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Maximizing the IIBEC Legacy

AS MY TERM as IIBEC president draws to a close, I've been dedicating considerable time to facilitating a "peaceful transition of power" to our next president, Chris Dawkins, PE. To that end, Chris and I recently met at IIBEC headquarters with IIBEC CEO Brian Pallasch, CAE, and the staff to discuss future committee appointments. There are a lot of moving pieces to consider. Some positions with term limits must be filled because a committee member's term is coming to an end. In other cases, we are creating new positions or current volunteers are moving on. We want to be sure that all of IIBEC's various regions are well represented on the committees, and we, of course, want to find the best-qualified individuals for each role.

During our discussions about committees and other issues, a word that keeps coming up is *legacy*. Several committee members whose terms are ending have devoted at least a decade, and often much more time, to volunteer service with IIBEC. They are leaving us with a legacy of immense value. Their hard work has vastly expanded the technical body of knowledge about building enclosures in the form of education session content, technical advisories, content for this magazine, webinars, and more. Committee members also strengthen our credentialing, advocacy, and awards programs; develop and maintain the IIBEC Code of Ethics; contribute to the success of our conventions and symposiums; support our chapters; and help IIBEC forge alliances with other industry associations. As an IIBEC member, I am tremendously grateful to be one of the inheritors of the legacy of these IIBEC volunteers.

In a 2022 *Harvard Business Review* article, James H. Davis observed, "A successful legacy cannot be so rooted in the past that changes in the organization cannot be effectively addressed. The keepers of the legacy must manage the difficult task of managing stability

and change." This point has been an important theme in our discussions of the IIBEC legacy of our current volunteers. As keepers of that legacy, we want to build on their exceptional contributions while moving forward in the most productive way possible. Therefore, during each transition of power, it is critically important that we welcome new voices and new perspectives to our committees.

Can you help us meet this challenge? I believe that every IIBEC member has a role to play in maximizing our legacy while innovating for the future. Our professional lives give us the skills and mindsets for this type of work: As building enclosure professionals, we strive to maximize the service lives of the structures we design, build, improve, maintain, and restore. We derive satisfaction from knowing that projects we work on today can provide shelter, safety, comfort, and other benefits for decades to come—and we know that a structure's service life will be cut short if the building enclosure is shoddily constructed or neglected. We can think of the service life of IIBEC in a similar manner. The work we invest in our association as volunteers at the local, regional, and international levels today will pay off dividends in the future in the form of a vibrant, influential, and responsive organization. But if we cut corners or neglect IIBEC's committees, we are likely shortening the institute's service life and squandering the legacy we have received.

I hope you will consider volunteering with IIBEC. If you are attending the convention this year, look for me, other members of the IIBEC Board of Directors, committee chairs, and committee members. We'll all be delighted to talk with you about upcoming opportunities. And if you can't attend the convention, reach out by phone or email. I know you can contribute to the IIBEC legacy!

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