



The mission of the IAF is to promote, support, and advance the art and practice of professional facilitation through methods exchange, professional growth, practical research, collegial networking, and support services. This is accomplished through peer-to-peer networking, professional development, and annual conferences which are critical means for fulfilling the mission and reflecting our core values.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to IAF to our 40 newest Canadian members, who have joined since our last Newsletter in March 2009:

- Ed Argo, Toronto, ON
- Anita Cameron, Keewatin, ON
- Garry Campbell, Mississauga, ON
- Luisa Canuto, Vancouver, BC
- Mark Ellwood, Toronto, ON
- Shauna Fenwick, Victoria, BC
- Gail Franklin, Abbotsford, BC
- Linda Galen, Mississauga, ON
- Olga Gladkikh, Antigonish, NS
- Moira Haagen, Vancouver, BC
- Alexandra Hendriks, Chelsea, PQ
- Janine Higgins, London, ON
- Nancy Hinds, Vancouver, BC
- Jennifer Jasper, Langley, BC
- Marilyn Johnson, Calgary, AB
- Oliver Jonasson, Delta, BC
- Christien Kaaij, Powell River, BC
- David Kupp, Guelph, ON
- Ellen Kupp, Guelph, ON
- Esther Kupsch, Edmonton, AB
- Candy Lannan, Calgary, AB
- Natalie Leaman, Stony Plain, AB
- Paul Leslie, Dartmouth, NS
- Allan Lowe, Edmonton, AB
- Carol Macfarlane, North Vancouver, BC
- Desiree Mou, Vancouver, BC
- Kathleen Murphy, St. John's, NF
- Tanya Ney, Victoria, BC
- Ana Policzer, Vancouver, BC
- Alison Rosenblatt, Vancouver, BC
- Helen Scutt, Guelph, ON
- Lil Sommerfeld, Calgary, AB
- Pat Stellick, Mississauga, ON
- Andy Swiderski, Victoria, BC
- Harold Tarbell, North Vancouver, BC
- Gayle Thoun, Stettler, AB
- Joseph Topornycky, Vancouver, BC
- Loie Unwin, Edmonton, AB
- Eugenia Wang, Vancouver, BC
- Katharine Weinmann, Sherwood Park, AB

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CONGRATULATIONS TO

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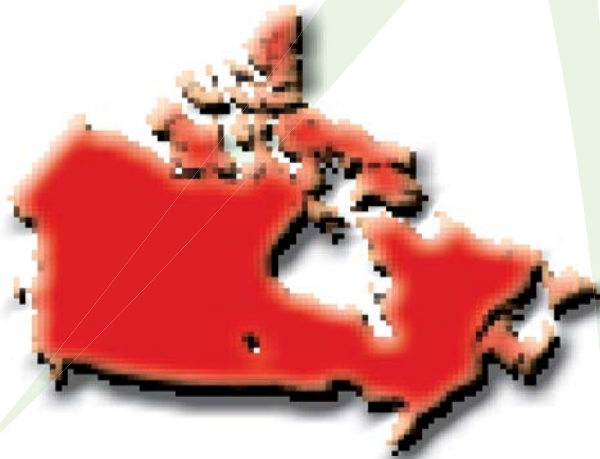
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These 16 Canadian members of IAF who achieved their IAF Certified Professional Facilitator designation in Vancouver in April:

- Wayne Chamney, Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, PQ
- Christopher Comeau, Ottawa, ON
- April English, Vancouver, BC
- Julie Fillion, Ottawa, ON
- Gail Franklin, Abbotsford, BC
- Julian Griggs, Vancouver, BC
- Wendy Hassen, Sherwood Park, AB
- Janice Johnson, Vancouver, BC
- Anne Kaye, Vancouver, BC
- Diane King, Ottawa, ON
- Candy Lannan, Calgary, AB
- Jorge Ocegüera, North Vancouver, BC
- Dave Robertson, Calgary, AB
- Nora Sheffe, Kanata, ON
- Nadine Warkentin-Brain, Sault Ste. Marie, ON
- Katharine Weinmann, Sherwood Park, AB

IAF CANADA TOUR 2009

Plans for the IAF Canada Tour 2009, with Dorothy Strachan and Marian Pitters, are moving along. More information will be out soon on the fall Tour stops in western and eastern Canada. In the meantime, we are looking for volunteers in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Northwest Territories, and British Columbia who would like to lead or join local teams to promote the workshops in your areas. We are also looking for a volunteer willing to provide overall leadership and coordination to the promotion of the Tour. These are absolutely essential roles if we are to make the 2009 Tour a real success! If you are interested in helping to make this excellent professional development event happen, please contact John Butcher at (613) 725-2280, or jbutcher@magma.ca.



BELOW THE WATERLINE: NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This is a feature in most IAF Canada Newsletters to update members on at least a bit of what the Board of Directors has been doing, discussing, and deciding over the past months.

You might recall that the March 2009 Newsletter reported on the Board's six major areas of focus in our 2009 Business Plan:

- membership growth and retention;
- revenue sources;
- professional certification;
- structural coherence/ operational clarity/ role definition/ succession planning;
- communications; and,
- partnerships.

Not surprisingly, these were the principal topics of conversation during the Board's most recent face-to-face meeting, held in Vancouver on April 19, 2009.

..... The Board has come to see the development of Regional Chapters as a means to improve member networking, deliver local programming, and provide other value-added services, as well as increasing member recruitment and retention. While the precise approaches used in our several global Regions will likely vary, the Board is attempting, with the guidance of Simon Wilson, our Strategic Initiative Coordinator for Membership and Affiliations, to craft some overall guidelines and procedures that will ensure minimum consistency in the administration and oversight of our Chapters. Simon is also working on a campaign to promote membership in IAF to various groups, and to remind current members of what is available through our Association. As well, the Board is moving forward with various recognition programs (including a new Community Outreach Award) to make clear the many contributions of IAF members to the profession, to the Association, and to the wider world.

..... The continued financial viability of the organization is an obvious preoccupation of the Board. At present, IAF's financial situation is stable, but the international economic downturn, and its potential effects on both revenues and liabilities, is a concern. The Board is planning to extend its search for sponsor organizations independent of those recruited for our individual Conferences. We are also looking at ways to ensure that our Conference, and other revenues and expenses, are more predictable and less prone to risk. Tony Nash, a member based in Ottawa, and well-known to many of us as a Certification Program Assessor and Process Manager, has recently taken on the volunteer duties of IAF Treasurer.

..... The Re-Certification program for people who received their initial designation in the years 1998 – 2005 has now begun. The Board has reviewed the Re-Certification Process Manual and timeline, and accompanying informational and promotional materials. To date, almost 700 practitioners in over 40 countries have achieved their professional certification. Introduction of this program has consumed many months of intensive work by Michael Spivey, volunteer Strategic Initiative Coordinator for Professional Development, and a team of volunteers. Michael and his colleagues are also continuing to work on implementation of the many recommendations arising from the September 2007 Report of the IAF CPF Workgroup, a major undertaking that involved members from around the world. Those recommendations include a training accreditation program, specialty certifications, and enhancement of the program's administrative infrastructure.

..... Eunice Shankland, Past Chair of IAF, and a small Nominations Committee, have been working to clarify and operationalize a more transparent and effective nominations and elections process for the Board. That will also require the Board to make decisions on exactly which positions and portfolios are required moving into the future. To help with this, Carol Sherriff, volunteer Strategic Initiative Coordinator for Conferences, is doing double-duty in helping the Board reassess its needs, roles, and approaches in light of our business planning and the evolving opportunities and challenges that we are facing as an organization. The Association's By-Laws have long been under review, and proposed changes will be submitted to the membership later this year.

..... IAF's new volunteer Strategic Initiative Coordinator for Communications and Publications, Mark Edmead of Escondido, California, has already launched a LinkedIn group to promote IAF to the community at large. As well, a major redesign of the IAF web site and its connections to our various Regional sites is underway.

..... There are many organizations whose members are interested in the tools and techniques of facilitation, and with which IAF could create mutually-beneficial partnerships. For example, the Board considered a joint statement of core principles for public engagement drafted by a consortium of the National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation, the International Association of Public Participation, and the Co-Intelligence Institute. With a minor amendment, the Board endorsed the core principles. Through our members, as well as through active participation in their conferences and other forums, IAF also is hoping to enhance our relationships with groups such as these, the Project Management Institute, and others.

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CONFERENCE UPDATES

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Each IAF Region hosts an annual Conference. These typically attract members from around the world, who take advantage of the opportunity to travel and share in professional development workshops, networking, social events, and local activities. Up-to-date information on our annual Conferences is available on the IAF global web site (www.iaf-world.org).



North America 2009 - Vancouver (April 20 - 25)

While both the individual workshop and overall evaluations are still being tabulated, I shall go out on a limb and report that the 2009 Conference in Vancouver was a great success. We received consistent praise for the quality of the workshops and content-oriented plenary sessions, the overall on-site flow and organization, the registration system, the food, and just about every other aspect of the event. There will no doubt be areas identified as needing improvement (or that just did not work). But the success of the Conference was due to the efforts of the Steering Team and their working groups. The Canadian members of that Team were: Angela Sealy, our Conference Chair, who also headed up the local Vancouver support group and the Conference's Community Outreach project; Taralee Hammond and Coleen Davidson, Co-Chairs of the Program Team; Kimberly Bain, Sponsors and Exhibitors; and, Wendy Hassen, Communications. As well, we received exceptional service from our Conference planner, Advance Group. Thanks to all of you who were able to attend and lend your support. And a final thank you to our Conference sponsors: ICA Associates Inc., MGR Consulting, Intersol, and Jossey-Bass.

Looking Ahead North America 2010 - Chicago (April 20-25)

Jan Means, our 2010 Conference Chair, David Spann, IAF US Regional Representative, and their planning team (which includes Coleen Davidson, Taralee Hammond, and others from the 2009 group) are already hard at work on the design of the Chicago Conference. The theme is "The Art and Mastery of Facilitation: Collaboration in Action". The Call for Proposals for professional development workshops can now be downloaded from the Conference web site (www.iafna2010.com). Submissions are due June 19. There will be a host of innovative features at the Chicago Conference that have not been tried before at a North America event. And Chicago is one of North America's most vibrant and interesting cities. The site at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place will situate delegates in the city's downtown. So please mark the dates and plan to join us there.



Asia - Taipei (August 28 - 31)

The 12th Annual IAF Asia Facilitators Conference will take place in Taipei, Taiwan, on August 28 - 31. A certification event will be held on August 26 - 27. The Conference theme is "GEAR up for the future!" GEAR stands for Grounding, Evolution, Alignment, and Recharging. The Conference program will be designed to help participants develop the methodologies and spirit to keep moving forward and to help others to make the changes that must be made. The Conference web site is accessible through the IAF home page (www.iaf-world.org).

2009–2010 CONFERENCE UPDATES



Europe - Oxford (September 18 – 20)

2009 is the European Year of Creativity and Innovation. As a result, the theme of this year's IAF Europe Conference is "Get Inspired". The Conference will be held at Keble College in Oxford, United Kingdom, on September 18 – 20 (with an accompanying IAF professional certification event and pre-conference seminars on September 16 – 17). More information is available either directly from the IAF web site's home page, or by clicking on the IAF Europe Regional web site and following the thread.



Africa - Cape Town (October 28 – 30)

Cape Town in October, at the Ocean View Hotel, just outside the city, will be a wonderful experience. The 4th IAF Africa Facilitators Conference and the 2nd Africa Facilitator Certification Event will take place on October 28 – 30. Conference organizers are now sifting through the workshop proposals received at the end of April. You can access the Conference web site directly from the IAF home page: www.iaf-world.org.



Latin America and Caribbean - Barbados (September 24 – 26)

The First IAF Caribbean Facilitators Conference is being planned for Barbados on September 24 – 26, with a professional certification event on September 22, and pre-conference workshops on September 23. The theme of the Conference is "The Art and Mastery of Facilitation: Pathway to Integration". It will focus on the role that facilitation plays in addressing the financial, environmental, and social challenges faced by the Caribbean. Until the Region's web site is complete, more information on the Conference is available by writing to: contact.us@iaf-latamcarib.org.



Australia/New Zealand - Nelson (November 23 – 27)

If you have not yet visited the Nelson region of New Zealand, you should know that it is one of the most beautiful and interesting areas in a country that is supremely beautiful and interesting. Nelson will host the Australasian Facilitators Network Conference 2009 on November 23 – 27. The Conference theme is "Creating a Bow Wave for Facilitation". The call for workshop proposals will be out soon. The Conference web site is accessible via the IAF home page (click on the "IAF Australia & NZ web site").

4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Our good friends in the facilitation program at St. Paul University in Ottawa are actively involved in this Conference, which will be held in Montreal on October 28-30, 2009. The theme of the Conference is "*Creativity and Socio-Cultural Community Development: What is at stake for citizens, identities and organizations*".

There is still a need for session proposals on the theme "Organizations and Creativity". The deadline for submissions is now May 30.

More information is available on this web site: <http://www.4ecolloque-animation.uqam.ca/EN/appel.asp>.

... And Finally

..... Be sure to read the profile of former IAF Chair, Jo Nelson, in The Global Flipchart.

..... Remember that the deadline for submission of the professional re-certification documents by everyone who received their IAF certification between 1998 and 2005 is October 30.

..... The IAF Canada Monograph Series is looking for new material. If you have an original or a previously published 5 – 7 page article on an issue in facilitation that you feel will interest your colleague members, please send it to John Butcher (jbutcher@magma.ca). Or if you would just like to discuss an idea for a Monograph, please give John a call at (613) 725-2280.

..... And if you have a Newsletter article, ideas for articles, or opinions on articles, please be in touch.

Thanks again, Beth Ann Kenny, for your great design and graphics skills.