Card for all his hard work in getting the RCI MOP moving forward.

Lastly, I wish to express my appreciation for James Birdsong's contribution to RCI for the last 17 years. Jim has been a huge contributor to RCI's growth and financial success. Jim started with a cash-strapped organization, a small staff, and 1500 members. Now we are financially very sound, have a staff large enough to handle everything the association needs, and we have more than doubled our membership. I have learned much from Jim these last four years on the board and want to thank him for his contribution to my personal growth as an association leader. We have invited him to come back to the convention in March, so you will still have a chance to wish Jim and Sharon good luck on the next chapter of their lives.