

President's Report 2018

Dear Colleagues and Members,

Thank you for your continued support of ICOM Canada and our activities. This past year was a productive and successful one for ICOM Canada and its members. Your continuing interest and commitment to promoting Canadian museology on the international stage is truly appreciated. We are in the second year of our Strategic Plan implementation and we are proud to celebrate a number of accomplishments.

The following activities are highlights of ICOM Canada's collaborations during 2018.

In September 2018, ICOM Canada was very pleased to contribute to the joint annual conference of **ICOM-COMCOL** (ICOM International Committee for Collecting) and **FIHRM** (the Federation of International Human Rights Museums), which took place in Winnipeg from the 25th to the 29th of September, hosted by the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. On the theme of **Contemporary Collections: Contested and Powerful**, ICOM Canada was represented by board member **Michèle Rivet**, who helped welcome speakers from Germany, Mexico, South Africa, Argentina, Japan, Taiwan, USA, United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, Belgium, the Netherlands and Italy. Presentations explored the power of collections, challenges around interpretation, and representation, especially when faced with sensitive or contested material.

Elka Weinstein, ICOM Canada Treasurer and Board member, accompanied by **Anong Migwans Beam, Executive Director of the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation** on Manitoulin Island in Ontario, attended the **ICOM Ecuador Sustainability in Community Museums conference** from October 23-27, 2018 in Quito, Ecuador. The conference was organized by ICOM Ecuador's President, Juan Carlos Fernández-Catalán, with the participation of ICOM Canada and **ICOM U.S.** This is a step towards increased collaboration between ICOM committees within the Americas.

In October 2018, **Ingenium** – Canada's Museums of Science and Innovation hosted the annual conference for the ICOM Committee **CIMUSET**. The joint conference, with the international association **IATM**, saw 76 delegates from 25 countries. With the theme of **Museums in the Digital World**, delegates enjoyed a full program of inspiring key note speakers, thought provoking educational sessions and plenty of opportunities to socialize and network. The program also included study tours to other Ottawa institutions and a post-conference tour to Montreal. ICOM Canada would like to thank the entire Ingenium team, including active ICOM Canada member **Julie Leclair**, Director, Travelling Exhibitions at Ingenium who kept us informed on this great conference which showcased Canadian museums on the world stage.

The **ICOM Canada International Achievement Award** which recognizes Canadian museum professionals or organizations that have demonstrated and promoted excellence in Canadian museology on an international scale was presented to 2018 recipient **Francine Lelièvre**, the Executive Director of the **Pointe-à-Callière Museum National Historic and Archaeological Site**. Madame Lelievre is an esteemed

ambassador in the field of museology, and has steadfastly promoted the field in local, national and international contexts. Her leadership at Pointe-à-Callière has greatly contributed to the site's outstanding success and global reputation for excellence.

ICOM Canada once again offered the **Travel Bursary Program** to help emerging museum professionals build connections and experience. This annual bursary supports participation in any of ICOM's international committee conferences or the annual ICOM conference. This year's recipient was **Cynthia Parra**, who was able to attend ICOM CIPEG (International committee for Egyptology) conference in Swansea, UK, 4 - 7 September 2018.

Remember that your ICOM membership gives you **free admission** to thousands of museums all over the world and access to a network of 24,000 museum professionals. It also offers **specialized committees** that you can join by visiting the ICOM (Paris) website. Additional information can be found on the **new ICOM Canada website launched for 2019!** Follow us on Twitter and Facebook for the latest news from the museum and cultural heritage community.

When renewing your membership, please encourage your institution and fellow staff and colleagues to join the ICOM family. By spreading the word on the value of an ICOM Canada membership, you'll help increase our country's representation on the world stage.

Sincerely,

Marie G. Lalonde
President, ICOM-Canada