



International Association for Counselling

Founded 1966

IAC Association's Roundtable Meeting, Toronto, April 2023

On Saturday the 1st of April 2023 an IAC Association's Roundtable Meeting took place in Toronto, Canada. Attendees were from Associations attending the American Counseling Association's (ACA) Conference and Expo 2023.

The Association's RoundTable provided an ideal opportunity for the leaders of member associations to meet and discuss the issues that impact our profession worldwide. At the meeting we heard country updates and updated the attendees on IAC activities. Discussion centred on how best we can partner and assist in the development of counselling in countries and regions. We particularly welcomed participation by new associations and organisations. Global considerations included:

- The exponential rise in numbers of counsellors worldwide.
- The need to develop professional counselling identity and professional unity worldwide.
- The IAC Regional (IAC Africa, IAC Asia-Pacific, IAC Europe, IAC Latin America and the Caribbean, IAC North America, IAC Middle East and Central Asia) aims.
- Professional unity as a requirement by: National Governments, Funders, Regional Bodies (e.g., the European Union, The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, The African Union) and the United Nations (U.N.). These intergovernmental and governmental bodies want to work with a united profession.
- Learning from international organizations representing kindred professions that are more advanced than counselling (e.g., Nursing, Social Work and Psychology).
- Increasing Global Policy and Recommendations as a united profession (2023 IAC examples: Universal Ethical principles for the Counselling Profession, Global Remote/ Online Counselling Guidelines, and Suicide Prevention for Counsellors).
- How, under the IAC umbrella -- as an *Association of Associations* – can we collaborate to help our members with global issues such as: Climate Change; Refugees / Migration / Displaced peoples; War and Conflict; Child and Youth safety online; Racial Discrimination: Poverty; Gender Equality; Economic Inequality; Rights of LGBTQ+ People; Catastrophic Pandemics; and Political Polarization.

Membership options for national associations ([HERE](#)), and IAC Affiliate Membership – that directly benefits national association's individual members ([HERE](#)) were also discussed. Associations asked for assistance in the communication of these enhanced offerings.

We look forward to enhancing the partnership and to work closely with our member associations.



Photo L to R: Naoise Kelly (IAC CEO), Natalie Bailey (BACP Chair), Anna Daroy (BACP CEO), Nate Perron (IAC Secretary and ACA IC Leader), Philip Armstrong (ACA CEO), Roberta Borgen (LifeStrategies Founder), Grant Merrell (LivingWorks Manager), Beth Kelln (LivingWorks Manager), Carrie Foster (CCPA President-Elect), Laurie Persch (AMHCA), Seamus Sheedy (IACP, Cathaoirleach), Jodie McKenzie (ACA, Deputy CEO), Wendi Schweiger-Moore (NBCC Director), Lisa Molloy (IACP CEO), Desiree Carlson (IAC Council Member), Bill Nicoll (IAC Events), Angele Moss-Baker (AMHCA Past-President), Bill Borgen (IAC President), Frank Lartey (Lartey Wellness CEO), Kim Hollihan (CCPA CEO).

How to cite IAC Information

Any citation should use the following reference: IAC Roundtables (2023).

Compiled by: Naoise Kelly, IAC CEO. ceo@iac-irtac.org

All text, images, graphics, and other materials herein are subject to the copyright and other intellectual property rights of IAC unless otherwise stated. Please feel free to share, copy, distribute, and transmit the content of this work under the condition that you attribute the work by using the citation (above).

Thank You, IAC, 2023.