

#imageboss

FEBRUARY 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Spring Momentum: Celebrating Our Chapter and Looking Ahead

As we move into spring, I find myself reflecting with real gratitude on the strength, engagement, and momentum of our AICI Canada Chapter community. It's a privilege to serve a chapter that continues to show up with generosity, professionalism, and heart.

Over the past year, our chapter has truly thrived. Through meaningful educational offerings, Coffee Connect conversations, and strong leadership engagement, we've deepened our connections and strengthened our impact. To see our collective efforts recognized

through numerous awards—honouring both our chapter and leaders within it—has been incredibly meaningful to me personally. These acknowledgements speak not only to excellence in our work, but to the spirit of collaboration, care, and leadership that defines who we are.

That sense of connection and shared purpose carries us beautifully into what I know will be a highlight for our region: the North America Regional Conference, taking place April 24–26, 2026, in Toronto, Ontario. With the conference theme Stand Up to Stand Out, this gathering invites us to step confidently into our expertise, elevate our voices, and lead with intention—while remaining deeply aligned with our chapter's guiding theme, Together in Image.

Through thoughtfully curated education and an exceptional lineup of esteemed global speakers, the conference is shaping up to be a truly enriching

experience. I'm especially excited that, as we move closer to the event, we'll be continuing to spotlight our speaker lineup, sharing glimpses of the diverse perspectives, expertise, and global voices that will be joining us in Toronto. Each announcement reflects the depth, excellence, and forward-thinking leadership within our profession.

Behind the scenes, I've had the privilege of witnessing the dedication of volunteers and leaders who are working collaboratively to bring this conference to life. Their commitment, care, and attention to detail inspire me, and they are a powerful reminder of what's possible when we come together with a shared vision.

As we welcome the spring season, I encourage you to stay engaged, get involved, and mark your calendar for this exciting regional gathering. Whether through chapter programming, committee involvement, or joining us at the conference, your participation truly

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

matters—and it strengthens our community in ways that go far beyond any single event.

Thank you for being part of a chapter that continues to grow, lead, and inspire. It means more to me than I can fully express. I so look forward to the months ahead—and to gathering together in Toronto to stand up, stand out, and lead—Together in Image.

Michelle Horne, AICI CIP, DM
President, AICI Canada Chapter | 2026–2027



AICI CANADA CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

The AICI Canada Chapter was honoured to receive the **Chapter Recognition Award** at the 2025 AICI Global Conference, held April 24–27 in Manila. The award, presented by the AICI Global Board of Directors, recognizes a chapter's commitment to education, certification, growth, and not-for-profit image services that positively impact others. The exciting and unexpected honour was accepted by our President, Michelle Horne.

This recognition reflects our chapter's dedication to meaningful connection through initiatives such as monthly Coffee Connect, our ongoing philanthropic support of Armagh House, and our continued focus on member growth. We're proud to carry this momentum forward as we prepare to host the first North America Regional Conference in Toronto in April 2026—bringing this year's theme **Together in Image** to life.



IMMIE AWARD RECIPIENT

IMAGE MAKERS MERIT OF INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE

MICHELLE HORNE, AICI CIP DM

LEADERSHIP WITH STYLE, SUBSTANCE AND HEART

If there's one person who truly embodies professionalism with personality, it's **Michelle Horne**, President of the AICI Canada.

Michelle is an award-winning Image and Executive Presence Coach whose career reflects decades of dedication to the image consulting profession. A committed AICI member since 1999, she has served the association in numerous leadership roles, including Canada Chapter President, VP of Membership, and internationally as Vice President of Chapter Relations on the AICI Global Board.

Professionally, Michelle brings depth and intention to everything she does. A **Universal Style® Trainer** and **Certified NOVA Consultant**, she founded Putting it Together in 1995 and supports clients from her base in the Greater Ottawa Region. Her work focuses on helping individuals of all genders show up with confidence, clarity, and authenticity—always taking a whole-person approach to image and presence.

Michelle is also a **Distinguished Member of AICI**, a designation reserved for professionals who have demonstrated exceptional achievement, leadership, and sustained contribution to the image industry. This honour recognizes not only professional excellence, but also a deep commitment to advancing the standards, education, and global impact of AICI.

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to the industry, Michelle received the 2025 AICI Global IMMIE Award (Image Makers Merit of Industry Excellence), one of the



organization's highest honours.

Beyond her impressive résumé, Michelle is known for her warmth, approachability, and unmistakable personal style. You'll often find her wearing **fuchsia**—her favourite colour—along with bold textures and playful animal prints, a fitting reflection of her confident and expressive personality.

Michelle Horne leads with experience, integrity, and heart—and the AICI Canada Chapter is fortunate to have her at the helm.

CHAPTER MEMBER OF THE YEAR

VIVIAN SINGH, M.A., B.ED., AICI CIC



The AICI Canada Chapter is proud to recognize Vivian Singh as our Chapter Member of the Year, an honour that reflects not only her professional excellence but also her deep generosity of spirit. Chapter Members of the Year have been celebrated since 1995, with each chapter selecting an outstanding member by vote. Vivian’s selection is a heartfelt acknowledgement from her peers of the meaningful impact she

continues to make within our community.

Vivian is especially cherished for her unwavering commitment to philanthropy, championing causes our chapter can support, and for her warm, inclusive presence. Whether welcoming new members or nurturing long-standing connections, she embodies the values of openness, kindness, and service that strengthen our chapter from within.

Vivian’s journey is equally inspiring beyond image consulting. A certified image professional (CIC), speaker, pro-age model, and award-winning performer, she continues to redefine what it means to age with confidence, visibility, and purpose. From receiving acting awards to leading by example in her 70s, Vivian reminds us that elegance has no expiration date—and that growth, contribution, and impact are lifelong pursuits.

We are honoured to celebrate Vivian Singh for who she is, what she gives, and the way she uplifts our chapter. She truly represents the heart of AICI Canada.

CANADA CHAPTER HONOURS GLOBAL CONFERENCE 2025



Manilla April 2025 - Michelle & Karen a joyful moment - Karen Brunger receives the Jane Segerstrom Award, Michelle Horne receives the IMMIE Award | Vivian Singh is recognized as our Chapter Member of the Year

NORTH AMERICA REGIONAL CONFERENCE

APRIL 24 - 26 2026 | TORONTO | DELTA DOWNTOWN

We opened this newsletter by celebrating the well-deserved recognition our chapter has received for the outstanding work of its members—and now it's your chance to experience that brilliance firsthand. Come meet these incredible women and feel their energy, commitment, dedication, and collaboration in action. The North America Regional Conference is truly the place to be.

Over the next two months, we'll be putting the final touches on what promises to be an unforgettable event in Toronto. We can't wait to welcome you to the Delta Hotel—a luxurious setting in the heart of downtown, just steps from the iconic CN Tower. This is an opportunity you won't want to miss: to connect, collaborate, learn, grow, and enrich your business.

There's still time to join us—whether for a single day, cocktails, the gala and fashion show, or the full weekend experience. However you choose to attend, you are warmly welcomed.



COME TO
CONFERENCE

Be inspired. Be connected. Be there.

BE A SPONSOR | BE AN EXHIBITOR AT CONFERENCE

The AICI Canada Chapter offers exciting partnership opportunities for organizations looking to connect with a vibrant community of image professionals. Choose a tailored sponsorship experience or **join us as a conference exhibitor** to showcase your brand in an elegant, high-impact setting.

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