

The Tourism Industry Association of Ontario (TIAO) Announces New Board of Directors at Annual General Meeting

TORONTO, Ont., July 24, 2015 — The Tourism Industry Association of Ontario (TIAO) revealed yesterday its Board of Directors for 2015-2016. Newly elected to the Board this year are: Keith Simmonds, General Manager, Great Wolf Lodge; Steve Ball, President, Ottawa Gatineau Hotel Association; Ian McMillan, Executive Director, Tourism Sault Ste. Marie; and Minto Schneider, CEO, Waterloo Regional Tourism Marketing Corporation.

TIAO welcomes its new directors with great pride, and looks forward to continuing representation of its members and tourism stakeholders at the government level. Under the guidance of its board of dedicated tourism industry professionals TIAO is excited to forge ahead in fulfillment of its goal to position Ontario's tourism industry for growth and prosperity.

The association thanks its outgoing board members for their outstanding contributions to both the organization and tourism in Ontario. Leaving us this year for new endeavours are: Del Rollo, Director, Eastern Estates Wineries and Government Relations, Constellation Brands; Dick Brown, President and CEO, Ottawa Tourism; Walter Oster, Chairman and CEO, Canadian National Sportsmen's Shows; Anna Pierce, Vice-President, Niagara Helicopters; and Tim West, former Manager of External Relations, Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs, who has entered into retirement. Don Braden, President of the Blue Mountain Village Association, passed away in May. Don was often a force to be reckoned with on the board, and we miss him dearly.

TIAO also congratulates its Board of Directors' Executive Committee on their new or reprised roles. The complete Board of Directors comprises the following:

- Terry Mundell (President & CEO, Greater Toronto Hotel Association) **Chair of the Board**
- Jane Holmes (Jane Holmes Consulting; Acting Director, Government and Community Relations, Colleges Ontario) **Vice-Chair**
- Heather Ford (Owner, Green Acres Inn) **Treasurer**
- Lorrie McKee (Director, Public Affairs and Stakeholder Relations, Greater Toronto Airports Authority) **Secretary**
- Troy Young (President & CEO, Attractions Ontario) **Past Chair**
- John Winston (General Manager, Tourism London)
- Robin Garrett (Director, Niagara Region, Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation; Professor, Niagara College)
- Chuck Thibeault (Executive Director, RTO6, Central Counties Tourism)
- Lisa Tompkins (Director, Marketing and Communications, CN Tower)
- Keith Simmonds (General Manager, Great Wolf Lodge)
- Steve Ball (President, Ottawa Gatineau Hotel Association)
- Ian McMillan (Executive Director, Tourism Sault Ste. Marie)
- Minto Schneider (CEO, Waterloo Regional Tourism Marketing Corporation)



Quotes

“On behalf of TIAO’s staff and membership, I formally welcome our new Directors to the board and congratulate members of the Executive Committee on their positions. We look forward to working together for the benefit of Ontario’s tourism industry in the coming year.”

Beth Potter, President & CEO, Tourism Industry Association of Ontario

“I offer my congratulations to the newly-elected Directors representing the tourism industry across Ontario. Together we will continue to guide the Tourism Industry Association of Ontario as the voice of our province’s tourism sector.”

Terry Mundell, President & CEO, Greater Toronto Hotel Association; Chair, Tourism Industry Association of Ontario

About TIAO

The Tourism Industry Association of Ontario (TIAO) is recognized as the umbrella organization for leading associations, destination marketing organizations, regional tourism organizations and businesses serving Ontario’s diverse tourism industry. Collectively representing 149,000 businesses and 359,000 employees dedicated to operating and promoting the province’s powerful tourism infrastructure, TIAO provides a strong, unified voice for the sector and advocates the importance of tourism to all levels of government in order to help the industry grow and prosper.