

# WELCOME



2017 Planning Team (left to right): Andy and Lynn Kopon; Sharon and John T. Lay; Stephanie and Ivan Rodriguez

## WELCOME TO QUÉBEC CITY

We are so excited to invite you to the IADC's 2017 Annual Meeting, July 9-14 in beautiful Québec City, Québec Canada. Québec City evokes a European feel with its incredible and rich history and culture. The city and our hotel and meeting space at the Fairmont Le Château Frontenac will be the perfect setting for our Annual Meeting. The Fairmont Le Château Frontenac is Québec City's most famous landmark, and to have our meeting based in one of the world's most legendary hotels will be extremely special.

Our General Convention Chairs Ivan and Stephanie Rodriguez have done a fantastic job overseeing all of the details associated with our meeting. Likewise, Annual Meeting CLE Steering Committee Chair Michele Smith and her committee have developed excellent sessions that you will find educational, thought-provoking, and entertaining.

The Open Forum speaker is global humanitarian, founder of War Child, and bestselling author Dr. Samantha Nutt. Dr. Nutt has worked directly with children and their families at the frontline of many of the world's major crises. Her talk will give insight on conflict zones and how her international work has benefited many war-affected children globally. We will also welcome General Interest speaker Michael Morton to the Annual Meeting. Michael was wrongfully convicted of his wife's murder. After spending nearly 25 years in prison, he was exonerated through the efforts of the Innocence Project, pro bono work, and advances in DNA technology. Hearing about his experiences and life will be incredibly eye-opening. Other program topics will cover virtual law firms; overlooked intellectual property issues; how to resolve a catastrophic loss claim early on; and the Trump administration's criminal enforcement priorities and what changes to expect.

Besides our programming line-up, we have also organized an array of outside activities to ensure that you have every opportunity to explore this fantastic region of Canada. And, as usual, the Annual Meeting will also be filled with great social events including our *Welcome to Québec City Reception*, *Road Trippin' Across Canada Theme Party*, and *Masquerade Ball Reception and Gala*.

We look forward to seeing you in July!

*John T. and Sharon Lay*