
Brian Aiken was a passionate advocate for the internal audit profession, and a wise and kind mentor to many internal auditors. Heavily involved in The IIA from the late 1990’s to the early 2000’s, Brian was a founding member, in 2006, of The IIA Canadian Council (the predecessor to The IIA Canada Board), and led public sector advocacy activities on behalf of The IIA. During that time, he initiated important partnerships between The IIA and the Government of Canada’s Office of the Comptroller General, leading to the entrenchment of The IIA Standards in government policy, and the creation of external audit committees.

“Brian first hired me at the Bank of Canada in the late 1990’s, bringing me into the profession and providing me with mentorship, and support even as others believed my non-traditional background to be irrelevant to internal audit,” said Carmen Abela, Past Chair of The IIA Canada Board. “Over the years, Brian continued to inspire me, as well as many others across the internal audit community, encouraging us to see the immense possibility of our profession, and challenging us to make a difference to the organizations we served. He was a great leader, and a dear friend. I will miss him.”

As Assistant Comptroller General responsible for Internal Audit, Brian led the modernization of the internal audit profession within the Federal Government. Brian retired from his post as Assistant Comptroller General, Internal Audit in 2012. In recognition of Brian’s contributions, leadership, and commitment to Canada’s internal audit community, The IIA Canada presented him, in 2014, with The IIA Canada Contribution to the Profession Award – one of The IIA Canada’s highest distinctions. Brian was also a beloved patriarch of The IIA Canada Ottawa Chapter, which established The Brian Aiken Award of Excellence in his honour.

Today, we bid farewell to a consummate gentlemen, and a great internal audit friend. The internal audit community will miss his intelligence, leadership, thoughtfulness, and empathy.
About The IIA Canada

The Institute of Internal Auditors Canada (IIA Canada) is affiliated with The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), a global organization headquartered in Florida. The IIA Canada serves the needs of over 7,300 members. With its headquarters in Ottawa, The IIA Canada works in partnership with its 12 Chapters across the country, providing training, publications, and services for its members, and advocating for the profession to key government and regulatory bodies, and related organizations. For more information, visit www.iiacanada.ca.