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WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE

MONDAY APRIL 9

On behalf of the Hon. Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, and Minister Responsible for Small Business and the Hon. Michael Chan, Minister of International Trade, and OWIT (Organization of Women in International Trade), we invite you to join us for an evening of networking and a lively panel discussion about the importance of women in international trade. There is no fee to attend this event.

When:

Monday April 9, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Where:

YWCA Toronto - 87 Elm St, Toronto

Special Guests:

Hon. Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, and Minister Responsible for Small Business

Hon. Michael Chan, Minister of International Trade

Hon. Harinder Malhi, Minister of the Status of Women

Featured Panelists:

Gillian Riley, EVP Commercial Banking, Scotiabank

Janice McDonald, President & Founder, The Beacon Agency

Amy Chronin, Chair of Ontario Pork and Vice-Chair of the Growth Steering Committee of Agriculture in Ontario

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

Panel Moderator:

Anita Agrawal, CEO of Best Bargains Jewellery and Chair of the Organization of Women in International Trade - Toronto Chapter

Please e-mail your RSVP to Olyvia Little at Olyvia.Little@ontario.ca

We look forward to seeing you at this event!

OWIT- TORONTO IN COLLABORATION WITH OWIT- MONTERREY PROMOTES EXPORT CAPABILITIES OF CANADIAN COMPANIES



Two chapters of the Organization of Women in International Trade – OWIT-Toronto and OWIT-Monterrey hosted a Seminar on “EXPORT CAPABILITIES OF CANADIAN AEROSPACE COMPANIES IN THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE” on March 1, 2018 in Monterrey City in Mexico.

Reneta Johnson, keynote speaker and an expert on international trade tech and aerospace and Founder & CEO of Intradia Inc. (intradia.com) from Toronto, presented on the opportunities and challenges for SMEs on potential Canadian–Mexican projects in the Aerospace industry. Reneta describes "Mexico is a hidden gem at Canada's doorstep".

Claire Barnouin, executive director of the Monterrey Aerospace cluster, joined the podium and discussion. Supported by the Canadian Consulate of Monterrey and UDEM University (Universidad de Monterrey), the event was well attended by local corporations, entrepreneurs and business and industry leaders.

The upcoming OWIT-Toronto businesswomen's trade mission to Monterrey scheduled for November this year will be an opportunity for Canadian companies to explore untapped export opportunities in various sectors, and especially Aerospace, Automotive and Information and Communication Technology. For more information, visit <http://owit-toronto.ca/event-2727874>

AGM ATTRACTS RECORD INTEREST IN BOARD POSITIONS

Many thanks to all who attended our recent AGM meeting. As OWIT Toronto continues to grow, we are very grateful for the record interest in joining our board this year. We would like to sincerely thank all those who applied to be on our board. Our current vacancies were filled by four new board members:

Carolina Soto

Jessica Spina

Julia Nguyen

Helen Hemmingsen.

We are excited and delighted to have these talented women see our vision carried out this year!

We also want to heartily thank all the contributions of four outgoing board members. We could not have accomplished our goals without their excellent contributions and hard work over the past years.

Maria Marchyshyn

Laura Murray

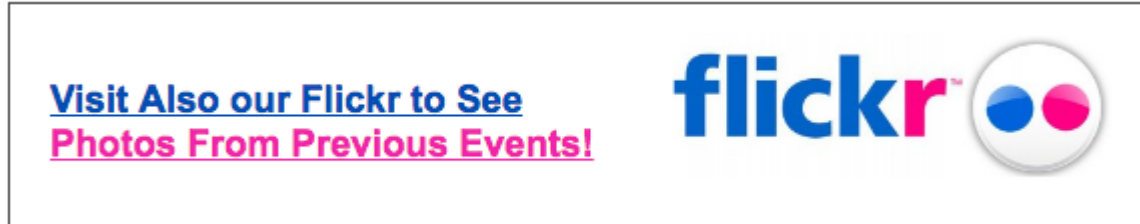
Liane Sacdalan

Carolyn Stroz

The OWIT Toronto board is made up of volunteers who are invited to participate in two year terms. Because of the growing interest in our activities, we have expanded our team to

include two new committees in addition to the board: the sponsorship and fundraising committee and the event planning committee.






If you are interested in joining either of these committees or would like to attend our annual strategic planning session on Sunday April 22, please email anita@bbjw.com



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-  Round table discussed Pacific Alliance
-  Businesswomen's trade mission
-  18th Annual OWIT conference - hosted by OWIT NAIROBI
-  Save the date: OWIT-TORONTO'S 2018 Gala and Awards
-  Join OWIT-TORONTO today!



June 18, 2018

BUSINESS WITH BELGIUM – IT'S ALL ABOUT CETA



OWIT-Toronto recently partnered with the [Belgian Canadian Business Chamber \(BCBC\)](#) for a joint event on **CETA**, the [Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement](#) with the European Union. Our President, Anita Agrawal, was among four panelists who, together, gave an excellent overview of CETA. Owner of Best Bargains Jewellery and an exporter to over 20 countries, including those in Europe, Anita provided practical tips on how to sell abroad. These include: hire a student to help do your research, access Canada's Trade Commissioner Service for additional help, participate in trade missions, attend chamber of commerce meetings to pick up tips, meet new contacts and find out about available government support, and visit the EU to start building relationships.

The session was moderated by Christian Frayssignes, VP, BCBC. Other panelists covered the benefits for Canadian companies brought in by CETA, which is a very progressive agreement (*Andrew Defor, VP, Canadian International Council, TO Branch*), the government procurement chapter in CETA (*Pasquale Madonna, Sr Consultant, Trade & Customs, KPMG*), the support available to Ontario exporters from the government (*Romi Jaszczynski, Sr Export Advisor, Ontario Ministry of International Trade*), and an overview of the Belgian market (*Andre van der Heyden, VP & COO, BCBC*).

This was an information-packed event. Don't miss out on future ones!

VIRTUAL PANEL AND DISCUSSION - OWIT INTERNATIONAL

June 19, 2018 from Noon to 1 pm EST

FREE for OWIT members

Non-Members: USD\$40.00

	
<p>Molly Jantzen <i>A global business leader with diverse supply chain background from OEM, supplier, contract manufacturing, and enterprise software platform perspectives.</i></p>	<p>Aisha Eccleston <i>A strategy focused international logistics professional, recently named one of the Jacksonville Business Journal's Top 40 under 40, recognizing Jacksonville's most successful young business leaders.</i></p>

The OWIT Virtual Chapter presents its latest virtual member highlight and discussion event! This month, our discussion will focus on expanding your global network. How can you add value or access resources in your international business activities? What are some considerations when going global? After our featured members speak, we'll ask participants to introduce themselves, discuss some of the resources they tap into for their international business needs and questions, and touch on how they bring value to global trade. We hope that this event allows participants to network, make connections, and expand their own global networks!

[Register now!](#)

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSED PACIFIC ALLIANCE



OWIT-Toronto is increasingly being invited to give input on free trade agreements. Most recently, in May, some members participated in a joint Global Affairs Canada and OWIT Roundtable for Women Entrepreneurs with Canada's Ambassadors to Chile, Colombia, Peru and Mexico on opportunities in the Pacific Alliance. Moderated by OWIT-Toronto President Anita Agrawal, the roundtable featured overviews from Patricia Peña (Ambassador of Canada to Chile), Marcel Lebleu (Ambassador of Canada to Colombia), Gwyn Kutz (Ambassador of Canada to Peru and Bolivia) and Pierre Alarie (Ambassador of Canada to Mexico).

The Pacific Alliance is a regional initiative created in 2011 by Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru that seeks the free movement of goods, services, capital and people. As one of the first countries invited to become an Associated State of the Pacific Alliance, Canada is currently negotiating a free trade agreement with Alliance members as a bloc. Canada has comprehensive free trade agreements with all four Pacific Alliance members individually.

The women-owned business attendees at the roundtable gave their input on what is needed to facilitate trade with the Pacific Alliance countries and posed specific questions about opportunities and challenges.

BUSINESSWOMEN'S TRADE MISSION TO MEXICO



Location: Monterrey, Mexico
Dates: November 12-16, 2018

Join us in Monterrey for an opportunity to meet with representatives of clusters, industry executives and government officials in the business community in Mexico! Mission

participants will be provided with an opportunity to get an inside look on supply chain opportunities in the manufacturing and services sector. This is a trade mission designed specifically for women, to allow for the exchange of trade intelligence and knowledge, and to provide business owners with an opportunity to connect with prospective clients and business partners. For more information, and to register, please refer to our website at the link below:

[Click here!](#)

18th ANNUAL OWIT CONFERENCE



[REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!](#)

BRIDGING THE GAP: Empowering Businesses To Go Global

Date: October 25, 2018

Location: Nairobi, Kenya

Hosted by OWIT Nairobi

USD25 DISCOUNT FOR EARLY BIRD TICKETS!

(Purchased by August 24 - Don't delay!)

OWIT members from our more than 20 chapters worldwide will converge with supporters and experts in their field to explore ways to empower the local community and women leaders in trade through inclusive and forward-looking policy.

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- Explore how to enhance women's capacity to engage in international trade.
- Address the constraints in accessing new markets and to build women's capacity to benefit from cross-border trade.
- Initiate action-oriented conversations that result in greater women participation in trade globally.
- Foster conversations about obtaining alternate, competitive sources of investment capital required for women entrepreneurs to scale up their businesses.
- Provide a platform to connect women across traditional, emerging and developed markets.
- Understand the capacity of domestic and international organizations to dismantle the trade challenges identified by stakeholders.
- Refine and affirm the commitment and pledges from stakeholders for the key messages that emerge from the conference.

[Click here for more information!](#)

SAVE THE DATE: OWIT-TORONTO'S 2018 GALA AND AWARDS



Date: September 19, 2018

Time: 5.30 – 9.00 pm

Location: Toronto Region Board of Trade, Downtown Toronto

Mark off the date and stay tuned for more details and registration info, along with a link to nominations for our 2018 Awards.

JOIN OWIT-TORONTO TODAY!



Membership Benefits:

- Networking
- Business Development
- Education and Training
- Representation
- Early-Bird Offers
- Strategic Alliances

FIND OUT MORE...

Visit Also our Flickr to See
Photos From Previous Events!



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