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**Network Mapping Tool**

Joining a board is about fit and style, and the Board wants to make sure that your

style will fit in. To help them decide, think about your network and how you might be

connected to any one of the Board members. This is what I call “network mapping.”

Use your network to map how you might be connected to members of the Board —

the more connections you have to the Board the more comfort they can get on how

you will fit in. Don’t be afraid to ask for introductions!

The purpose of this document is to help Board ready women map through their

network to explore board opportunities to find the right connections.

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| Company  (the Boards you would like to serve on) | Your Network  Your network (Decision Makers,  Connectors, Mentors, Sponsors  and organizations)  *\*\*Refer to next*  *page for Definitions* | Action Plan |
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Network Mapping-Definition of your network

Your Network

To help you map through your network it is important to understand who can help connect you to a board opportunity. Your network can be broken into the following groups:

**Decision Makers-** these are individuals that will make the final decision on who will join their board. Board members, in particular the Chair of the Board, Chair of the Nominating Committee

**Connectors-** these are individuals that will connect you to board members, CEOs and Executives of a company you would like to serve on. Examples-Lawyers, Accountants and Other Professional Service firms and Thought leaders. You can refer to my blog: <https://womengetonboard.ca/the-power-of-connection/>

**Mentors-** these are individuals that inspire others in achieving their best and find joy in encouraging them to make a difference refer to my blog: <https://womengetonboard.ca/the-power-of-mentorship/>

**Sponsors-** Executive Sponsors inside your company, they are willing to put your name forward for board opportunities. Or they could be individuals you have worked with in the past and they believe in you. When you are looking for a sponsor remember that it is a two way relationship based on mutual respect and trust. You both need to be invested. Your sponsor is putting their name on the line by

championing you, so you need to follow through with their advice and work hard to keep your sponsor’s good reputation intact.

Refer to my blog the Power of Sponsoring: <https://womengetonboard.ca/the-power-of-sponsorship/>

**Organizations-**Think about the organizations you are affiliated with, your alma mater, not-for-profits, professional organizations/associations and member-based organizations (like- CPA Canada, CBA, GPC, CFA, etc.) and how you can leverage these organizations.

Network mapping your way onto a board is an ongoing process- that you need to be strategic in connecting to your network. To your networking!

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