

# LIMBURG A “REGIO FOR PEACE”: FROM TRAVELLERS TO AMBASSADORS OF PEACE | SKÅL INTERNATIONAL LIMBURG



## About IIPT

**The International Institute For Peace Through Tourism (IIPT)** was founded in 1986, the UN International Year of Peace, with a view towards a travel and tourism industry response to the peaking of terrorism in 1985/'86 (much of it aimed at the travel industry); the growing tensions of East and West (in the early '80's); a deteriorating environment; and the growing gap of have and have not regions of the world.

Since its founding in 1986 (Founder and President Dr. Louis D'Amore), IIPT has brought together global leaders from all sectors of the travel and tourism industry, as well as the areas of culture, environment and development. Three Global Conferences, Vancouver (1988), Montreal (1994), Glasgow (1999); and a series of smaller conferences, round tables, and seminars, provided the foundations for the First Global Summit on Peace through Tourism held in Amman, Jordan, November 2000.

The International Institute for Peace through Tourism (IIPT) is a not for profit organization dedicated to fostering travel and tourism initiatives that contribute to international understanding, cooperation among nations, an improved quality of environment, cultural enhancement and the preservation of heritage, poverty reduction, reconciliation and healing wounds of conflicts; and through these initiatives, helping to bring about a peaceful and sustainable world. It is founded on a vision of the world's largest industry, travel and tourism – becoming the world's first global peace industry; and the belief that every traveler is potentially an “Ambassador for Peace.”

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## IIPT World Symposium 2015



“CULTIVATING SUSTAINABLE AND PEACEFUL COMMUNITIES AND NATIONS THROUGH TOURISM, CULTURE AND SPORT”

Held 16 - 19 February 2015 at Emperors Palace, Ekurhuleni, South Africa.

The Symposium also commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the African Union, 20 years of South African Democracy and the 50th Anniversary of Civil Rights Legislation in the U.S.

The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), which has supported IIPT International events since the First IIPT Global Conference, Vancouver 1988, was again a partner in the Symposium. Other partners included: the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), Africa Travel Association (ATA), Skål International; International Coalition of Tourism Partners (ICTP) and the Jamaica Business Resource Center (JBRC).

Keynote speakers: Dr. Taleb Rifai, Secretary General, UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO); Mr. David Scowsill, President and CEO, World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC); Hon. Alain St. Ange, Minister of Tourism, Seychelles; Dr. Geraldine Reymenants, General Representative of the Government of Flanders in South Africa; HE Vincent Karega, High Commissioner of Rwanda to South Africa and Prof. Geoffrey Lipman, President, International Coalition of Tourism Partners (ICTP).

### **IIPT/Skål International Cities/Towns, and Villages of Peace - Plaques**

IIPT together with Skål International announced four more “IIPT/Skål International Cities/Towns, and Villages of Peace” in support of the World War I Centenary and its theme, “No More War.”

The announcements were made during a special Awards and Acknowledgement luncheon hosted by South African Business Unit The Coca-Cola Company, Ms. Therese Gearhart, President.



IIPT plaques (acrylic on wood framing) contains a replication of the painting by R. Padre Johnson “portrait of the global family” and the IIPT Credo of the Peaceful Traveler were presented to:

- \* IIPT/Skål Village of Peace – Battir, Palestine, a UNESCO world heritage site in the midst of a conflict zone in Palestine, Mr. Akram Bader, Mayor of Battir, Palestine;
- \* City of Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, where Mahatma Gandhi was forcefully removed from a train 120 years ago – the incident that resulted in the world-wide Non-Violence Movement, His Worship, the Mayor of Msunduzi Municipality, Cllr C. J. Ndlela;
- \* ***Skål International Limburg, organizers of “DrielandenPunt Peace Project Vaals”, including the “Tri-Country” area of Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands in the Border Region of Maastricht –Heuvelland, Mr. Peter Helleman, President – presented to Mr. Mathieu Hoeberigs representing Skål International Limburg;***
- \* And as well to the Metropolitan Municipality of Ekurhuleni, Host City of the Symposium; Johannesburg, Host Partner; and Tshwane (Pretoria), each recognized as an IIPT/Skål Municipality of Peace and together being an IIPT/Skål Metropolis of Peace.

Each of the above persons present, representing their respective Village, City, Region and Municipality of Peace, received a beautiful commemorative plaque with the internationally acclaimed artist Padre Johnson's image of the Global family and the IIPT Credo of the Peaceful Traveler inscribed on the plaques following which they shared their reflections on what it meant to them to be acknowledged for their respective commitments to peace.

The commemorative plaques were presented by Skål International President and Senior Vice President, Salih Cene and Nigel Pilkington – and IIPT Founder and President and IIPT Board Chairman, Louis D'Amore and Timothy Marshal



*In verband met bovenstaande nog de volgende info/opmerkingen:*

- Skål International Limburg betaalde een “registratiebijdrage” van € 300,-
- Mathieu Hoerberigs is in dit project de vertegenwoordiger van Skål International Limburg die samen met die (ook nu nog na het neerleggen van zijn presidentschap) zorgt voor de interne coördinatie en uitwerking samen met de Skållega's Geert Driessen Peter Helleman en Ton Wanders (de Peace Projectgroep)
- Gekozen werd er voor het Drielandenpunt om het Peace Project gestalte te geven en het ontvangen bord een passende locatie te geven. Inhoudiging samen met de burgemeesters van Valkenburg, Maastricht, Vaals, Voeren, Hasselt, Aken, ... Verdere uitwerking en organisatie door de Peace Projectgroep.