



NEWS RELEASE

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IBABC names Julie Skelton as successor to executive director and chief operating officer

VANCOUVER – 03 June, 2024 – The Insurance Brokers Association of B.C. (IBABC) is pleased to announce its board has appointed Julie Skelton CAIB CPRIA to replace retiring executive director and chief operating officer, Chuck Byrne.

Skelton has been in the insurance industry for more than 35 years. Having grown up in a small brokerage firm, she understands the struggles of small brokers and is passionate about helping brokers of all sizes and regions. Skelton began her career with a small brokerage firm and spent her first 15 years there, followed by three years at a regional brokerage before joining HUB International in 2006 as a branch manager. She moved up through the ranks to her current position as vice president personal insurance operations.

“I am excited for the opportunity to focus my passion, experience and pride in this industry to represent all B.C. brokers with a strong and dedicated voice for the broker channel and the clients and communities we serve,” Skelton said.

Skelton will join IBABC on Aug. 1, with a plan to transition during the following months and fully take over the role from Byrne upon his retirement on Dec. 31.

Skelton is well-known in the B.C. insurance industry and with insurance markets nationally, having assisted with insurer relationships over the past 25 years. She presented at the 2022 IBABC Leaders’ Conference during the “Climate Change” session, speaking about the role of brokers after the atmospheric river flooded the Fraser Valley in fall 2021 and her experience helping clients filing Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) paperwork with government. Skelton has also consulted on government’s review of the DFA program and provided expert insight to IBABC’s feedback to the province’s emergency preparedness review and updates.

“The selection committee was very impressed with Julie,” said Andrew Janzen, IBABC chair of the board and selection committee chair. “Her experience and passion for the industry are a great guiding compass for leading the association.”

“Julie has a strong grasp of the issues facing brokers and the industry as a whole,” said Michele Carver, IBABC president. “She played a huge role in advocating for brokers and the people in her community after the 2021 floods and now also with wildfire. What she thinks of as ‘just doing her job’ is truly an example of the leadership and advocacy we want for our members.”

Speaking on behalf of the IBABC board and Chuck Byrne, Rosy Puri-Manhas, IBABC vice-president, said it is fortunate to have found a candidate with such a strong background as a broker and a leader. “IBABC has provided strong advocacy for brokers and for consumers during its 106-year history. We believe that Julie will continue that legacy and be the guiding hand needed for the association to continue to thrive.”

About IBABC

The Insurance Brokers Association of B.C. serves as the voice of the general insurance brokerage industry and promotes its members as the premier distributors of insurance products and services in British Columbia. IBABC is the primary provider of pre-licensing and continuing professional education for the general insurance brokers in B.C. IBABC represents the interests of the public and its member brokers to government and to industry stakeholders. **Contact:** Sarah Polson, COMMUNICATIONS Director, IBABC 604 606 8008 spolson@ibabc.org