

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF CONVENCO

The CTICC is a strategic asset whose reach and influence go far beyond the city and the province: it has an important local, national and international role to play as well. Indeed, its stated vision to be one of the world's top ten leading long-haul international convention centres by 2020 makes this mission clear.

As such, its value as a gateway into Africa, coupled with its upcoming potential to host much larger gatherings as the CTICC East expansion comes on line, can only grow. That greater capacity will allow its commitment to the knowledge economy to extend still farther, creating and sharing intellectual capital and innovation across the world as it welcomes an increasing range, number and size of events to its expanded offering.

There is, in some ways, an irony here. As the world is being shrunk by technology, so the need for us to connect as people, face-to-face, seems to grow. And this, of course, is what the CTICC provides par excellence – the space and the opportunity for people to meet to bridge international barriers, make cross-cultural connections and solve global problems. The world needs such places more and more.

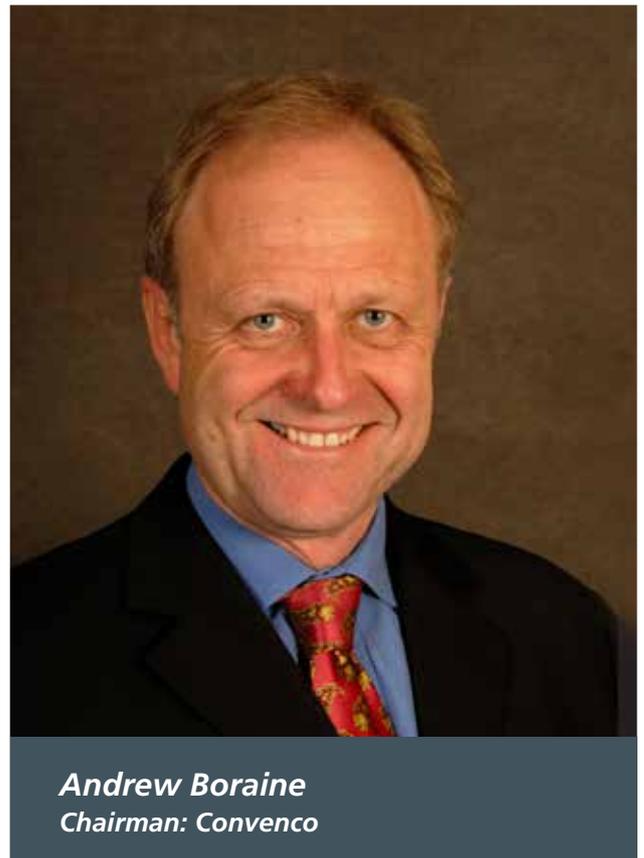
In these pages you will read about international gatherings that have not only brought experts from a vast range of countries together, but have, vitally, left legacies here on the ground in our city, province and country as well. In addition, in this age when the African continent is rising, many of those connections are building African networks as well.

This is something Julie-May Ellingson and her team absolutely understand and are already preparing the ground for as the CTICC East expansion prepares to open early next year. In addition, the CTICC continues to prosper and perform year on year, continually exceeding its targets and making strong contributions to the regional and national economy.

Congratulations to Julie-May, her Executive Management team and her staff for another excellent year.

Finally, I must express my sincere thanks to my fellow Board members, whose continuing commitment to the world-leading vision of the CTICC provides both platform and support for their continuing endeavours and success.

Andrew Boraine
Chairman: Convenco



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