



A red rectangular banner with the text 'POC Talk' in white. 'POC' is in a bold, sans-serif font, and 'Talk' is in a slightly lighter, sans-serif font.

POC Talk November 2016

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meet your 2016-2017 Board of Directors

The votes are in, both at the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, November 5th in Vancouver and by email tally, and POC is proud to introduce you to the new Board. While there are some familiar faces, there are also some new ones. Together they will be working hard to serve the membership and further strengthen the association.

2016-2017 POC Board of Directors

Stephanie Deakin – President
Janice Kirwin – Vice-President
Susan Toth – Director of Finance
Samantha Kristoferson – Director of Membership
Marie Potter – Director of Marketing
Laura Kay – Director of Chapters
Pearl Cluff – Director of Communications
Angie LeClair – Director of Development
Tamara Liebmann – Director of Education
Maggie Megenbir – Director-at-Large
Dennise Conforti – Director-at-Large

Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote both in-person and electronically.

We would like to say thank you to Peg Bradshaw and Soraiya Kara, who have left the board, for all their hard work, support and dedication to POC and their membership. They are truly wonderful volunteers and will be missed.

AWARDS COMMITTEE NEWS

2016 Harold Taylor Award Winners

We would like to congratulate our 2016 Harold Taylor Award Winners – yes this year we had a tie!

Linda Chu of Out of Chaos Professional Organizing Solutions from Vancouver is one of the founders of the BC Lower Mainland Chapter, a Gold Leaf Member and has served on the POC National Board. Linda is considered a leader in the industry for her professionalism and expertise. She has been a dedicated member in many capacities for POC for nearly 15 years.

Soraiya Kara of POSabilities Personal Organizing from Burnaby, BC is a member of the BC Lower Mainland Chapter, a Gold Leaf Member, has volunteered for POC for many years at the Chapter level and on the POC National Board. Soraiya was a pioneer in the industry before it evolved and made it her passion to help and motivate other Organizers in our association to make them feel the impossible was possible. She has been a public ambassador for POC and believes that Organizers will make a difference within their association.



2016 Ambassador Award Winner

We would like to congratulate our 2016 Ambassador Award Winner – **Kelly Hipkin** of Organized Lives Ltd., from Calgary, is a member of the Calgary Chapter, and a Silver Leaf Member. Kelly has been an active member since joining POC in 2008 and has held many executive positions within her chapter. She is best known as our POC cheerleader with her positive energy and passion for organizing.



2016 President's Award Winner

Congratulations to **Marie Potter** who was presented with the Professional Organizers in Canada President's Award at the 2016 Conference.

Marie Potter is one of the founders of the BC Lower Mainland (BCLM) Chapter of Professional Organizers in Canada where she arranged free office space for POC meetings for many years. She was on the BCLM Executive for 2 years (2003-2004) and was instrumental in NOWeek marketing. A Silver Leaf Member, she has served on the POC National Board as the director of marketing since 2013. She is currently one of POC's national spokespersons and holds a PMP certification.



Marie led the Website Redesign Taskforce, Biz-Zone, AssociationsFirst and the French Translation team over a 2 year period to recreate the POC website. Today as a result of her outstanding contribution to POC and teamwork, POC enjoys a responsive, trend setting, concise and user-friendly website.

Thank you to the AWARDS COMMITTEE, Jane Veldhoven, Marilyn Litster and Colin Cameron.

Janice Kirwin
[Vice-President](#)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE (NCC) NEWS

A Successful "OCEANS OF OPPORTUNITY" Conference!



With the 2016 POC Conference now behind us, the National Conference Committee would like to thank all those who gave their time and expertise to make the conference a success. Feedback throughout conference was very positive and we loved seeing how fully you participated in every aspect. #POCConf2016 was truly full of Oceans of Opportunity!

A special thank you goes to Julie Stobbe who served as the Advanced Recognition Lead for the past two years. She not only fulfilled her duties in this role both years, but she also stepped in last year as Program Lead when the position was vacated mid-year, and this year she helped cover the Entertainment Lead's responsibilities when Kym had to leave conference for a family emergency. Thank you Julie! We'll miss you on the National Conference Committee!

Our thanks also go to:

- The speakers, coaches, expert panelists, and moderators
- Our exhibitors, sponsors, advertisers, and the businesses who donated prizes
- Our POC Board of Directors
- The BC Lower Mainland Chapter who made us feel so welcome in Vancouver
- And last but not least, all the conference delegates who took time out of their schedules to attend. Thank you for investing in yourselves, your businesses, and our association by making conference a priority in your year!

Bed Bath & Beyond Receives Best Exhibitor Award

Bed Bath and Beyond was the recipient of the Best Exhibitor Award at the 2016 POC Conference, as voted on by the delegates. Here's what Joann Vellera and Samantha Gleeson said after conference: "We were thrilled to be there and had a very productive and fun time getting to meet and personally speak to the organizers that attended. We appreciate all your support and look forward to growing this partnership together over the next year, leading up to next year's conference. Thanks!" If you didn't apply for their POC discount program at the Expo, you can call them to apply or email Joann.Vellara@bedbath.com.

Save the date and your money for #POCConf2017!

We look forward to seeing you in Toronto, ON, November 2-4, 2017 for the 2017 POC Conference at the Westin Prince Hotel! Save the date on your calendar and start saving up for the expenses of conference too. As you create your 2017 budget, plan to set aside enough each month so you'll be able to join us there!

Thank you for sharing your photos, stories, and what you were learning throughout the conference on [Twitter](#) and in the [Conference FB group](#). Plans are already underway for #POCConf2017 so stay tuned for announcements!

New Education Director

A very warm welcome to Tamara Liebmann our new Director of Education! Tamara is from Montreal (Cote Ste.-Luc) and is a member of the Montreal Chapter where she is currently on the executive as co-chair. She has been a member of POC since 2012 and her company A Simplified Life primarily focuses on residential organizing. She has her TPO certificate, eSmmart certificate and is also a member of ICD. She worked previously as a pre-school teacher, speaks 3 languages fluently, volunteers for the Montreal SPCA and is a Mental Health Ambassador for Canada. Her family time is spent with her husband, 2 teenage daughters and 2 dogs who keep her wonderfully busy.

TPO Exams

Participants who wrote the Trained Professional Organizer exam in Vancouver earlier this month will be notified of their marks by mail in the coming week.

In 2017, the Trained Professional Organizer exam will be offered again at the Chapter level mid-year (May-June) as well as at Conference in Toronto (November). Details will be announced in future POC Talks.

TPO January to June 2017 Teleclass Schedule

The January – June 2017 teleclasses are currently being uploaded to the website. Please refer to the POC [Education Calendar](#) in the coming weeks.

COMMITTEE NEWS

Nominating Committee

Adele Lapointe, Cathy Mendler and Jeff Orr have agreed to stay on the committee for a second year, so we are looking for 2 more volunteers to join us. We would like to see some members from the western and eastern provinces.

Awards Committee

Jane Veldhoven and Marilyn Litster have agreed to stay on the committee for a second year, so we are looking for one more volunteer to join us.

Ethics Committee

We have received some applications to date but are still looking for a few more for our Standing Ethics Committee, please complete the [application form](#) and forward to Meghan Howard, [Executive Director](#).

Education Committee

Our education committee is now complete with Hilda Rodgers, Kathryn Lyle and a warm welcome to Allison Weigensberg.

National Conference Committee

The National Conference Committee will be looking for one new member to join their committee. The Advanced Recognition Lead is open.

Please contact anyone on the Nominating Committee or Janice Kirwin, [Vice-President](#) if you are interested in serving on any of these committees. Thank you to everyone for all your hard work, dedication and wonderful POC volunteers.

Janice Kirwin
[Vice-President](#)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Our sister association APDO, in the UK, has just announced their next conference, March 21-22, 2017, in London. For more information [check their new website](#). POC members are eligible to receive [member pricing here](#).

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

New Associate Member



For more than 30 years, Clothesline has been collecting gently used clothing and household items through donation boxes, home pick-ups and partnerships with local businesses.

This innovative and free program not only benefits the environment by diverting items from landfills, but raises significant funds for the Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA) in the fight against diabetes. Specifically, proceeds raised from Clothesline help the CDA send more than 2,400 children and youth with type 1 diabetes to the CDA's D-Camps, summer and family camps offered across Canada. Additionally, proceeds raised have helped the CDA fund world-leading Canadian research that has contributed to the development of new treatments and devices, ways to prevent type 2 diabetes and search for a cure. For more information and to schedule a pick-up, visit diabetes.ca/clothesline. "Like" us on [Facebook](#) and follow us [@DiabetesClothes](#).

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Gold and Silver Nuggets of Wisdom

Gold and Silver Leaf members share their nuggets of wisdom as experienced organizers in this one page document developed at the Gold and Silver Leaf Reception at the 2016 POC Conference in Vancouver, B.C. Posted on the [Members Only side of the website](#) under Downloads & Guidelines, Membership tab.

CHAPTER NEWS

Chapter Chat for Chapter Executives: Wednesday Nov. 30 at 8 e.s.t.

Topic: The Cycle of Life for a POC Member. This will be a repeat presentation that occurred at the Leadership Forum during the 2016 Conference. If you weren't able to attend then, we would welcome your participation and opinions at this Chat.

A reminder email with the communication link will be sent out a couple days prior.

At least one member from each Executive should be encouraged to attend.

There will not be a Chapter Chat in December.

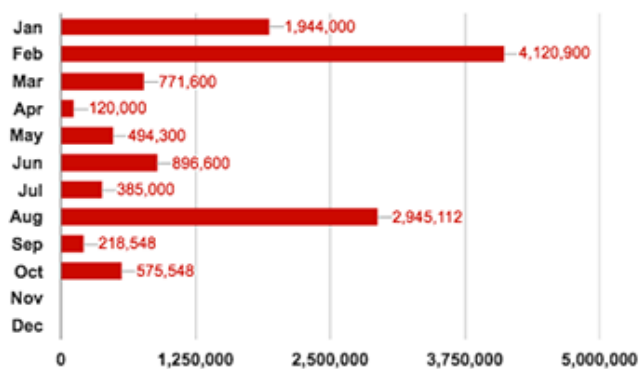
Website Calendar Updates:

Remember to send the monthly dates and topics for your Chapter meetings for the 2017 year as early as possible to chapter-updates@organizersincanada.com. The sooner you provide the information on the web-site, the more encouraging it will be to guests and members to plan their attendance.

Laura Kay
[Director of Chapters](#)

POC IN THE MEDIA

2016 Reach



POC reached **575,548 impressions** for October 2016!

De-clutter your desktop

Share Share 0 Share 0 Share 0 Write to us Print

Cleaning up your computer screen and organizing your files can improve your efficiency

By Denise Poiré | October 07, 2016 12:00



Clutter on your computer desktop can hobble productivity just as much as a messy workspace can. It can make important files difficult to find and make you less efficient.

October 7 — Linda Chu shared tips on [Decluttering Your Desktop](#). POC was mentioned in association with Linda's quote. Investment Executive

October 7 — POC's story on [Decluttering to Sell Your Home](#) was featured with a quote from Marie



Potter. The article linked back to the POC website. The story had over 190 likes on Facebook! Huffington Post



October 12 — Georgina Forrest appeared on Breakfast Television Calgary in a segment on [How to Organize a Car Safety Road Kit](#). POC was mentioned and appeared on screen. The segment was also featured on the BT Calgary website. Breakfast Television Calgary

5 Tips to declutter your home office from professional organizer Carolyn Caldwell

In Canada by TheRedPin / October 19, 2016 / Leave a Comment



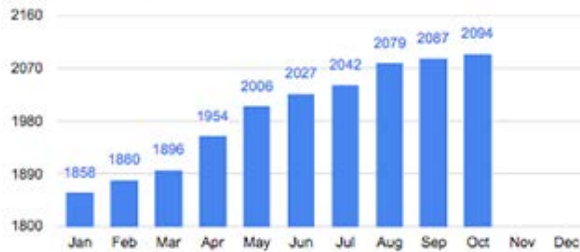
October 22 — Carolyn Caldwell wrote a piece for The Red Pin on [Organizing and Decluttering Your Home Office Space](#), on behalf of POC. Included in the article were two mentions of POC and a link to the website. The Red Pin Blog

SOCIAL MEDIA

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SHOW SOME LOVE ... Follow us at <https://www.pinterest.com/POCCanada/>



POC is a proud affiliate of NAPO, ICD, NASMM and APDO

POC recognizes and thanks all our Associate Members for their ongoing support and partnership.



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468 Queen Street East, LL-02
Toronto, Ontario M5A 1T7
www.organizersincanada.com

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