

Congratulations on Your Achievements and Plans for the Future

The Canadian Society for Chemistry (CSC) and The Chemical Institute of Canada (CIC) would like to offer The Chemical Society of Japan (CSJ) their heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for the future, on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

The creation of an organization of chemists in Japan on April 26, 1878, which then became the CSJ, has led to a tradition of service, education and promotion of understanding that has had worldwide benefits not only for science, but for society as a whole. These achievements have been far beyond what the founders could have anticipated, with the CSJ now having a leading role in promoting education of young people, establishing international exchanges and assisting interdisciplinary research for the benefit of all.

As you and your colleagues are aware, the CSC and its parent organization, the CIC, have a longstanding relationship with CSJ. This is reflected by a large variety of collaborations and partnerships such as the Pacifichem conference series, which has been a mutual effort since before 1980. Our affiliation has also supported numerous exchanges by Canadian and Japanese academics at each other's universities. This has led to frequent research collaborations and extensive education of students and postdoctoral fellows from both countries. Many of the prestigious named lectureships in Canada have been held by Japanese professors, in addition to our countries long history of research visits and cooperation at international events such as jointly organized symposia. Our organizations have frequently worked together to exchange ideas and sponsor the support of chemistry as well as scientific development in the broadest sense in our countries.

The pace of innovation in chemical research and industry continues to accelerate and requires international alliance among the chemical societies. Great advances in understanding of genomics and proteomics promise to provide countless new diagnostic tools as well as improved medicines, but these must be accepted by the general public. The challenges of global environmental protection and increasing implementation of green chemistry must be met to preserve our world for future generations. The national chemical societies in developed and developing countries must work together to continuously educate the public and inform the political and legislative bodies. In this regard, we hope that the CSC will interact even more closely with the CSJ in the future. Already plans are well underway for Pacifichem 2005 and even for 2010. We anticipate that the scientific connec-



tions that have characterized our relationship will continue and will become more extensive in the coming years. The CSC believes such interactions will strengthen science, not only in our countries but internationally, thereby leading to an overall enhancement of understanding, cooperation and world peace.

On behalf of CSC and CIC, I would like to close by commending The Chemical Society of Japan for its extensive efforts in promoting science and the profession of chemistry over the last 125 years. The CSC extends its best wishes to your society on this key anniversary and promises to actively work for closer involvement in joint efforts to achieve our common goals.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'John Christopher Vederas'.

John Christopher VEDERAS

Professor, University of Alberta

President of the Canadian Society for Chemistry