Dear Siena,

As 2024 draws to a close, we're taking a moment to reflect on all that has been accomplished across the CASC network this year. Here's our **top 5 list of accomplishments** (in no particular order):

1. We welcomed over **10 new members** into the CASC community.
2. We flowed through over **$700,000 in microgrants** to CASC members through the GenAction and SUF initiatives.
3. We hosted over **30 Community of Practice meetings** for educators and programmers, GenAction Partners, the 2024 total solar eclipse, Together Against Misinformation micro-grant recipients, and the Indigenous CoP gathering.
4. ***Together Against Misinformation Week***, the first ever week-long national campaign hosted by CASC's ScienceUpFirst initiative, was a tremendous success. Over 40 events were hosted by collaborators across Canada, over 800 posts were shared from over 450 unique authors and CASC hosted two national conversations in Calgary and Montreal with over 1200 registrants.
5. The GenAction initiative surpassed its goal, **reaching over 200,000 youth** including **5,724 Indigenous youth.**

As we head into 2025, we are really excited about the new opportunities we've got planned for our members, staff and growing ecosystem of collaborators and supporters. We can't wait to dive into new programs, microgrants, and deep learning journeys, all of which are being guided by our **strategic plan** and our commitment to advancing Canada's science and innovation culture.

For now, we wish everyone a very happy holiday and thank you again for being an active part of this growing and thriving community. #TeamWorkMakesTheDreamWork.

Thank you,
Dr. Marianne Mader
CEO, CASC

CASC Housekeeping

Renew your CASC memberships! If you are the primary contact for your membership, you should've received emails about membership renewal. If you have not received an email, or it has been sent to the wrong email address, please reach out to us at **info@casc-accs.com**.

CASCADE Award Nominations are NOW OPEN!

The **2025 CASCADE Awards** will take place at the CASC Conference in St. John's, Newfoundland on Thursday, June 12, 2025. The highly anticipated CASCADE awards recognize individual CASC members and member organizations for the contributions they've made to Canada's thriving science and innovation culture.

CASCADE nominations are now open and will close on Monday, March 31, 2025.

For more information on this year's qualifying categories for Individual and Organizational members, **visit the CASCADE Awards Webpage**. If you have any questions about your nominations, please reach out to **info@casc-accs.com.**

Interested in being part of the **awards selection jury**? We are seeking 10-15 people to adjudicate this year's CASCADE Awards submissions. To express your interest, please email **info@casc-accs.com** with the subject line **"CASCADE Awards Jury"**.

We look forward to celebrating the success of this thriving network with you at this year's conference!

CASC 2025 Annual Conference

> CASC Conference Bursaries

To encourage a diverse and inclusive conference environment, CASC is once again pleased to provide conference subsidies for the **2025 CASC Conference**.

These subsidies are available to attendees from equity-deserving groups, including those who identify as Racialized, Black, and/or People of colour; people with disabilities (including invisible and episodic disabilities); 2SLGBTQ+ and/or gender and sexually diverse individuals; and/or First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples.

To apply for subsidy, please **submit this form** to confirm you identify with one or more of these groups.

As well, if you are requesting funds to cover the cost of travel and accommodations, you will need to provide a budget estimate. For your reference, CASC has secured a preferred rate with Sheraton Hotel Newfoundland. The preferred rate is $249/night + 15% HST and 4% Tourism levy. For details on these accommodations, **visit our website.**

The **deadline to submit your application** for bursary is **Friday, January 31, 2025**. We will review and respond to your request by Friday, February 7, 2025.

CASC Communities of Practice

CASC's Communities of Practice are a great way to connect with other CASC members to learn about topics that matter to our community. We invite you to join those that are relevant to you and your work. If you're not sure which community of practice is best for you, reach out to us at **info@casc-accs.com**.

> Indigenous CoP
Next meeting: Wednesday, January 15

The Indigenous Community of Practice with Dr. Melanie Goodchild.
This CoP is open to all CASC colleagues who self-identify as First Nations, Inuit and Metis. To register, please fill out the form below.

Register today

> Educators and Programmers CoP
Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 21
Topic: Digital and AI Literacy

Hello to our Educators and Programmers! It's the new year! Looking forward to seeing everyone at our January 21st community of practice meeting at 3PM EST, where we will be discussing Digital and AI Literacy, and how we as members can remain engaged, interactive and critical with how we use these new technologies.

If you'd like to join this CoP, click **here** to join the email list, receive monthly meeting invitations, and access shared resources.

Join the email list

> Together Against Misinformation CoP

**Next Meeting: 2025
Campaign Debrief**

Our last CoP for the year was October 1, 2024. We will reconvene in the new year to discuss campaign activities. In the meantime, **if you want access to session recordings and supporting materials, please join the CoP (via this form) and sign up for the Glue Up community.**

I want to access the materials

From ScienceUp First, an initiative of CASC

> The Freestyle Socials Training Course

CASC's ScienceUpFirst initiative is pleased to announce our partnership with the Science Everywhere team to offer our members **free early access to the Freestyle Socials Training Course**. The Freestyle Socials Training Course is a self-paced one-stop-shop for running Freestyle Socials with your audiences and communities.

The course includes **video and written material** that overviews the game's philosophy and scientific underpinnings, demonstrations and commentary of the game in action, how-to guides, pre-packaged game materials, and live support. Additional materials -- including a comprehensive video training series -- will roll out in the weeks following the beta-version launch.

To learn more about the game, **watch a replay of the Freestyle Socials Live webinar** we hosted this past August. The course beta **launches in early 2025** so keep an eye on your inbox for updates.

Members spotlight

> Simon Fraser University: New Online Master's in Education: Science Education & Communication
The **upcoming info session** on **January 6, 2025**, will be led by the faculty members who created and teach this cohort-based model brings together working professionals from diverse backgrounds, fostering collaboration and unique learning opportunities. These sessions are a great opportunity to learn more about the program directly from those who are leading it.

> Artemis II update
NASA announced a new launch date to the Moon for Canadian Space Agency (CSA) astronaut Jeremy Hansen and his crewmates. The **historic Artemis II mission is now scheduled for April 2026**. The CSA encourages you to share the excitement of the mission with your visitors and school groups. **Consult the Artemis and the Moon toolkit**, a one-stop resource to learn and teach about Jeremy, the Artemis missions, the Moon and Canada's role in lunar exploration.

Opportunities

> Last chance to vote for the name of the first Canadian rover on the Moon!
Canada's first lunar rover will navigate the surface of the Moon to test new technologies and better understand the lunar geology and environment. It will also help in the international search for water ice. All Canadians are invited to **vote on their favorite name for the Canadian lunar rover**. Voting is open until **December 20, 2024.**

> *NRCan's STIP – Green Jobs: Call for Proposals for Initial Recipients 2025-2028*

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) is launching a call for proposals seeking applications from organizations to deliver **Science and Technology Internship Program (STIP) – Green Jobs** projects over a three-year period (2025-28), beginning in fiscal year 2025-26. To be eligible for funding in fiscal years 2026-27 and 2027-28, Initial Recipients must be qualified through the 2025-26 Call for Proposals.

Please visit their **Call for Proposal webpage** for more information and how to apply. The **deadline to submit a proposal is January 15, 2025**, at 23:59 PST.

> The research image contest Science Exposed 2025 is now open!
Science Exposed 2025 is now open! Eye-catching images coming from research projects from all fields* can be **submitted until January 28, 2025**. The individuals or groups that have the most successfully combined creativity and science will be awarded one of the many cash prizes. The contest is organized by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and Acfas.

> Now Accepting Applications for the ITE 2024 Open Call!
The Rideau Hall Foundation (RHF) aims to contribute to Indigenous-led initiatives by investing in innovative projects that reflect pathways for systemic change in Indigenous Teacher Education and supports for teacher retention.

The 2024 Open Call invites project submissions via two funding streams: Reinforce and Retain. You can **access the RHF Funding Opportunities Portal here** and learn more about the funding streams. **Applications are open until March 28, 2025**. Please fill in the form to request login access in order to proceed with an application.

The Canadian Association of Science Centres is a registered charity. (# 87543 9861 RR001)

Make a donation

Visit our website

OUR MISSION
CASC empowers a national network of organizations who champion Science and Innovation by making science approachable, relevant, and accessible.

OUR VISION
Canada has a thriving science and innovation culture of engaged citizens.

Powered by Glue Up

All-in-one CRM Software for Growing Communities