TUG cannot just rest on its laurels. As you may have learned, TUG received the honor of being part of the very first wave of people and organizations to be inducted into the IBM Canada iSeries Hall of Fame — an honor of which every TUG member should be proud! Of course there are a number of Directors who, during the first twenty years of the group, helped TUG become recognized as one of the best iSeries users groups in the world, but TUG members are really the ones behind this honor. Without members, there is no users group. That’s simple. For more info read Vaughn Dragland’s article on page 8.

The day after it was inducted into the IBM Canada iSeries Hall of Fame, TUG held its first Meeting of Members for the 2005/2006 season. What a meeting it was! First off, Nahla Kor (from Kor Capabilities) started the meeting with her views on “How to Deal with Difficult People.” It was a blast — everybody deeply enjoyed her presentation (the first Professional Development session to be presented at a TUG MoM in ages.) Then, directly from Washington State USA, Carol Woodbury (SkyView Partners Inc.) told us how to look at your iSeries IFS security. Another fantastic session — some would call it a Gold Medal presentation! To learn more about these two sessions, read Stephen Bingham’s review starting on page 5 of this issue. Stephen is our TUG Secretary.

By the time you read this column, Skip Marchesani will have presented his session on SQL — “Everything you need to Know about SQL in Five Hours.” Since I am writing this a few days before Skip’s presentation, I cannot tell how it really went, but looking at the registration numbers for the event and knowing Skip’s professionalism, I am sure it will have been excellent.

Going a bit further into the future and leveling with your perspective, our next MoM is still to come. On November 23, MoM will have what we can call “three presentations in a sandwich format.” The middle session, which starts at 5:00 pm and presented by Robert Eckersley and Joe Walsh of IBL, will be preceded by a session at 3:30 pm presented by the same speaker who will also give the 7:00 pm presentation. Yes, yes, yes we will have THREE sessions that day and yes, yes, Trevor Perry will be on both sides of the 5:00 pm session. Trevor will start the meeting (at 3:30 pm) with a brand new session of his called “Get Over It” and will end the evening with another fairly new session on a topic that is becoming more and more in the limelight of IT: Services Oriented Architecture, or SOA. Found in the session abstract: “SOA adds a business view to IT development along with the concept of modularizing business applications into recognizable services.” To find out more about our November 23 MoM, review the Agenda on page 10; and for a primer on SOA, see Al Grega’s article on page 11.

Even with 0 years behind us, TUG cannot sit still. There are so many things in TUG’s future, but I don’t have enough space in this column to describe all of what’s coming up. You’ll have to keep reading the TUG magazine issue after issue. Make sure you keep your TUG membership current and you’ll receive all the issues. If you want more up-to-the-minute information about TUG events, go to www.tug.ca. One last event I would like to remind you about is our annual conference. On April 18 & 19 2006, TUG will present its 13th annual TEC with, once again ... a few new features. Stay tuned!