

## Access to Experts



**Caroline Thompkins** , President , Forum for International Trade Training (Canada)

Caroline Thompkins is the President of the Forum for International Trade Training (FITT), a not-for-profit organization dedicated to building the proficiency of businesses, professionals, and students, to access global markets, reduce and manage risks of international trade, and enable profitable competition. Caroline has over 25 years experience in both the public and private sectors.

Her experience in the educational sector began at Simon Fraser University with the Public Policy Programs division in the Continuing Education department. She is steadfast in her commitment to the continued growth of FITT as a thriving organization for international trade professionals and has cultivated relationships with the many industry and government partners fundamental to its success. This consummate management professional has also developed an understanding of cross-cultural environments through her work and travels, including working for the United Nations in Bosnia-Herzegovina during 1994 - 1995.

Caroline combines a solid understanding of training with an acute business sense, and was recognized as a notable Canadian woman in the 1999/00 edition of Chatelaine's *Who's Who of Canadian Women* and is listed in the Canadian *Who's Who* publications. In 1999, Caroline was the recipient of the Peter Bentley Scholarship for the University of British Columbia's Residential Programme for Executive Development and has since fulfilled the rigorous requirements for the Certified Association Executives (CAE), and the Certified International Trade Professional (CITP) designations.

Caroline serves as a Director for the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME), and for the National Association of International Trade Educators (NASBITE) in the United States. In 2012, Caroline was presented the Queen Elizabeth 11 Diamond Jubilee Medal by Jayson Myers, CEO of the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters.

Contact [Carol Courter](mailto:courter@conferenceboard.org), Manager, Corporate Communications, +1 212 339 0232, [courter@conferenceboard.org](mailto:courter@conferenceboard.org)

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