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message from the executive director

It gives me great pleasure to respond to the editor's request to address you as the new executive director of this vital young organization. NACIS is beginning its second decade in a position of considerable strength. This strength is, I believe, derived from several factors. We have been fortunate in our selection of elected leadership, for the vision of the organization they have pursued. We are fortunate to have had efficient and reliable executive directors to handle the day to day business of the organization, and we are fortunate to have committees which have worked well and with a purpose. In a sense though, to say 'fortunate' ascribes to mere luck our success, which is in truth a natural outcome of the dynamism of our organization.

Not listed in my litany of 'fortunates' is that on which your attention is currently focused. And again, given our membership, it is not especially surprising that we possess the human capital to produce a journal of such exceptional quality (several colleagues have remarked that it is the only cartographic journal which they read from cover to cover). This