



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

The Insurance Institute of Canada elects new board

(Toronto, ON –November 3, 2016) The Insurance Institute of Canada has elected Jean-François Blais, FCAS, FCIA, as chair of its board of governors at its 63rd annual general meeting on October 25 in Charlottetown, P.E.I.

The Insurance Institute is the premier professional education body for the property & casualty (p&c) insurance industry in Canada. It sets professional standards for the industry through education programs, leading to a range of designations such as the internationally recognized Chartered Insurance Professional (CIP) and Fellow Chartered Insurance Professional (FCIP).

Blais is currently president of Intact Insurance, a position he has held since 2011. Previously he led AXA Canada's operations for seven years as a board member and chief executive. He was elected deputy chairman of The Insurance Institute of Canada in November 2015.

Blais has a bachelor's degree in Actuarial Science from Laval University, and is a Fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society and the Canadian Institute of Actuaries.

"I am pleased to assume this leadership role at the Insurance Institute, which has a distinguished tradition of supporting the careers and growth of Canadian p&c insurance professionals," Blais said. "As the p&c industry continues to evolve, it is important for insurance professionals to continue to develop and advance their skills, and improve their knowledge to grow professionally and personally."

Peter Hohman, MBA, FCIP, ICD.D, president and CEO of the Insurance Institute of Canada, says the board plays a pivotal role in charting the future direction of p&c insurance education.

"Our board is committed to providing the p&c industry with relevant, high-quality education that insurance professionals can apply to serve the needs of Canadian insurance consumers," said Hohman. "The Institute is pleased to accommodate a wide variety of learning preferences and styles. We are always looking for new ways to make our education available in spaces where members find it easiest to learn, whether that be in classrooms or online."

The Insurance Institute of Canada's 2016-17 executive committee of the board of governors also includes:

- **Lynn Oldfield**, MBA, FCIP, CRM, President and CEO of AIG Insurance Company of Canada (Deputy Chair of the Board);
- **S.J. (Jeff) Goy**, ACAS, CIP, President and CEO of The Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company (Vice Chair, Governor at Large);
- **J.R. (Bob) Tisdale**, MBA, FCIP, CRM, ICD.D, President and COO of Pembridge and Pafco Insurance Companies (immediate Past Chair).

Elected regional vice chairs are: Robert Katzell, BA (Hons), LLB, (Western provinces); Tom Reikman, MBA, HBS, CIP, (Ontario); Simon Charbonneau, FPAA, CRM, (Québec); and Kathy Stewart, CIP, (Atlantic provinces).

Divisional vice chairs are: Michael Wills, FCIP, (Academic) and Mike Kosturik, BA, FCIP, (Professionals’).

About the Insurance Institute: The Insurance Institute is the premier source of professional education and career development for the country’s property and casualty insurance industry. Established in 1899, the Institute is a not-for-profit organization serving more than 39,000 members across Canada through 19 volunteer-driven provincial Institutes and chapters.

For more information, please visit **insuranceinstitute.ca**.

Details about the Insurance Institute’s CIP designation are available at **beassured.ca**.

– 30 –

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