

October 2018

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



When I heard that there was someone that was looking at starting up a new “networking” group here in Saskatoon it intrigued me. I then met with Karen Skirten and she started talking about what EWI was all about and how it has made an impact in

her life. Since that day I was “in” you could say. I joined the Board as Director of Program, I figured with my hotel background it would be the best fit.

I then started to learn more and more about what the organization was all about and what it stood for, and I was very impressed, the personal development, the connections I have made with women in this community I probably wouldn’t have met otherwise

Then the opportunity came to become Vice President last year. I wasn’t sure I was ready, however with the support of the Board and knowing that a TEAM always achieves more, I was in.

With that I had the opportunity to attend this years LCAM which until I really was going had no idea what it stood for or what it was all about. LCAM stands for Leadership Conference & Annual Meeting. So with that I would like to thank all the members who helped with some of the fundraising we did over the summer to get me there.

LCAM was a great experience, I had the opportunity to get to know women from chapters all across North America and really got to know a few ladies from our neighbouring chapter EWI of Calgary. Brenda Davis who is the EWI of Calgary President for 2018-2019 and I had the privilege to be part of the a Reading Rally put on by the EWI Corporate Board. We were bussed to the Walnut Creek school where we had the opportunity to hear from their Principle of the school, she was very passionate about her students and how important literacy is and that we were

there to not only donate 1000 NEW books, but also spend time with the students. We were split into groups and each went into to different class rooms to read to the kids. This was truly inspiring to me, and also nerve racking, as I don’t have kids (I am an aunt and a good one) and don’t read out loud very often, and usually if I had to I am able to read it over first. But there you felt welcomed and the children loved having us as did the teachers. This is an experience I will never forget and I have EWI to thank for that, as this is something I may not have done without them.

From there I attended the Leadership Caucus which is an extra meeting for the incoming presidents, where we get to hear from the incoming Corporate President Ronwyn Anderson. I believe she is the first President to be an independent member. We learned more about how the organization works as whole, and her focus this year of Retain Grow Inspire. Then that evening we attended the welcome reception where

were able to meet many others from various other chapters and exchanged Pins from our cities, this was a lot of fun.

The next day LCAM was started with a great opening address and a wonderful Keynote speaker, JuliAnn Stitick who spoke What is our Purpose, what fuels it, the ability and freedom to forgive and the importance of friends. She then also hosted a break out session on Strong Branding and spoke about our personal brand and what we need to do to be the best we can be. The second breakout workshop was with Lori Giovannoni (Lori G) who is the Dean of the EWI Academy of Leadership (AOL), she spoke to us about how our personality is your most valuable communication tool. We did the DISC training so we could find out our strengths and weaknesses, and how to be able to work with the other personality types. We then went on to the Town Hall which is a session where the membership is able to ask question about proposed changes that will be discussed and voted on at the Annual Meeting, and that evening was the 80's Themed EWI Birthday Anniversary Celebration as EWI as a whole turned 80 years in April. This was a fun night with some BIG hair and a lot of neon!

Friday Morning we attended the awards breakfast where they hand out awards for chapter growth, and the other awards. We then proceeded to the AOL training with Lori G where we talked about the 4 different generations, Silent Generation, Baby Boomers, Generation X'ers and the Millennials and how this is the first time in history that we have four generation with in the workplace and that by 2020 Millennials will be the majority of the workforce and we need to learn to communicate and change with the times or we will get left behind. We had some great discussions within the room and how to better approach communication with each generation.

Saturday was the last day, and started in the morning with our Annual Meeting, this was very interesting as I have never had the opportunity to experience a formal meeting like this. We then attended the Leadership Luncheon where we honored all the outgoing presidents for their hard work and commitment, and I would like to thank Alisa for her commitment to EWI of Saskatoon this past year!

This was a great experience and want to again thank the membership as well as the board in allowing me the opportunity to attend. It was a great experience and I look forward to attending again next year.

Sincerely,

Sandra Miller
Board President



LCAM Report

Hi my EWI cohorts. Alisa here. Hope you will read this article on what LCAM 2018 meant too me. Enjoy!!

Hi Cortney.

I'm from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. This was my first LCAM ever. What an experience and adventure it was! First I really do want to thank you for all you do. I have helped put on some larger events myself and its always a challenge. I could only imagine how challenging it would be to run an event completely of strong-willed, proud woman, which all have opinions on everything. LOL. So from my heart, I fully appreciate all you did to help pull off this amazing event.

After attending LCAM 2018 my crazy ass experience to get to Raleigh, NC was worth it. Driving through the night from New York City airport to Raleigh was a small price to pay to attend the event. Even sleep deprived and drained I took away so much from this event.

To put things into context on how much LCAM 2018 meant to me I would like to share some of my Chapter experience. I was supposed to only be Vice-President while attending this year's LCAM, due to unforeseen events our President of Saskatoon EWI stepped down. There I was...3 months a Vice-President in a brand new chapter and all of a sudden I'm now leading. Talk about a challenge. It was hard to be any kind of a leader without any experience. Luckily I had the powerful brain, experience and passion of Karen Skirten to help out.

Moving forward with Karen's help was the only option. So I didn't back down. I did the best I could to blindly try and lead. It was difficult at times to say the least, as I also run three of my own businesses. Basically in a nutshell...I'm time poor to put it in perspective. I was really looking forward to LCAM because deep down I knew it was the missing piece to my puzzle. LCAM would give me the knowledge to understand the reasons EWI does what we do. Oh boy...did LCAM deliver!!

I received much more than the answers I was looking for! LCAM not only taught me the inner workings of EWI, but it also showed me a culture and family. More than I could have ever hoped for. Now I feel like I have a sister in almost every part of North America. Incredible family power. A network of hard-working women who all have a common goal for community and change.

I have always appreciated the value of a ripple effect. The idea of working together as a whole to offer someone an opportunity to better themselves through education is a priceless ripple effect. By coming to LCAM I was truly able to see the full picture of an educated ripple effect through the scholarship programs. To see the recipients of these great programs was invaluable.

I may not fully understand all the rules and regulations of EWI yet, but by attending LCAM I now understand why the foundation of all these concepts are there. I learned that a common goal needs order to be placed forward with meaning and purpose. The struggle of allowing everyone to have a voice, an opinion and an option are real. By having LCAM, the voices, options and opinions can be heard on a strong platform. The platform of LCAM is a strong foundational event for all of this to happen. The best part of LCAM is there are even some great fun moments to partake in.

With the super fun 80's dance and the pin collection evening, there was a smile on my face for many days following LCAM. To see the creativity of sooo many women's costumes and air bands was so enlightening and entertaining. The fun and competition of the air bands were too funny for words. I feel strongly, the

event kicking off with the pin collection evening sets a great tone. To be able to allow each chapter to bring a little piece of home to share with everyone is such a brilliant way to kick off LCAM. (I know the reading rally was the true kickoff of LCAM ...unfortunately I was unable to attend that event, being 25 minutes late from my driving from New York City).

Not often can someone put learning and fun in the same sentence?! With the leadership courses Lori G taught, it was like learning on steroids and the element of fun brought to the class experience was priceless. The information I took away from the leadership courses will absolutely benefit myself and my company. To truly be a strong leader one must understand themselves so they can have empathy for others. To teach others one must utilize empathy to communicate. Lori G sends this message straight to the heart so it can grow and help cultivate a leadership mindset. Education that is a value to one's business is amazing...education that has value for one's self, as well as their business, is priceless. The leadership courses taught by Lori G at LCAM absolutely delivered the goods!

Another amazing part of LCAM, was listening to Juliann speak. To see that EWI sees great value on personal development is refreshing. I have been working on personal development alongside my business development education for a few years now. So I really do understand how precious personal development education is to anyone wanting to better themselves, their life or their business/work areas.

The other part of the LCAM atmosphere that needs mentioning is the power networking opportunities. As a small business owner, I wholeheartedly understand the true value of networking. To have this caliber of women all under one roof is priceless to any business.

For me, one last big part of LCAM was the EWI board changing leadership. It was great to put faces to names of the new board. Not to mention, I also got to personally speak with almost all of the new board members. Without LCAM this personal touch would not be possible.

Unfortunately, even with driving through the night from New York...I missed partaking in the reading rally. I really hope EWI will continue this portion of LCAM. I heard only great stories about the reading rally and the pictures of the outing looked sooo heartwarming. It was such a pleasure to hear the school principal speak as well.

So I hope this wasn't too long-winded of a report. I just really wanted you to see what I truly saw in LCAM 2018. There were

even more great moments I could go on about...can you say shopping!!...but back to my long-winded comment. LOL.

So thank you and large amounts of gratitude from me, to all who work so hard making the vision of LCAM and EWI a reality.

Sincerely,

Alisa Thompson

Your at the time EWI of Saskatoon President.

DATES TO NOTE

September 26th

5:00pm – Networking and Dinner
Saskatoon Inn

*Tuesday, October 16th

5:00pm – Networking and Dinner
Hillcrest Funeral Home

November 21st

5:00pm – Networking and Dinner
Hillcrest Funeral Home

New Representatives

Please welcome **Tania Nieto**, from Revera and **Sherry Buziak**, from MOBO Promotional Solutions. Juanita King will move into the Executive position for that firm. Welcome ladies! We look forward to getting to know you better.

MOBO Promotional Solutions Clientele Stepped up in a BIG Way for Literacy!

Clients of MOBO were invited to a Client BBQ & Sample Sale held onsite at MOBO on July 25th with all proceeds going to READ.

\$4340.00 was presented to Sheryl Harrow-Yurach, Executive Director and Board Members of READ Saskatoon at their meeting on September 26.

Pictured with Sheryl are (LtoR) CEO Bob King, President Juanita King, and Sales & Marketing Manager Karen Skirten for MOBO Promotional Solutions.



2017-2018 Officers & Directors

President

Alisa Thompson, Epic Alliance Inc.

Vice President

Sandra Miller, Comfort Suites

Secretary

Fran Seidler, Hillcrest Funeral Home

Treasurer

Darlene Biggins

Ways & Means Director

Vacant - This Could Be You!

Recruitment & Retention Director

Vacant – This could be You!

Advisor

Karen Skirten, Sable Consulting

Sergeant-at-Arms

Vacant - This Could Be You!

Programs Director

Kim Jolivet

Communications Director

Michelle Busa

*Hillcrest Funeral Home & Reception Centre
is proud to host a*

Home Vendor Shopping Party
Wednesday, November 14th, 2018

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Men are you looking for that perfect gift for your sweetheart?

Ladies are you hoping to get a head-start or finish up your Christmas shopping?

All are welcome to join us for an evening of shopping fun!

Enter to win door prizes and stop by each vendor to enter to win vendor prizes.

Guests must print their name and phone number for all entries.

Winners will be contacted by phone if not present at time of draw.

All prizes will be drawn for at 7:45 p.m.

An entry fee of \$5 per person will be collected at the door.

All proceeds will go toward Saskatoon Interval House.

Come & see what is new for Winter 2018 from the following vendors:

PartyLite, Yoshi Bella Jewellery, Epicure, Mary Kay, Lipsense, Steeped Tea,

Watkins, Arbonne and many more.

Complimentary Wine & Cheese while you shop.

Bring your friends.

Hillcrest Funeral Home & Reception Centre (east on 8th Street, first right past Briargate Rd). Please use second entrance and follow the light standards to the main doors in the rear parking lot.



The Program: Navigating Change

Change is something that happens to us. Transition is what we do to navigate our way through it.

Lynn Gow will talk about the process of navigating change and how we can use it as a door to personal, professional and organizational transformation.

Guests welcome!

JOIN US!

Wednesday, 21 November

DINNER MEETING

@Hillcrest Funeral Home

5:00—Drinks & Networking

6:00—Dinner

6:45—Program

7:30pm—Adjourn Dinner Meeting

Cost:

\$45/Members

\$50/Guest

Register by November 19th on
ewiofsaskatoon.ca/events

**Connections, Careers,
Community**

