

CIRPA President’s Message – January 2018

Greetings and Happy New Year. I hope 2018 is off to a good start for everyone, with the days getting longer and winter slowly inching its way towards spring.

I am very pleased to announce a couple of major steps forward for CIRPA as we continue to work our way through the strategic priorities outlined in our [2016-21 Strategic Plan](#).

Limited Membership

As noted in my last President’s Message (Dec. 2017), we recently created a new membership type for IR professionals known as the “*Limited Membership*”. This membership class will enable those working in IR to become a member without paying a fee, albeit with some restrictions on benefits.

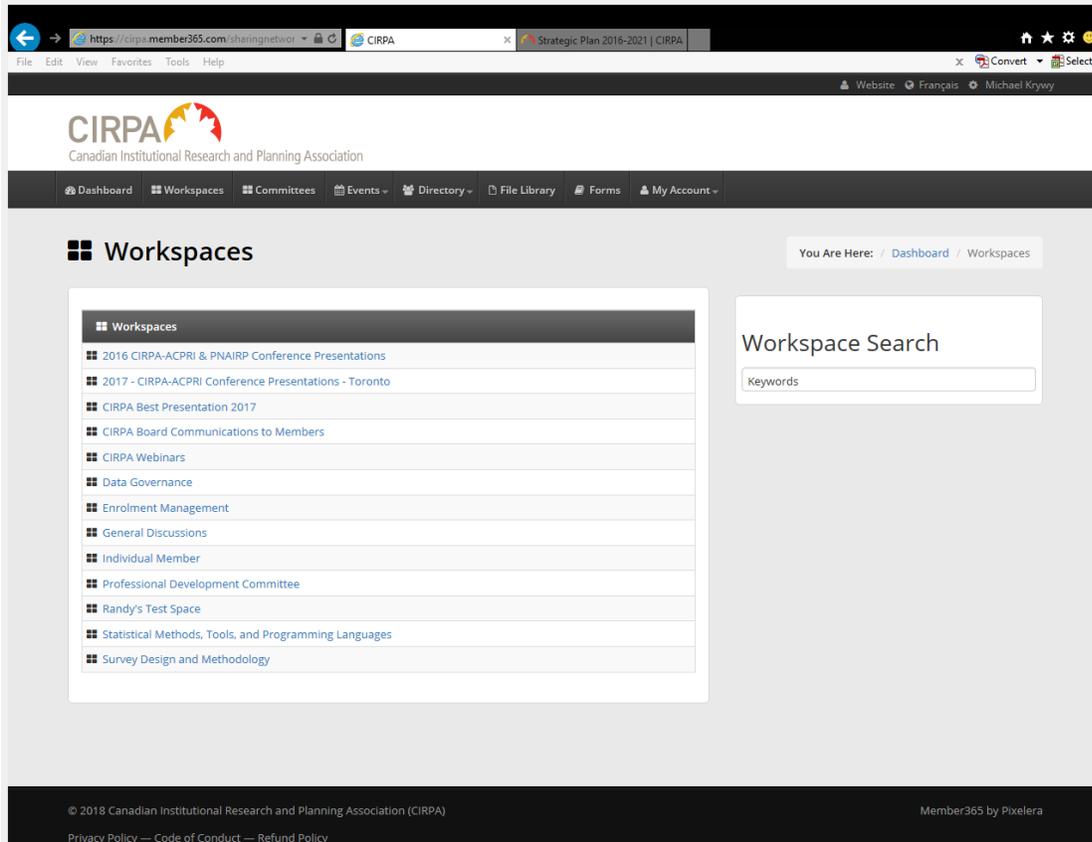
If either yourself or a co-worker is not currently a CIRPA member, you can sign up at <https://cirpa.member365.com/>. The *Limited Membership* will give you full access to the discussion forums, CIRPA webinars, and the mailing list.

If you become a *Full Member* you gain access to all conference presentations, have voting privileges, and can post and view jobs on the CIRPA job board. Those who attend the annual conference are required to purchase a *Full Membership*. The *Full Membership* fee of \$100 supports the overall operation of CIRPA which is a non-profit organization governed by a volunteer Board.

	Full Membership	Limited Membership
Receive Board Communications	✓	✓
Participate in Discussion Forums	✓	✓
Participate in CIRPA webinars	✓	✓
Access recent conference presentation	✓	
Access past-conference presentations	✓	✓
Have Voting Privileges	✓	
Eligibility to be elected to Board	✓	
Ability to post employment opportunities	✓	
View job board	✓	✓

Introducing the new CIRPA Discussion Forums – “Workspaces”

But wait...that’s not all! We are also excited to provide a members-only discussion forum that enables you to post and respond to discussions, share files, and keep on top of what happening in Canadian IR. Members can login to the CIRPA member portal - <https://cirpa.member365.com/> - where you will see the Workspace tab from your Dashboard.



Introducing the General Discussion forum: The new *General Discussion* workspace will replace the CIRPA Listserv – which was an email-based method for CIRPA members and non-members to reach out to each other. In the new model, members can post questions, share information, and participate in conversations via a discussion thread. The new model has significant advantages over the Listserv, as the discussions will now be part of a community forum and they will be archived, they are searchable, and they permit file sharing.

Communities of Interest: We’ve also created several topic specific workspaces in areas where we suspect there will be considerable interest. These include “Data Governance”, “Statistical Methods, Tools, and Programming Languages”, “Survey Design and Methodology” and “Enrolment Management”. We will create additional communities based on activity from the General Discussion board and to reflect other communities of interest. Again, we see this as a fantastic opportunity to build and share knowledge, and foster the types of learning communities that we see at the annual conference.

CIRPA Board Communications: The final set of workspaces are for CIRPA Board communications, such as key messages to all members, a discussion board for CIRPA webinars, and CIRPA conference updates.

Managing Notifications: You can manage your personal notifications for each workspace using the “Workspace Notifications” tab on the left column. You can opt out of notifications entirely or receive them periodically - whatever you prefer.

We hope you find these new forums valuable for professional development, and that you take the opportunity to share your thoughts, comment on others’ posts, and continue to build your professional

network. Feel free to contact myself or another Board member with your ideas and suggestions, using the CIRPA Board Communications to Members workspace.

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