Message from the President

Tom Reikman, MBA, HBSc, CIP
President, Insurance Institute of Ontario

Here at the Insurance Institute of Ontario, while we anticipate the arrival of spring, we celebrate all that we accomplished over the winter.

My term as President will be complete as at June 29, so this will be my last message to you. It’s been a fantastic year in this role—one which I’ve enjoyed immensely. I had the valuable opportunity to travel around the province and participate in many convocation celebration events, meeting the members and seeing the different ways each Chapter commemorates the achievements of its graduates.

In 2016, we celebrated over 610 graduates of the CIP and FCIP programs, plus an additional 77 graduates of the GIE, Advanced CIP and Risk Management Certificate programs in Ontario. These graduates are a testament to the high standard of education and professionalism in our industry—something we can all be proud to be a part of. Although I had the pleasure of congratulating many of our graduates as they received their diplomas, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you all once again. The industry is proud of what you’ve achieved.

At the same time, I want to recognize the value in ongoing education. As mentioned in my introduction message last fall, I’ve learned from experience that life rarely goes to plan, and the best way to prepare for this is through continuous learning. Wherever you want your career and educational journey to go, the Insurance Institute has an option for you.

If you’re a graduate of the GIE or Risk Management Certificate programs, consider taking the CIP as your next step. Not only do you get credit for the program you just completed, but you’ll gain a comprehensive, well-rounded learning experience that allows you to focus on one or more of the core career paths in the industry.

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IIO Annual General Meeting

Attention, members!

The Annual General Meeting of the Insurance Institute of Ontario will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 29, 2017 at the Institute’s office, 18 King Street East, 16th floor, in Toronto.

The following items are on the agenda:

1. Notice of Meeting
2. Appointment of Scrutineers
3. Report on Quorum
4. Minutes of Previous Annual Meeting and Any Other Meetings Held Since the Last Annual Meeting
5. Reports of Committees and Other Reports and Communications
6. Report of the President
7. Treasurer’s Report
8. Annual Financial Statements
9. Approval of Acts of Directors
10. Election of Directors of IIO, Governors of IIC, and Honorary Members
11. Appointment of Auditors
12. Other Business
13. Termination

Members are welcome. Please RSVP to IIO Secretary at (416) 865-2707 or via email to dbirch@insuranceinstitute.ca prior to June 13.

Education Questions?

Ask the Institute—now updated! You’ll find the answers to your questions our students ask the most. We want to help you make the most of your student experience so you can get ahead in your career and stay there!

Learn more at: www.insuranceinstitute.ca/ask.

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If you’re a CIP graduate, consider increasing your problem-solving, critical thinking and communication skills with the Advanced CIP program. If you aspire to leadership, the FCIP program will give you a comprehensive business education with a unique P&C focus. These are just our main programs—we also have many courses available, and a high-quality seminar program offered each semester.

All of our programs are open for registration for the Spring 2017 semester; I recommend that you register as soon as possible to secure a spot in the course and learning format of your choice, as applicable.

If you need help deciding what your next option should be, our Career Connections division has just launched mycareer, a resource for those in the industry looking to advance their career. You’ll find career maps, education pathways, career exploration tips and assessment tools to help you map where you are, discover where you can take your career and plan for what you want. For more information, visit the ‘Resources’ section of www.insuranceinstitute.ca.

My career was launched as part of National Education Month—our celebration of education in the insurance industry which took up the entire month of February this year. This initiative started many years ago as just one week, and has grown so much that we saw the need to expand it to fit everything in. Local offices celebrated with special events, seminars, networking opportunities, and ‘Take a Break with the Institute’ local office visits. Thanks to all who joined in the celebration!

As you may know, our regulatory licensing body, the Financial Services Commission of Ontario (FSCO) is going through a transition and will be replaced with a new body called the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA). As part of our commitment to keeping you up-to-date with the latest industry developments, we staged a panel discussion with key, high-level insiders. Held January 19 at our GTA office, we were pleased to have a full house of attendees with even more tuning in via live webinar. We look forward to updating you further on this change as more information comes to light.

Your support by way of membership enables us to be able to organize important events like this to keep our members informed, continue our complimentary Member Bonus Series webinars, and much more. If you’re not taking advantage of your membership, visit www.insuranceinstitute.ca/Ontario to find out what you’re missing.

The membership year is up soon, and we’ll be reaching out for renewal. If your employer is a part of LearnDirect program, then you won’t hear directly from us as they will pay for your membership automatically. If you do receive an invoice for membership, we encourage you to renew as soon as you can to ensure you still have access to all your membership benefits. Also, consider asking your HR department about whether they would like to join our LearnDirect program so you can have your membership automatically renewed. To find out more about this program, contact your local Chapter manager.

We’re looking forward to our two CIP Society Symposium events coming up in Ontario: GTA Symposium in Toronto and Symposium West in Cambridge. If you’ve attended a previous Symposium, you’ll know that these events offer a full day of quality leadership and professional development for savvy insurance professionals. You’ll learn more about the latest hot topics in the industry, and hear from and have the opportunity to network with industry leaders. GTA’s Symposium will be held for the 13th year on April 6—I encourage you to register as soon as possible. Symposium West returns for the third year on August 17, with registration opening May 1.

As this is my last President’s message, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank our members, industry employers and volunteers. As a not-for-profit organization, the
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support of our members and industry employers is vital, as it allows us to continue to achieve our goal of enabling those employed in the financial services business to achieve their performance potential and maximize their intellectual development.

As well, the support of our volunteers is essential as we rely on them to lend their varied skill sets to help us guide each area of the IIO—whether they are instructors, markers, proctors, subject matter experts, seminar presenters, or participate on our various committees and councils. On behalf of the Governing Council, I would like to thank you all for your time and dedication to the organization.

It’s been a pleasure to serve as your President this year, and I would like to wish you a successful year ahead.

Tom Reikman, MBA, HBSc, CIP
President, Insurance Institute of Ontario

Full suite of Risk Management Certificate courses available this spring

Have you thought about adding the Canadian Risk Management (CRM) designation to your list of p&c insurance credentials? If you answered yes, you should consider taking the courses that lead to the designation with the Institute’s Risk Management Certificate program. The successful completion of this three-course certificate qualifies you to attempt the exams that lead to the CRM designation.

Since introducing the Risk Management Certificate program, we’ve had much success with student enrollment. With constructive feedback from those students, we are continuously making refinements and improvements to the courses. As these courses become more established with the Institute, we hope this certificate will become the source for p&c insurance professionals seeking to grow their risk management experience.

Register now for R110, R120, and R130 and take the steps to add the CRM to your credentials.

Call for nominations:
2017 National Leadership Awards

Last year, three new honourees were inducted in the CIP Society’s Leadership Circle: Paul Martin, CIP and Robert Pearson, FCIP in the Established Leader category, and Laura Van Vliet, CIP, CRM in the Emerging Leader category.

We look forward to extending this prestigious recognition to more honourees this year with the announcement of the call for nominations for the 9th Annual CIP Society National Leadership Awards.

How to begin the nomination process

Now there’s an easier way to jump-start the nomination process. Visit the CIP Society’s National Leadership Awards webpages today to complete an online candidate assessment and submission form for a leader in the Emerging or Established Leader category. This pre-nomination process enables you to quickly assess your candidate on the leadership qualities that the awards program defines as leadership in the industry. In this way, before you complete the full nomination package, you can find out if your candidate meets the high standards set out by the Leadership Awards.

And this pre-nomination process enables us to see if others are also considering your candidate—therefore providing nominating supporters; if your candidate has been an Institute volunteer—thereby possibly engaging the volunteer manager in support of the nomination; if you have identified the appropriate category for your candidate; and if your candidate is a member in good-standing of the CIP Society.

With these preliminary checks in place, the CIP Society will then forward you the fuller nomination package to complete. The package includes a fillable PDF form, which asks you to substantiate the ways in which your candidate meets the criteria of the program through their accomplishments and contributions, and to support your nomination with additional letters of support. A nomination guide is also available to offer advice along the way.

We highly recommend nominators start early. Nominations close on June 1, 2017.

OIAA Claims Conference 2017:
It was great to see you!

The insurance Institute of Ontario was proud to once again be an exhibitor at the OIAA Professional Development & Claims Conference trade show that took place on Tuesday, January 31. We enjoyed playing PLINKO with you and giving out gift cards as prizes!

If we missed you, please feel free to contact us so we can tell you more about:

• New program in the ‘Understanding’ Series for Adjusters
• The Member Bonus Series
• Upcoming seminars to enhance your career
• Advanced CIP and Risk Management Certificate programs

We hope to connect with you soon.
How do we spend your membership dollars?

We often get questions about membership—ranging from “what are the benefits of membership,” to “what do we do with your membership dollars,” and we wanted to take a minute to answer those questions.

As a member of the Insurance Institute, you belong to one of Canada’s most well-respected industry associations. We’re an insurance community of which you are an important part.

The Institute was founded in 1899 by a group of major insurance companies—with the common goal to provide a high standard of education options to all insurance professionals including brokers, underwriters, claims and others. We’re a not-for-profit organization, which means that any profit that we make gets channeled back into our business, to enable people in the financial services business to achieve their performance potential and maximize their intellectual development.

As was mandated by those that formed the Institute, we rely on your membership to be able to achieve the goals that have been set for us.

Your local membership dollars enable us to do the following:

- **Maintain and update our designation programs**
  Employers look for the CIP and FCIP designations because they recognize that the knowledge and skills gained while earning these designations bring value to their organizations. We are committed to constantly reviewing the learning materials and formats to keep our programs current.

- **Provide you with quality professional development and networking opportunities**
  Your membership allows us to keep you informed of the latest industry happenings—like the recent FSCO to FSRA panel discussion, 2016 Auto Insurance Reform roadshow as well as our Industry Trends & Predictions and Leading Insurance Coverage & Liability Cases annual seminars. Click your local chapter to see what’s coming up in your area.

- **Give you complimentary learning opportunities—with RIBO hours!**
  Thanks to your membership, we can offer our Member Bonus Series webinars to all IIO members, no matter what chapter you belong to. They cover basic insurance topics you could benefit from clarification on, and offer 1 Technical RIBO hour. To date, many of our Member Bonus webinars have been full to capacity.

- **Develop new and innovative certificate programs**
  We’re always working on innovative new education options—such as the new Risk Management and Advanced CIP programs. Through your support as a member, we’re able to hire experienced instructional designers who ensure our educational offerings contain quality content and knowledge that are applicable to your real-world situations.

- **Conduct industry research and provide reports**
  Thanks to thought leadership and membership support from our CIP Society, the Institute conducts and delivers reports on current industry concerns. Members can access a series of annual Emerging Issues Research Reports, which so far includes reports on cyber risks and automated vehicles, and an e-library of monthly trends papers. The industry also relies on the Institute to conduct periodic demographic research.

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research reports which provide analysis on industry recruitment, retention, succession planning, and education and training. All this is possible through support of the industry and our graduate membership base.

• Utilize the latest education technologies for your learning

Busy insurance professionals appreciate convenient learning formats. Through your membership support, we’re able to invest in technology to bring you classes in formats such as real-time and self-paced virtual classes. Other new technology includes our free mobile app, IIC Mobile Learning, and CE OnDemand, a catalogue of one hour self-paced online courses that offer RIBO credits.

• Provide you with career mapping resources

Where is your career in insurance leading? Do you know what your options are? Your membership enabled us to develop our new mycareer website which provides career maps, education pathways, career exploration tips and assessment tools to help you map where you are, discover where you can take your career and plan for what you want. Also, see our Career Connections division which promotes careers in insurance to those not yet in the industry—stemming from a HR need identified in our periodic industry demographic research.

So as you can see, we put your membership dollars to good use—all with the goal of benefiting you and the industry.

It’s for all of these reasons that we thank you for keeping your membership with us in good standing—it’s of great benefit both to you as an insurance professional and to the property and casualty industry in Canada.

If you have yet to renew your membership, please log in at www.insuranceinstitute.ca or contact a Member Services Associate at 1-866-362-8585.

‘Mycareer’ launched as part of National Education Month

The Insurance Institute’s popular National Education Week has grown to become National Education Month, and we celebrated it in February. We extended this initiative to cover a full month to provide additional local seminars, events and other opportunities to advance your insurance knowledge.

This year we also launched a highly-anticipated new initiative: mycareer—an online open resource of career maps, education pathways, assessment tools and tip sheets for those in the industry looking to navigate their insurance career.

As part of the launch, we scheduled five free national webinars that gave an overview of these new career management tools—and delved into several areas of interest in insurance careers. The webinars were extremely well-attended with over 1,000 registrants! This confirms our research that there is a definite interest in exploring career options within the industry. To learn more about mycareer, visit www.insuranceinstitute.ca/mycareer.

Locally, our chapters once again used National Education Month to raise awareness of local professional development activities, courses and events that bring insurance professionals together to raise the standard of education in our industry.

Thanks to all participating insurance organizations, professionals, students, seminar leaders and volunteers for making National Education Month 2017 a success!