



**March 19, 2020**

**Dear Employee Ownership Friends,**

Due to increasing concerns amid the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, we have decided to postpone the June 1-3, 2020 Canadian Employee Ownership Conference.

The health and safety of our Sponsors, Presenters, Attendees, and Volunteers is most important to us and given the uncertainty of how long this COVID-19 crisis will continue, we felt it necessary to postpone now.

The Canadian Employee Ownership Conference originally scheduled for June 1-3, 2020 will still be held in Regina, SK but we have decided to push it out one year until June 2021 (official dates are being confirmed).

We recognize that having no Canadian Employee Ownership Conference for two years will have an impact on the ESOP movement in Canada and we are developing a plan so we don't lose any momentum.

Currently the Association offers a free membership with access to our website. We are currently implementing new membership software that will allow us to better serve our membership. We are creating a new website and are moving towards a paid membership model. We will be stepping up the website, offering more webinars (especially during this next year building up towards the 2021 Conference).

The new website will give you access to our Service Provider members, FAQs, and Forums where you can post questions to be answered by your peers and experts, or simply just read and learn from past postings on various ESOP related topics ... and so much more. Our plan is to offer a free trial period this summer and potentially go live with the paid membership model in the fall so stay tuned for updates on this very exciting topic as we are taking the ESOP Association of Canada to a new level and we can't wait.

And stay tuned to our conference website ([www.esopconference.ca](http://www.esopconference.ca)) for updates on 2021 speakers and sponsors. We look forward to seeing you in Regina in June 2021.



### **What if I have already registered for the 2020 event?**

First off, thank you so much for planning to attend the conference. We would like to offer you a full refund of your paid attendee fees if you so desire, or you have the choice to roll these paid fees over and be registered for our ESOP Conference in June 2021 even if the fees next year increase.

### **What if my organization is sponsoring the 2020 event?**

Again, thank you so much for sponsoring the conference. Sponsors have the flexibility of requesting a full refund of their paid 2020 sponsorship fees or they can agree to roll these paid funds over and sponsor our 2021 Conference - which gives you an extra year of exposure on our conference website. We appreciate your support and look forward to working with you in the future.

### **I agreed to be one of the esteemed Presenters for the 2020 Conference - what happens now?**

The organizing committee will be reaching out to you individually to find out if you would like to present at our 2021 event. We were super excited for the 2020 event agenda, so we are well on our way to organizing the 2021 conference.

### **What should I do about my airfare?**

Check with your airline; many are offering refunds and credits for cancelled flights.

### **Can I cancel my hotel without a penalty?**

If you booked at the conference hotel, you should be able to cancel without any penalty charge. Please contact the hotel directly at the Delta Hotels by Marriott Regina at 306-525-5255 or toll-free at 1 800-209-3555.

We do apologize for any inconvenience caused by this postponement.

If you would like additional information or to request a refund please reach out to Lisa at [info@esopcanada.ca](mailto:info@esopcanada.ca).

Sincerely,

Dean Ell  
Chair – ESOP Association Canada