



News release

For Immediate Release
Nov. 7, 2022

News release: GVBOT announces 2022-23 Board of Directors

VANCOUVER, B.C. — The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade appointed its 2022-23 board of directors today during its 135th Annual General Meeting.

Radha Curpen, Vice Chair and Managing Partner of Bennett Jones' Vancouver office, National Leader of ESG Strategy and Solutions and co-head of the firm's Environmental Law Practice has assumed the role of Chair of the organization for the next 12 months, while Juggy Sihota-Chahil Vice President Consumer Health, TELUS, has been appointed to the role of Senior Vice-Chair.

In total, the board contains 36 B.C. business leaders spanning a wide range of industries and sectors. The new board of directors exceeding the requirements contained in the Government of Canada's 50-30 challenge, which was adopted in January 2021, achieving gender balance and significant representation of under-represented groups.

A high-resolution image of the 2022-23 board is available for download [here](#).

See the full list of directors and their bios at boardoftrade.com/directors.

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About the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade:

Since its inception in 1887, the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade has been recognized as Pacific Canada's leading business association, engaging members to positively impact public policy at all levels of government and to succeed and prosper in the global economy. With a Membership whose employees comprise one third of B.C.'s workforce, we are the largest business association between Victoria and Toronto. We leverage this collective strength, facilitating networking opportunities, and providing professional development through unique programs. In addition, we operate one of the largest events businesses in the country, providing a platform for national and international business and thought leaders to further enlighten B.C.'s business leaders.

Media contact:

Victor Young
Communications Manager
Greater Vancouver Board of Trade
604-640-5450 | media@boardoftrade.com



2022-23 Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair

Radha Curpen
Vice Chair, Vancouver Managing
Partner and National Leader ESG
Strategy & Solutions,
Bennett Jones LLP

Senior Vice-Chair

Juggy Sihota-Chahil
VP Consumer Health,
TELUS

Vice-Chair

Walter Pela
Regional Managing Partner,
KPMG

Vice-Chair

Stuart Louie
Co-President,
London Drugs Group

Secretary-Treasurer

Todd Shewfelt
Regional Vice-President, Business
Financial Services,
RBC Royal Bank

Finance and Audit Committee Chair

Diana Vuong, CPA, CA
Vancouver Airport Authority

Policy Council Committee Chair:

Brad Eshleman
Corporate Director

Immediate Past Chair

Kirsten Sutton, ICD.D
Chief Technology & Information
Officer,
Vancity

Member at Large

Jennifer Foster
SVP, Human Resources & Corporate
Affairs,
Western Forest Products

Member at Large

Jessica McDonald
Corporate Director

President and CEO

Bridgitte Anderson ICD.D
Greater Vancouver Board of Trade

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anna Stukas
Carbon Engineering Ltd.

Bruce Sprague
BDO Canada LLP

Christian Chia
OpenRoad Auto Group

Colin Bosa
Bosa Properties Inc.

David Garofalo
Gold Royalty Corp.

David McKenna
Rocky Mountaineer

David Seymour
Microsoft Vancouver

Edoardo de Martin
Corporate Director

Dr. Gail Murphy
The University of British Columbia

Jennifer McCarron
Thunderbird Entertainment Group

Kim Baird, C.M., O.B.C., ICD.D
Kim Baird Strategic Consulting

Kirk LaPointe
Business in Vancouver Media Group

Lisa Tuningley
T-RAIL Products Inc

Lorne Segal, O.B.C.
Kingswood Properties Ltd.

Michele Matthews
AG Hair

Miranda Lam
Acuitas Therapeutics Inc.

Natali Altshuler
EA Sports

Peter Dhillon
Richberry Group of Companies

Peter Xotta
Vancouver Fraser Port Authority

Richard Eppich
Ebco Group of Companies

Roberto Aquilini
Aquilini Group

Susannah Pierce
Shell Canada

Teara Fraser
Iskwew Air

Terry Hui
Concord Pacific Developments Ltd.

Tracy Redies
Science World



New Director Bios

David McKenna – President and Chief Executive Officer, Rocky Mountaineer

David McKenna joined Rocky Mountaineer as President and Chief Executive Officer with extensive experience in Canada's tourism industry.

Prior to joining Rocky Mountaineer, David was President of the Banff Jasper Collection by Pursuit where he led notable tourism expansion and acquisition projects in the Canadian Rockies, including the construction of the Glacier Skywalk, expansion of the Banff Gondola, and the acquisition and implementation of the Lake Minnewanka Cruise, Maligne Lake Tours, Maligne Canyon Wilderness Kitchen, Maligne Canyon Icewalks, Elk & Avenue Hotel in Banff, Mountain Park Lodges and Sawridge Hotel in Jasper, Golden Sky Bridge in Golden, and FlyOver Canada. Prior to joining Pursuit, David held hospitality roles at Sunshine Village and Rimrock Resort Hotel in Banff, and Delta Lodge at Kananaskis.

David currently serves as Board Chair of the Tourism Industry Association of Canada Board of Directors and on the Board of Directors for Travel Alberta. He previously served on the Board of Directors for Tourism Jasper, Banff & Lake Louise Hospitality Association, Canadian Passenger Vessel Association, the Association for Mountain Parks Protection and Enjoyment, Strategic Tourism Marketing Council (AB), and the Banff Community Foundation.

David and his wife of more than 20 years, Julie, are originally from Ottawa, Canada where they both attended Carleton University. Together, they are strong advocates for tourism and the social and economic benefits it brings communities around the world. They look forward to working with Rocky Mountaineer's global team to further this impact.

David Seymour – Partner Director, Product Management in Office Media Group (BigPark), Microsoft

David Seymour is Partner Director of Product Management in Office Media Group. He has been part of Microsoft's Vancouver team since the acquisition of BigPark in 2009. In the last decade, David has delivered a range of products, from day-one experiences for Kinect and Xbox One, to MSN, Office 3D, the Mixed Reality Viewer, Paint 3D and the 3D Viewer. Today, his team of 130+ (and growing) owns Windows Photos and photos ecosystem components for OneDrive, and delivers new M365 video experiences within Teams, Yammer and additional partners.

David began his career in IT, working for Compugen and as an IBM Global Services E-Business Specialist. Shifting industries to video game development in 2001, David joined Radical Entertainment as a lead designer. Successive positions as Producer at Electronic Arts and Design Director at Slant Six Games brought him to BigPark. As a member of the Vancouver leadership team, David has been a strong advocate for growth. While focussed on local studio culture, product development and thought leadership, he prioritized the establishment of cross-organizational partnerships across the engineering organization in Redmond.

David thrives on building software and services that enable people to be more creative, effective, and expressive. He brings this passion to the team and sees tremendous opportunity to leverage it within our British Columbia and Cascadia partnerships. As an anchor in the BC ecosystem, we're creating interesting and challenging jobs that make a difference.

Microsoft Vancouver has experienced steady growth since opening the Georgia & Granville site in 2016. As we enter FY22, it's with significant investments from both E&D and C&AI that are driving the need for talent. David is focused on the evolution of our campus and the future needs of our teams. We have broadened the work being done in Vancouver from high-end gaming to leading applications in Intelligent Communications, Office, Azure, OneDrive, News and HoloLens – and David is committed to working with local and Redmond leadership to shape the next phase of our investment.

Jennifer McCarron – Chief Executive Officer, Thunderbird Entertainment

Jennifer Twiner-McCarron is the CEO of Thunderbird Entertainment Group, and the Company's kids and family content arm, Atomic Cartoons. The Vancouver-based global multiplatform entertainment company creates award-winning scripted, unscripted and animated programming for the world's leading digital platforms, as well as Canadian and international broadcasters.



Jennifer joined Atomic Cartoons as the Head of Production in 2011. Under her leadership, the studio grew from 25 artists to more than 1200 today. She has led production on multiple titles including the Emmy-winning *Beat Bugs* for Netflix, *Cupcake & Dino* for eOne and *101 Dalmatian Street* for Disney+. She is also an executive producer for the Emmy-winning *The Last Kids on Earth*, which streams on Netflix, and *Dogs in Space*, also streaming on Netflix. *Molly of Denali*, which airs on PBS Kids, is another notable production that Jennifer has executive produced that highlight Thunderbird's mission of creating intentional content with a focus on diversity and inclusivity.

Jennifer was promoted to CEO of Atomic Cartoons in 2016, and CEO of Thunderbird in 2018. She continues to hold both roles, overseeing Thunderbird's overall business as well as a team of more than 1,400 people, in Vancouver, Los Angeles, Toronto, and Ottawa. Jennifer's collaborative leadership is responsible for continued growth, creative excellence and thriving partnerships, which culminated in the Company going public on the TSX-V in 2018.

Jennifer background includes her working as the vice president of production for Rainmaker Entertainment. Over the past 20 years, Jennifer has produced or executive produced dozens of animated series, video game cinematics, and direct to DVD features, including the popular Barbie Princess franchise with Mattel Filmed Entertainment. Jennifer holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Carleton University in Ottawa, and a degree in film studies from the Vancouver Film School.

Jennifer holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Carleton University in Ottawa, and a degree in film studies from the Vancouver Film School. Throughout the years, her work has received several recognitions, including multiple Leo Award, an ELAN, a DTV, two Emmys and a Peabody, among others. In 2022, she was named by Business in Vancouver as one of their five Most Influential Women and by Bay Street Bull to their Women of the Year List. Jennifer was also named the Equity and Inclusion Champion in BC Business' 2021 Women of the Year Awards, one of WXN's Most Powerful Women in Canada (2019) and Executive of the Year by Playback Magazine (2018).

Jennifer also sits on various boards and committees, including the Canadian Chamber of Commerce's BIPOC Council, the CKNW Kids' Fund, the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television, and more. She resides with her family in North Vancouver, and cherishes spending time with her husband, three children, and two dogs.

Miranda Lam – Chief Legal Officer & Senior Director (Business Development), Acuitas Therapeutics

Miranda is the Chief Legal Officer & Senior Director, Business Development at Acuitas Therapeutics, Inc., a biotechnology company that works with partners to advance nucleic acid therapeutics to address unmet clinical needs based on its internationally recognized capabilities in delivery technology. Formerly an equity partner in the litigation group at the national law firm, McCarthy Tetrault, Miranda has been recognized as a Leading Lawyer in the area of General Commercial Litigation in independent publications such as *Chambers Canada*, *The Best Lawyers in Canada*, and *Benchmark Canada: The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys*. In 2019, market research firm Acritas identified Miranda as a "Stand-out Lawyer". In 2018, she was named to Vancouver Magazine's Power 50 List of the City's Most Influential People. She has been identified as a Leading Lawyer under 40 by Lexpert (2017), "Best 40 Under 40" Lawyer by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (2015), and the recipient of the Association of Women in Finance 2014 PEAK Women in Finance "Rising Star" Award. In 2013, she was recognized as one of Business in Vancouver's "Forty Under 40".

Miranda is a frequent speaker on corporate governance issues, investigations, and dispute resolution processes, as well as diversity and inclusion and served as McCarthy Tetrault's first National Chair of its Gender Equality Action Group. She has also served as faculty for the Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia, The Directors' College and for The Advocates Society, and as an adjunct professor on corporate law topics at the University of British Columbia Allard School of Law. A passionate community leader, Miranda currently serves on the University of British Columbia Board of Governors and on the Board of Directors of BC Cancer Foundation. She has previously served on a number of community boards, including as chair of the boards of the Vancouver Foundation, the largest community foundation in Canada, the UBC Alumni Association and Vantage Point. She has also served on the boards of the United Way of the Lower Mainland and Imagine Canada.



Roberto Aquilini – Managing Partner, Aquilini Group

Roberto Aquilini, Managing Partner of the Aquilini Group, was born and raised in Vancouver and began his career with the family business 40 years ago. The family owns and manages a portfolio spanning 27 lines of business comprising of commercial, industrial and residential properties, construction and developments, food and beverage, hospitality and entertainment enterprises, diverse agribusiness operations, and sustainable aquaculture and renewable energy ventures. A Business graduate of University of British Columbia, Roberto received his Bachelor of Commerce, and has played a key role in the continuous development of the Group's diverse operations and growth.

Roberto, along with his wife and five children, believe in carrying on the tradition of putting family first and supporting their community. Roberto is a loyal supporter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the VGH and UBC Hospital Foundation, UBC Sauder School of Business FAB member, and is involved in many of the Group's supported organizations such as British Columbia Children's Hospital and Canucks for Kids Fund.