

Citation on the award of the Gold Medal and Diamond Pin for Leadership in Career Development to Roberta Neault

I am very pleased to award the [Gold Medal and Diamond Pin for Leadership in Career Development](#) to Dr. Roberta Neault. Progress in the career development profession is achieved through research and development that creates new methods, and secondly, through the building of organizations that support career practitioners in their work. It is to recognize outstanding organizational leadership that the Gold Medal award was established.

Roberta has been a shining example of professional and organizational leadership in Canada and internationally. She created her company, Life Strategies Ltd., which developed and managed the first online career development training programs fully aligned with the Canadian Standards and Guidelines for Career Development and the Blueprint for LifeWork Designs and meeting the standards of the International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance.

She successfully negotiated pre-approval for Continuing Education Units for these courses by the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association, the Vocational Rehabilitation Association of Canada, and for the Educational and Vocational Guidance Practitioner Credential of the International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance, and the Global Career Development Facilitator credential of the Center for Credentialing and Education of the National Board of Certified Counselors.

She was one of the key drivers behind the coming together of two career-related organizations: ENET (Education and Networking for Rehabilitation and Career Practitioners) and the BC Career Management Association. Nationally, Roberta was instrumental in getting the Canadian Council of Career Development Associations off the ground.

She is Editor of the Journal of Employment Counseling, and on the executive of the Career Development Chapter of the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association. She was the BC Chapter President, 2003 - 2006.

She is a champion of innovation and consistently treats roadblocks to progress for the career development profession as opportunities for creative problem-solving. She is a forthright defender of professional standards and can be relied on to defend unpopular opinions when they have potential to advance an important issue. She gives very generously of her time and expertise to volunteer committees and projects which are in the best interests of the profession.

Her leadership skills have already been recognized by various organizations including the Canadian Career Development Foundation. It is my pleasure to add to these accolades by presenting the gold medal and diamond pin for leadership in career development.