

## Dear NEAFCS Members,

We thank you for your patience during this time as NEAFCS Board and Staff work to determine the best option for the 2020 Annual Session. NEAFCS Board and staff have been continuously monitoring the COVID-19 situation closely and evaluated the results from the membership survey sent out last month. Based on this information and other factors, as well as the health, safety, and well-being of our members, staff, exhibitors and speakers, NEAFCS has made the decision to cancel the in-person meeting in Snowbird, Utah and will be moving forward in developing a virtual conference to take place during the scheduled week in September.

The NEAFCS Annual Session is the highlight of our annual offerings and the largest of our live meetings, bringing together hundreds of FCS professionals and suppliers from across the nation. Thus, the decision to cancel the in-person meeting was not taken lightly or without careful consideration and consultation.

NEAFCS is committed to preserving the work put into the meeting thus far. We know our conference attendees truly value and enjoy connecting in person at the NEAFCS Annual Session. We plan to facilitate opportunities for networking and connection, even in a virtual setting. A virtual NEAFCS Annual Session will allow for as much academic content as an in-person meeting, including real-time discussions and interaction, opportunity to meet with vendors in the virtual exhibit hall, online silent auction to raise funds for the Awards program, as well as the opportunity to honor all of our 2020 National and Regional award winners.

<u>Registration:</u> Because we are working to finalize a virtual platform, we are unable to open the registration process at this time. If you are needing to pay for your registration now in order to ensure the use of Professional Development Funds, please email <u>wferguson@executiveoffice.org</u> and we can assist. We anticipate registration will open late-June and hope to have details on pricing and educational offerings prior to this time.

<u>Presenters:</u> For those of you who were accepted to present at the NEAFCS Annual Session, including Showcase of Excellence, Concurrent Sessions and Ignites, we will be finalizing a revised schedule and will be in touch with details shortly.

<u>Hotel Reservations:</u> We are working with the Snowbird Resort to cancel all rooms within the group block. Once details have been finalized, we will share this information with the membership.

NEAFCS will continue to post the latest Annual Session information on our website - <a href="https://www.neafcs.org/2020-annual-session">https://www.neafcs.org/2020-annual-session</a>, as well as sending emails to the membership.

The NEAFCS Board and Staff feel a deep appreciation for our members and the outpouring of support we have received in the wake of this news. Specifically, we would like to thank the Tri-Liaisons and their committees that have worked on planning this wonderful event. NEAFCS is a member-run, not-for-profit organization that exists to serve its members, so we appreciate your continued support.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

- General Questions: Please contact the NEAFCS National Office 850-205-5638 or Danielle Jessup at djessup@executiveoffice.org
- Attendee Registration Questions: 850-205-5638 or Will Ferguson at wferguson@executiveoffice.org
- Exhibitor Questions: 850-205-5638 or Elizabeth Lane at elane@executiveoffice.org
- **Sponsorship Questions:** 850-205-5638 or Elizabeth Lane at elane@executiveoffice.org
- **Presenter Questions:** 850-205-5638 or Elizabeth Lane at elane@executiveoffice.org

Sincerely,

**NEAFCS Board and Staff**