



**Linda Franklin
President and CEO
Colleges Ontario**

Linda Franklin was appointed President and CEO of Colleges Ontario in January 2007. Colleges Ontario is the advocacy and outreach association of Ontario's 21 Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology and three College Institutes of Technology and Advanced Learning.

Linda Franklin was the President of the Wine Council of Ontario, a position she held for the past ten years. Under her leadership, the Ontario wine industry has partnered with the LCBO and the government to develop a 20 year strategic plan, supported by \$40 million in government and industry funding. During her tenure, the industry has also lobbied successfully for legislation creating a regulatory body to oversee VQA wines, and gained approval to deliver VQA wines directly to restaurants, a change which has encouraged strong growth in the estate wine sector over the past five years.

Prior to joining the Wine Council, Mrs. Franklin was a writer and communications specialist whose career included time as a consultant, five years as the head of communications for a regulatory body, and heading up a department charged with meeting the communications needs of MPPs at Queen's Park. She has also served as the Chief of Staff to an Ontario cabinet Minister. Currently, she serves on the Board of Directors of Ontario Place, CNEA and GTMA.

Linda Franklin has a degree in English and History and an M.A. in journalism from the University of Western Ontario.