

5 November, 2002

Dear Dr. Sood,

Please accept my thanks for the article on the Bahen Centre for Information Technology that included in the IEEE Canadian Review.

As a long standing member of IEEE and as a Fellow of IEEE, I have long been an avid reader of your publication. I would like to express my appreciation to you for making your readers aware of the fact that we now have an outstanding new facility for teaching and learning electrical and computer engineering.

Anastasios N. Venetsanopoulos

Dean - ECE, University of Toronto,
Toronto, ON

16 December 2002

Dear Sir,

You ask for comments regarding publication of the Review on the Internet and not as hard copy.

I am sure that some people would much rather have it this way, but I hardly use the Internet at all and I avoid e-mail as much as possible. So if you went this way, I might very well not bother to read it at all. This is the very first time I have visited your web site, and it may indeed be the last. I may be in the minority, but, you asked for it!

Dr. Sidney V. Soanes

Toronto, ON Life Member (Senior) IEEE

19 December 2002

Sir,

The IEEE Institute is reducing its paper mailings to four times a year in favour of a monthly electronic format. It now appears that the IEEE Canadian Review is considering reducing or eliminating its paper format in favour of an electronic format. Since I do not have internet access at home and have little time to read electronic publications on my work internet connection, I will probably cease to read these publications when they stop being mailed to me. Most of my reading is done by carrying the publications with me and reading when I get a chance. When a publication shows up in the mail, I will look at it. I will not likely bother to check a web site, and to print all of these things myself will use a lot of (my employer's) paper. I have no argument with providing electronic versions. This is great for archiving information. I do prefer to see the paper mailings continue. I pay over \$200 Canadian a year for IEEE membership and the only thing I get for that is the Canadian Review, the Institute and Spectrum. If the first two are no longer mailed to me in paper form, Spectrum magazine will be the only thing left.

When that goes solely electronic, my membership will no longer have value and I will then drop it. My main message is that by emphasizing totally electronic distribution, you are reducing your services to the point that my membership has less and less value.

David M. LeBlanc, P. Eng.

Fredericton, NB

15 January 2003

Dear Dr. Sood,

I am responding to your Managing Editor's request for comments on the on-line version of the Review (No. 42). The many contributors whom you mention are to be congratulated, along with yourself, for a most impressive effort in creating the web-site. The Review itself is an excellent compilation of news and articles which are of interest to Canadian electrical engineers.

If the expense can be tolerated, continuation of the hard-copy is convenient for reading on the metro or in the waiting rooms of doctors and dentists.

With best wishes for 2003 and continued success of the Review,

Ed Neville

Montreal, QC

Dear Sir,

My name is Carlos Fernando Rodríguez. I am an Electrical Engineering Student in Bogotá (Colombia). I am an IEEE student member. I am developing my dissertation or thesis, which is "Feasibility Study of Converting one Circuit of San Carlos – Sabanalarga AC line to DC line".

I would like to obtain a copy of "Using DC to increase capacity of AC transmission circuits" by Woodford D.A and Young A.H., IEEE Canadian Review, March 1989 pp15-18. I appreciate if you can send me any information about it.

Carlos F. Rodríguez S.

Bogota, Columbia

10 March 2003

Dear Sir,

I'm a Peruvian IEEE Member that has recently moved to Toronto, Canada. I've already changed my Contact Information and received the March issue of the IEEE Spectrum in my new address. I'd like to know if I'll also receive the hardcopy version of the IEEE Canadian Review. In the meantime I'd like to be subscribed to the on-line version.

Pedro Cotillo

Toronto, ON

Editor's comments:

The letters received are all important to us. I thank you all personally for taking the time to respond.

To Dean Venetsanopoulos: I must say it is quite a pleasure and an honor for us to know that you are an avid reader the IEEE Canadian Review. I hope that you will appreciate that the present issue of the CR carries a number of article from your department. Please continue to let us have your comments.

To Dr Soanes, Mr. LeBlanc and Mr. Neville: The issue of going electronic and online with the CR is not going to go away anytime soon, if at all. The Internet is going to be a power to deal with and to accept it for what it is - a cheap and efficient media - and embracing it is the logical way to move ahead. However, your points about the hardcopy being desired by the membership is being heard. I am personally in favor of having both versions complementing each other. Using the speed/ease of access, archiving and referral benefits of the Internet are a foregone conclusion. However, providing a condensed, visually-appealing hard-copy version for the ease of reading at ones leisure (even at the dentist's office!) is something I will continue to fight for.

Mr. LeBlanc's point of the "value of membership" hits the nail right on the head. The CR will continue to be the unique magazine for Canadian electrical, computer and telecoms engineers/technologists etc. for news, views and reviews. However, being a volunteer-based effort, we can only go so far. My team is very much encouraged to hear from you. Please do keep your comments coming in.

Finally, all I can say is that the **CR is read**, far beyond Canada; the submissions I receive from all over the world indicate that. Unfortunately, I cannot accept these submissions since I must give first preference to Canadian issues and perspectives. The CR is a benefit/service to our members. And what is more, our members want to maintain this magazine. I do thank you for your input.