On May 8, 2018 the CCCA held the Annual General Meeting at the Brampton, Ontario location. John Pepper, Director of Mill Sales for Atlantic Packaging submitted the following report from his position as Chairman of the Association.

The theme of 2017 can best be described as one of transition. David Andrews retired from the position of Executive Director as of January. Considerable time was invested during the latter stages of 2016 to recruit someone to fill the role. We are pleased to have Allen Kirkpatrick on board as our new Executive Director. David continued to serve as a mentor to Allen and maintained his position as an Independent director on the Board.

At the May AGM the transitions continued. David Andrews resigned his position as Director and Bob Hagan, Vice-President of Corrugated Sales, Atlantic Packaging resigned his position as the corrugated director for the Atlantic organization. They were both leading forces for the Association for many years. We respect their contributions greatly and wish them good health and happiness in retirement.

Bill Cooper, Vice-President of Corrugated Sales at Atlantic replaced Bob as Director on the CCCA. Allen Kirkpatrick was nominated as an Independent director to replace David. John Mullinder was nominated as an Independent Director for another one year term.

Legal counsel services have been contracted with the firm of Norton Rose Fulbright, Toronto as a result of the sudden passing of John Freeman, Barrister and Solicitor.

In addition to the changes noted above, a new executive was duly elected and I appreciate the confidence of the Board to elect me as Chairman. I am pleased that Gary Johnson has remained as Secretary-Treasurer. Jean Parent was elected 1st Vice and Jimmy Garfinkle as 2nd vice. Mike Lafave serves as the Past Chairman and rounds out a great group to prepare of the future of the Association.

I am pleased offer the following highlights to our year:

- The Conference & Trade Show was held jointly with the AICC and was a resounding success by every criterion. As a two-day format, the agenda featured a solid group of industry speakers and quality time with our Industry Affiliates that are so critical to us. We share a mutual respect with the AICC and thank them for their input and co-operation to make an event like this an industry success.
- A third study was released by Dr. Keith Warriner regarding the sanitation of the Returnable Plastic Crate. This study was conducted contemporaneously on crates from British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec. Results showed faults in all locations. Dr. Warriner further raised the looming threat of bio-security based on cross border shipments of contaminated crates. Management changes at Loblaw signal a moderate change in strategy regarding the RPC commitment.

- Our website upgrade was completed. The site now has a new menu catalogue, industry photography, video storage and presentation capability plus a storage locker for industry files related to Human Resources, Health & Safety and Marketing. Upcoming events are shown and “In the News” articles are posted and remain permanently accessible. For example, Dr. Warriner’s studies are found here.

- The Board granted special funding to the Health & Safety Committee for the production of a series of videos produced specifically for us and with us. We now have five videos of covering topics unique to our plants produced in English and French. They are available on the website, accessible by password or on a thumb drive. We acknowledge the support of the AICC on this project. The topics are timeless and useful for new employee orientation, on-going training sessions or to open management meetings.

- Contact information for members, associates and industry affiliates has been updated in the Association Outlook directory using a singular shared data base. Thanks to Kate Menard and Catherine Ashworth for the effort to complete this important function.

- Jeff Haworth, General Manager of Kruger Packaging, Brampton has agreed to chair the Manufacturing sub-committee. A focus will be on reviewing the outbound waste to assure suppliers to our industry are committed to a circular economy mandate.

- Mehta Management has agreed to a three-year contract renewal to continue to provide statistical data to our members. Appreciation goes out to Donna Mehta for her professional work.

The CCCA is in a strong position to respond and lead on industry trends or initiatives with strong relationships with related Associations in Canada, the USA and Europe.

Respectfully submitted

John Pepper
Chairman