

## THOMPSON'S WORLD INSURANCE NEWS

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## Alberta council approves courses for licensing

THE ALBERTA Insurance Council has approved a slew of Insurance Institute courses that will fulfill licensing requirements for p&c brokers.

Those who have completed specific courses or the certified insurance professional designation within the last year can submit an application to the AIC to become a licensed broker, the institute said.

Chelsea Smythe, director of western and Atlantic operations at the Insurance Institute, said exam equivalencies will likely improve recruitment to the broker channel in Alberta.

She said the AIC exams have had poor pass rates, unlike the institute's consistently strong ones.

"From a recruitment standpoint, the challenge that some employers faced will change and they can provide more options," Ms. Smythe told *Thompson's*.

"And that can lead towards higher success rates for individuals to stay within the channel — it's a great route for individuals to move through as they progress with their careers."

She said the institute offers flexibility with the courses to help individuals get their licence, including in class and virtual options, and preparation courses and self-study kits.

"The courses are not new, they are part of our existing program, but the equivalency is a piece that we have been asking for to facilitate broker licensing," Ms. Smythe said.

"Part of our role at the institute is to actively work on these types of initiatives and this is a conversation that has been important."

Like Alberta brokers, the institute had been working on approval for exam equivalencies for a number of years, she said.

Earlier last month, the AIC approved that the Canadian Accredited Insurance Broker designation be recognized as an equivalent to the existing Alberta licensing exams for general insurance brokers.

"We're pleased to offer more choices for brokers in Alberta through a number of options provided by the Insurance Institute," Ms. Smythe said.

## Van Bakel elected chair of Insurance Institute

PAT VAN BAKEL, president and CEO of Crawford and Company Canada, has been elected chair of the Insurance Institute of Canada's board of governors.

Other board members for 2019-20 include RSA Canada CEO Martin Thompson as deputy chair, Travelers Canada CEO Heather Masterson as vice-chair, membership-at-large, and Jeff Goy, CEO of Wawanesa Mutual Insurance, who is immediate past chair.

Regional vice chairs are Wawanesa Insurance specialty lines director Ken De Decker for the Western provinces, Gore Mutual CEO Heidi Sevcik for Ontario, Hub Quebec broker François Jean for Quebec, Robert Byrne of Newfoundland and Labrador's Public Utilities Board for the Atlantic provinces, Travelers Canada chief underwriting officer Anna McCrindell for academic and Intact Insurance VP Mike Kosturik for professionals.

Meanwhile, the Institute has also named three recipients of the CIP Society National Leadership Awards for 2019. Ernest Mashingaidze, property adjuster at Wawanesa, was named emerging leader, and Paul Croft, senior VP at Aon Canada and Monica Woldring, senior VP of commercial insurance at InsureLine brokers, were recognized as established leaders.

Award recipients will be inducted into the CIP Society Leadership Circle.

"These members represent the best and the brightest in our industry and we are honoured to have them be part of our membership," said Intact's Mr. Kosturik, chair of the CIP Society's national council.

"We commend their commitment to their workplaces, their profession and their local communities and we look forward to seeing great things from them in future."

## FSRA names advisory committee members

THE FINANCIAL Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario has named 13 members chosen for its stakeholder advisory committee for the p&c insurance sector.

They include Lynn Anderson of Economical Insurance, Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario representative Joseph Carnevale, Koker Christensen of law firm Fasken Martineau DuMoulin, the Insurance Bureau of Canada's Kim Donaldson, John Dunton of Erie Mutual Insurance, Stephen Fuller of Travelers Insurance,

The Co-operators' Lisa Guglietti, Christian Jobidon from Desjardins, AIG Insurance's Marc Lipman, George Milnes of property claim appraisal services provider Stat11, Julie Nolette of Intact Insurance, Aviva Canada's Karin Ots and Alain Thibault from the Canadian Association of Direct Relationship Insurers.

The p&c committee is one of six that will provide input and advice to FSRA's board of directors and help shape the future of financial regulation in Ontario.

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