

# Dawn G. Abrahamson, MMC



Greetings Region XI members in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, I am pleased to write this article for your newsletter and want to provide you with information about why it is important for me to serve as IIMC's next Vice President.

With 35 years of experience working in local government, having served on the California City Clerks' State Board in a number of positions, actively involved on 4 IIMC Committees and as an immediate past Region IX Director, my demonstrated leadership presence and commitment to our profession is part of why I'm committed to serving as IIMC's next Vice President. But there is a lot more.

For me, it all starts with "Focusing on The Growth & Well-Being of IIMC to Benefit All Members" which most importantly includes Region XI.

I want to serve as IIMC's next Vice President for some of the following key and important reasons:

- **Continue to Build International Relationships & Sharing Education Programs & Opportunities to be More Inclusive for Region XI** – the first I in IIMC is International, and it is important to continue to proactively foster and build upon established relationships. Region XI members should equally be represented on every IIMC committee, which are the backbone of our organization. We have a lot to learn from our international members, particularly in the area of education. I am committed to fostering these relationships, ensuring representation on every IIMC Committee by openly listening to and embracing members ideas and learning from your knowledge. I am committed to continuing the dialogue already started by President Pamela Smith to creatively finding a way to include Region XI members in the CMC and MMC certification programs for all members. To mutually share educational ideas and commit to finding a way to offer Region XI online educational opportunities that are supported by IIMC.
- **Certification, Education & Network** – these three go together. As a life-long learner and current core trainer at one of California's institutes, Technical Training for Clerks (TTC), and facilitator and trainer at the Northern and Central California Nuts & Bolts Workshop, education and certification are one of the many reasons why members join IIMC. Networking opportunities are instrumental at each and every educational forum. As a member of IIMC, we pledge commitment to professional development in the municipal government field and I am committed to ensuring education programs and certifications are open and available to every member, particularly for our Region I and IX members.  
**I fully support the efforts being made by the commissie professionele ontwikkeling of VVG to adjust the way certifications works so that it is more suitable for you and as your next vice president I want to be involved as a partner in these efforts.**
- **Paying it Forward** – the term "paying it forward" has been used and heard a lot. However, this belief is so very true and central to my value system – it is one of the many reasons why it is important for me to be the next Vice President of IIMC. I want to **share the passion, knowledge, and experience** with current members and the next generation of municipal clerks that so many leaders have invested in and instilled in me over my 35-year career in local government. I have a passion for giving back.

- **Open Communication and Active Listening to IIMC Members – IIMC is a member-driven** professional organization and, as an organization, is only successful if the members are active, heard, and understood. I am committed to actively listening first, asking clarifying questions, and understanding your wishes, perspectives, and concerns for your membership with IIMC to be meaningful. While I cannot predict future change will be accomplished, I pledge to do my research, find out the facts, and communicate the reasons why either something can or cannot change. I will be committed to ensuring a transparent and inclusive process.
- **Get to Know Dawn** - I look forward to meeting Region XI members in May at the Annual IIMC Conference and of course in September at the 2023 Study Abroad Program and VVG conference in Amsterdam! I invite Region XI members to reach out to me and get to know me. Please join me tomorrow at my Facebook live event so we can have a chat. I am a person of integrity and honesty and seek to listen first, working to build consensus to achieve successful outcomes. I am a person you can trust to represent you as a member of IIMC with the utmost professionalism.
- Please use this link below tomorrow Friday March the 3<sup>rd</sup> 16:00 in the UK and 17:00 in the Netherlands.

[Region 11 Facebook Live - IIMC | Facebook](#)

I hope you will consider me when voting for IIMC Vice President.

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