



MILESTONE MOMENTS

with Victoria Horobin, NCIDQ No. 9086

Connecting our past to our future 1974–2024

50
YEARS
STRONG

**Q: How long have you been involved with CIDQ?
How did you first get involved?**

A: I've been involved since 1991! I passed the NCIDQ Exam in the fall of 1990, and in the following spring, there was a jury (grading) center being held in Toronto. Arlene Dougall, a past Tregre Award recipient and past board member, coordinated the centers in Toronto at that time. She called me out of the blue and asked me to grade, just six months after taking the exam. I was so surprised by the call, that I agreed to do it, and I was hooked. I got involved in grading and later exam development, and then began leading jury centers across the country(ies) for over 10 years, then came back to grading in 2010 and 2011 until my term on the board of directors started in 2011.

Q: In CIDQ's 50-year history, from your perspective, what would you say is CIDQ's/NCIDQ's biggest accomplishment?

A: Gaining and enhancing the respect of jurisdictional authorities, legislators, and our fellow professionals in the design and building industry.

Q: What is CIDQ's most important contribution to the profession?

A: Credibility — demonstrating the abilities of interior design professionals to protect the life, safety, and well-being of the public, and to practice independently.

Q: What role did NCIDQ play in your career?

• When I passed the exam, it made me feel “legitimate,” and gave me confidence in my abilities, knowledge, and skill set. Through my time volunteering for the organization, I got to meet designers from almost every state

and province, many of whom have become good friends. I learned public speaking and presentation skills, psychometrics, leadership, and patience — skills that I have been able to bring back to my practice.

Q: What are the key issues you see CIDQ addressing in the future?

A: Advanced credentialing, global credentialing, licensure/right to practice in all U.S. and Canadian jurisdictions.

Q: What do you think the next 50 years will look like for the profession?

A: I think we are on the cusp of a massive change; AI is going to change the way we work as a profession and the outcomes. It will be a generation shift and challenge. Credentialing will need to stay ahead of this shift.

Q: Describe what NCIDQ (or CIDQ) means to you, on a personal level, in 15 words or less.

A: I made some of the best friends of my life — which was so unexpected and wonderful.

Q: What is one of your best memories of CIDQ?

A: This is tough because there are so many. Probably coming Board President in 2014, and that year's annual meeting in Albuquerque. I felt like our board at that time made some really big achievements in modernizing the exam and its processes, introducing credentialing that was meaningful to certificate holders, and getting the organization's finances back on track, so we could do the important work we have been doing for the past 50 years!