

## **Honourary Membership Awarded to Lorraine Nicholson – Dubai, November 19, 2019**

Lorraine has been a pillar and in many ways, the face of IFHIMA, to many nations. Her decades of work with IFHIMA have shaped the Federation to where we are today, and her positive influence and leadership continue to impact many HIM's internationally. Lorraine first attended an IFHIMA Congress in 1984 – which was the 9<sup>th</sup> Congress at the time, in Auckland, New Zealand. She joined the IFHIMA Board in 2000, and was the reigning President when our federation changed its name from IFHRO to IFHIMA in 2010 at the Congress in Milan, Italy.

In addition to her support of the European members and the global HIM community as a whole, we would be amiss if we did not make special mention of her devotion to developing nations. Nowhere is this more apparent than the continent of Africa, where she has devoted much personal time, effort and expertise to our colleagues from this region. She is known as the “Mother of HIM” – and has been an unwavering advocate in advancing the profession and educational opportunities.

Notably, Lorraine's presentation on the challenges of obtaining educational materials in developing nations, inspired the idea of a “Book Donation Project”, proposed by an American member. Starting in 2013, Lorraine worked single handedly as the IFHIMA representative, to coordinate the books donated by AHIMA, and ensured they were delivered to deserving educational facilities across the entire globe.

Lorraine served as the IFHIMA President from 2007 – 2010, and since leaving the Executive IFHIMA Board, has continued on as the Membership Chair. Challenges with software, technical upgrades and revisions, were sometimes challenging, but Lorraine met all these situations with her usual calm grace, and success was always the end product!

Professionally she is a sought after consultant in all areas of the Health Information Management profession, and widely respected by all who have the fortunate experience to meet her.

It is with great honour that we present this IFHIMA Honourary Award and Membership, to Ms. Lorraine Nicholson!

Author:

Marci MacDonald

IFHIMA Immediate Past President

Canada

