

PRESIDENTS REPORT – October 2026

2026 has seen some changes and also a continuation of the programs and events our PAC members have come to expect.

The 36th Purely Pastel Juried Exhibition was held from May 25 – June 7, 2026 at the Federation Gallery on Granville Island. Roberta Combs, our Western Exhibitions Coordinator not only did a most excellent job of organizing the event but her piece “Easter Reflections” also won the Ursula Reese award. Congratulations Roberta. This show also saw some strong entries and awards going to new PAC members.

The 2nd Annual PAC Plein Air Event was held Sept 11 & 12th in the Parksville/Qualicum Beach area on central Vancouver Island. The weather cooperated and we enjoyed demos by Gail Sibley and Roberta Combs to inspire us each day. Saturday was capped off by a wonderful meal and a lovely social evening. Planning is already in place for next year for the 3rd Annual PAC Plein Air Event.

As I write this report the jurying has just been completed for the 14th PAC Members Online Show. The show will go live on our website on Dec. 1st.

We are also in the planning stages for ICAN 2027 to be held again at the Neilson Park Creative Centre in Etobicoke, ON from May 26 – 29th. After some deliberation, the PAC Directors made the decision to reduce ICAN to 4 days shortening it by one day. This decision was made in order to make ICAN a more sustainable model for the future and to bring the highest quality workshops to our members.

We are also in need of a few volunteers to help us with programs that benefit all PAC members. Ruth Rodgers has recently stepped down as our ICAN Coordinator as well as organizing our Online Programs: Critiques, Demos and Presentations. This is something that is available to all PAC members all the time.

While ICAN is secured for 2027, we need someone to step into the role of Online Programming. This excellent program supports our PAC mandate and brings education to all PAC members and is available all the time.

As always, the strength of an organization is the members and the bonds created by these members. ICAN, our Juried Shows, Online Programming, Newsletters and the PAC Plein Air Event are all ways for us collectively build community across this vast country.

Please consider becoming part of the PAC Team so that we can continue to bring these programs and events to our members.

Happy Pasteling,
Joan