

2024

PERSONNALITÉ DE L'ANNÉE

LE 2 JUIN 2025
BORD'ELLE



Giuseppe (Joe) Panzera

“A Legacy Etched in Stone”



Born in 1940 in Jelsi, Italy, Giuseppe (Joe) Panzera emigrated to Canada at the age of 16, fueled by ambition and an unshakable work ethic. Starting out as a tile installer, Joe quickly rose through the ranks, eventually launching his own construction company. His journey took a pivotal turn when he met Margaret Ciot, daughter of Giovanni Battista Ciot, founder of Ciot. Their partnership—both personal and professional—would shape the future of the company and the industry.

After marrying Margaret, Joe took on a leadership role at Ciot, transforming it from a local terrazzo shop into a North American powerhouse in natural stone, tile, and luxury design. Through his vision, Ciot introduced an expanded product range—including marble, engineered slabs, mosaics, hardwood, and luxury plumbing—and opened 10 showrooms across Canada and the U.S. The company's 100,000 sq. ft. Montreal headquarters stands as a symbol of its innovation and success.

Joe's entrepreneurial spirit extended into real estate development, where he invested in condos, commercial properties, and land. Yet despite his many business ventures, Joe remained deeply grounded in family, friendship, and community. Known for his warmth, generosity, and love of cooking, he brings people together with the same passion that built his business.

Now celebrating its 75th anniversary, Ciot continues to thrive under the leadership of the next generation, including Joe and Margaret's daughters, Kristina and Claudia. Joe's legacy is captured in his own words: “It all began with a path etched in stone.”

Message du Président de la CIBPA



Depuis 1949, le mandat de la CIBPA Montréal est de promouvoir les intérêts d'affaires et professionnels de nos membres.

Nous sommes porte-parole des entreprises canado-italiennes et faisons la promotion des intérêts culturels et sociétaux de la communauté dans son ensemble.

Notre objectif est de stimuler et d'encourager le développement de relations d'affaires / professionnelles au-delà de la simple pratique du réseautage.

The Canadian-Italian Business & Professional Association (CIBPA), Montreal chapter, established the Person of the Year award in 1967.

Since then, this honor is awarded in recognition of remarkable individuals and their business & philanthropic commitment in supporting our community, our city, notre belle province.

This special tribute allows the CIBPA Montreal to distinguish and commend individuals in their altruistic actions.

This year, the CIBPA Montreal is proud to honor Giuseppe (Joe) Panzera as our 2024 Person of the Year.

J'aimerais souligné l'implication et cheminement exceptionnelles à tout les niveaux dans le domaine des affaires ainsi que ton implication académique et philanthropique sont remarquable et constituent un modèle a suivre pour plusieurs!

Durante tutta la tua carriera esemplare, hai sempre fornito un esempio eccezionale ai giovani professionisti.

Auguri e complimenti vivissimi alla personalità dell'anno 2024, Giuseppe (Joe) Panzera.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rick Sassano'.

Rick Sassano, CPA
CIBPA Montréal - Président



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Message du Président de la Fondation CIBPA



I have been involved with CIBPA Montreal for more than 20 years, in particular with the Bursary program that, over the many years of its existence, has become a jewel for our community.

After leading the fundraising efforts for two years, I accepted the presidency of the CIBPA Foundation in 2018. And what an adventure, and an honor, it has been.

Thanks to some visionary donors, our long-term objective of creating an endowment fund for the bursary program is becoming a great success. We are tremendously proud to have reached the first one million dollars objective for our endowment. We are confident in our ambitions to grow it much more.

It is an exciting chapter in CIBPA Montreal history; the bursary program that started with just 4 bursaries in 1961, it now averages 60. And we are delighted for having disbursed, so far, over 4 million dollars to deserving students.

We welcome more donors to join the generous group that already support us in preserving the longevity of this successful CIBPA program. Helping students of Italian origin achieve the success and prosperity they deserve is our mission.

We are thrilled to join countless others in congratulating Giuseppe (Joe) Panzera, one of our generous donors for the prestigious award of CIBPA Montreal 2024 Person of the Year, which underlines and recognizes his involvement and dedication to the welfare of Quebec, Canada and the Italian Community.

A stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sam Scalia'.

Sam Scalia,
Président Fondation CIBPA
Président SAMCON



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Prix Personnalité de l'Année

Depuis 1967 le projet **Personnalité de l'année** fut entamé dans le but de rendre hommage à une personne remarquable par son dévouement exceptionnel et aurait ainsi contribué largement au bien-être public.

Cette initiative ne se limite pas à une fonction ou à un domaine en particulier, mais considérant seulement la contribution du récipiendaire, quel que soit son champ d'action.

La CIBPA croit dans la valeur de ce projet et dans la nécessité de reconnaître les individus qui donnent au-delà de ce qui est ordinaire. La communauté doit donc prendre acte de leurs accomplissements. Le premier à avoir reçu cet hommage fut le maire de Montréal Jean Drapeau, en 1967, pour sa contribution au succès de l'EXPO '67.

Person of the Year Award

*The **Person of the Year** project originated in 1967 for the purpose of paying tribute to outstanding individuals for the exceptional dedication and tireless efforts in contributing towards the public's welfare. This initiative is not limited to a specific function or field, but the contribution of the recipient is seriously considered, whatever his field of action.*

CIBPA believes that this project is necessary to give evidence of public recognition to a meritorious person, as we know that self-devotion beyond the regular daily chores must be recognized by groups representing in part or as a whole the general public.

The first to be elected to this homage was Montreal Mayor Jean Drapeau, in 1967, for his contribution to the success of EXPO '67.

Liste des récipiendaires

Past Award Recipients

DRAPEAU, JEAN	1967	DE ROSE, SILVIO	2001
GRONDIN, DR. PIERRE	1968	BUFFONI, JUDE JEAN-FRANÇOIS	2002
BRONFMAN, CHARLES	1969	GALLUCCIO, STEVE	2003
SAULNIER, LUCIEN	1970	SCALIA, SAM	2004
BELIVEAU, JEAN	1971	CECERE, DR. RENZO	2005
CARRIERE, MARC	1972	MANCINI, GABY	2006
CAMPO, ALFREDO F.	1973	TREMBLAY, MARCEL	2007
DONOLO, LOUIS	1973	FUMANTI, GIORGIA	2008
FRANCESCHINI, LEONARD	1973	BIELLO, MAURO	2009
STANCZWKOWSKI, CASIMIR G.	1973	DI TEMPORA, NICHOLAS	2010
DI ZAZZO, JEAN	1974	DE SANTIS, RITA Lc	2011
RIZZUTO, SEN. PIETRO	1977	DE CAROLIS, MARIANO	2012
BERGER, SAM	1978	IMBRIGLIO, EMILIO	2013
MACEROLA, YVAN	1979	BOMBARDIERI, IVANA	2014
D'ERRICO, TOMMY	1981	MACIOCIA, DANNY	2015
VINCELLI, FRANK	1982	GILARDINO, MIRKO	2016
CIACCIA, JOHN	1983	ZEPPETELLI, JOHN	2017
MINICOZZI, ALFONSO	1984	LOFFREDA, TONY	2018
DI BATTISTA, GIUSEPPE	1986	GUZZO, VINCENZO	2019
GRILLI, MARIO	1987	AGUSTIN, NALIE	2020
CACCIATORE, VINCENT	1988	LORENZETTI, BARRY F.	2021
TADDEO, DOMINIC	1989	OUELLETTE, CAROLINE	2022
GAGLIARDI, CAROLE	1990	BROCCOLINI, JOSEPH	2023
D'ALESSANDRO, DOMENIC	1991	PANZERA, GIUSEPPE (JOE)	2024
GIANETTI, IRENE	1992		
SAPUTO, JOEY	1993		
GAGLIANO, ALFONSO	1994		
BELLINI, DR. FRANCESCO	1995		
BUSSANDRI, CLAUDIO	1997		
FERRARO, DR. PASQUALE	1998		
LISIO, CAMILIO	1999		
ZACCARDELLI, GIULIANO	2000		



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GIUSEPPE PANZERA

Congratulations on being named
CIBPA Person of the Year!

A well-deserved honour for an exceptional
entrepreneur, philanthropist and Governor of
the Italian-Canadian Community Foundation.



Auguri!

50 *Ans*



FONDATION ITALIENNE
ITALIAN FOUNDATION

LE REPOS SAINT-FRANÇOIS D'ASSISE
est fier de contribuer au succès
de cette soirée exceptionnelle et d'honorer

Giuseppe Panzera

pour sa nomination en tant que
personnalité de l'année 2024.

Toutes nos félicitations pour cette
reconnaissance bien méritée.

Bonne soirée à tous !

Alain Chartier
Teresa Di Palma Melchior



LE REPOS SAINT-FRANÇOIS D'ASSISE
RSFA.CA

Teresa Di Palma Melchior 514 236-2011



GESTION PRIVÉE CIBC
GROUPE FINANCIER DANISI

Carissimo Giuseppe,
Tanti auguri per l'onore che la CIBPA ti conferisce.
Te lo meriti ampiamente.



Giuseppe Danisi
Conseiller en
placement principal
514 282-6857



Fabio Danisi
Conseiller en
placement
514 392-0325

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Pourquoi devenir membres de la CIBPA?

Depuis 1949, la mission de CIBPA Montréal est d'offrir aux entrepreneurs et aux professionnels d'origine italienne une gamme complète de services et d'activités favorisant le développement et la croissance de leurs entreprises et de leurs relations d'affaires. Nous vous invitons à rejoindre CIBPA Montréal afin de promouvoir votre entreprise et de renforcer votre réseau professionnel.

De plus, vous bénéficierez de réductions sur les événements à venir cette année et contribuerez au programme annuel de bourses de la Fondation CIBPA, qui aide à soutenir l'éducation des futurs hommes d'affaires et professionnels de la communauté italo-canadienne.

Notre association est continuellement à la recherche de nouveaux membres issus de diverses communautés d'affaires, afin de développer un système de support pour nos membres actuels et de renforcer les relations d'affaires, que ce soit à des fins de négociations, de références ou de mentorat.

Pour devenir membre, visitez notre site web: <https://montreal.cibpa.com>



Why become a CIBPA Member?

Since 1949, CIBPA Montreal's mission has been to offer entrepreneurs and professionals of Italian heritage a full range of services and activities promoting the development and growth of their companies and business relationships. We invite you to join CIBPA Montreal as to promote your business and strengthen your professional network. In addition, you'll benefit from discounts on this year's upcoming events and contribute to the CIBPA Foundation's annual bursary program, which helps support the education of future business people and professionals within the Italian-Canadian community.

Our association is continuously looking for new members from diverse business communities, to develop a carrier system for our current members and strengthen business relationships, either for negotiations, references or mentorship purposes.

To become a member, visit our website at: <https://montreal.cibpa.com>



The Presidents of CIBPA



1949-50	William Remiggi	1984-86	Guido D'Argensio
1950-52	Colombo Teodori	1986-88	Franco L. Ruccolo
1952-54	Laurent Molini	1988-90	Raymond Massi
1954-57	Antonio Capobianco	1990-92	Pasquale Minicucci
1957-60	Raphael Esposito	1992-94	Nicola Franceschini
1960-62	Victor Panaccio	1994-96	Michael Stante
1962-64	Don Safolio	1996-98	Consolato Gattuso
1964-66	Frank Vincelli	1998-00	Nino Colavecchio
1966-68	Dante Panni	2000-02	Salvatore Mariani
1968-70	Aldo Dello Sbarba	2002-04	Luciano D'Ignazio
1970-71	Mario Bari	2005-10	Rocco Caruso
1971-73	Léopold Moretti	2010-12	Giovanni Chieffallo
1973-75	Tony Marciano	2012-14	Roberto Rinaldi
1975-78	Don Belvedere	2014-16	Mike Goriani
1978-80	Armando Fargnoli	2016-18	Salvatore Cimmino
1980-82	Joseph Reda	2018-20	Domenic Diaco
1982-84	Tony Iacobaccio	2020- 22	Paolo Fortugno
		2022-	Rick Sassano



Giuseppe (Joe) Panzera