As the Chair of the GVCA in 2019, I learned quickly that an important objective of the GVCA is “connecting.” The GVCA connects people to projects and business opportunities. As an association, we connect our members’ need for information with the appropriate technology tools and industry experts. We connect people to each other through our events and we connect our members to industry knowledge through our educational offerings. Connections like these equal success.

Throughout 2019 we continually improved how we “connected”. We redesigned and upgraded our website to include a chatbox to answer immediate questions as well as improving our event and course registration. We launched a new plansroom platform that dramatically increases opportunities to connect with new projects, and all our events sold out – proving that face-to-face connections are essential to doing business (and having fun) in our industry.

Last year’s changes to CCDC 2 and Division 0, as well as the Safety programs from MOL, WSIB and IHSA meant that “connection to our members” was even more critical as they depend upon us to deliver the programs that meet their organization’s needs. Connection is essential as it leads to “relationships” and we all know that in this business excellent relationships mean a better construction business and a happier life.

Let’s stay connected!

Josh Heller, C & H Fire Suppression Systems, Inc. 
GVCA Chair of the Board 2019

PEOPLE + PROJECTS + OPPORTUNITIES + EDUCATION = SUCCESS
MEMBERSHIP
GVCA membership numbers were relatively static, but engagement and participation in events and educational sessions had a robust increase which means more members are finding relevancy in GVCA services.

EDUCATION IN 2019
We connect members to critical industry knowledge and skills.

SESSION/WORKSHOP
- Adjudication
- Bill 142
- Bill 47
- Closeout of a Construction Project
- Construction 101
- Construction 201
- Construction Drawings & Specifications
- Construction Industry Ethics
- How Do You Compare
- Industry Outlook
- MS Project
- PACE
- Safety Group Participations
- Working at Heights

Journal
RELEVANT, COMPELLING AND CONNECTING
The GVCA Journal, now in its 8th year, was redesigned in 2019 along with upgraded paper quality for the print edition.

CONNECTING OUR MEMBERS WITH RELEVANT EVENTS
Whether it’s a social gathering or an educational session, our members find good value in participating – all our events are sold out!

SOCIAL EVENTS
- Hall of Fame, AGM, Heritage Tributes: 125
- GVCA Golf Tournament: 216
- Oktoberfest Corporate Night: 600
- GVCA Annual Curling Bonspiel: 48
- GVCA Christmas Lunch: 225
- GVCA Day at the Titans: 56

COLLABORATIVE EVENTS
- PACE: 120
- Industry Outlook: 125
- Safety Group Participation: 90
- Education and Training Sessions: 694

WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION
- WinC Christmas Sparkler: 99
- WinC Spring Dinner: 80
- WinC Golf Tournament: 72

LEADERS IN CONSTRUCTION
- LinC Golf: 88
- Control V and Rangers game: 54

5,200 number of key decision-makers and purchasers distributed to, including almost 700 member firms

47 magazine racks throughout the Grand Valley Region

2,000 additional members through the online version

2,692 PARTICIPANTS IN ALL GVCA EVENTS, WORKSHOPS AND SESSIONS.
FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

REVENUE
1 Membership Dues and Fees 57.8%
2 Training and Education 17.2%
3 Events 13.0%
4 Administration 9.7%
5 Goods and Services 2.3%

EXPENSES
1 Services 1.3%
2 Depreciation 1.7%
3 Travel and Conventions 3.1%
4 PR and Marketing 3.9%
5 Facilities 4.2%
6 Administration 7.7%
7 Events 7.7%
8 Association Dues 8.4%
9 EPR Fees and Dues 12.3%
10 Training/Education/ Safety Group 12.7%
11 Salaries 33.5%

COUNCIL OF ONTARIO CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATIONS UPDATE

- The government’s Fall Economic Statement Bill 57 made minor amendments to the new Construction Act to which COCA responded with a Submission to the Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs.
- COCA has been involved in discussions with senior WSIB officials in the development of the WSIB’s Health & Safety Excellence Program (HSEP), a continuum of 40 learning elements designed to help employers who voluntarily participate improve their performance from a minimum compliance level of health and safety management to one of excellence. Discussions included the role of Safety Groups in the new HSEP.
- COCA’s College of Trades Task Force teleconferenced in mid-December to develop and complete a submission to the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities regarding the new skilled trades and apprenticeship system to replace the Ontario College of Trades.
- The government’s Bill 47 Making Ontario Open for Business Act 2018 significantly repealed or amended the Bill 148 amendments to the Employment Standards Act and COCA won the relief it was seeking.

CANADIAN CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION UPDATE

- During the 2019 election year, CCA launched campaign, #Construction4CDNs, and its associated website (construction4cdns.ca), to call attention to the importance of strengthening investor confidence, supporting innovation and technology, planning and funding a long-term infrastructure strategy, and attracting a skilled, diverse and tech-savvy workforce. Over 1,000 letters were sent to candidates.
- Our Hill-at-Home initiative had members meeting with local MPs in their ridings. CCA held 58 meetings, six of those with cabinet ministers and one with Andrew Scheer.
- Revised CCDC 23 – A Guide to Calling Bids and Awarding Construction; New CCDC Master Specifications Division 00, New CCDC 30 – IPD Contract
- CCA conducted CCDC seminars attended by over 700 delegates in close to 30 cities in partnership with local construction associations. In late 2019, CCA piloted an introduction to CCDC documents webinar that has been viewed by over 350 people.
- CCA board and members unanimously endorsed a smaller board; a new national advisory council to represent five sector voices, including civil, trade contractors, general contractors, manufacturers, suppliers and services, and local construction associations (LCAs); and two new board committees (audit/finance and nominations/governance).
Connection is essential as it leads to ‘relationships’ and we all know that in this business excellent relationships mean a better construction business and a happier life.

— Josh Heller, Chair of the Board, GVCA 2019