



## Past, present, and future

*CITT/ICTS RENDEZ-VOUS made its live return this summer, August 11 – 13, 2022 on the campus of the University of Calgary, in conjunction with World Stage Design. The 2022 AGM was held during the conference on Saturday, August 13 with both in-person and virtual participants. It is our great pleasure to share the report that our outgoing President Matt Frankish delivered to the members at the opening of this meeting along with a message from our newly-appointed President Paul Del Motte, as well as a brief outlook on Rendez-vous 2022.*

### Matt Frankish's CITT/ICTS President report to the membership

We are finally back together. I'm very happy to connect with those of you attending the conference in person as well as those joining us virtually. The last couple of years have really driven home for me the importance of making our events available online as much as possible, especially in terms of increasing access for members who may be more geographically remote and find attending in-person events to be a challenge.

“ This is the strength of CITT/ICTS: making the connections with those with whom we work, from all over this vast country, and sharing stories and ideas that—at the end of the day—will continue to make us better and build a stronger community. ”

The production industry has undergone incredible upheaval over the last two years, and the landscape looks very different to the one we knew in 2019. To still be here and actively engaged in our backstage community is an achievement for us all. We need to ensure that we continue to assess and adapt to the new realities of our circumstances, remaining relevant and helpful as we navigate this post-pandemic landscape.

As the world continues to emerge from the pandemic, I am pleased to report the following CITT/ICTS successes:

- EXPO-SCÈNE returned to Montréal this past April and engaged



Rick Boychuk presenting the Prairie Section Report at the CITT/ICTS 2022 AGM held in the MacEwan Ballroom.



Members and presenters enjoying some laidback time at Rendez-vous 2022 Closing Reception.

almost 1,500 visitors and 70 exhibitors. The success of EXPO-SCÈNE relieved significant pressure on CITT/ICTS's finances and has enabled us to resume mostly normal operations.

- We welcomed an entire new Regional Section from the Prairies,



Richard Schick presenting the session "Complete Conversion of Your Incandescent Stage Lighting System to an LED System, the Easy Way."



Richard Bugg, Meyer Sound's Digital Products Solutions Architect, presenting the session "Expanding the Art of Sound in Live Theatre."



Participants sharing and discussing work ideas at the "Making it Happen: Technician to Miracle Worker Roundtable."



Welcoming ceremony with Elder Eldon WeaselChild from Siksika (Blackfoot Confederacy Nation) at the Rendez-vous 2022 Opening Soirée.

covering the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. That new section is already doing some excellent work and has submitted a compelling case for holding the conference in Saskatoon in 2024. I look forward to seeing some of you there.

- We finalized and released the Strategic Plan which will set the priorities and the target for the next few years. I hope you've had a chance to read it and understand where the organisation is heading. If you have any questions, please connect with one of the CITT/ICTS Board members to discuss the plan further.
- We successfully secured funding from the federal government to facilitate an Assistantship programme over the next year—look out for more information on this in the future as we will be engaging with the regional sections to find suitable candidates for this programme.
- Finally, we are here at the University of Calgary, meeting with both conference attendees from across Canada and international visitors to World Stage Design, an event we partnered with the University of Calgary on presenting.

None of this would have been possible without two things:

- First, the hard work and dedication of CITT/ICTS's small staff, Monique and Marie-Laure, who keep everything working and provide the glue that holds it all together.
- Secondly, and crucially, the engagement and support of you, the members. To be clear: member involvement at the local, section, and national levels is essential to the success of the organization.

Tomorrow, my tenure as President comes to an end, and I will hand over the reins to Paul Del Motte, the current President Elect. Paul is a long-time supporter of CITT/ICTS and will do an excellent job to carry on and expand the work we have completed so far. I have every confidence that he will continue to improve and strengthen the organisation as we move into the post-pandemic world.

I would like to thank the existing board and membership for their support and understanding over the last couple of years as we collectively navigated some extremely challenging circumstances. I'd like to particularly thank our previous Secretary, Scott Martin, who stepped down from the board earlier this year for personal reasons. His input and assistance will be greatly missed.



Don Parman, Manager Performing Arts & Live Events, Actsafe Safety Association, presenting the session "Pandemic Lessons Learned – A Case for Safety Management."



Esther Van Eek presenting the session "Re-purpose, Up-cycle, Reimagine. Can Costume Go Green?"



Daniel Plumtree presenting the session "Watchout Video."



DPA Microphone's Paul Andrews presenting the session "The Right Sauce for the Source."

So, I can't say that this was the two years I had imagined serving as President, and I suspect it wasn't the two years that most of us were expecting. Despite the challenges, I have found the experience hugely rewarding and have learned an immense amount and developed a more nuanced appreciation of the contributions of CITT/ICTS to our industry.

In closing, I sincerely thank each of you for continuing to engage with our community and your ongoing support of CITT/ICTS. I look forward to continuing to help and work with you in whatever way you'll have me.

## CITT/ICTS President Paul Del Motte's reflections on Rendez-vous 2022

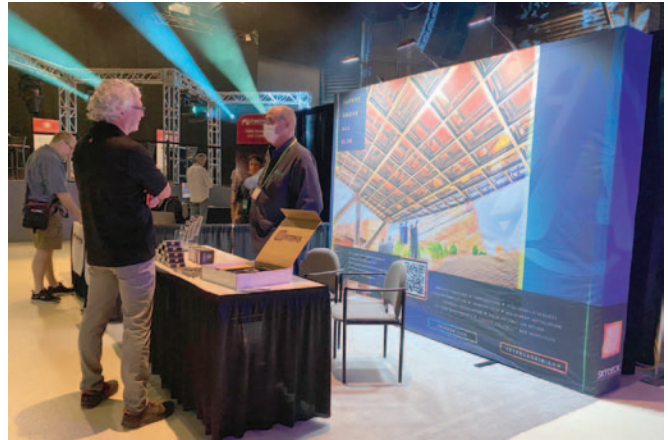
Little did I know that as I left the last event after a successful Rendez-vous in Whitehorse, Yukon on the 17th of August 2019, that it would be CITT/ICTS's last in-person conference for three years. We did not know the storm that was brewing, nor did we know the far-reaching

effects it would have on our industry—our next in-person event would not take place until EXPO-SCÈNE in April of this year. I also did not know that I was going to be returning this year as President Elect, preparing to take over the helm. This was our first co-pro with World Stage Design and CITT/ICTS's international counterpart OSITAT with one registration fee allowing people to attend all events.

The success of this conference could be measured by many metrics: number of people in attendance, diversity of programming, participation at the trade show. All of these were very positive, with over 200 registrants and well-attended presentations. However, I think the most important metric we should use to measure the success of this event was as a gathering of likeminded souls and friends able to meet in person and not just via the life support of our Zoom windows. This is the strength of CITT/ICTS: making the connections with those with whom we work, from all over this vast country, and sharing stories and ideas that—at the end of the day—will continue to make us better and build a stronger community.



Rendez-vous 2022 trade show at the MacEwan Hall.



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Rendez-vous 2022 trade show at the MacEwan Hall.



More than one hundred participants gathered to play bingo and raise money for The AFC.

I look forward to what the next couple of years will bring, both their challenges and successes.

## About CITT/ICTS Rendez-vous 2022 @ World Stage Design (WSD)

Let us start by saying how absolutely wonderful it has been to finally get together in person with CITT/ICTS members, partners, and friends from all horizons. As Rendez-vous and WSD delegates had access to both events with a single registration, it allowed them to participate in a wider range of activities and nourished the feeling of being part of a much larger community.

A few months back, while working on the preparation of the event and the organization of the program alongside the World Stage Design team, we began to grasp the idea of the unique quality of this partnership. After experiencing it and looking back on it now, we can't help but feel a sense of pride and accomplishment, because we know that it truly *was* unique. Seeing the joy in participants

from all around the world as they mingled, learned, and connected, combined with the majestic setting of our surroundings and the humbling and warm welcome of the Indigenous Nations of Alberta proved that it was undoubtedly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, allowing us to proudly say "We were there!"

The Rendez-vous 2022 conference programming on itself offered delegates multiple professional development opportunities and fun social activities, all of which have had great attendance. Topics ranged from theatre rigging, lighting, sound, and architecture to eco-friendly costume design, peer-to-peer mentoring, and safety management, just to name a few. Having learned some lessons from the pandemic, all sessions were streamed live on Zoom, allowing for remote participation.

The Rendez-vous trade show, held over two days at the MacEwan Hall, had good attendance and proved yet again to be a greatly appreciated way to meet and network with industry suppliers, manufacturers, organizations, and schools coming from the host province and across Canada.

Swag Bingo, CITT/ICTS's key fundraising event, was held on Thursday, August 11, and has been a tremendous success yet again, helping CITT/ICTS raise over \$1,700, all of which was donated to The AFC. The venue was packed with more than one hundred fervent bingo players, both from World Stage Design and Rendez-vous 2022, all eager to win corporate swag and bid on the numerous donated special prizes!

CITT/ICTS would like to express its deepest gratitude to all the generous conference sponsors for their support: Christie Lites Sales, University of Alberta, GerrAudio Distribution, Actsafe Safety Association, and the National Theatre School of Canada.

In the spirit of reconciliation, CITT/ICTS acknowledges that Rendez-vous 2022 was held on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Îyâxe Nakoda Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

Mark your calendars: the next CITT/ICTS Rendez-vous Annual Conference and Trade Show will be held in Toronto, ON, August 16 – 19, 2023! ~ The National Office Staff, Matt Frankish, CITT/ICTS Past-President, and Paul Del Motte, CITT/ICTS President. ■



**Matt Frankish** is the Past President of CITT/ICTS. Originally from the UK, he lives near Toronto, ON. After 20 years working as a theatre technician and technical director, he now serves as a Theatre Consultant, designing new and renovating older theatres and performance spaces.



**Paul A. Del Motte** is a founding member and the newly appointed President of CITT/ICTS. He has served as a Production Manager and Technical Director for the Drama Studies Program at Mount Allison University in Sackville, NB, for more than 35 years. As part of this position, he has organized and supported shows of diverse eras and styles in a variety of spaces. He has worked on more than 400 shows both at Mount Allison University and elsewhere, and his students have gone on to work in a variety of production areas at some of the top companies in the Maritimes, across Canada, and internationally.

### Keep an eye on updates:

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