



With Gratitude as I Pass the Baton

Dear PWB Council,

As I prepare to begin my maternity leave and pass the baton to our next chair, I've been reflecting on how much these past two years have meant to me. Serving as your PWB Chair has been an honor and one of the most rewarding experiences of my professional life. This opportunity came at a time when I felt ready to step forward, challenge myself, and give more to an industry that has given so much to me. I'm grateful I had all of you alongside me.

To my friend and mentor, Linda Garvey: thank you for entrusting me with this position when you stepped down and for your continued guidance every step of the way. Your belief in me gave me the confidence to make this role my own, and your encouragement has meant more than you know. It has been a privilege to build upon the foundation you helped create.

To our council: thank you for welcoming my ideas, embracing new events, and showing up with enthusiasm and a willingness to help. Every time you attended, volunteered, offered a suggestion, or encouraged someone else to get involved, you helped turn those ideas into something meaningful. Your support made me feel comfortable trying new things and excited to keep going.

Most of all, I've had so much fun getting to know each of you better. Beyond our meetings and events, it's the friendships, conversations, and connections that I will carry with me. Seeing women encourage one another, recognize their own potential, and take the next step in their careers has been such a meaningful part of this experience. I'm proud to have played a small part in helping women in our industry move forward, and even prouder of what we've accomplished together.

As I step into this next chapter of my life, I'm so happy to hand the baton to my co-chair, Lilian Zeng. I have complete confidence in her ability to lead this council with care, enthusiasm, and purpose. Lilian, I can't wait to see the ideas you bring to life and the ways you help our council continue to grow.

While I will certainly miss serving in this role, I won't be far away. This council means too much to me for this to be goodbye, and I look forward to staying connected and involved as I settle into life with our baby girl. Thank you for trusting me, supporting me, and making these two years so special. I will always look back on this time with a full heart.

With gratitude and love,

— Julie McKeon
President & COO, Stilo Disposal
Chair, Metro BCA PWB