

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SAVE THE DATE

TIAW 2008 Annual Conference
November 9th - 11th
The Suites at 1 KING WEST
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Connect with powerful women from around the world! TIAW is an organization of more than 40 networks representing more than 50,000 women worldwide.

Learn from top speakers and panels how you can advance AND make a difference!

Engage as a thought leader and change agent as we explore issues of vital importance to women!

Join The International Alliance for Women (TIAW) and the Canadian Women in Communications (CWIC), your co-hosts for the TIAW 2008 Annual Conference November 9th – 11th at the beautiful, one-of-a-kind Suites at 1 KING WEST in the heart of downtown Toronto.

Stay tuned for exciting announcements in the coming weeks.

ANNOUNCING New Program:

The TIAW Global Cities Program is a gathering of leaders and members of women's networks in their region to discuss topical issues relating to economic empowerment and to learn from each other. The inaugural event will be held in Europe – at a premier location in London with a prestigious speaker at a luncheon on May 14, hosted by Women in Banking and Finance. Space is limited so reserve your spot early by emailing Diane Morris at info@dianemorris.com.

President's Message January 2008



At TIAW, we are starting off 2008 with a feeling of great excitement and anticipation as much of the work we did in 2007 is poised to bear fruit in the coming year.

Our annual conference has been confirmed for November 9 to 11 in Toronto at the One King West Suites Hotel at the historic intersection of King Street and Yonge Street (the world's longest street – it ends in Vancouver!). It's a fabulous property that offers the ambience of a historic grand banking building combined with a luxurious new condo/hotel. TIAW has negotiated a fantastic rate for the hotel's beautiful rooms, but consider treating yourself to a one bedroom suite that offers an absolutely stunning 270 degree view high over the city and onto Lake Ontario. (book early – there are a limited number!).

Through the conference, we will be bringing together leaders and change agents from around the world to one of the most cosmopolitan and ethnically diverse cities in the world. I am delighted that Canadian Women in Communications, the organization that I head in my "day job", will co-host the conference, bringing some of the most influential and powerful women from Canada's



eConnections

TIAW eConnections is a Publication of The International Alliance for Women

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A Snapshot of TIAW's Microenterprise Development Program How You Can Help

TIAW's Microenterprise Development Program empowers women in very poor areas by providing them with working capital to create and sustain income-generating microenterprises. Studies have shown that women are the most effective poverty fighters as they consistently invest their earnings into their businesses and families. By becoming self-sufficient, these women can help lift their families out of poverty. As their businesses grow, others in the community can also be employed, helping even more families to escape the hopelessness of poverty and build strong village economies.

TIAW's strategies to alleviate poverty through this program include:

- Raise funds to support micro loans through village-based banks. Village Banks extend small loans, often less than \$100, and other financial services such as savings, to very poor women for self-employment projects that generate income, allowing them to care for themselves and their families. With a loan repayment rate of 98%, these women are the world's best borrowers.
- Promote a more enabling policy environment for microfinance institutions by actively participating in international organizations.
- Raise awareness about the tremendous success of microfinance as a means for women and families to escape poverty in developing countries.

[<How YOU Can Help Eliminate Poverty>](#)

READYTALK Lends A Helping Hand

Most non-profit organizations have many helping hands to guide them – sponsors, volunteers, board members, and service providers who provide their services for free or at a discounted rate. For TIAW, one such helping hand is **ReadyTalk**.

Founded in 2000, **ReadyTalk** offers audio and web conferencing services that help its clients conduct web seminars, hold training sessions, work remotely and grow their organization through lead generation and efficient communication. Their goal is to create solutions that are simple and easy to use so that everyone can participate, regardless of computer savvy, work location or choice of platform.

[<Why ReadyTalk Helps TIAW?>](#)

An Event to Attend

Global Summit of Women 2008
Hanoi, Vietnam
June 5-7, 2008
"Women and Asia: Driving the Global Economy"

The International Alliance for Women is a global member of the Global Summit of Women, and as a member of TIAW you are entitled to a 5% discount if you attend their Summit in Hanoi, Vietnam, June 5 – 7, 2008. Please note: to take advantage of these opportunities when registering you must indicate that you are a member of TIAW. In addition, if you act quickly, you can secure a booth to exhibit your products and services at Women's Expo – WEXPO, which will be held at the summit. For additional information email summit@globewomen.com or www.globewomen.org.

Attend the Global Summit of Women 2008; expand your networks while exploring the wonders and beauty of Vietnam. The brochure and details for the Summit are now available on www.globewomen.org

communications and media world into the TIAW orbit.

[<More>](#)

The International Alliance for Women is a global umbrella organization whose members encourage, develop, fund and implement programs that foster the economic empowerment and advancement of women.

TIAW eConnections is a monthly online newsletter publication of The International Alliance for Women. Please direct editorial submissions to TIAW at info@tiaw.org.

www.TIAW.org

Tell A Friend

"Powering the Future: Arab Business Women in a Modern Economy"

By Maxine Westaway, Executive Director, TIAW

The Arab International Women's Forum (AIWF) conference in Dubai in December was the culmination of the year's program looking at "Globalization, Trade and Entrepreneurship". Haifa Fahoum Al Kaylani, Chairman of AIWF, and her board created a very informative program with experts and practitioners, both men and women, to provide a detailed analysis of the current environment for entrepreneurship in the region, identifying the challenges and prospects for financing female business initiatives, locally and internationally, and to explore the economic, environmental and financial context for private enterprise investment in the Arab world.

[<More>](#)

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