



CABC Board of Directors

Brianna Ames

Coca-Cola

Dr. Lesia Babiak

Johnson & Johnson

Gabe Batstone

contextere

Dina Brachman

Pfizer

Kevin Chan

Meta

Gary Clement

TD Bank Group

Giselle Commissiong

Hatch

João Augusto de Castro Neves

ExxonMobil

Blair Dickerson

Rebekah Dopp

Google

Christina Erling

Barrick Gold

Sean Finn

CN

Marlene Floyd

Microsoft

Hélène V. Gagnon

CAE

Joshua Greene

A.O. Smith

Peter H. Jost

Blank Rome LLP

Robert Klager

Shell Canada

Kevin Kolevar

Dow Chemical Solutions

Andrew Lundquist

ConocoPhillips

Aylin Lusi

UPS Canada



Toby Mack

Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance

James Maunder

Amazon

Arielle Meloul-Wechsler

Air Canada

Wendy Noss

Motion Picture Association Canada

Clint Odom

T-Mobile

David Paterson

General Motors Canada

Pierre Seïn Pyun

Bombardier

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Rio Tinto

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Board of Directors Biographies

Brianna Ames

Director, Public Affairs, Communications and Sustainability, Coca-Cola

Brianna Ames is the Director of Public Affairs, Communications and Sustainability for Coca-Cola. In this role she is responsible for public affairs, government relations, stakeholder partnerships, strategic communications, sustainability and community related programming and initiatives in Canada.

Brianna draws her experience from serving in the Ontario government, where she worked for Premiers McGuinty and Wynne, and the Minister of Economic Development and Innovation. Brianna also has experience as a consultant, where she worked with clients across a range of sectors on public affairs, government relations and corporate communications strategy and execution.

Brianna has been an active volunteer in Toronto's young professional committee. She was the founder and co-chair of the Canadian Jewish Public Affairs (CJPAC) Women in Politics Mentorship Program, and served as a founding member of CAMH Engage, a group of young professionals focused on strategy and fundraising initiatives in support of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) Foundation, where she served as the co-chair of its Education and Awareness Committee. She also currently sits on the board of Stewardship Ontario.

Brianna has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of British Columbia and a Master of Arts in Culture and Communications, with an emphasis in politics and policy, from York and Ryerson Universities.

Dr. Lesia Babiak

Executive Director, Government Affairs & Policy, Johnson & Johnson

Dr. Lesia M. Babiak currently holds the role of Executive Director, J&J Worldwide Government Affairs & Policy, responsible for Canada. In that role, she works with the six Canadian J&J businesses in Canada and chairs the cross-sector J&J Canada Government Affairs Council. She has been with Johnson and Johnson since 2000. She has been active in a number of committees and boards including: Member LifeScan Canada Inc Board, Chair, BIOTECanada Health Advisory Board; Member of various industry association committees and boards in the Life Sciences area including those within Rx&D and MEDEC; Chair, Ukrainian Care Center Board and a member of the Alliance Hospice Board. She is currently a member of the Ivan Franko Home Board.

Previously, she served with the Ministry of Health in Ontario as the Associate Director with the Drug Programs Branch. For a period of five years, her responsibilities included leading on a number of clinical initiatives and process redesign work and interfaces with key Ministry stakeholders such as the OMA, OPA and the industry. In 1995, Lesia served as a Health Advisor with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Her work focused on assisting Eastern European universities to revise their pharmacy curriculum, towards a more clinically oriented curriculum. During the time she served as the Medical Lead for the Help Us Help the Children Project. In addition to leading the Medical Committee she was active in a number of the outreach 'road trips' to the orphanages of Ukraine. Prior to that, she worked for seven years with another life sciences company in a variety of Clinical Research positions. These included Head, Clinical Therapeutic Areas and Head, Pharmaco-economic Research. She began her professional career working clinically at the Ottawa General Hospital as Team Leader for clinical services for Neurology and Family Medicine. Lesia holds a B.Sc. Pharm. from the University of Toronto, a Pharm.D. from Wayne State University, and an M.B.A. from the University of Western Ontario. She is a 2018 graduate of the Rotman School of Business Directors Education Program (DEP).



Gabe Batstone

CEO, contextere

Gabe Batstone is the co-founder & CEO of contextere. He brings to the company over two decades of experience implementing emerging technology across multiple industries on six continents. This has included industrial innovations for smart city, future soldier, digital oilfield and industrial AI. Contextere is a recognized World Economic Global Innovator as one of the world's most promising start-ups that are at the forefront of technological and business model innovation. Gabe serves on the Board of Directors of the Canadian American Business Council (CABC) promoting continental trade policy. In 2014 Gabe founded 'Teagan's Voice' dedicated to protecting children's rights following the tragic death of his 8-year-old daughter.

Gabe holds a Bachelor of Applied Arts, specializing in Geographic information Systems, from Ryerson University in Toronto and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Baltimore. Gabe is a frequent public speaker, published writer, and has completed postgraduate studies at the United Nations Institute for Training & Research, University of Chicago, and Harvard Law School.

Dina Brachman

Senior Director, Global Policy, Pfizer

Dina Brachman is Pfizer's Senior Director of Global Policy. She has held this title for approximately five years and spent the preceding ten years as Pfizer's Director of U.S. Policy.

Prior to joining Pfizer, Brachman spent six years as the owner of Brachman Consulting. Spending her early career as a chemist, she has accrued a total of thirty-five years of experience in the healthcare industry. Brachman has worked at several pharmaceutical companies marketing OTC products.

Brachman graduated from Franklin & Marshall College for a B.A. in Chemistry. She went on to obtain a Master of Science in Organic Chemistry at Rutgers University, and earned her MBA from New York University's Stern School of Business.

Kevin Chan

Senior Director, Global Policy Campaign Strategies, Meta

Kevin Chan is the Senior Director for Global Policy Campaign Strategies for Meta. A member of the 2017 Selection Board for the Canada Excellence Research Chairs, he also serves on the boards and advisory councils of Kids Help Phone, Media Smarts, and the Ted Rogers School of Management. Kevin graduated from Harvard Kennedy School, the Ivey Business School and the Royal Conservatory of Music. He is a recipient of the Public Service Award of Excellence, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Gary Clement

Director, Government Relations, TD Bank Group

Gary Clement is the Director of Government Relations at TD Bank Group. He was named to his current role, effective May 2012.

Prior to his role as Director of Government Relations, Clement served as Manager for Government and Community Relations with TD Bank Group for 9 years. Previously, Clement served as a Senior Advisor for Public Relations in the Office of the Premier of Ontario. Clement also served as a Special Assistant for Tour in the Office of the Minister of Long-Term Care and Seniors of Ontario. Clement began his professional career at Standards Council of Canada (SCC) in 1992 as the Executive Assistant for Corporate Affairs.

Clement holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political studies from the University of Guelph.

Giselle Commissiong

Senior Principal/Regional Director, Hatch

Giselle Commissiong is a Senior Principal at the engineering consulting firm, Hatch. She entered this role in February after spending eight years at EY as a Senior Manager and then Partner.

Commissiong worked at Accenture for five years as a Senior Manager of Management Consulting before taking over as Senior Manager of Strategy. From 2005 until 2006, she was a Business Performance Manager at Barrick Gold Corporation. She began her career serving in a variety of engineering and business roles at Pratt & Whitney Canada, until she joined Capgemini as a Senior Consultant.

Commissiong received an Engineering degree from McGill University. She went on to complete her MBA at York University's Schulich School of Business in 2003, and obtained an Executive Master of Science, Health Economics and Policy Management from the London School of Economics in 2018.

João Augusto de Castro Neves

Director, International Government Relations, ExxonMobil

João Augusto de Castro Neves is the Director of International Government Relations at ExxonMobil--a position he has held since December of 2017.

Prior to joining ExxonMobil, de Castro was an Adjunct Professor at the Elliott School of International Affairs in Washington D.C. He spent six years at Eurasia Group, eventually serving as Director for Latin America for a period of four years. De Castro was also a contributing editor at FGV, writing on the Brazilian economy and foreign policy.

In 2010, de Castro founded his own political consulting firm, BrazilPolitics, where he provided strategic insight on political economy in Brazil. He was also a Founding Partner at CAC Political Consultancy in Washington and Brazil, where he provided strategic advice to major Brazilian political parties. From 2004 to 2007, de Castro was a Senior Political Analyst at the Brazilian Institute of Political Studies. De Castro began his career holding a variety of positions at political institutes and public and government bodies in Brazil.

De Castro earned a B.A. in Political Science at Universidade de Brasília. He went on to earn his M.A. in Political Science from Instituto Universitário de Pesquisas do Rio de Janeiro and completed his PhD in Political Science at Universidade de São Paulo.



Blair Dickerson

CABC Board Member

Blair has held leadership roles in the critical minerals and mining sector at Rio Tinto and Vale in the areas of Sustainability, Indigenous and Community Relations and Corporate Affairs.

With expertise in government regulations, regulatory affairs and public policy leadership, Blair has created high value partnerships, combining a deep knowledge of government policymaking and regulatory processes with a passion and respect for community values.

Throughout her career Blair has focused on assignments in highly regulated sectors including the pharmaceutical and alcohol beverage industries as well as in government, where at Natural Resources Canada as Chief of staff to the minister she worked closely with the forestry, energy and mining sectors.

At Rio Tinto Blair held the roles of Vice President Canada, Acting Vice President Asia for Corporate Relations and General Manager for Communities and Communications, Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

At Vale she was Head of Sustainability, Communications Indigenous Relations and Corporate Affairs.

Rebekah E. Dopp

Global Head, DEI Brand and Reputation, Google

Founder and Chair, Exponent

Rebekah E. Dopp is the Global Head of DEI Brand and Reputation for Google, the Founder and Chair of Exponent, and an independent corporate director of Tilray. She is a demonstrated leader of game-changing strategic initiatives, global partnerships, and product launch teams. She is a sought-after speaker and has led global product, engineering, strategy, brand, and distribution teams. She served as a senior leader on launch teams for HBO GO, CBS All Access and YouTube TV.

In addition, Rebekah is the executive producer for Google's external DEI video content including The Search for Racial Equity series and Exponent Talks – the forthcoming gender equity talks. She is a passionate advocate for equity, ardent voice for the empowerment and protection of women and children, and she served as chairman of the board of Child Abuse Prevention Program for over 10 years.

Previously, Rebekah served as Senior Vice President, Advanced Digital Services at CBS. Reporting to the President, she led ideation, creation and implementation of multi-platform digital strategies. She acted as the technology leader on complex deals, which added to her proven abilities to negotiate, influence and communicate with competitors and stakeholders. She also acted as the chief evangelist and distribution lead on digital products for TV affiliates.

Rebekah serves on the advisory boards of FinTech4Good, BWG Strategy, and Dentons Women in Technology. In the non-profit sector, she served on the board of trustees for The Foundling among other board service.

Rebekah graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration with a concentration in finance from The College of William & Mary. She is a fellow of the Betsy Magness Leadership Institute as well as a National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD) leadership fellow. She participated in the Directors' College at Stanford Law School, the TV Executive Leadership Program at Harvard Business School, and the NACD Master Class.

Christina Erling

Head of Government Affairs, North America, Barrick Gold

Christina Erling is the Vice President, U.S. Government Affairs for Barrick Gold USA. As the primary advocate for Barrick in Washington, D.C., she engages with a wide range of external stakeholders, including members of Congress, the administration and industry associations to identify, monitor and influence developments in public policy. She provides strategic direction, support and guidance regarding Barrick's government relations efforts and on matters of reporting and compliance within the gold mining industry.

Erling holds a bachelor's degree in Russian and Political Science from the University of New Hampshire. She serves on the board of Opportunity Village, a not-for-profit organization that serves people in Las Vegas with intellectual disabilities; the Anacostia Community Boathouse Association and is currently the Chair of the International Committee for the National Mining Association.

Sean Finn

Executive Vice-President, Corporate Services and Chief Legal Officer, CN

Sean Finn was appointed Executive Vice-President Corporate Services and Chief Legal Officer in December 2008. He is responsible for a wide array of legal, government, regulatory, public affairs, risk mitigation and security matters.

Mr. Finn joined CN in January 1994 and led the Company's corporate tax function while being involved extensively in CN's privatization in November 1995. He was appointed Treasurer and Principal Tax Counsel in August 1996, Vice-President, Treasurer and Principal Tax Counsel in January 2000, Senior Vice-President, Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary in December 2000, and Senior Vice-President Public Affairs, Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary in February 2003. As Corporate Secretary, he is actively involved and responsible for CN's Corporate Governance Practices and the implementation of the CN Business Code of Conduct.

Prior to joining CN, Mr. Finn was the managing tax partner with the Montreal law firm Lavery, de Billy, where he was involved in domestic and international tax planning, cross-border financing, and corporate financing and reorganizations.

Mr. Finn graduated from the faculty of law of the University of Montreal in 1981 and completed a master's degree in tax law at the University of Toronto in 1983. He was admitted to the Quebec Bar in 1983.

Mr. Finn was named Tax Lawyer of the Year 2000 by his peers. He is former Chairman of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce (2006-2007) and of the Quebec Chamber of Commerce (2002-2003). He was also the mayor of the City of Saint-Lambert, Quebec from 2005 to 2009. Mr. Finn was a lecturer for 20 years in tax legislation and policy for the master's in taxation at Université de Sherbrooke and for the graduate diploma in taxation at McGill University. He is currently a board member of the YMCA Foundation of Greater Montreal (since 2000), the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation and Chairman of the Corporate Campaign (since 2005), as well as Swimming Canada (since October 2008).

Marlene Floyd

National Director of Corporate Affairs, Microsoft

Marlene Floyd is the National Director of Corporate Affairs at Microsoft. She has held this post since 2016.

Floyd concurrently runs a charity she co-founded called Dress for Success Ottawa. Prior to joining Microsoft, Floyd was the Director of Operations and Outreach for Justin Trudeau, Leader of the Liberal Party, from 2013 to 2015. She had previously spent four years as a Principal at Earncliffe Strategy Group.

Prior to entering consulting at Earncliffe, Floyd was a Senior Regulatory Analyst at MTS Allstream. She also spent two years as a Policy Analyst at Industry Canada. Floyd began her career with the Liberal Party of Canada, working as a Special Assistant to Minister of Finance, The Hon. Paul Martin.

Floyd graduated from St. Thomas University with a bachelor's degree in Economics and Political Science.

Hélène Gagnon

Senior Vice President, Public Affairs, Global Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility, CAE

Hélène V. Gagnon is Senior Vice President, Public Affairs, Global Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility at CAE since 2015 and is a member of the Executive Management Committee. She manages CAE's brand and reputation including public affairs, web and social media presence, corporate events as well as issues and crisis management. She leads CAE's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) roadmap and chairs its CSR committee. She also strengthens relationships and communications with key internal and external stakeholders worldwide, including CAE's 11,000 employees, media, communities and governments.

Prior to her appointment at CAE, Ms. Gagnon worked for 11 years at Bombardier, the last eight as Vice President, Public Affairs, Communications, Corporate Social Responsibility and Achieving Excellence System for Bombardier Aerospace, the third largest civil aircraft manufacturer. From 2003 to 2007 she was Senior Director of Public Affairs at Bombardier Transportation.

She began her career in 1995 with the law firm Fasken as a specialist in environmental law. In 2000, she joined mining and metallurgy multinational Noranda Inc./ Falconbridge Limited (now known as Glencore) as Director of Public and Corporate Affairs for Québec.

Among others, Hélène chaired the Board of Directors of Aéro Montréal, Greater Montréal's Aerospace Cluster (2015-2018) and the Board of the Aerospace Industries Association of Canada's (2012- 2013) and is still a Board member of both. She is an independent member of the Board of Directors of Hydro Quebec since 2015. She has also been a member of the Board of Directors of The Montreal Airports (ADM) since November 2014 and was appointed Vice Chair of the Board in March 2021. She's been a Board member of the Canadian American Business Council since 2017 and was appointed Vice Chair of the CABC Board in 2020.

Ms. Gagnon has always been very active in the community. She has been involved in more than 50 organizations including government advisory boards, pressure groups, cultural and charity organizations and business associations and was appointed to more than 25 Boards of Directors.

She has been a speaker or panelist around the world on topics such as environmental policy, corporate social responsibility, public policy issues, crisis management, issue management and social media. She has garnered more than 60 scholarships, awards, distinctions and excellence prizes notably, the prestigious Canada's Most Powerful Women Top 100™ award from the Women Executive Network in 2007.

A graduate of McGill University with a degree in Civil Law (B.C.L.) and Common Law (LL.B.), Ms. Gagnon also holds a Master's degree in Public Administration and Public Policy from the London School of Economics (M.Sc). She is a member of the Québec Bar, holds the professional certifications of Accredited in Public Relations (APR) and Fellow (FCPRS) from the Canadian Public Relations Society as well as the Global ESG Competent Boards Designation (GCB.D).

Joshua Greene

Vice President, Government and Industry Affairs, A.O. Smith

Joshua C. Greene Vice President, Government and Industry Affairs, North America Josh currently serves as Vice President of Government and Industry Affairs. In this role, Josh's primary function is to advocate for the company's business goals and objectives in front of federal, state, and local policy makers and regulators across North America. He also represents the company and actively participates on its behalf in front of many trade associations and non- governmental organizations that cover the company's products and business interests. In addition to his duties as head of Government and Industry Affairs, he is part of the Legal Department at A. O. Smith and works closely with its Corporate Development and Corporate Technology departments on business strategy issues.

Prior to Josh joining the company, he served as one of the company's outside attorneys and lobbyists at the law firm of Squire Patton Boggs LLP where he was a Partner and chaired the firm's U.S. Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Policy and Regulatory Practice. While at Squire Patton Boggs LLP he used his two decades of experience as a former Congressional staff member and entrepreneur in assisting his clients to achieve their business goals and objectives. His legal practice focused on energy and environmental regulation, compliance, project development and finance, as well as corporate counseling with a particular concentration on renewable and alternative energy development, energy efficiency, energy storage, technology diligence, resource scarcity, project funding, economic development, and public-private partnerships. In addition to his energy and environmental policy and regulatory activities, he also counseled emerging technology companies within the energy, natural resources, and information technology sectors.

Early in his career, Josh served as a senior legislative assistant and aide to two members of the New York Congressional delegation where he provided advice and counsel on federal legislation and agency regulations that came before the Congress. It was during his service on Capitol Hill that he began to hone his environmental policy and regulatory knowledge and its intersection with the private marketplace.

Finally, Josh's professional experience off Capitol Hill also includes serving as chairman of a privately held holding company involved in the commercial building services industry as well as retail food services. For the last twenty-six years Josh has called Maryland home and over that time has been very active in his local community, while also dedicating time to public service and charitable initiatives. In his spare time Josh loves spending time with his family, which includes his wife Monya Phillip, and children (Jacob, Sophia, and Jonathan), as well as watching soccer, playing all kinds of sports, reading biographies, and spending time at the beach.

Peter H. Jost

Senior Counsel, Blank Rome LLP

Peter H. Jost is the Senior Counsel for Blank Rome LLP. He has held this position since 1977.



Jost has over 40 years of experience developing a broad-based global practice in law. He specializes in International Business, Taxation Policy, Legislative Policy and Real Estate, and Commercial Law.

In his tenure with Blank Rome LLP, Jost has also served as counsel to the British Coal Board and advised on the divestiture of its Washington, D.C.- based real estate portfolio from 1989 to 1993; General Counsel to the Student Conservative Association Inc from 1994 to 2016; and project counsel to TermoEmcali, a Colombian company organized to design, construct, finance, and operate a large electric generating facility from 1995 to 1997. In total, Jost has provided tax opinions in more than 300 syndications of real property located throughout the United States.

Jost holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Carolina. He also holds a Juris Doctor from the Virginia School of Law.

Jost served as the past president and current general counsel of the Canadian American Business Council. Additionally, in 2016, Jost received the Citizens Association of Georgetown Preservative Award, and was listed on the Capital Pro Bono Honour Roll from 2015 to 2018.

Robert Klager

Head, Government Relations, Shell Canada

Bob is a respected communications strategist and political adviser, whose expertise is rooted in a keen understanding of communication and its influences on policy development and public perceptions.

An articulate writer and astute monitor of trends, he has worked with and consulted for government, private-sector and non-profit clients across Canada, and offers significant strength through a range of disciplines - particularly, public affairs, media relations, issues management and strategic planning for major public policy initiatives.

A former senior adviser to Prime Minister Stephen Harper - as well as several federal Cabinet ministers spanning the energy, environment, international trade and northern development portfolios - he brings unique insight to managing complex domestic and international relationships, issues and public policies.

Prior to his work in government, Bob was Director of Strategy and Public Affairs for SUM Incorporated. He has previously worked as an editorialist and political and investigative reporter for newspapers in Ontario and New Brunswick.

Kevin Kolevar

Vice President, Global Government Affairs, Dow

Kevin Kolevar is the Vice President of Global Government Affairs at Dow. Based in Midland, Michigan, Kevin leads federal, state and international government affairs and manages legislative, regulatory and political affairs for the Company.

Prior to joining Dow, Kevin was a founder and managing director at ClearView Energy Partners, an energy research, analysis and consulting firm that helps clients capitalize on energy sector changes through analysis of economic fundamentals, operational realities and politics.

Before starting ClearView, Kevin served as Assistant Secretary for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability at the United States Department of Energy (DOE). In that capacity, Kolevar led the Department's work to modernize the

electric grid through next generation technologies; enhance the security and resiliency of critical energy infrastructure in the U.S., Saudi Arabia and Kuwait; and facilitate the reconstruction and recovery of damaged or disrupted energy systems in the U.S.

Previously, Kevin served as the Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary of Energy and supported and advised the Secretary and Deputy Secretary on policy, regulatory and legislative matters as well as Departmental program management. He also worked as a senior policy advisor to the Secretary on security and technology issues. Kevin began his career on Capitol Hill, where he spent over ten years working for both Senator Spencer Abraham (Michigan) and Senator Connie Mack (Florida). He received his B.A. from the University of Michigan. Kevin is a member of World 50, a private community for CEOs and C-level executives at globally respected organizations to discover better ideas, share valuable experiences and build relationships that make a lasting impact.

Andrew Lundquist

Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, ConocoPhillips

Andrew Lundquist is senior vice president, Government Affairs for ConocoPhillips, responsible for the company's state, federal and international policy and government affairs activities, and leading a team who serve as the voice of ConocoPhillips in addressing highly complex public policy issues with governments around the world.

Lundquist and his team offer strategic advice to management on public policy, advocacy, regulation and compliance; and manage the company's response efforts. They also represent ConocoPhillips in matters of resource access, taxation and governmental regulation by taking a fact-based, cooperative and reasonable communications approach. Lundquist has more than 25 years of experience in government affairs. Prior to joining ConocoPhillips in 2013, he was managing partner of BlueWater Strategies LLC, a Washington, D.C.-based consulting firm that he founded in 2002 to provide business and government relations advice to U.S. and international corporations.

He previously served as a director for Pioneer Natural Resources, for Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation, and for Evergreen Resources. Prior to joining the private sector, Lundquist served in leadership roles at the White House. In 2001 he was director of the White House National Energy Policy Development Group, which directed a cabinet-level task force that produced the president's National Energy Policy. He was also advisor to the President and Vice President on energy issues.

Lundquist previously spent 14 years on Capitol Hill, the last three as majority staff director of the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Lundquist received a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Alaska and a juris doctorate from Catholic University.

Aylin Lusi

Vice President, Public Affairs, UPS Canada

Aylin joined UPS in 2013, based in UPS's European headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. Between 2013 and 2016 Aylin held roles managing UPS public affairs in the European Union related to international trade and customs policy, data privacy and cyber security. In her current role, she oversees all UPS public affairs activity in Canada.

Prior to joining UPS, Aylin worked as a Policy Officer at the American Chamber of Commerce to the European Union, coordinating advocacy on transatlantic trade and financial services. Aylin has also worked at the European Commission's European Political Strategy Centre, and the House of Commons of the United Kingdom.

Aylin holds an MSc in European Political Economy from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and a BA in European Social and Political Studies from University College London (UCL). She also studied at the Université Paris-Sorbonne as part of her undergraduate degree. Aylin speaks English, French and Turkish.

Toby Mack

President & CEO, Energy Equipment & Infrastructure Alliance

Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance (EEIA) is the trade association representing the North American shale energy supply chain – the people and companies who provide construction, equipment, materials, supplies and services to shale oil and gas upstream, midstream and downstream infrastructure and operations.

Through direct action and mobilization of supply chain voices at federal, state and local levels, EEIA promotes public, regulatory and policymaker support for shale energy production and infrastructure; and advocates for policies that encourage full responsible development of North America's shale energy resources and the infrastructure needed to deliver that energy to consumers and industry.

Prior to joining EEIA in 2013, Mr. Mack served as President of Associated Equipment Distributors, the trade association representing suppliers of heavy equipment and related products and services to the construction, energy, mining and forestry industries in North America. Previously he served as CEO of the National Electronic Distributors Association, as Vice President of the Electronic Industries Association, and as a U. S. Navy officer. He is a graduate of Penn State University.

He is active in the leadership of business, professional, civic and philanthropic organizations, including current roles as Member of the U.S. Chamber Foundation's Advisory Board on Emerging Issues, and President of the Chicago Navy Memorial Foundation; and previously as Vice Chairman and Director of the American Society of Association Executives, and Director of the National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors and Vice President and Director of the United States Navy Memorial Foundation.

James Maunder

Director, Canada Public Policy, Amazon Canada

James leads Amazon's public policy and advocacy efforts for Canada. He is an executive with over 15 years of experience specializing in policy, corporate and regulatory affairs, and stakeholder engagement in both the public and private sector. As Amazon's Director of Canada Public Policy, James leads a national team that works with governments at all levels on policies that make sense in today's digital economy.

Prior to joining Amazon, James was Vice President, Public Affairs and Communications at Xplornet, a telecommunications company delivering high-speed Internet to over a million rural Canadians.

James has a deep understanding of all levels of government and how they function, having spent over a decade on Parliament Hill in various senior roles, including serving as Chief of Staff to three Cabinet Ministers in four federal departments.

James is a former Member of the Board of the Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association (CWTA). In 2019, he was named by Government of Ontario to an Advisory Panel responsible for overseeing how the province supports families of children with special needs.

James was twice named one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful and Influential People in Government and Politics by the Hill Times, and has appeared as a national spokesperson on television, radio, and print media.

Arielle Meloul-Wechsler

Executive Vice President, Chief Human Resources & Communications Officer, Air Canada

Arielle Meloul-Wechsler is Air Canada's Executive Vice President, Chief Human Resources Officer and Public Affairs, and has been a member of Air Canada's Executive team since 2013. She has oversight for all human

resources and culture change initiatives across the company, labour relations, labour and litigation legal services, customer service training, as well as internal and external communications, government relations and community investments to support Air Canada's goal of becoming a Global Champion.

Under Arielle's leadership, Air Canada has been named for multiple consecutive years, one of Canada's Top 100 Employers, one of Montreal's Top Employers, one of Canada's Top Diversity Employers, in addition to being recognized as one of the Top 10 Most Admired Corporate Cultures in Canada. She is also Air Canada's Champion of Official Languages, proudly focusing on the airline's commitment and efforts in offering the greatest range of services in both of Canada's official languages. Arielle also has oversight for both the Air Canada Foundation as well as Air Canada's CSR Reporting.

Before her work in Human Resources, Arielle was Assistant General Counsel and Director of Legal Services at Air Canada, where her practice groups included advising on corporate financing, reorganization, M&A and other corporate and commercial transactions, as well as leading Aeroplan's external legal team through its initial public offering. She practiced law at Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg prior to joining Air Canada.

Arielle was elected President of Airline People Directors' Council (APDC), an exclusive global Airline HR Leaders' Network, in March 2017. She was recognized by the Women's Executive Network in 2019 as one of Canada's 100 Most Powerful Women in Business in the Corporate Executive category. She is a Member of the Conseil du Patronat, and she also serves on the Board of Directors of the Air Canada Foundation; the National Airlines Council of Canada (NACC), the Canadian American Business Council, and Element Fleet Management Corp.

Arielle holds a Civil Law degree from the Université de Montreal, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from McGill University, and has been a member of the Quebec Bar since 1993.

Wendy Noss

President, Motion Picture Association Canada

Wendy Noss is the President of the Motion Picture Association-Canada and leads government relations, policy development, and advocacy on behalf of the MPAA studios and their domestic affiliates. Wendy has been with the association since 2006, creating strategic alliances to further the health of the film and television industry and foster an environment of respect for the creative industries in Canada.

Wendy is a respected government and public affairs executive with more than two decades of experience representing creative industries and intellectual property owners. Prior to joining the MPA, she was a practicing lawyer focusing on intellectual property law and policy, and in advancing the rights of international rights holders in the digital environment. She previously acted as Counsel and Director of Government Affairs for the national copyright collective, representing authors and publishers.

Wendy received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Western University and her J.D. from Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto. She works as an effective partner with film and television stakeholders across the country and has been selected as a trusted advisor to serve on various government boards, councils, advisory groups and organizations.

Clint Odom

Vice President, Strategic Alliances & External Affairs, T-Mobile

Clint Odom serves as the Vice President, Strategic Alliances & External Affairs for T-Mobile.

He previously served as Senior Vice President of Policy & Advocacy and Executive Director of the Washington Bureau with the National Urban League.

Prior to this, he worked for U.S. Senator Kamala D. Harris of California for more than two years as Legislative Director. From January 2015 until December 2016, he was a Democratic General Counsel and Policy Director with the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. From 2013-2014, he was the Policy Director with the Office of Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel in Washington, DC.

Odom also worked in the U.S. Senate for four years. From 2012-2013, he served as Deputy Legislative Director for U.S. Senator Bill Nelson, prior to which he served as his Legislative Counsel for three years.

He also served as Principal of Odom Consulting from 2008-2009, as well as Vice President and Director of Verizon from 2001-2008. From 1996- 2001, Odom was the Chairman's Legal Advisor & Staff Attorney with the Federal Communications Commission. From 1994-1996, he worked as Litigation Associate with Dow Lohnes PLLC, prior to which he was a Law Clerk with U.S. District Court Judge Henry T. Wingate for one year.

Odom holds a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where he graduated in 1993. He also holds a B.A. in Political Science from the Louisiana State University.

David Paterson

Vice President, Corporate & Environmental Affairs

David Paterson leads Communications, Government and Environmental Relations for General Motors Canada and is a member of GM's global Public Policy and Communications teams. His areas of expertise and responsibility for GM Canada include international trade agreements, climate and carbon policy, electricity costs, vehicle GHG and electric vehicle regulations, safety regulation, cyber security, privacy, taxation, investment incentives, pensions, worker compensation, real estate, labour law and red tape reduction.

David is a past Chair of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Journalism Foundation, the Canadian Motor Vehicle Association, the Canadian American Business Council, and the Executive of the Canadian Automotive Partnership Council.

Prior to joining GM in 2014, he was Senior Vice President, Government Relations & Public Policy at BlackBerry (formerly Research in Motion) where he led global government relations and public policy. At BlackBerry he led a global team of 60 responsible for regulatory advocacy and engagement in 175 countries. Key issues included international market access, intellectual property, lawful access, and privacy.

Prior to joining BlackBerry in October 2010, David was Senior Vice President, Public Affairs at Manulife Financial, one of the world's largest insurance and financial services companies.

From 2002-2009, David served as Vice President and member of the Board of Directors of General Motors Canada Limited where he negotiated an \$11 billion restructuring support agreement with Canadian Governments - one of the most challenging periods in the Company's history. From 1995 to 2002, he was Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs at AGRA Inc., and post merger in the same role for AMEC plc, one of Europe's largest engineering services companies. At AMEC, he managed corporate and investor communications, based in London, U.K. From 1990 to 1995, David led corporate and international government relations accounts at Hill and Knowlton Canada where he became Senior Vice President.

Between 1986 and 1990, he worked on the staff of various Ontario Government Cabinet Ministers, acting as Executive Assistant to the Government House Leader and as a Special Assistant to the Ministers of Government Services, Education, the Attorney General for Ontario and the Minister responsible for Race Relations, Native Affairs and Women's Issues.

He is married with a daughter and lives in Toronto, Canada.

Pierre Seïñ Pyun

Vice President, Government Affairs, Bombardier Inc.

Pierre Seïñ Pyun was appointed Vice President, Government Affairs in October 2011. As such, he leads government relations activities in Canada for Bombardier Inc.

A lawyer by training, Pierre has significant background in international trade, having served with the Canadian federal government from 1998 to 2011. Prior to joining Bombardier, Mr. Pyun managed sector practices and developed and implemented global commercial strategies for the Canadian government in Ottawa. Furthermore, he worked at Canadian diplomatic posts in China from 2001-2009, including as a Senior Trade Commissioner at the Canadian Embassy in Beijing.

Mr. Pyun holds degrees in Common Law and Civil Law from McGill University and completed a Certificate in International Commerce at the University of Montreal. He is fluent in English, French, Mandarin and Korean.

Mr. Pyun serves on the board of directors of a number of associations, including the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Aerospace Industries Association of Canada, Canada-India Business Council, Canada Arab Business Council and Canada China Business Council.

Jean Quenneville

Director, External Affairs – Québec, Rio Tinto Group

Born in Saguenay, Québec, Jean Quenneville holds the position of Director, External Affairs - Québec, Canada for the Rio Tinto Group (Rio Tinto Aluminium, Rio Tinto Iron & Titanium and Iron Ore Company).

He joined Rio Tinto in November 2009 as Director, Communications and External Relations, Primary Metal for North America.

From 2003 to 2009, Mr. Quenneville worked as special advisor, on economic issues at the Québec Premier's cabinet.

Alexander Russ

Senior Advisor, Global Public Policy, Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)

Alex serves as the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) chief advocate on international government relations. This work includes developing and coordinating AEMs positions on U.S. and international trade and investment policy, helping companies identify and overcome legislative and regulatory barriers to growth, developing and managing relationships with senior U.S. and foreign government officials and leading AEM's Canadian advocacy efforts.

Alex acts as an AEM spokesperson on trade matters and international affairs and has been quoted in the Financial Times, Reuters, Toronto Star and other industry and trade publications.

Prior to joining AEM, Alex was a Legislative Assistant in the U.S. House of Representatives handling trade, foreign affairs, transportation, environment and energy policy. While working on the Hill, Alex also staffed a Member of Congress on the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.



Alex holds a Master of Science from the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands, and an Honours Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto in Canada.

Pete Sheffield

Chief Sustainability Officer and Vice President, U.S. External Affairs, Enbridge

Pete Sheffield is Vice President of U.S. External Affairs at Enbridge, responsible for public policy and government relations federally and across the 41 states in which the company operates. He also manages Enbridge's Washington, D.C., office, where he is the company's primary liaison with members of Congress, Congressional staff and the Executive Branch.

Sheffield works actively with national trade associations representing natural gas, liquids and related energy industries, including the American Petroleum Institute, the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America, the Association of Oil Pipe Lines and the American Gas Association. Prior to assuming his current role, Sheffield was vice president of energy policy and government affairs for Spectra Energy Corp, overseeing the company's U.S. and Canadian federal government relations activities and public policy issues, as well as U.S. state government affairs.

In 2013, Sheffield received Spectra Energy's Summit Award – the company's highest recognition award – for his efforts to coordinate cross border response relief in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. He joined Spectra Energy's predecessor company, Duke Energy, in 2002, serving in a number of capacities, including national media spokesman, manager of media relations and director of external relations, responsible for the company's communications with external audiences. Before joining Duke Energy, Sheffield was press secretary to the United States House of Representatives' Committee on Energy and Commerce, serving as primary spokesman and senior advisor to two chairmen.

Sheffield earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia and a Master of Business Administration degree from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business in Durham, N.C.

Jennifer Sloan

Vice President, Public Policy, MasterCard Canada

Jennifer Sloan is the Vice President and Senior Business Leader of Public Policy for MasterCard Canada. In this role, Sloan is responsible for leading MasterCard's public affairs and government relations for Canada. Sloan has held this position since September 2015.

Prior to her role at MasterCard, Sloan served as the Director of Government Affairs at Target Canada, where she led the government affairs team from 2012 to 2015. Previously, Sloan served as the Inaugural Vice President of University Relations at York University. Sloan led the newly created portfolio at York for two years from 2010-2012. Sloan also served as the Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs at VALE Inco from 2007 to 2009. Previously, Sloan was the Consul and Head of Political Economic Relations and Public Affairs at the Canadian Consulate General in New York from 2004-2007.

Sloan has held a variety of titles within the Canadian government, including Chief of Staff in the Office of the Minister of the Canadian International Development Agency from 2002 to 2003; Director of Communications in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance from 1998 to 2002; Chief of Consultations and

Media Relations in the Department of Finance from 1996 to 1998; and Head of Federal, Provincial, and Territorial Canada Pension Plan in the Department of Finance from April 1996 to August 1996. Sloan began her professional career as a Spokesperson for EA to DM Communications and Culture in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

Sloan holds a bachelor's degree in communication and Journalism from the University of Georgia.

Mary Catherine Toker

Vice President, Global Public Affairs General Mills (Retired)

Mary Catherine Toker recently retired as Vice President of Global Government and Public Affairs for General Mills, Incorporated. In this capacity, she led the company's public and government affairs organization and provided strategic leadership on a broad range of public policy issues of importance to General Mills around the world.

Mary Catherine joined General Mills in 1988 having served on the legislative staff of U.S. Senator George J. Mitchell (D-Maine). Mary Catherine serves on the Executive Committee of the World Federation of Advertisers. She also serves on the Boards of Directors of the US Council for International Business, the Congressional Hunger Center, the Public Affairs Council and the Women's Foreign Policy Group.

Lena Trudeau

COO, Fu Associates Ltd.

Lena Trudeau is the Chief Operating Officer of Fu Associates, Ltd., a technology firm that provides data analytics and digital advisory services to public good organizations.

Previously Lena served as the CEO of U.Group, a technology with deep expertise in cloud-native development, advanced analytics, machine learning, and augmented reality. Prior to ByteCubed, Lena was Co-Founder and CEO of Nuage Cloud Strategies, a firm focused on digital adoption and government modernization. Concurrently, Lena served as a Senior Advisor to the Canadian Digital Service (CDS) at the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat.

Lena led the Amazon Web Services Public Sector business in Canada where she helped government, education, health care, and not-for-profit organizations find better, more cost-effective ways to serve their customers. Lena also led public sector global expansion efforts specifically focused on scientific computing, open data, and educating the next generation of IT professionals.

Lena served as member of the U.S. Federal Government's Senior Executive Service. As Associate Commissioner at the General Services Administration (GSA), she was mandated to leverage technology to transform business operations.

At the Office of Strategic Innovations, Lena spearheaded the creation of 18F, an in-house digital delivery team that builds effective, user-centric digital services. She also directed the Presidential Innovation Fellows, a highly competitive program that pairs government experts with private sector entrepreneurs to tackle the nation's biggest challenges.



Herb Tyson Vice President

Senior Advisor, Scarlet Oak Strategies

Herb Tyson serves as Senior Advisor to Scarlet Oak Strategies for state government affairs. In this capacity, Herb helps clients devise and manage their state-based approaches to legislative and procurement strategy.

A long respected and dedicated government affairs professional, Herb has held senior positions engaged in federal, state and local and international public policy. Most recently, Herb was responsible for North American state and provincial relations for a well-known international commercial real estate organization. Herb has had extensive experience with the “big 7” in intergovernmental affairs (NGA, NACo, NLC, CSG, NCSL, ICMA, and USCM). Herb has deep experience across a wide spectrum of industries including consumer products, education, technology, international trade, infrastructure, and procurement.

As a political appointee in the Clinton Administration, Herb served in the US Department of State as Director of Intergovernmental Affairs. His office supported US Governors and Mayors on their respective international initiatives. Prior to government service, he was in various top tier financial services and economic development entities. Herb volunteers as a member of the board of directors of the Canadian American Business Council and the Montgomery County Revenue Authority and served in the past on the board of the California Business Properties Association and the American Council of Young Political Leaders.

Cathy Worden

Director, Government Affairs, Cisco Canada

Cathy Worden joined Cisco Canada as the Director of Government Affairs in April 2016. Prior to joining Cisco, Cathy spent three years as Vice President, Public Affairs in the Toronto office of H+K Strategies.

Previously, Cathy had over a decade of experience in government, serving in Ontario as Chief of Staff to the Minister of Economic Development and Innovation, Economic Policy Advisor to the Premier, Senior Advisor to the Minister of Finance and Chief of Staff to the Minister of Energy. In Ottawa, Cathy held advisory roles to the Minister of Natural Resources, Minister of Industry and Deputy Prime Minister of Canada.

Born and raised in Ottawa, Cathy received her Honours Degree in Political Studies from Queen’s University in Kingston. Cathy currently lives in Ottawa with her husband and young son.

Alexandra Zanella

Founder & CEO, Beauty Revolution Consulting

Alexandra Zanella currently serves as President of Beauty Revolution Consulting which she founded in 2015. B. R.’s focus is to create and/or transform brands in the beauty and skincare vertical – conception to distribution. She co-founded Revolution Organics, an award-winning USDA Certified Organic Cosmetic/ Skincare Brand and is recognized as a Skincare Pioneer and Beauty Trailblazer. Alex held VP positions in highly successful beauty companies – including Clean Perfumes & the Jessica Simpson Celebrity Beauty Brand Dessert Beauty which generated over \$100M globally. Prior to the Personal Care world, Alexandra co-founded businesses in the hospitality and fashion space and early on served as a senior account executive for several technology companies including CGI and Deloitte.

Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel

Vice President, International Government Affairs, Lockheed Martin International

As the Vice President of Lockheed Martin International Government Affairs, Nancy Ziuzin Schlegel leads the corporation's diplomatic and senior executive customer engagements for the company's growing international business portfolio.

Nancy has nearly 30 years of experience as an industry leader in the international trade, global defense, and aerospace sectors, with expertise in political advocacy, exports, and trade policy. She joined Lockheed in 1992 where she directed the Corporation's lobbying efforts in support of the international priority and must-win programs on Capitol Hill and with the Administration.