

Chair's Message

CHAIR OF THE BOARD, DR. F. HAIDER ALVI

As we reflect on 2024, we are proud to recognize it as a record-breaking year for OECM, underscored by significant milestones and strengthened partnerships. OECM's continued growth and resilience in serving Ontario's broader public sector is a testament to its unwavering commitment to collaboration, innovation, and delivering exceptional value to its customers, suppliers, and partners. A significant milestone was achieved this year, with OECM surpassing \$5 billion in accumulated collaborative Spend—an accomplishment that underscores the trust placed in us by our customers and suppliers and the impact of OECM's unique, self-sustaining, strategic sourcing model.

In 2024, the Board continued to support strategic initiatives that enhance OECM's impact and strengthen its value to the broader public sector. Key advancements included the evolution of our Environmental, Social, Governance, and Indigenous (ESGI) strategy, the expansion of data-driven decision-making tools, and the enhancement of customer, supplier, and stakeholder engagement programs. These initiatives reflect our mission, vision, and values, ensuring OECM remains a trusted partner in procurement modernization and strategic sourcing.

This year also marked a pivotal leadership transition. After over eight years of dedicated service, John Sabo retired as President and CEO on June 30, 2024. We extend our deepest gratitude to John for his visionary leadership, which has been instrumental in OECM's evolution and success. Succeeding him, Jim Hadjiyianni assumed the role of President and CEO on July 1, 2024. Jim's extensive experience and strategic insights position OECM for continued innovation and growth in 2025 and beyond.

The Board remains committed to strong governance through ongoing evaluation, renewal, and the integration of diverse expertise. This year, we welcomed new Customer Council Committee (CCC) members, further strengthening our direct engagement with customers and ensuring their perspectives continue to shape OECM's strategic direction and service offerings.

The trust our customers, suppliers, and partners place in OECM is the cornerstone of our success, and we are dedicated to fostering transparency, collaboration, and excellence in all that we do.

Looking ahead, OECM remains committed to enhancing its collaborative sourcing solutions, fostering sustainable partnerships, and driving value and innovation for Ontario's public sector. Our achievements are a direct result of the dedication and expertise of the entire OECM team. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all staff and my fellow Board members for their unwavering commitment to our mission.

Together, we will continue to navigate the evolving landscape, ensuring that OECM remains a trusted collaborative sourcing partner in delivering service, choice, savings, and value to Ontario's schools, colleges, universities, municipalities, hospitals, long-term care homes, and other customers across the broader public sector and not-for-profit community.

Dr. F. Haider Alvi
Chair, Board of Directors, OECM



