



British Columbia

NEWS



Message from the President



It has been a few months since our last newsletter and thank you for your patience as IWF BC also continues the important work of upgrading our technology – a project we deemed even more important as we work to support all of you as members and expand our membership base in support of our mission. Please join me in thanking Mary O'Callaghan, Patra De Silva and Catherine Roome for leading this transition.

Looking back on my last message in the Spring, many of us were looking forward to the Fall with the hope of returning to some sense of normalcy. As we again heed the calls for even more diligence to flatten COVID's curve, members have adjusted to continuing our important work, connecting virtually with family, friends, mentors and business associates, adjusted offices for physical distancing and cautiously expanded our bubbles. Some have even started to travel and explore our own backyards. I applaud your diligence and commitment to finding the right balance in your lives and within your companies and communities. In this very uncertain time, please know IWF BC is here should you need assistance, a helping hand or compassionate ear.

It has been a tough and sad year on so many levels, and when I read or hear about important acts of leadership happening within our communities, I am never surprised to learn an IWF BC member is behind many of these efforts. Just last week I was excited to meet new member Teara Fraser, founder of [Iskwew Air](#), and learn the news she was being honoured as one of 18 women featured in DC Comics' new graphic novel [Wonderful Women of History](#). The only Canadian and Indigenous woman featured, she joins U.S. Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, musician Beyoncé and athlete Serena Williams in this anthology. I also congratulate IWF BC past-President Nancy Laughton for once again securing her position as a director on IWF's International Board. Nancy's vision for IWF BC to connect with our West Coast regional sisters is just one reason why she brings such value to our forum as well as the overall leadership of IWF.

Throughout the summer we continued to welcome new members with exceptional credentials, passion and

insight. IWF is a safe, welcoming and inspirational community – and I know I speak for the Board in saying we welcome an ongoing dialogue on how IWF BC can ensure its membership is even more diverse and accessible to all women committed to championing equality world-wide.

It has been very heartening, to see the level of engagement in our virtual sessions, kudos to our hard working membership engagement committee. In addition, I have heard from many of you that you have enjoyed attending virtual sessions from forums across North America, and our West Coast regional cafes. So let's keep the engagement going! I encourage you to sign up for October's Virtual World Leadership Conference: [IWF 2020 Leading in a Disrupted World](#). With virtual sessions taking place October 21-22, there are opportunities to experience sessions twice each day, a virtual dine around with members from around the globe and even a Gala. I look forward to "seeing" you there.

Deirdre

From the International Board of Directors



At last week's Global Board meeting some exciting initiatives were discussed including our first virtual IWF Leadership conference. The response has been excellent and as each week more detailed information about speakers and events is revealed, we expect the numbers will exceed any "live" conference held to date – including last year's highly successful Toronto conference. How exciting for IWF BC, that Dr. Shimi Kang will be one of the presenters of Ideas Remaking the World. In fact, all three of the creative, enterprising women presenting this year are from the West Coast of North America. Congratulations, Shimi, on being chosen for this honour.

It is anticipated that due to travel restrictions remaining in place next Spring, a virtual Cornerstone conference will be held in March. With luck, the Leadership conference in Seattle will go ahead but as a hybrid event, allowing those who do not wish to travel, to engage virtually. It is indeed a new era! Many hours of work by the Governance Committee, chaired by Laurel Bellows from the Chicago Forum, have produced charters for all the global committees. This was a huge undertaking which has clarified the roles, responsibilities and deliverables for each committee.

The 2020-2021 Fellows Program has now selected a cohort of 28 women leaders from 14 countries to begin their journey together. Past Fellows call this program "life changing" as high performing women executives expand and develop their leadership skills through mentoring, networking and world-class leadership training.

Our final Board meeting of the year is scheduled for October 28th. Until then, I hope you are all enjoying our Fall weather and staying healthy and happy.

See you virtually sometime soon!

Nancy

Member News



Teara Fraser received a 2020 YWCA Women of Distinction Award in the Entrepreneurship and Innovation category. Teara is Founder and CEO of Iskwew Air, launched the first Indigenous woman-owned and operated airline in Canada.



Bal Pawa is delighted to announce the release of her book, #TheMindBodyCure. Learn how to take charge of stress and reclaim your health. The book is available in all local book stores or by order here: <https://bit.ly/39keCn1>



Diane McCurdy, CFP, has been appointed as a Director on the National Arts Council of Canada Foundation Board.



Karin Kirkpatrick has been chosen as the BC Liberal candidate for West Vancouver-Capilano. If she wins this seat, she will be the first woman to represent this riding in BC. She has the ability to see issues from multiple perspectives and balance the need for a robust business community with a commitment to the environment and the health of our communities. <https://www.bcliberals.com/team/karin-kirkpatrick/>

IWF BC Website

As members, you have provided lots of constructive feedback on the design and features of our current website, and we have listened! We are progressing well with the development of the new IWF British Columbia web site, and working toward its launch in November. Once everything is fully functioning you will be able to manage your account profile, search the BC member roster, sign up and pay for events, pay membership dues and add content through a member chat section. Links to IWF Global, and access to members around the world, round out the site.

Put your stamp on the final product! Please send Mary O'Callaghan (maryeocallaghan@gmail.com) your pithy reflections on past events, or "advice to young leaders" and we'll continue to build our archive of learning/leading. Please send any photos from past member events to Catherine Roome (cathroome@shaw.ca) for inclusion on the site.

Interesting Women Fess-UP



This month we profile EVI MUSTEL as we continue to help IWF BC members get to know each

other better. Thank you Evi for your responses.

What is your idea of perfect happiness?

Enjoying an outdoor adventure with good friends or family, whether it be a simple walk or day of skiing.

Which living person do you most admire?

Barack Obama, and probably now more than ever!

What is your greatest extravagance?

Maintaining and cruising on our 36 foot power boat (or floating cabin I call it). But worth the places it can take you to!

What is your favourite journey?

I love everything about travelling in Europe (must be my genes) – the countryside, the culture, the history.

Which talent would you most like to have?

A dancer. I have tried but not a natural skill for me!

What do you consider your greatest achievement?

Maintaining a business since 1980 through all the economic and technological turbulence, particularly this past year.

What is your motto?

A ship in harbour is safe, but that is not what ships are built for.

Upcoming Events

@DFSVancouver is proud to present The Success Luncheon 2020 Virtual on November 4th, 2020 from 11:45 AM - 1 PM. Hear from extraordinary and everyday superheros for gender equity. Tickets go on sale soon!



Use of the member directory

The IWF BC Member Directory is confidential, not for distribution and is not to be used for marketing purposes of any kind. The list is intended to facilitate contact and connections. Please afford your fellow

members the courtesy of using the list respectfully.

Please submit your news items of about 100 words or less, preferably with hi-resolution photos, to mocallaghan@devonshireadvisory.ca by Monday November 2nd. The items should describe awards, other achievements, or topics of general interest. Notices of upcoming non-profit events, in which you are involved, may also be included.

Mary O'Callaghan
Editor



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