WEA of Ontario (WEAO)
Cheers to Volunteers – Engagement and Appreciation

Heather Tyrrell, Chief Administrative Officer
Nancy Afonso, Director

Thursday, March 14, 2019
WEFMAX - Vancouver
How well do you know Ontario?

• What is the capital of Ontario?

• Ontario is the largest province in Canada – True/False?

• Ontario is home to 250,000 lakes – True/False?

• How much of the world's fresh water is in Ontario?
How well do you know Ontario?

- Ontario is home to Canada’s largest wastewater treatment plant – True/False?
- Name this popular tourist site in Ontario. What does it provide for southern Ontario and western New York?
How well do you know Ontario?

• What does the LCBO stand for and what does it govern?
• Name three Ontario music exports.
Background on WEAO

- 1,200 members
  - 2/3 are WEF
  - 220 Young Professionals and Students
- 18 Board members
- 17 committees
- 10 Student chapters
- ~200 volunteers in total
- Two staff members – Chief Administrative Officer and Administrative Assistant
Committees

- Asset Management
- Board of Directors
- Climate Change
- Collection Systems
- Conference
- Finance
- Government Affairs
- Magazine
- Operations Challenge

- Professional Wastewater Operators
- Promotions and Events
- Public Education
- Residuals & Biosolids
- Student Chapters
- Utility Management
- Wastewater Treatment and Technologies
- Water for People
- Young Professionals
Committee Activities and Initiatives

• Annual conference
• 5-6 Technical Educational events
• Young Professionals
• Student Leadership Forum, and Student Chapter events
• Great Canadian Icebreaker at WEFTEC

• Golf tournament
• Scholarship programs
• Mentorship Program
• INFLUENTS magazine
• Water for People Canada activities
• Stockholm Junior Water Prize competition
• Regional Science Fairs
• Consultations with government
Engagement

• Recruitment
  • Members apply online
  • Committee members recruit

• Orientation
  • Annual webinar for Committee Chairs
  • Annual presentation to Board members
Engagement

• Sense of Community
  • Each committee has a board liaison and Finance Committee liaison
  • Office space for meetings

• Retention
  • Value in remaining on committee
Appreciation

• Service awards
• Name badge ribbons
Appreciation

• WEAO Website
• Influentes Magazine
• Social Media
Support

- Committee Support:
  - Meeting space
  - Team Building
Development

• Young Professionals Development
• WEFMAX
Questions