Mark Adler

Mark Adler is founder and President of the technology company, Gen4. He is also host of the weekly television news magazine, Mark Adler, which appears weekly on Ethnic Channels Group stations across Canada. In 2011, Mark was elected to the House of Commons as Member of Parliament. In Ottawa, he was a member of the Finance Committee, where he worked closely with the Minister of Finance on fiscal matters. He also served on the Transport Committee and Committee on Government Operations. In 2002, Mark founded the Economic Club of Canada. Hosting some of the world’s leading public figures, the organization quickly earned the reputation as Canada’s ‘podium of record’. Before founding the Economic Club, Mark was Director of Corporate Programmes at the Canadian Institute of International Affairs. Mark attended the University of Toronto where he studied history and the Graduate School of Public Administration at Carleton University.

Kevin Bird

Kevin Bird has over 14 years of experience in financial services. As Vice President within BNY Trust Company of Canada (a wholly owned subsidiary of BNY Mellon), a Trust Company with $350 billion in assets under administration, he is responsible for all middle office activity, delivering Corporate Trust Services to large Canadian and cross-border institutional clients. Specialties herein include administering investment grade debt, project finance, securitizations, escrows, insurance trusts and other general custody and agent duties. Kevin is a member of the local management team and collaborates throughout the organisation in order to meet all regulatory and compliance requirements for the business. Prior to joining BNY Mellon, Kevin held progressively senior operational roles at JPMorgan Chase and Scotia Capital, in the UK and Canada. Kevin holds a Master of Arts degree from Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh.

Dr. Paul C. Boutros

Dr. Paul C. Boutros is a cancer researcher focused on personalizing the administration of therapy to improve outcomes for patients. He is a Principal Investigator at the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, where he leads a team developing biomarkers for prostate cancer and a team establishing global standards for cancer genomics. He is an Associate Professor in Medical Biophysics and in Pharmacology & Toxicology at the University of Toronto. Paul is also a Director for the DREAM Challenges, co-lead of the Canadian Prostate Cancer Genome Network. He has published over 150 peer-reviewed articles and received 9 patents. He plays an active role in scientific leadership, peer-reviewing and administration. Paul is also engaged in the commercialization, having spun out companies to bring innovation to patient-care. Paul’s research expertise is in machine-learning, genomics and biomarker development.
Paul received his BSc in Chemistry from the University of Waterloo in 2004, followed by a PhD in Medical Biophysics from the University of Toronto in 2009. In 2016 he received an Executive MBA from Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto. Paul has received the University of Waterloo Young Alumni Award, the University of Toronto Early Career Award in Graduate Teaching, and is a Prostate Cancer Canada Rising Star in Prostate Research recipient.

Anthony Chan

Anthony Chan has over twenty years of experience in Information Technology. He worked in multi-national corporations including IBM, Sun Microsystems, EMC, HSBC, and RBS in Toronto and Hong Kong. He was IT specialist and project manager specializing in data center management, database systems, data storage and management, IT security, etc. Anthony holds Master’s degrees in Control Systems Engineering and Computer Science from the University of Sheffield and Chinese University of Hong Kong respectively. For the legal education, he holds Juris Doctor and LLM from the City University of Hong Kong. He is completing the NCA examination and pursues a second career in law.

Adnan Chaudhry

Adnan Chaudhry has over sixteen years’ experience in the Electrical & Power Generation industry in North America while covering sales, business development and project management aspects of traditional power generation, renewable energy, utility scale integrated microgrid / energy storage solutions, and power transmission & distribution sectors. He is currently working as a Territory Manager for Mitsubishi Electric and representing the Power Systems Group in Canada. Adnan’s focus is on developing and providing leadership for the power T&D and renewable power generation sectors while dealing with leading utilities, developers and EPC firms in Canada. Prior to joining Mitsubishi Electric, Adnan was a Canadian Sales Manager-Power System Power Generation at ABB Inc., a Swiss multinational company dealing in the power and automation fields. In this position, he successfully negotiated multi-million dollar EPC contracts mainly for large utility scale solar plants and for other power projects. He has a Bachelor of Technology from NAIT, Edmonton and an MBA from the American International University. He is also six sigma green belt training certified while successfully completing the GHG emissions reduction project in Western Canada.
David K Cheung

David K Cheung has more than twenty years of experience in the financial services, IT and telecoms industry. As senior consultant, CIBC as one of the strongest banks in Canada, he is responsible for the analytic and reporting for retail banking lending products and payment including database applications improvement, process engineering and production support on multiple applications. David was systems analyst and senior programmer/analyst with Merrill Lynch Canada, Sprint Canada and ABN Bank.

David holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto, a Master of Computer Science (MSc) in Intelligent Knowledge Based Systems (IKBS) at the Essex University in England and a Bachelor of Science degree from the Queen Mary College, University of London in England. He holds the Project Management Professional (PMP). He was a Member British Computer Society and Charter Engineer (MBCS & CEng). He supports a scout group in Richmond Hill, Ontario. Since 2010, David organizes annual Boeing-757 plane pull raising awareness of kids’ sight improvement in the developing countries via ORBIS Canada. David walks to conquer all cancers and participates in CIBC Run for the Cure and Mon Sheong Foundation Fun Run and Walk, RBC Run for the Kids.

Jose Coca

Jose Mauricio Coca brings over 25 years of international experience in South America, Middle East, and North America in infrastructure, power generation, and mining and metals large capital projects as well as in the operation and maintenance of industrial plants. Currently he is part of the Management Team of a Public Private Partnership in the Rail Industry in Alberta, Canada. His areas of expertise are project management, operations and maintenance management, integrated management systems (Q-HSE) development and implementation, risk management, and business processes evaluation and optimization. Jose is bilingual (English, Spanish) and holds an Executive MBA from IE Business School (Madrid-Spain) a MBA from ESAN Business School (Lima-Peru); and a BSc in Mechanical Engineering from the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. He specialized in strategic management, risk management and project management in the George Washington University and Stanford University.
Antoinette Davis

Antoinette Davis is the Chief Executive Officer of Vincam Healthcare Inc., a company that provides comprehensive support and services for seniors at home, in addition to day programs and housing for people living with memory loss. She’s responsible for providing strategic leadership and operational oversight for long term growth in North America and the Caribbean. Prior to Vincam, Antoinette consulted locally and internationally in strategy development, public policy, business planning, community health and economic development. She has held senior roles over the last 16 years as a Director in the private and public sector in critical information infrastructure and communication, education, healthcare and the criminal justice system. She sits on private and non-for-profit Boards. Antoinette holds a Bachelor of Social Work from Ryerson University and an Executive MBA from Ivey School of Business at Western University. She has also completed a Certificate in Negotiation from Harvard Law School and multiple executive programs at Schulich School of Business, at York University.

Ali Eslami

Ali Eslami has over 10 years of experience in the legal field. He is currently practicing as a paralegal and he is a partner at a law firm, EME Professional Corporation. He holds a Bachelor degree in Law. Ali has represented many individuals in provincial offence courts, small claims courts, and tribunal hearings. His advocacy skills is engaging while he speaks to the Justices and members of the court, as he raises challenging issues and pushes the dialogue to a more reflective and perceptive level. Ali is experienced in many areas of the law including, criminal matters, construction, family, real estate and corporate transactions.

Dr. Walid A. Farhat

Doctor Walid A. Farhat is a Staff Surgeon at the Hospital for Sick Children and a full professor with the Department of Surgery, University of Toronto. Dr. Farhat had been in clinical practice for over 18 years and holds educational posts with the Department of Surgery as well as in the basic science research arena. Over the past 10 years Dr. Farhat has been actively developing curricula for innovative surgical approaches, such as Minimal Access Surgery in Pediatric Urology (www.sickkids.ca/lap). In his role as a Visiting Professor or volunteer in developing countries he has had the opportunity to share and tailor the curricula as per the need of the surgeon’s needs and interests. As the Associate Surgeon in Chief of Education, Dr. Farhat identified a discrepancy in the surgical needs of overseas graduates and those skills acquired in developed countries. His work in surgical education focuses on surgical skills as well as patient safety and improved outcome.
Masood Fariad

Masood Fariad graduated from Law School at Sussex University in the United Kingdom. His initial career path was in the IT industry as a software developer for IBM Canada, with subsequent consulting work for firms such as Robert Half Technology. These experiences were invaluable as they have given Masood the opportunity to work with fortune 500 companies by assisting them to develop their enterprise level IT infrastructure. Masood also holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, a Master of Science in Education, and a Bachelor’s degree in Law.

Abeselom Haile

Abeselom Haile has over 3 years of professional experience in the BMO Financial Group, one of the major Banks in Canada, in the Corporate Finance Division within the Treasury and Payment Solutions, providing financial services across Canada and North America. Abeselom’s role includes reviewing and administering Clients’ Cash Management and AML related documents. Before immigrating to Canada, Abeselom worked for over 10 years as a Legal Advisor for Segen Construction Company, a locally incorporated construction company that has been engaging both domestically and internationally in multi-faceted developmental activities. Abeselom holds an LLB degree in Law from the University of Asmara and the CAMS designation (Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist) provided by the ACAMS (Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists), a Gold standard designation.

Ahou Hamedami

Ahou Hamedani is experienced in the fields of economics, marketing, and law. She has spent a number of years working both as an account representative and as a marketing assistant at small Canadian startup companies. She then attended City University London in the United Kingdom where she received an L.L.B with Honours in Law. While at City University, Ahou spent most of her final year focusing on and researching the field of aviation law and completed a thesis on aviation class action lawsuits and the potential need for a new international standard. Upon her return to Canada, she has worked as a legal research associate at an insurance litigation firm in Toronto and is currently coauthoring a book. Upon completing the GPLLM she wishes to use her newfound knowledge and her understanding of the corporate world to fulfill a career in aviation law and to one day be involved in the policy making and regulation of the industry.
Beth Horodyski

Beth Horodyski commenced her career in healthcare as a paediatric critical care nurse. She went on to develop her skills in adult cardiovascular surgical intensive care and later managed numerous phase 2 and 3 critical care clinical trials. Beth decided to complete a master's degree in health administration which launched her into provincial hospital funding policy development as a consultant. This experience afforded her direct exposure to senior hospital leadership across the province in addition to deputy ministerial authority. Through this role, she project managed the development of the Health Service Agreements which now form the basis for hospital funding in the province. In Beth’s current role as Senior Business Analyst at Critical Care Services Ontario she manages the paediatric critical care file for the province in addition to long term mechanical ventilation. Horodyski obtained her nursing degree from McMaster university where she graduated summa cum laude. She is also a graduate of the iHPME Master’s in Health Administration from the University of Toronto. In addition, she has completed the Harvard certificate program on negotiation in Boston. Beth has also been an active member in her community, serving on the board of the Halton Community Legal Clinic for over 8 years. She has been an active marathon runner qualifying for and completing the Boston Marathon twice and, more recently, has been a competitive body builder at the provincial level.

Brian Howe

Brian Howe co-founded HGC Engineering, a consulting firm specializing exclusively in noise, vibration and acoustics. Since 1994, the company has grown as an employee owned firm with thirty engineering and technical staff. Brian has extensive expertise in ground-borne vibration and has designed vibration isolation systems for many high profile buildings located near subways in Chicago and Toronto. He is a recognized expert on sound from wind turbines, serving on a Council of Canadian Academies panel for its effects on human health. He has managed joint ventures in the UAE and Singapore, and often testifies as an expert witness before various boards, tribunals and courts. Brian is a licensed Professional Engineer and a designated Consulting Engineer in Ontario. His BSc is from the University of Waterloo and he has graduate engineering and business degrees from the University of Toronto. When not working, Brian is often rowing, golfing or skiing.
Colin Hume

Colin Hume has over 24 years of experience in the finance and service sectors. As Director of Global Risk and Control for American Express, a large financial organization operating in over 22 markets globally, he is responsible for ensuring that business units and operations remain compliant with changing regulatory requirements around the world. During his career at American Express, Colin has held several progressively expanding roles in operations overseeing activity in North America, South America, UK and Asia. Prior to joining American Express, Colin held senior roles in consulting and project management for global outsourcing firms within the government and financial service industries. Colin has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Toronto. He also has completed his certification in Regulatory and Compliance Law from Osgoode Law School.

Sasha Jacob

Sasha is the Chairman & CEO of Jacob Capital Management Inc. and previously Jacob Securities Inc. an independent investment bank focused on the renewable power and energy sectors. Sasha brings 20 years of experience in the power sector, including founding and leading the power and infrastructure practice at a leading Canadian investment bank, as well as several years in senior political positions with the Ontario Minister of Energy. He has managed over 100 transactions in the renewable sector valued at more than $7 billion. Sasha was recognized by Institutional Investor as one of the “5 Most Influential Emerging Players in Renewable Energy” globally.

Sasha received a BA from Bishop’s University and his MBA from Sir Wilfrid Laurier University. He was the recipient of the Laurier MBA Alumni 2009 Outstanding Executive Leadership Award and the Bishop’s University Top 10 After 10. Mr. Jacob serves on the Boards of several charitable organizations including as Vice Chairman of World Wildlife Fund (WWF Canada), Director of Plan International Canada as well as the Board of Young Presidents’ Organization (YPO Maple Leaf).

Kateryna Kozachuk

Kateryna Kozachuk is an internationally trained lawyer from Ukraine. Kateryna also holds Bachelor and Master degrees of International Relations. Kateryna’s wide array of interests is reflected in her professional background. She has successfully worked in areas such as legislation, finance and interpreting. Throughout her career Kateryna has been employed with the Parliament of Canada, the Parliament of Ukraine, the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development, Council of Europe, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Children’s Aid Society of Toronto. At the moment Kateryna is advancing in financial services field with TD Canada Trust.
Stephen Lecce

Stephen Lecce is an accomplished public affairs leader. He possesses an acumen to advance organizational objectives and project manage sensitive files – including successive national budgets, free trade agreements and Canada’s mission against the so-called Islamic State – in his capacity as the past Director of Media Relations and Spokesperson to Canada’s 22nd Prime Minister. He is currently leveraging his experience in entrepreneurship as the Principle of his public affairs consulting agency, Northern Narrative. While managing core PMO responsibilities and staff, in 2014 Stephen concurrently assumed the duties as interim Chief of Staff to the Ministers of National Defense and Veteran Affairs, where he oversaw multi-billion dollar budgets. Stephen is a graduate of the Western University (Hons. BA) and completed the University of Windsor Faculty of Law’s Intensive Negotiations and Dispute Resolution program. He has participated in democracy promotion missions in North Africa, and sits on philanthropic, leadership development, and heritage boards.

Tara Lee

Tara currently is a primary liaison and advisor within Employee Relations at Royal Bank of Canada for Temporary Foreign Worker Initiative related to international workforce HR strategies. Tara is responsible for proactive approach in identifying trends and opportunities to improve operational processes and enhance service effectiveness to ensure employee/partner satisfaction. This position includes responsibility for compliance reporting established to mitigate risks (legal; reputational, etc.) associated with TFW Work Permits’ terms and conditions. Tara is an International Trained Lawyer from Russia with 6 years of corporate immigration expertise, business immigration procedures and immigration law. Tara holds a Bachelor’s Degree – Civil Law from Omsk State University and member of Canadian Employee Relocation Council and Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council.

David Matheson

David Matheson is a partner at RP Investment Advisors. Mr. Matheson joined at the foundation of the company, has worked as a portfolio manager since 2009 and has been instrumental in building the business. He focuses on the North American credit markets and interest-rate markets primarily. In his role, he also oversees funding, liquidity, foreign exchange, collateral management and middle office infrastructure. Prior to joining RPIA in 2009, he was a research analyst and investment strategist with Scotia Capital Inc. (now Scotiabank Global Banking and Capital Markets). Mr. Matheson’s responsibilities at Scotia Capital were covering government bond and interest-rate swap relative value as well as general investment strategy. He also developed a number of bespoke quantitative analytical tools to identify pricing anomalies within the universe of products.
covered and authored a number of publications on various aspects of monetary policy investment strategy. Mr. Matheson holds an MBA from the Schulich School of Business as well as a BA from the University of Toronto and is a Chartered Financial Analyst.

**Goldie Mokhtari**

Goldie Mokhtari currently holds the position of Director of Operations at Paradiso Design & Staging- a premier luxury staging & design company in Toronto- a business she started with a partner 7 years ago. She is also a Real Estate Broker with over 13 years of experience. From first time buyers to investors and sellers, Goldie has extensive knowledge and experience in both the pre-construction and resale markets. Her achievements in sales have been recognized through numerous awards. Goldie's passion for business and entrepreneurship was initially reflected through her start-up of MK International- an import and marketing business with a focus on novelty products. Additionally, she volunteers as a Director on a Condominium Board, making decisions on behalf of the residents and overseeing a $2M budget. Goldie holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Toronto. She is a licensed Real Estate Broker and has an SRS (Seller Representative Specialist) designation.

**Satyma Mongia**

As a multidisciplinary academic, Satyma Mongia’s diverse background in the social sciences has enabled her to explore the mutual encounters between a variety of disciplines. She has completed an Honours Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto, and a Masters of Arts in political science with a focus on human rights from York University. Her academic experience continues to be enriched by Bachelor of Law from the University of London. The analytical and critical thinking skills that she acquired through her educational experience work in tandem with her five years of professional experience as an Eligibility Adjudicator at the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board. A key component of her role involves assessing pertinent information from workers, employers and health care professionals, including the nature of the injury and work duties, the diagnosis, treatment plan, prognosis and loss of earnings. This array of data is critically analyzed in accordance with applicable legislation and policies to determine a positive correlation between the nature of the injury and work duties. In pursuing the GPLLM, Satyma hopes to enrich her legal educational experience by examining the interconnectedness of corporate social responsibility, international commercial transactions and human rights.
Jeremy Nagy has over fifteen years of experience in the financial services industry. As Director, Regulatory Services & Markets Compliance for the Americas, he has overall markets compliance responsibility for all derivatives activity. He is a senior member of the compliance committee that ensures the firm has a strong and reputable compliance regime. He has held Director roles at Scotia Capital Inc. and Morgan Stanley Canada Ltd as well as worked on the business side in institutional trading at Merrill Lynch Canada. Jeremy has a BA from Wilfrid Laurier University and holds the Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS) and Certified Investment Manager (CIM) designations.

William Nezami has been involved in various positions in the financial services field. He currently serves as Managing Director at First Swiss Asset Management overseeing administration of loan and mortgage portfolios as well as commercial and residential real estate holdings. Previously he was a Regional Vice President at Citigroup’s Wealth Management and Insurance Division. William holds a Bachelor of Science degree.

Seif Omar is a Business Analyst with the Resource Development & Strategy Group at the IESO, a provincial government agency responsible for operating the electricity system and acquiring electricity resources in Ontario. In this position, he is responsible for supporting the design of processes and negotiation of agreements to secure power generation and other electricity resources needed for the safe and reliable operation of the grid. In addition, Seif conducts strategic analysis to advise senior management on how to evolve the Ontario electricity market in the context of an increasingly distributed, renewable and smart power system. Prior to this position, Seif was an Analyst with the Renewables Procurement Group where he was in charge of analyzing and reviewing projects that are seeking to sign 20-year Feed-in Tariff Contracts with the IESO.

Seif holds a Bachelor of Engineering from Concordia University in Montreal, a Master of Engineering in Energy Studies from the University of Toronto and a Master of International Economics and Finance from Ryerson University.
Adriana Ortiz

Adriana Ortiz holds a Juris Doctorate in Law and Political Science from La Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana. Adriana worked in Colombia as a prosecutor in a specialized anti-extortion and kidnapping unit. After immigrating to Canada in 2004, Adriana has been working in a multinational company for 12 years as a strategic and analytical business professional, building client and vendor relationships, developing sophisticated business solutions and providing expertise in contract and project management to business partners across North and South America. Adriana is fluent in Spanish and English.

Michael Owen

Michael Owen has over 25 year consulting experience with major financial institutions focusing on IT and operational risk, program and project management. Currently, Owen is responsible for the Information and Application Security Program at Manulife financial, a leading Canada-based financial services group with principal operations in Asia, Canada and the United States. Michael ran his own consulting firm prior to joining Manulife and was engaged by clients such as TD Securities, CIBC, Royal Bank of Canada and the Government of Ontario.

Michael holds an MBA for Queen’s University, a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Alberta and a Graduate Diploma in information technology from DeVry University. His current qualifications include PMP, Prince2 and Agile Project Management certifications.

Krisztina Palfy

Krisztina Palfy has over fifteen years of experience in the financial services industry. She has held progressively senior roles at OPTrust. This is an organization that is entrusted with the management and investment of $18.4 billion in net assets, one of Canada's largest pension plans and administrator of the OPSEU Pension Fund, a defined benefit plan with almost 87,000 members and retirees. Krisztina manages a team of employees who provide highly personalized pension services to the members of the Fund. She also provides leadership in a number of specialized business areas to help drive the corporate vision of achieving customer service excellence.

Krisztina holds a Marketing Diploma from George Brown College and a Bachelors of Commerce degree from Ryerson University with a minor in Finance. She recently completed her Certified Employee Benefits Specialist (CEBS) designation from Dalhousie University.
Gopikannan Pillai

Gopikannan Pillai is currently a Credit & Portfolio Management Underwriter at Equitable Bank (EQB), a specialized national real estate lender with approximately $20 billion in assets. Prior to joining EQB, Gopi spent 9 years at GE Capital Real Estate (Canada), which managed $4 billion in structured real estate debt and $2 billion in real estate investments, spanning across various asset classes. Gopi was part of GE’s Risk Management team where he juggled multiple responsibilities from Legal/Transaction Closing, Regulatory Compliance, Asset Management and Underwriting. Gopi has over fifteen years of experience in commercial real estate and financial services industry in Canada. He is licensed lawyer from India, where he practiced for few years as a Corporate Commercial Associate with top-rated laws firms.

Gopi received his Bachelors of Arts and Bachelor of Law degrees from the University of Madras and was called to the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu & Puducherry, India, and is a member of Bar Council of India. He also received a Post-Graduate certification from Seneca College in International Business Management.

Mark T. Resmini

Mark T. Resmini professional background includes working as the Director of Communications in election campaigns both provincially and federally for the PC Party of Ontario and the Conservative Party of Canada. Prior to that, Mark worked as an Associate Producer for CTV National News and as a Teaching Assistant in the Department of Political Science at Brock University. Mark is also a former Advocate at the New York Legal Assistance Group, which provides free civil legal services to New Yorkers who cannot afford a private attorney.

Mark received his J.D. degree from St. John’s University School of Law, where he was selected for a prestigious judicial internship with the Hon. Deborah Modica. He holds a M.A. degree in International Relations and a B.A. (Honours) degree in Political Science from Brock University. He also holds a Graduate Certificate in Broadcast Journalism from Fanshawe College.
Rabab Rizvi

Rabab Rizvi is a financial professional with over 10 years of experience. Currently, she is the office manager at a real estate legal firm where she is managing a team of law clerks, consulting, and providing financial advice to clients. Previously Rabab was a senior financial analyst at Magna Closures, one of North America’s large automotive parts manufacturing organization where she contributed to key financial information, auditing and budgeting. Rabab has been involved with providing budgets and forecasting reports to the Ontario Ministry of Health, in order to obtain funding for medical treatments. Throughout her career, Rabab has led her team into many successful financial decisions.

Rabab holds a Bachelor of Administrative Studies with an Honors in Accounting from York University. She also has her Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) designation and Certified Management Accountant (CMA) designation, from Ontario. Most recently she has completed her Bachelor of Law from the University of London.

Fraser Roberts

Fraser Roberts has over 10 years of experience advising lenders, asset managers, developers, contractors and other key stakeholders in Canada and the United States on insurance and risk management matters related to the design, construction, operation and maintenance of commercial real estate, power and infrastructure assets. As CEO of INTECH Risk Management, Canada’s leading independent insurance advisory firm, Fraser manages an ambitious team of consultants known internationally for their responsive service, strong technical expertise and innovative thinking. Under his leadership, in 2015, INTECH achieved Platinum Elite Status from ReNew Canada Magazine and was named the America’s Due Diligence Provider of the Year by IJ Global Magazine.

Fraser holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Toronto and the Canadian Risk Management (CRM) designation from the Global Risk Management Institute.
Michael Sutherland

Michael is a recognized expert in infrastructure and transportation, finance and economics, project development, and government. Michael was the Director of Economics and Investment Strategy at Metrolinx, and subsequently has advised high-profile public, private, and not-for-profit infrastructure clients in private practice.

Michael is a Director, Hatch Urban Solutions. Hatch Urban Solutions is a global platform helping public and private sector clients identify urban infrastructure solutions that optimize value for money, create wealth, and address challenges like climate change.

Michael has an MSc. from the London School of Economics and Political Science in London, England, a Civil Engineering Degree from Queen’s University in Kingston, and is a candidate for a Masters of Law from the University of Toronto.

Amanda Thompson

Amanda Thompson has more than 12 years of experience in the engineering and construction industry. As Director of Commercial Proposals for SNC-Lavalin’s Hydro & Power Delivery business unit, she is responsible for developing and implementing commercial strategies for major engineering and design-build proposals. From her start as Executive Assistant in a new business unit, Amanda has taken on progressively more challenging roles with SNC-Lavalin including positions in business analysis, proposal management, risk management, and integration of new acquisitions. She has worked in offices across Canada and on assignments in Brazil and the United Kingdom.

After a non-traditional early education, Amanda obtained a Bachelor of Science in Business Operations from DeVry Institute in Calgary. She holds certificates in Business Analysis and Risk Management from Mount Royal University in Calgary and from the University of Toronto, respectively.
Lucas Thung worked with public and private organizations in industries such as fiber optic, cement, automotive, consumer packaging, healthcare, and higher education. He provides training and teaches various courses (i.e. communication, project management, statistics, strategy, information technology, finance, quality management, reliability, Lean Six Sigma, law, marketing, risk management) for corporations, colleges, and universities. Lucas is passionate about teaching and enjoys interacting, motivating, and learning together with his students.

Lucas holds Master’s degrees in Business Administration (MBA), Engineering (MEng), and Information (MI) from University of Toronto’s Rotman School of Management, Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering, and Faculty of Information. He also holds various certifications/designations including Certified Six Sigma Black Belt (CSSBB), Certified Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence (CMQ/OE), Professional Engineer (PEng), Project Management Professional (PMP), and Stanford Certified Project Manager (SCPM). Lucas is a volunteer and a member of American Society for Quality (ASQ) and Mensa Canada.

Giuseppe (Joseph) Tumini earned his Bachelors of Business Administration with Honours degree from Brock University. Upon graduation, he began working for Enterprise Rent-A-Car. For more than five years he grew within the company, beginning as a Management Trainee and eventually becoming a manager for one of the top ten largest rental branches in Southern Ontario. After much internal reflection, Giuseppe realized he had a great passion to enter the legal profession and practice law as a lawyer. He enrolled in law school with the University of London and recently completed his Bachelor of Legal Laws (LL.B.) degree, earning a Qualifying Law Degree designation by writing a ten thousand word dissertation and completing a law skills portfolio. In addition to being enrolled in the GPLLM program at the University of Toronto, Giuseppe also works fulltime as a legal assistant at Pappas Law Firm gaining valuable experience which will benefit him in his legal career.
Salimah Visram

Salimah has been working in the energy sector for the past five years and has lead a variety of roles at the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO). In her current role as the Program Manager for six energy support programs at the IESO, Salimah is responsible for the governance, management and operations of each program, each with multi-million-dollar funding allocations. The energy support programs provide assistance for projects procured under the IESO’s generation and transmission programs for Indigenous communities, co-operatives, municipalities and public sector entities. Salimah’s main responsibilities include the development of the policies and programs directed by the Minister of Energy and being fiscally responsible in managing the funding agreements, including dispute resolution, ensuring compliance and ratepayer value. Salimah holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honors) degree from Carleton University.

Kevin Vuong

Kevin Vuong is the Partnerships Lead at Ryerson University’s Magnet Project where he is building cross-sectoral partnerships across Canada to combat unemployment and underemployment among individuals facing barriers connecting to jobs. He is also a CivicAction DiverseCity Fellow, former banker, and a naval intelligence officer serving at Her Majesty’s Canadian Ship YORK active in city-building. In Toronto, Vuong serves as Co-Chair of the Toronto Youth Equity Strategy, Board Director for the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto, and other city committees and community boards. He also sits on the Western University, his alma mater, Council of Presidents as Chairman of the Dan Management Advisory Council. Named Canada’s Top Under 30 Pan-Asian leader in 2014, Vuong has represented Canada at the 2010 G8 and G20 Summits, the 2013 G20 Summit, and an economic and development trade mission to the Asian Pacific. In early 2016, he was named a Next Gen Leader with Canada’s Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, and awarded a Harvard Kennedy School of Government Executive Education Fellowship to take part in their Emerging Leaders program. Most recently, Vuong was appointed a Spur Public Fellow as a leading Canadian thinker under 35 and a Junior Fellow at the Canadian Centre for Responsibility to Protect at the Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto.
Umme K Wadood has 12 years of experience in Contract Administration across various industries. In her current role as Contracts Manager at the Toronto-Dominion Bank, she collaborates with business stakeholder groups on sourcing engagement(s) to provide contract review and negotiation support to meet business objectives. Umme holds an Executive MBA from the Smith School of Business at the Queen’s University of Kingston and a Bachelor of Science degree from Saint Peter’s University of New Jersey.

Brett has 27 years of experience in Hospitality, Travel and Tourism. He began his career at Collette (a tour operator) with the company’s inception in Canada. Brett is part of a leadership team responsible for Collette’s innovation, strategy and execution here in Canada and across the globe. Brett has an Executive MBA from the University of Guelph, General Management Certificate from Queen’s and a BA from Bishop’s. Brett is a Director of Collette, the Collette Foundation, CATO (trade org) and TICO (regulator). At TICO Brett is also Chair of the Governance & HR Committee.

Wendy Wang has over sixteen years of work experience in the public and private sectors both in Canada and China. Before immigrating to Canada in 2011, she had worked with the Canadian Embassy in Beijing as the Program Officer and Trade Commissioner where she successfully facilitated bilateral cooperation between Canada and China on the issues of climate change, environmental protection, trade and investment. She later worked with Gowling Lefleur Henderson LLP, one of the largest law firms in Canada as the business manager with China group from 2011 to 2013. During this two-year period, she helped the firm engage new clients from China by drafting proposals and provided necessary legal services such as market research and translation of documents. Wendy is currently an accredited freelance interpreter and her clients include Canadian federal government, Ontario provincial government, universities, NGOs and private companies.

Wendy holds a Master in Conference Interpreting (MCI) at the York University and a LLB (JD) from Foreign Affairs College in China.
Igor Zaks

Igor Zaks, founder and Managing Director of Tenzor Ltd. is a seasoned finance professional, with over 25 years’ experience in banking, blue chip corporate and consulting. His focus is corporate restructurings/turnarounds and working capital management and financing.

His clients include Fortune 100 companies, major banks, private equity companies and multilateral institutions, with projects across the globe including both developed and emerging markets. Igor is a frequent speaker at major industry events and have numerous publications.

Igor received his MSc in Physics from Novosibirsk State University and a Sloan Fellowship MSc (with distinction) from London Business School. He holds a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) qualification.

Masoud Zangeneh

Masoud Zangeneh has over 12 years of experience in the financial industry as an independent financial advisor and life insurance agent. He also has over 10 years of experience in the Real Estate industry working as a Realtor. Masoud also established Unique Advisor Inc., a company that provides instant website and online marketing tools to financial advisors and insurance brokers.

Masoud is a member of the Iranian Bar Association and has worked as a lawyer and legal consultant for many years prior to immigrating to Canada in 2002. Masoud holds a Bachelor in law and a Master in private law from Iran. He is a member of the Financial Services Commission of Ontario, Toronto Real Estate Board, Ontario Real Estate Association and Canadian Real Estate Association.

Rui Zhang

Rui Zhang is an international trained lawyer with a comprehensive background in legal, management and technical fields. Before working as an in-house legal advisor, she was working as an intermediate hardware engineer for four years. After that, Rui worked as a project supervisor in the telecommunications equipment field for another four years, contributing enormously for the company to gain great profits and an enviable reputation by offering competitive products with productive teams. Rui holds a Master of Engineering degree from Northwestern Polytechnical University and a Chinese Legal Professional Qualification Certificate.