

Beth McMahon, MES **Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Institute of Planners**

Beth McMahon appreciates a challenge. With twenty years of non-profit experience, she has helped to significantly grow and strengthen organizations through fostering the best from boards, members, and staff.

Formerly the Vice-President, Government and Public Affairs, for the Canadian Vintners Association (yes, that may have involved “sampling” wine) where she led several national and international initiatives. This included development of the industry’s export and domestic market strategies, resulting in a significant increase in federal funding and launch of the “Wines of Canada” brand. Beth was also very active in federal advocacy, working on strategic regulatory and policy issues, as well as fostering strong relationships with Parliamentarians.

Previously, Beth held the positions of Executive Director of the Canadian Organic Growers and the Atlantic Canadian Organic Regional Network (ACORN). In both positions, Beth helped to grow membership, expand and improve services and strengthen the financial positions of the organizations. In 2012, Beth was awarded the Gerrit Loo Memorial Achievement Award for outstanding contributions to the organic industry.

Beth holds a Masters in Environmental Studies (Community Development and Agricultural Policy) from York University and Bachelors from the University of Toronto in Employment Relations (Human Resources). She lives in Manotick (Ottawa) with her husband and two daughters.

