



from your Associate Director

By Jerry B. Crabtree

TOI Associate Director / Education Coordinator



THE 111TH ANNUAL TOI Educational Conference in Springfield was held in Springfield this month. This year, like others, provided a great networking and educational experience for all that attended. I think that the speakers and special guests we had attend this year made the experience even better for all township officials. If you are a Township official that missed out—make sure that you attend our district events in 2019 and plan to attend the conference in 2019 again here at Springfield. I would like to personally thank everyone from the TOI Board of Directors and staff for a job well done. Many individuals are involved in the planning and implementation process of this conference and all the work is appreciated.

Please don't forget to share the information and new innovative ideas provided by the 2018 conference with your township boards. The education programs materials are available on the TOI website and conference APP. Additionally, please complete the conference evaluations on the app or mail in the paper copy provided in your conference materials. TOI values your input as we plan programs for the 2018 calendar year.

This is our Thanksgiving edition of *Township Per-*

spective. So, in keeping with the season theme, I would like to comment on what I am thankful for. First, for my family and their health. For one of the best jobs a person could have representing township officials from across Illinois in efforts to make Townships better and educating officials to meet their intended goals and objectives. I am thankful for our great state, that although we have seen our fair share of financial woes, we will see the bright future that is ahead of us. For the ability to come to work everyday and enjoy fully what I do. I hope that you all take pause this month and think about what you are thankful for and realize that we all have something to be thankful for. Life is so short, and we must make the best of the time we have. Happy Thanksgiving to all of you.

As we close out this program year for the Township Government Education Network, I would like to ask for your help in generating program ideas and speakers for the 2019 program year. We are planning to have more webinars and an effective program line to be announced in the January 2019 edition of *Perspective*. If you have topics or speakers, please forward the information to me at jerry@toi.org.



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2019 Planning for County Associations

If you are a county association planning to have a meeting in 2019 and would like assistance in a program speaker or to have TOI participate please let us know. One of the most effective ways to communicate a township idea or program is through the established county associations. We have about 50 percent of the counties in Illinois that operate under the township form of government that have an active/inactive county association of township officials.

