

Getting Board Ready

Board Development Program

Player Cards

Cohort 4

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LHH Knightsbridge

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Women Get On Board Inc.



LHH | Knightsbridge

NAME: Carol Gabanna

TITLE: Governance Consultant and Executive Coach

COMPANY: HR Atlantic

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Prince Edward Island

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

Working less than full time, doing mostly coaching and coaching-related work and sitting on one or two boards.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Curious

NAME: Elaine Lajeunesse

TITLE: Board Member

COMPANY: Athos Risk

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Bloomfield, Ontario

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

to help organizations and give back

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

3 paid boards and 1 unpaid board

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Collaborative, Efficient, People Leader, Fraternal, Versatile, Resilient, Love Changes

NAME: Alanna Scott

TITLE: Senior Director, Financial & Regulatory Reporting

COMPANY: RBC

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Oakville

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

Joining a not for profit board is a tremendous way to develop myself and give back to my community at the same time. I used to volunteer in the community through my kids many sporting activities, now that they are grown I want to give back in a different way.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

I expect to have progressed in RBC to the executive level in Finance or other Functional area and be a contributing member on a not for profit board, hopefully healthcare related.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Reliable

NAME: Danielle Brown

TITLE: Chief Marketing Officer

COMPANY: Points International

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Toronto

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

I am looking to gain an understanding of the board landscape and start networking so that I can begin my board journey. I am also hoping to gain a deeper understanding of what boards are looking for from their C-Suites.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

I would imagine I'd be at Points, driving towards our aggressive growth targets, and be sitting on one board of a for-profit start-up or scale up in the technology space.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Driven, adaptable, non-traditional

NAME: Carla Letourneau

TITLE: Director Marketing Strategy

COMPANY: Duchesnay Inc

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Pointe-Claire, Quebec

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

Working less than full time, doing mostly coaching and coaching-related work and sitting on one or two boards.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

Working less than full time, doing mostly coaching and coaching-related work and sitting on one or two boards.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST

DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Integrity, Passionate, Committed Collaborator, Straightforward and honest, Insatiable learner, Action oriented, Values driven, Hard working.

I share these values in my personal life as well. I try to challenge myself regularly to live outside my comfort zone in order to grow both professionally and personally.

NAME: Anna Borissova

TITLE: SVP & CFO

COMPANY: Pure Canadian Gaming

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Toronto/Edmonton

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

In the last two decades, I have had various executive roles, leading teams to solve problems and optimize businesses. I have deep financial knowledge, CPA, CMA designation, and I know how to use the financial information as a guide to make quick operational and corporate decisions.

I am a treasurer, risk manager, and secretary of the Board and the Audit Committee of our company.

In the last 13 months, I was the Chair of a Leadership Committee of our company, while the Board was looking for the next CEO/President. We successfully led the company through the challenges thrown by COVID19 and we successfully reorganized the business to operate according to the new requirements.

I liked the experience of working in a Committee and being its Chairman. I also believe my +20 years of experience and academic knowledge can be beneficial to companies, which are in need of such a professional.

Candidly, I believe a board seat will be my long-term goal (5 years from today) that I would like to prepare myself for. My immediate goal is to become a member of a well-known not-for-profit organization.

Parallel to this, I strongly believe I have what it takes to be a CEO of an organization or a CFO of a large (multi-billion) organization.

In the last two years, I have been making efforts to make the transition. I expect this course to help me gain knowledge to support my goal.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

In the next 5 years, I will be involved in a large, well-known Canadian non-for-profit organization to support our health care.

After 5-6 years I will be a Board member(or Audit Committee member) of a private or publicly-traded company/companies, supporting the company to optimize its recourses to gain more market share, follow its strategic direction, build a winning culture

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Strategic leader organizing teams to optimize and grow businesses

Coaching employees to use their skills to contribute to the organization's growth

Working with the Board and Audit Committee to manage the risks facing the company and capture current and future opportunities for growth

Excellent problem solver - successful navigation of the COVID19 challenges

Financial education (CPA, CMA) and teaching financial courses in Schulich, York

NAME: Mardi Witzel

TITLE: Board Member

COMPANY:

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Waterloo

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

To lend my energy to address some of the big challenges facing companies and boards today, and engage in meaningful and interesting work.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

I will be serving on 2-4 corporate boards where the board is serious about sustainability and there is a forward-looking, aspirational energy permeating the organization.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Strategic

NAME: Gillian Doran

TITLE: Chief Financial Officer

COMPANY: Rio Tinto Aluminium

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Montreal

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

I have many years working within a large mining organization globally, I have more to give and want to explore how I can add value and contribute in a meaningful way.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

I am committed and excited to start the journey, without an exact view what this might look like in 5 years

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Motivated, Leader

NAME: Tina Mithra

TITLE: Founder & CEO

COMPANY: Genesis Risk Consulting

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Ontario

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

Joining a board has been on my professional development plan for a few years now. I believe I bring valuable experience from a governance, risk and compliance perspective, which would be an asset to any board. I currently serve on a non-profit board as it is important for me to contribute to organizations and causes I feel strongly about. I would now like to explore corporate board opportunities as the next logical step in my professional development journey.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

I will continue to grow my firm and will be a member of at least one corporate board and a non-profit board.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

*Balanced, Driven, Transformational,
Trusted, Visionary*

NAME: Julie Davidson

TITLE: Principal / consultant

COMPANY: Self-employed

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Toronto

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

I am interested in getting more closely involved with a couple of organizations, either not for profit or corporates. I believe that my experience in strategy and execution can benefit these organizations, and I also welcome the opportunity to expand my own learning - about the organizations, their industry, and the experience of fellow board members.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

As I transition from a full-time corporate leadership role to being self-employed, I'm looking to develop a rewarding and flexible professional life that embodies my own values and interests. I plan to build and grow my own business where I provide strategic and execution solutions and services to organizations, and work as a board member with a couple of organizations. I'd also like to carve out time to work as a volunteer.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Collaborative

NAME: Robin Cooper

TITLE: Managing Director, Strategic Partnerships

COMPANY: Maple

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Toronto

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

To be able to help support the future direction of a company and support strong growth and revenue.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

I will be sitting on 2-3 boards, private or public and have the opportunity to stay connected to business and learn how successful companies run and can continue to grow.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Engaging

NAME: Melodie Mason

TITLE: VP Total Rewards

COMPANY: CSA Group

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Mono, Ontario

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

Contribute/support organization

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

Good fit with interests and capabilities to provide dedicated support

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Passionate; Willing to serve

NAME: Lori Whitfield

TITLE: International Tax Partner

COMPANY: Grant Thornton LLP

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Toronto/Vancouver

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

To gain new experiences and knowledge

To share my experiences and knowledge

To start my next career. Fulfill a "purpose"

To lead the way for others.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

To be on a corporate board. Possibly 2.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Practical

NAME: Susan Lovell

TITLE: VP Finance and Business Intelligence

COMPANY: Prospera Credit Union

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: North Vancouver

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

Engage in a diversified interaction and build my network

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

Member of a small corporate Board. 1-2 years before retirement at which time I would see more Board opportunities.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Execution-Orientated

NAME: Stephanie Bunch

TITLE: VP Finance & CFO

COMPANY: YSS Corp

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Calgary

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

In order to provide governance & guidance to the next generation of great managers

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

1-3 board positions with not all of them being Chair of Audit Committee and very little, if any, management work (ie, retired from my day job)

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Ethical & Efficient

NAME: Iryna Linkova

TITLE: SFA

COMPANY: LAO

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Oakville

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

I'd like to contribute to our society by bringing my voice, actions and professional experience on board

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

I'm a successful sought after leader serving on a few paid boards.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Forward looking

NAME: Cathy Pugh

TITLE: General Manager

COMPANY: Fredericton Convention Centre

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Fredericton

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

I'd like to contribute to our society by bringing my voice, actions and professional experience on board

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

I'm a successful sought after leader serving on a few paid boards.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Highly motivated, creative and ethical leader and problem solver who manages and promotes a dynamic team of individuals.

NAME: Debbie Rofner

TITLE:

COMPANY: DKAR Consulting

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Ottawa

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

I've spent my career in compliance and risk management, and am often called in to address specific process issues while aligning to risk-based internal control certification needs. I've found many organizations lack this skill set and see board service as an extension of my consulting practice, allowing me to make a solid contribution at an executive level.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

In 5 years I'd like to see myself participating in one or more boards as well as continuing my consulting practice. I find the variety of work challenging and enjoy the flexibility that it provides.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Change Agent/Advisor

NAME: Kristen Wilson

TITLE: Director Strategy & Innovation

COMPANY: Celero

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Winnipeg

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

I want to join a board and am currently on a board because giving back is aligned with my core values. I feel that today based on my professional experience and personal development I can provide impactful insights and advice. Including recommendations and strategic considerations.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

In 5 years I hope to be an executive leader that has continued to learn and remain curious. I want to be an active member within the volunteer community locally and will be a member of the Children's Hospital Board. I will have my ICD certification. In addition I would like to have experience serving on a board in either a public or private organization. In summary in 5 year's I would like to have the board experience and educations that positions me for higher profile boards and positions within these boards.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Collaboration & Trust

NAME: Julie Holden

TITLE: President

COMPANY: Holden & Associates Consulting Inc.

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Hamilton, Ontario

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

I think it would be a great way to contribute and work with a team to guide a company towards success, or greater success, and steer it away from risk. I see it as a next step in my career and a wonderful learning experience, while sharing my knowledge with others.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

I would like to have been on a board for 3 or so years, while maintaining and growing my consulting business.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Genuine

NAME: Vera Cvetkovic

TITLE: VP Solutions

COMPANY: Mediamonks

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Toronto

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

To give back to community bringing my experience and expertise

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

part time work and maybe 2 paid boards

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

*Digital, Marketing, Advertising,
Technology, Leadership*

NAME: Laurel MacKay-Lee

TITLE: Consultant

COMPANY: self employed

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Mississauga

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

Add value based on the breadth of my experience

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

Still working full time and moving toward full time board director in the next 5 years

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Curious

NAME: Sandy Bernier

TITLE: SVP, Human Resources & Corporate Services

COMPANY: Liberty Mutual Canada

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?: Durham Region

WHY DO YOU WANT TO JOIN A BOARD?

I am looking to join a Board to give back to my community about something that I am passionate about.

LOOKING OUT 5 YEARS, WHAT WILL YOUR BOARD/ PROFESSIONAL LIFE LOOK LIKE?

I hope to be on a couple Boards in 5 years.

WHAT KEY WORD/ATTRIBUTE BEST DESCRIBES THE "PROFESSIONAL" YOU?

Strong execution skills