# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In This Issue</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CORS Council 2020–2021</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORS SIG, Section, and Chapter Presidents</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President’s Message</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominees for 2021–2022 CORS Council</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORS Annual Conference</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section and Chapter News</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Announcements</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORS Funding Opportunities</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling Speakers Program</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Interest Groups (SIGs)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings and Conferences</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Next Issue</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORS Bulletin Policies</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About CORS</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear CORS members,

Firstly, get to know the excellent 2021-2022 council nominees with photos of their smiling faces and some impressive biographies.

Secondly, check out this year's completely virtual 2021 CORS conference. Visit the website to view the program and start to plan your experience now.

Lastly, find out how the Saskatoon chapter has adapted to provide some online content for their members this year.

Cheers,

Andrea
CORS COUNCIL 2020–2021

CORS Council consists of the officers of the society, four councillors, the immediate past president, and the standing committee chairs. Contact information for council representatives is below. See www.cors.ca for a complete listing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Michael Pavlin,</td>
<td>Wilfrid Laurier University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:president@cors.ca">president@cors.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jules Comeau,</td>
<td>Université de Moncton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vicepresident@cors.ca">vicepresident@cors.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Marco Bijvank,</td>
<td>University of Calgary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:secretary@cors.ca">secretary@cors.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Gregory Paradis,</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:treasurer@cors.ca">treasurer@cors.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Past-President</td>
<td>Stanko Dimitrov,</td>
<td>University of Waterloo</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sdimitro@uwaterloo.ca">sdimitro@uwaterloo.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor</td>
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<td>Manulife / John Hancock</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mehmeterdemcoskun@gmail.com">mehmeterdemcoskun@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Sonia Vanderby,</td>
<td>Saskatchewan Health Quality Council</td>
<td><a href="mailto:soniavanderby@gmail.com">soniavanderby@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Samira Abbasgholizadeh Rahimi,</td>
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<td>Majid Taghavi,</td>
<td>Saint Mary's University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Majid.Taghavi@smu.ca">Majid.Taghavi@smu.ca</a></td>
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2020–2021 SIG, SECTION, & CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIG/Section/Chapter</th>
<th>President/Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analytics SIG</td>
<td>Gregory Paradis, University of British Columbia, <a href="mailto:cors.analytics.sig@01101.io">cors.analytics.sig@01101.io</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry SIG</td>
<td>Maha Ben Ali, École Polytechnique de Montréal, <a href="mailto:maha.ben-ali@polymtl.ca">maha.ben-ali@polymtl.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care OR SIG</td>
<td>Nadia Lahrichi, École Polytechnique de Montréal, <a href="mailto:nadia.lahrichi@polymtl.ca">nadia.lahrichi@polymtl.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Queueing Theory SIG</td>
<td>Opher Baron, University of Toronto, <a href="mailto:Opher.Baron@rotman.utoronto.ca">Opher.Baron@rotman.utoronto.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>Claver Diallo, Dalhousie University, <a href="mailto:claver.diallo@dal.ca">claver.diallo@dal.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Québec &amp; Québec Student</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montréal</td>
<td>Nadia Lahrichi, École Polytechnique de Montréal, <a href="mailto:nadia.lahrichi@polymtl.ca">nadia.lahrichi@polymtl.ca</a></td>
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<td>Montréal Student</td>
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<td>Kingston</td>
<td>Mohan Chaudhry, Royal Military College of Canada, <a href="mailto:chaudhry-ml@rmc.ca">chaudhry-ml@rmc.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ottawa</td>
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<td>Toronto</td>
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<td>Toronto Student</td>
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<td>Waterloo Student</td>
<td>Khaled Shah, University of Waterloo, <a href="mailto:khaled.mostafa.shah@uwaterloo.ca">khaled.mostafa.shah@uwaterloo.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winnipeg</td>
<td>Currently vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskatoon</td>
<td>Hamed Samarghandi, University of Saskatchewan, <a href="mailto:samarghandi@edwards.usask.ca">samarghandi@edwards.usask.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calgary</td>
<td>Owen James, Associated Engineering, <a href="mailto:jameso@ae.ca">jameso@ae.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmonton</td>
<td>Armand Ingolfsson, University of Alberta, <a href="mailto:armand.ingolfsson@ualberta.ca">armand.ingolfsson@ualberta.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>Currently vacant</td>
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Dear Fellow Members,

Well, what a year! I won’t lie to you; I was hoping to write this message while not being under a lockdown order. I hope that you all stay safe through what will hopefully be one of the final hurdles in enduring the pandemic. There are reasons for optimism. Tulips are popping up, birds are building their nests, and vaccines are becoming more widely available. I know many of us are (tentatively) preparing for a fall that involves in-person teaching and have our sights set on travel, and maybe – on a day not too long from now – sitting down with a friend in a café.

On council and throughout the CORS community, preparations for the conference are of course in full swing. The organizers had the foresight to realize that this conference was not going to be in-person early in the planning and have taken on the challenge of preparing the best possible virtual conference. The creative and meticulous preparations should provide an incredible platform for sharing academic and industry progress, as well as a venue for engaging with friends and colleagues in the Canadian OR community. I look forward to seeing you at the talks, meetings, and networking events scheduled over the first week of June. If you haven’t already registered, I encourage you to do so as soon as possible!

https://uwaterloo.ca/canadian-operational-research-society-conference/registration

Please reach out to council if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions. Remember that there are many opportunities to get involved with CORS, including conferences, SIGs, local sections, and council. Stay safe, stay healthy, and keep CORS vital!

Sincerely,

Michael Pavlin
2021–2022 CORS Council Nominees

Vice President
Peter Vanberkel
Associate Professor
Dalhousie University

Peter Vanberkel is an Associate Professor in the Department of Industrial Engineering at Dalhousie University and a Staff Scientist at the IWK Health Centre. His research involves improving healthcare operations using stochastic operational research methods and analytics. His work is published in leading journals including Omega, Manufacturing and Service Operations Management, European Journal of Operational Research, and Queueing Systems. Peter is active within CORS and is a member of the HCOR and Queueing SIGs. He served as Council Secretary for four years and was the co-chair of CORS 2018 in Halifax. In 2016, Peter co-founded and co-chaired the inaugural HCOR SIG oral presentation competition for graduate students. He is also a past winner of the CORS Practice Prize.

Councillor (2021–2023)
Masoud Chitsaz
Principal
Kinaxis

Masoud Chitsaz is currently a Principal at Kinaxis, a world leader in supply chain planning and optimization. Masoud is focused on the development of advanced analytics methods for large-scale manufacturing supply chains. He has over 15 years of experience in software development and business consulting especially in logistics, supply chain, and transportation. He has served clients across different domains such as automotive, steel production, port operations, construction and infrastructure development, municipalities, and department of transport. Masoud is a NextAI mentor for supply chain startups. He is co-chair of the industry practitioner's cluster at the CORS 2021 conference. His goal is to increase industry-academic collaborations and partnerships. Masoud has a PhD in Operations Management from HEC Montreal (2020) with the school's best thesis award and an MBA (2007) and Master's in Transportation (2003) from Sharif University of Technology. He was a researcher at WATMIMS (Department of Management Sciences at the University of Waterloo), CIRRELT and GERAD (Department of Computer Science and Operations Research, University of Montreal), and CIB (Department of Mechanical Engineering, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, KUL, Belgium).
Councillor (2021–2023)
Amir Rastpour
Assistant Professor
Ontario Tech University

Amir Rastpour is an Assistant Professor of Operations Management at Ontario Tech University. He received his PhD from the University of Alberta's School of Business in 2015. His research is focused on improving the health care system using statistical and queueing theory models. He is a past winner of CORS Best Student Paper Award and a finalist for INFORMS Health Care Best Student Paper Award. His research has been published in journals like Production and Operations Management and European Journal of Operational Research and has been recognized by NSERC. Amir has been an active member of CORS over past several years and is currently serving as Treasurer/Secretary of the Healthcare Operational Research (HCOR) special interest group.

Councillor (2021–2023)
Nadia Lahrichi
Associate Professor
Polytechnique Montréal

Nadia Lahrichi is an associate professor at the department of Mathematics and industrial engineering at Polytechnique Montreal. Her research is mainly focused towards applying modeling and operational research tools to improve patient flow in the healthcare system. She uses exact, metaheuristics and discrete event simulation approaches to tackle patient and resource scheduling problems. She has received the award for outstanding application of operational research (from the Canadian Operational research society) for solving the home health care routing and scheduling problem. In recent years, she has been very involved in CORS. She was notably chair of the student competition, president of the SIG healthcare and president of the Montreal chapter.
CORS ANNUAL CONFERENCE, VIRTUAL FORMAT
7–10 JUNE 2021

Volume 55 Number 2
May 2021
Harold Larnder Memorial Plenary

Novel Supply Chain Network Models Inspired by the COVID-19 Pandemic – From Optimization to Game Theory

**Monday June 7, 11:30AM EDT**

ANNA NAGURNEY
University of Massachusetts Amherst

**Plenaries**

SUSAN ATHEY
Stanford University
**Tuesday June 8, 11:30AM EDT**

GEORGIA PERAKIS
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
**Thursday June 10, 11:30AM EDT**

**Canadian Healthcare Optimization Workshop**

**Monday June 7, 10AM – 5PM EDT**


**Analytics Day**

**Thursday June 10, 1:30PM – 5PM EDT**

[https://uwaterloo.ca/canadian-operational-research-society-conference/analytics-day](https://uwaterloo.ca/canadian-operational-research-society-conference/analytics-day)
SECTION AND CHAPTER NEWS

SASKATOON

Saskatoon section had an online presentation by Dr. Ahmed Saif (Assistant Professor, Dalhousie University) on February 25. The title of the presentation was “Robust service system design under demand uncertainty”.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORS Membership

Membership fees for April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022 are due. Invoices were emailed to members in January. You may be able to use an NSERC grant to pay dues.


If you have questions, contact Membership Services at members@cors.ca

CORS FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

TRAVELING SPEAKERS PROGRAM (TSP)

The TSP enables local sections to bring Canadian OR practitioners / researchers as speakers to their local events. In order to keep costs in line while maximizing the CORS national profile, CORS sponsorship will be limited to 50% of the total expenses, up to a maximum of $500 per speaker or $1000 for a single event (conference, workshop). Other expenses can be covered by the local section. The program of the event must acknowledge the contribution of CORS. Each local section must contact the TSP coordinator to obtain approval for funding preferably at least one month in advance of the event date. Payment will be made by the CORS Treasurer upon receipt of the expense form http://www.cors.ca/?q=content/traveling-speakers-program

Stanko Dimitrov, TSP Coordinator, sdimitro@uwaterloo.ca
CORS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

CORS Council approved a policy on Special Interest Groups (SIGs). A SIG provides a mechanism to promote CORS, the SIG area and the SIG members, as well as the opportunity for CORS members with common interests to interact and network.

Analytics SIG
Gregory Paradis, cors.analytics.sig@01101.io
University of British Columbia
www.cors.ca/SIG/Analytics

Forestry SIG
Maha Ben Ali, maha.ben-ali@polymtl.ca
École Polytechnique de Montréal
www.cors.ca/SIG/Forestry

Health Care Operational Research SIG
Nadia Lahrichi, nadia.lahrichi@polymtl.ca
École Polytechnique de Montréal
www.cors.ca/SIG/HCOR

Queueing Theory SIG
Opher Baron, Opher.Baron@rotman.utoronto.ca
University of Toronto
www.cors.ca/SIG/Queueing

If you would like to join a SIG, contact the people listed above, or indicate that you would like to join when you renew your CORS membership.

CORS encourages members with common interest in an area within or related to operational research to form additional SIGs.

More information about SIGs can be found online at www.cors.ca/?q=content/communities

If you are interested in forming a SIG in a particular area, contact:

Jules Comeau, SIG Committee Chair, vicepresident@cors.ca
MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

CORS Business Meetings

Jun 10, 2020  Council Meeting, Teleconference
Sep 18, 2020  Council Meeting, Teleconference
Nov 20, 2020  Council Meeting, Teleconference
Jan 22, 2021  Council Meeting, Teleconference
Jan 29, 2021  Council Meeting, Teleconference
Mar 19, 2021  Council Meeting, Teleconference
May 6, 2021   Financial Planning Committee Meeting
Jun 7–10, 2021 Council Meeting (Conference)
                Council Meeting (Conference with SIGs, Sections, Chapters)
                CORS AGM (Conference)

CORS Annual Conferences

Jun 7–10, 2021  Annual Conference, virtual format
Date TBA 2022   Annual Conference joint with INFORMS International,
                Vancouver, B.C.

WWW Conference Listings

CORS: www.cors.ca/?q=content/cors-annual-conferences
INFORMS: https://www.informs.org/Meetings-Conferences
IFORS: www.ifors.org/web
SIAM: www.siam.org/meetings/calendar.php
POMS: https://pomsmeetings.org
EURO: www.euro-online.org/web/pages/460/calendar
THE NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the Bulletin will be published in August. Contributions to this issue, especially news on the activities of local sections or CORS members, should be submitted by July 23, 2021 to:

Andrea Friars
Editor, CORS Bulletin
Email: AndreaFriars@gmail.com

The preferred method of submission is by an MS Word attachment to an email.

CORS BULLETIN TRANSLATION POLICY

Items that are CORS business will be translated into English and French. All other items will be published in the language they are submitted in.

CORS BULLETIN ADVERTISING POLICY

Ads cost $120 per page, proportional for fractional pages. Logos and prepared layouts can be accommodated. This fee also includes distribution of the advertisement on the CORS Mailing List. Direct inquiries to the Editor.

CORS MAILING LIST

As a benefit of membership, members may use the CORS Mailing List to transmit messages, announcements, and job postings to the entire membership or to a targeted subgroup such as a local section. For example, you can send

- messages regarding the activities and business of the society;
- announcements about conferences, conference sessions, special journal issues, seminars or other activities provided that these are related to operational research in its broadest sense;
- job postings of general interest to CORS members.

The Mailing List is not used for commercial purposes, and all messages are vetted before they are sent out. To submit items to the Mailing List, email CORS Membership Services at members@cors.ca

For non-members, a fee of $60 is charged for the distribution of job postings and other announcements or messages of interest to the CORS membership.
The **Canadian Operational Research Society** was founded in 1958. Its goal is to advance the theory and practice of OR and to stimulate and promote contacts between people interested in the subject.

**Publications:** A quarterly scientific journal called *INFOR* and a news *Bulletin*.

**Meetings:** An annual national conference with an award ceremony, occasionally organized jointly with an international society (IFORS, INFORMS), and numerous local events organized by local sections.

**Local Sections & Chapters:** CORS has twelve local sections and four student chapters located throughout Canada.

**Awards and Prizes:** CORS presents the following annual awards and prizes at its conference:

- **Award of Merit** for significant contributions of a present or past member of CORS to the profession of OR.
- **Harold Larnder Award** to an individual who has achieved international distinction in OR.
- **Omond Solandt Award** to an organization, private or governmental, that is deemed to have made an outstanding contribution to OR in Canada.
- **Practice Prize** for the challenging application of the OR approach to the solution of applied problems.
- **Eldon Gunn Service Award** for outstanding contributions of time and service to the society.
- **Student Paper Competition** to recognize the contribution of a paper either directly to the field of OR through the development of methodology or to another field through the application of OR.

**Graduate Student Funding:** CORS encourages attendance of graduate students at its conference by providing partial funding. Visit CORS website for details.

**CORS Diploma:** This diploma is awarded to students graduating from a university curriculum comprising several OR courses. Criteria may be found on the CORS website.

**Membership Directory:** An online directory of CORS members is available as a membership benefit.

**To join CORS:** Go to the CORS website and join online by credit card using the form found under membership or complete the PDF application form found on the CORS website and mail it with payment to the address below.

**Fees:** Member $110; Retired Member $55; Student Member $45 (including post-doctoral fellows)

**Website:** [www.cors.ca](http://www.cors.ca)

**INFOR:** [www.tandfonline.com/loi/tinf20](http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tinf20)

**LinkedIn:** [www.linkedin.com/company/canadian-operational-research-society](http://www.linkedin.com/company/canadian-operational-research-society)

**Twitter:** @CORS_President