

Lifetime Achievement/Community Radio Legend Award Winner

Freya Zaltz

Hello everyone. I think this is a fantastic idea. I have worked with Freya since she first came on to the NCRA board in 2003, and she is truly a community radio legend in my books.

Freya was one of those directors who became engaged almost immediately. So much so that she was elected president for 2004-2005, after only one year of being on the board, and everyone benefited from her leadership. Most of you probably don't know this, but when I started at the NCRA in 2002, we had 15 members, and not a lot of projects on the go, nor did we have regular contact with the CRTC, tariff organizations, and so on. So there was some growing and development to be done. A lot of that came from the office, for sure, but I certainly would never have been as successful as I was had it not been for people like Freya. Her and I made a great team! I learned a lot from her. And she was always there to support me as well as provide advice and leadership, whether things were running smoothly or not.

As the NCRA continued to grow, and she took on more regulatory communications and work, the role of VP Regulatory Affairs took shape around her. Her efforts have played a big part in how the CRTC and other external stakeholders see and communicate with the NCRA and its stations. More importantly, her efforts have made a difference for the campus and community radio sector in Canada as a whole and for the stations themselves. In fact, there are stations that might not exist right now had it not been for her.

I would love to see her win this award, and I wish I could be there in person if she does. I feel privileged to have worked with her over the years, and it would be wonderful to celebrate that with the NCRA membership.

And someone should really write a book on the history of the sector so work like this is not forgotten! :-)

All the best, and have a great conference  
Melissa Kaestner