



July 2, 2026 – Montreal, Canada

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

After careful consideration, it has been decided that I will not be seeking re-election as IFATSEA Director Americas at the upcoming conference. While this was not the path I had originally anticipated, I accept it with gratitude and perspective.

Serving the affiliates of the Americas region has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my professional life. Looking back, I am grateful for the opportunity to work alongside so many dedicated and passionate colleagues who generously volunteer their time and expertise in support of our profession and our Federation.

What I will value most are the friendships and professional relationships that have developed over the years. The meetings, discussions, debates, and shared experiences have left me with memories that I will carry for a lifetime. I have learned a great deal from all of you, and I am sincerely thankful for the trust, support, and encouragement you have shown me throughout this journey. I am especially grateful to those who challenged my thinking and helped me grow as both a representative and a leader.

As we look ahead, I would encourage affiliates to consider putting forward candidates for the position of Director Americas at the next General Assembly. It is a unique opportunity to contribute to the development of our region, strengthen cooperation among affiliates, and help shape the future direction of our Federation. The Americas region is rich with talent, experience, and commitment, and I have every confidence that capable individuals are ready to take on this important responsibility.

Although my tenure as Director Americas will soon come to an end, my commitment to IFATSEA remains unchanged. I firmly believe in the importance of our Federation and in the vital role that the Americas region plays within it. I am confident that the region will continue to prosper under new leadership, supported by engaged affiliates and dedicated volunteers.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve. It has been a genuine honour and privilege to represent the Americas region. I look forward to remaining involved in our community and to crossing paths with many of you again in the years ahead.

With sincere appreciation and warm regards,

Michel Gaulin
IFATSEA Regional Director of the Americas
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