

[News](#)[Events](#)[Members](#)[In Memoriam](#)[Links](#)[About MISA  
Canada](#)[Contact Us](#)[Peter  
Bennett  
Awards](#)[Home](#)

## [Peter Bennett Award and Scholarship](#)

# Gerry Matte Receives Peter Bennett Award 2009

June 15, 2009 -- Gerry Matte, one of the hardest-working builders of MISA organizations in Canada and British Columbia, has received the 2009 Peter Bennett Award.

The presentation announcement was made in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, during the Lac Carling Congress by Daya Pillay, president of MISA/ASIM Canada.

"Gerry is a strong advocate of municipal cooperation and continues to provide leadership, demonstrate commitment, and encourage participation of all municipalities in MISA activities," Pillay said.

Matte is manager of information technology for the District of Saanich, BC. He is a founder of MISA BC as well as MISA/ASIM Canada. He is active in both the provincial and national associations and has initiated many ideas and projects that have helped municipalities work together to improve efficiency and service to the public.

The Peter Bennett Award is the highest honour in Canada for municipal information-technology leaders. It is presented annually by MISA/ASIM Canada to a volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to the municipal IT environment.

Matte is the fifth person to receive the award. The first was Peter Bennett himself, posthumously. He was manager of systems for the City of Winnipeg, a pioneer in the use of eGovernment technologies and a founder of MISA/ASIM Canada. He was co-chair of the Lac Carling Congress in 2004 and 2005, but died suddenly just days before the 2005 Congress was to begin.

Matte was a colleague of Bennett's in bringing together the five regional associations that eventually formed MISA/ASIM Canada in 2006. He recently retired as the national association's founding secretary but continues as a member of its Board of Directors.

Matte served for many years as a municipal representative on the Public Sector CIO Council (PSCIOC), working with federal and provincial officials to develop and coordinate policies and practices related to electronic service delivery.

From 2005 through 2008 he was a member of the PSCIOC's XML Subcommittee and a member of the Steering Committee for its Task Force for Identity, Authentication and Authorization. He retains a keen interest in security and privacy issues and how they relate to making online transactions efficient and coordinated among governments.

Matte originated the idea for MISA special-offers programs, first provincially and then nationally, under which vendors offer special municipal pricing and services to municipalities in member associations. He is also a supporter and builder of open-source standards for municipalities.



All told, Matte has been involved with information technology for local governments for more than 20 years, in Saskatchewan and BC. Since helping to establish MISA BC in 1992 he has held the positions of webmaster, treasurer, vice-president and president, and is now past-president. He was co-chair and host for the 2000 MISA BC annual conference in Victoria.

Today Matte coordinates a monthly meeting of Capital Region IT managers, which identifies potential ways to gain economies of scale on projects and share experiences.

"Gerry is a tireless and inspirational leader in local government and a worthy recipient of the Peter Bennett Award," Pillay said.

## Roy Wiseman Receives Peter Bennett Award 2008

Roy Wiseman, CIO of the Region of Peel, Ontario, has been named the 2008 recipient of the Peter Bennett Award.

Wiseman received the award June 2 in a ceremony at the Lac Carling Congress in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, before an audience of IT and service-delivery officials from all levels of government.

In presenting the award, Kevin Peacock of the City of Saskatoon, outgoing president of MISA/ASIM Canada, praised Wiseman as one of Canada's most influential municipal IT executives.

"His work has been inspirational at local, provincial and national levels," Peacock said.



The Peter Bennett Award is the highest award in the Canadian municipal IT community. MISA/ASIM Canada created it in 2005, shortly after the sudden death of the greatly respected municipal IT leader from Winnipeg for whom it is named.

The award trophy is presented annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the Canadian municipal IT community and to the MISA/ASIM Canada mission and objectives, while exemplifying Bennett's spirit of demonstrated leadership and working "beyond the call" with humour and humanity.

In accepting the award, Wiseman said: "It has been a great pleasure to be part of the municipal community and the MISA community for so many years. I know probably every municipal IT director in Ontario and most of them across the country and they are a wonderful group of people.

"I love working in this broader community with our provincial and federal colleagues and I hope to keep doing it for a long time. I get a lot more out of this than I ever put into it."

Peacock noted that Wiseman is one of a small group of people, including Bennett, who guided the creation of MISA/ASIM Canada. As founding secretary, he directed the association's incorporation process. He is the principal author of the MISA/ASIM Canada *By-Laws and Operations Manual*.

Wiseman served as a municipal representative on the Public Service CIO Council from 2006 until this year and was for several years a municipal representative on the National CIO Subcommittee on Information Protection .

He has been the municipal co-chair of the Lac Carling Congress since 2006 and has attended every Congress since its inception 12 years ago. At present he is helping to organize a