

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

INSURANCE INSTITUTE RECOGNIZES THREE LEADERS IN OUR INDUSTRY The CIP Society introduces the 2016 National Leadership Award Honourees

(Toronto, ON - September 20, 2016) – The CIP Society is proud to announce the recipients of this year's CIP Society National Leadership Awards, the only national program of its kind that celebrates leadership among property and casualty insurance professionals. The following three leaders will be honoured with this prestigious award for 2016:

Laura Van Vliet, CIP, CRM, of ALIGNED Insurance Inc. in Waterloo, ON, who was selected in the Emerging Leader category
Paul Martin, CIP, of RRJ Insurance Group Limited in Toronto, ON, who was selected in the Established Leader category
Robert Pearson, FCIP, of Town & Country Mutual Insurance Company in Strathroy, ON, who was selected in the Established Leader category

Profiles of this year's leaders are available at the [CIP Society website](http://www.cipsociety.ca).

The [CIP Society National Leadership Awards](http://www.cipsociety.ca) were created in 2009 to give prominence to the outstanding leadership qualities of CIP Society members who demonstrate a passion for lifelong learning and dedication to their employer, profession and community. The Leadership Awards provide a valuable opportunity to celebrate individuals who lead by example and motivate and inspire the people around them. Nominations are accepted in both the [Emerging](#) and [Established](#) Leader category.

“On behalf of our Council, we are excited to recognize three outstanding leaders for 2016”, said Julie Pingree, Chair of the CIP Society National Council. “Recognizing leaders from both the Established and Emerging leadership categories truly shows the scope of our industry and gives us an opportunity to shine a light on the achievements of members like Laura who is emerging as a leader early in her career, and members like Paul and Robert who have established longstanding professionalism with decades of experience. All three of our leaders demonstrate outstanding leadership and are contributing to the industry in a meaningful way.”

Award honourees are members who uphold the values of the CIP Society and who raise the bar for the industry in their professionalism, integrity and work ethic. This **year's honourees** were selected for a combination of mentorship, dedication to the growth of their organizations and contributions to the industry at large. The 2016 honourees will be presented with a one-of-a-kind sculpture and inducted into the *CIP Society Leadership Circle*; Mr. Pearson on November 10 at the Insurance Institute of Ontario's Southwestern chapter's convocation, and Mr. Martin and Ms. Van Vliet at the Insurance Institute of Ontario's GTA convocation on January 26, 2017.

“The National Leadership Awards has recognized a very high standard of leaders and mentors over the years,” said Peter Hohman, president and CEO, Insurance Institute. “The CIP Society is very pleased to provide an opportunity to celebrate the achievement of our 2016 honourees and to welcome them to the *Leadership Circle*, where they will join 32 previous honourees who share their passion for team work, mentorship in the workplace, and dedication to the industry and their communities.”



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ABOUT THE CIP SOCIETY

The CIP Society, as the graduate division of the Insurance Institute, has a mandate to impart knowledge, instill professionalism and create leaders within the industry through our professional development programs and member services. The Society is proud of its contribution to the development of leadership within its membership.

Since 1998, the CIP Society has represented **more than 17,000 graduates of the Insurance Institute's Fellowship (FCIP) and Chartered Insurance Professional (CIP) programs. As the professionals' division of the Insurance Institute of Canada, the Society's mission is to advance the education, experience, ethics and excellence of our members.** The Society provides a number of programs that promote the CIP and FCIP designations, continuous professional development, professional ethics, mentoring, National Leadership Awards, and understanding of emerging issues in the industry. For more information visit the CIP Society website at: <http://insuranceinstitute.ca/en/cipsociety>.

For more information, or photos of the honourees, please contact:

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RECOGNIZING LEADERSHIP IN OUR INDUSTRY
The CIP Society introduces the 2016 National Leadership Award Honourees

Emerging Leader:

Laura Van Vliet, CIP, CRM
ALIGNED Insurance Inc.
Assistant Vice President
Waterloo, ON

Award Ceremony: Laura will be presented with her award at the IIO-GTA convocation to be held on January 26, 2017.

Established Leader:

Paul Martin, CIP
RRJ insurance Group Limited
President & Chief Operating Officer
Toronto, ON

Award Ceremony: Paul will be presented with his award at the IIO-GTA convocation to be held on January 26, 2017.

Established Leader:

Robert Pearson, FCIP
Town & Country Mutual Insurance Company
President & CEO
Strathroy, ON

Award Ceremony: Robert will be presented with his award at the IIO-Southwestern convocation to be held in November 2016.



FACT SHEET: THE CIP SOCIETY NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS

WHAT IS THE LEADERSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM?

As the only national program of its kind for property and casualty insurance professionals, the CIP Society National Leadership Awards have been created to recognize achievement across Canada. An important mission of the CIP Society is to foster leadership within our membership and our profession – not only through professional development, but also through our celebration of excellence, integrity and achievement.

What better way to support our leaders than to recognize their professionalism with a prestigious national award? **Each year's award** honourees are inducted into the [CIP Society Leadership Circle](#).

WHAT ARE THE AWARDS CRITERIA?

The CIP Society National Leadership Awards identify individuals whose personal qualities exemplify leadership through their passion for learning, their dedication to their profession and commitment to their employer. Leaders are role models and mentors who demonstrate a natural ability to positively influence the people around them and cultivate leadership qualities in others. They have made a positive difference in their company and given back to the insurance industry and to the community where they live. And as a result, they are respected and admired by their peers and deemed to be a person of high personal integrity.

Established Leader Category

This award recognizes CIP Society members who have achieved sustained success through their demonstrated leadership qualities and the significant impact they have made on their organization, their community and the industry.

Emerging Leader Category

This award recognizes CIP Society members who, through some early achievements and successes, are seen as an emerging leader within their organization or the industry.

WHAT WILL HONOUREES RECEIVE?

Each **year's award** honourees are inducted into the CIP Society Leadership Circle. Each award honouree will receive a one-of-a-kind steel sculpture handcrafted by Canadian metalsmith Boris Kramer, called "**Good Company.**" For a picture of the awards sculpture and its appropriateness as the Leadership Award, please [visit the website](#).

HOW TO GET MORE INFORMATION?

For more information and the detailed profiles of the award recipients, please visit the [CIP Society website](#). If you have any questions regarding the awards or the nomination process, please contact leadership@insuranceinstitute.ca.

