

PRESENTED BY:



# GOVERNANCE IN THE NEW DECADE: **THE RISE OF BOARDROOM ESG**

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2020** | 10:00AM - 5:30PM ET  
ONLINE WEBINAR

COVID-19, recognition of institutionalized racism and climate change are rapidly transforming organizations and boardroom dynamics. Boards and governance professionals need to equip themselves to understand the evolving expectations of boards as society hurtles through the 21st century.

Get up to speed in this one-day deep dive with global thought leaders, experts and practitioners representing the full ecosystem around the board and governance professionals, in Canada and internationally.

This program features a full day of expert panels and discussion designed for executives and professionals of all levels and organizations, and will address the following:

- What is ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) and Climate Governance and how does this relate to the board's role?
- What lessons can boards learn from COVID-19 and the calls for racial justice and Indigenous reconciliation, to improve their governance of social and environmental trends and risks going forward?
- What else is rising to the board agenda? What new issues are boards facing and why? What can we expect in the coming decade?
- What are the legal, investor and business cases driving boards to adopt best practices in ESG and climate governance and oversight?
- What should sustainability practitioners, governance professionals and corporate directors know about ESG and Climate Governance?
- What practices should competent boards have in place to build ESG and Climate Governance in their organizations from the perspective of directors and corporate secretaries?
- How is the rest of the world responding? What are international developments and perspectives on ESG Governance and the implications for Canadian governance?
- How are capital markets making use of ESG information and how does it affect investor decision-making?

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# AGENDA

**10:00am - 10:05am**

## **Welcoming Remarks**

**Lynn Beauregard**, President, Governance Professionals of Canada

**10:05am - 10:15am**

## **Looking Back and Looking Ahead**

**Coro Strandberg**, President, Strandberg Consulting and GPC advisor on Sustainability Governance

**10:15am - 11:15am**

## **Thought Leader Expert Panel Returns**

This session will provide an overview of the dramatic changes in the past year as ESG standards and expectations for boards have evolved. Gain insights into the legal, investor and business cases driving boards to adopt best practices in ESG and climate governance and social issues oversight.

**Moderator: Coro Strandberg**, President, Strandberg Consulting and GPC advisor on Sustainability Governance

**Panel: Christie Stephenson**, Executive Director, Dhillon Centre for Business Ethics, University of British Columbia's Sauder School of Business; **Carol Liao**, Associate Professor, Peter A. Allard School of Law, University of British Columbia; **Ian Robertson**, Vice-President, Director and Portfolio Manager, Odlum Brown and Chair of the Board, Responsible Investment Association; **Jennifer Coulson**, Vice President, ESG, Public Markets, BCI

**11:15am - 11:20am**

## **Break**

**11:20am - 12:25pm**

## **International ESG Governance Developments**

This session will explore ESG governance practices and developments from around the world. What can we learn from these global trends to foster best ESG governance practices in Canada and beyond? Investor, NGO and corporate secretary thought leaders and experts will share their ideas and challenge us all to think beyond our borders.

**Moderator: Helle Bank Jorgensen**, CEO & Founder, Competent Boards Inc.

**Panel: Bob Walker**, International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN); **Will Martindale**, Director of Policy & Research, PRI; **Dottie Schindlinger**, Executive Director of the Diligent Institute, Diligent; **Scott Williams**, Associate Director, PwC; **Lisa Hayles**, Investment Manager, Trillium

**12:25pm - 12:35pm**

## **Lunch #1**

**12:35pm - 1:05pm**

## **Guest Speaker**

**Wes Hall**, Executive Chairman, KSS Group of Companies and Founder and Chair of The BlackNorth Initiative

**1:05pm - 1:10pm**

## **Break**

**1:10pm - 2:20pm**

## **ESG in the Boardroom**

This is an opportunity to engage in a discussion of what boards should know about ESG Governance and the ESG tools and practices they need to foster their organization's success. We will hear perspectives on how directors and corporate secretaries interface with each other to advance the ESG agenda and learn of the challenges of - and solutions to - board oversight on ESG. A panel of Directors and Corporate Secretaries will discuss what Boards can learn from COVID, racial injustice, Indigenous reconciliation, and other accelerating societal trends and risks that will impact organizational performance.

**Moderator: Margie Parikh**, Principal, On Governance Consulting and Board Director

**Panel: Argiro Kotsalis**, Vice President, Legal and Chief Governance Officer, Vancouver Airport Authority; **Kim Baird**, Board Member; **Penny McIntyre**, Corporate Director, PVH; **John Bell**, Chief Advisor Strategic Planning, Governance and Sustainability, BC Housing; **Karina Litvak**, Non-Executive Director, Eni S.p.A. and Founder/Executive Director of Chapter Zero

**2:20pm - 2:25pm**

## **Break**



# AGENDA

**2:25pm - 3:25pm**

## **ESG Governance and the Capital Markets Ecosystem**

Time for an outside the boardroom perspective: what is on the ESG Governance radar of capital markets? How are capital markets reacting to climate change, the pandemic and other ESG issues? This session will hear from practitioners who play different roles in the capital markets ecosystem advancing ESG. These experts will help us complete our understanding of the forces driving ESG practices further and further onto the board agenda. In practical terms, how are capital markets making use of ESG information and how does it affect different aspects of investor decision-making?

**Moderator: Michelle de Cordova**, Principal, ESG Global Advisors Inc.

**Panel: Andrew Sweeney**, Vice President, PH&N Institutional, RBC Global Asset Management Inc; **Shannon Rohan**, Chief Strategy Officer, Shareholder Association for Research and Education (SHARE); **Blythe Clark**, Engagement & Stewardship Analyst, Connor, Clark & Lunn Financial Group Ltd.; **Gary Hawton**, Senior Director of Client Relations, Sustainalytics

**3:25pm - 3:35pm**

## **Lunch #2**

**3:35pm - 4:35pm**

## **Climate Change Governance**

Climate change is something all boards should be grappling with as we transition to a low carbon economy and prepare for the physical impacts of climate change on our organizations, supply chains and workforce. We will wrap up our expert panels and discussions by investigating what governance professionals should know about climate change to equip their boards to have effective oversight of this critical topic. We will take a peek at the intersection between climate change and social justice, to see how these two ESG issues might converge in the future.

**Moderator: Stephanie Bertels**, Director, Centre for Corporate Governance and Sustainability, SFU Beedie School of Business and Founder, Embedding Projects

**Panel: Robin S. Cox**, PhD, Director ResiliencebyDesign Research Innovation Lab, Professor Disaster and Emergency Management, Royal Roads University; **Jamie Bonham**, Director, Corporate Engagement, NEI Investments; **Roopa Davé**, Partner, Sustainability Services, KPMG; **Ravipal Bains**, Associate, McMillan LLP

**4:35pm - 4:40pm**

## **Break**

**4:40pm - 5:25pm**

## **Roundtable Discussion: Putting it all Together**

In small and then large groups we will reflect on our learnings and take-aways for the day. What issues and approaches are relevant to our organizations? How can we operationalize this learning? What else do we need to know? Leave feeling informed, engaged and inspired.

**Moderator: Coro Strandberg**, President, Strandberg Consulting and GPC advisor on Sustainability Governance

**5:25pm - 5:30pm**

## **Wrap up and Thank you's**

**Lynn Beauregard**, President, Governance Professionals of Canada



# SPEAKERS

Speaker line-up includes:



**Ravipal Bains**  
Associate, McMillan LLP



**Kim Baird**  
Board Member



**Helle Bank Jorgensen**  
CEO & Founder, Competent Boards Inc.



**John Bell**  
Chief Advisor  
Strategic Planning, Governance and Sustainability, BC Housing



**Stephanie Bertels**  
Director, Centre for Corporate Governance and Sustainability, SFU Beedie School of Business and Founder, Embedding Project



**Jamie Bonham**  
Director, Corporate Engagement, NEI Investments



**Blythe Clark**  
Engagement & Stewardship Analyst, Connor, Clark & Lunn Financial Group Ltd.



**Jennifer Coulson**  
Vice President, ESG, Public Markets, BCI



**Robin Cox**  
Professor, School of Humanitarian Studies, Director, ResilienceByDesign Research Innovation Lab (RbD), Royal Roads University



**Roopa Davé**  
Partner, Sustainability Services, KPMG



**Michelle De Cordova**  
Principal, ESG Global Advisors



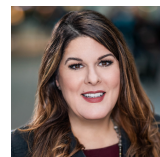
**Wes Hall**  
Executive Chairman, KSS Group of Companies and Founder and Chair of The BlackNorth Initiative



**Gary Hawton**  
Senior Director of Client Relations, Sustainalytics



**Lisa Hayles**  
Investment Manager, Trillium



**Argiro Kotsalis**  
Vice President, Legal and Chief Governance Officer, Vancouver Airport Authority



# SPEAKERS

Speaker line-up includes:



**Carol Liao**

Associate Professor, Peter A. Allard School of Law, UBC Sauder Distinguished Scholar, Dhillon Centre for Business Ethics, UBC Sauder School of Business, The University of British Columbia



**Karina Litvack**

Non-Executive Director, Eni S.p.A. and Founder/Executive Director of Chapter Zero



**Will Martindale**

Director of Policy & Research, PRI



**Penny McIntyre**

Corporate Director, PVH



**Margie Parikh**

Principal, On Governance Consulting, and Board Director



**Ian Robertson**

Vice President, Director, Portfolio Manager, Odium Brown Limited and Chair of the Board, Responsible Investment Association



**Shannon Rohan**

Chief Strategy Officer, Shareholder Association for Research and Education (SHARE)



**Dottie Schindlinger**

Executive Director of the Diligent Institute



**Christie Stephenson**

Executive Director, Peter P. Dhillon Centre for Business Ethics, UBC Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia



**Coro Strandberg**

President, Strandberg Consulting and GPC advisor on Sustainability Governance



**Andrew Sweeney**

Vice President & Portfolio Manager, PH&N Institutional, RBC Global Asset Management



**Bob Walker**

International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN)



**Scott Williams**

Associate Director, PwC



## Audience

This session is appropriate for any governance professional, board member or leader who has (or would like to have) a key role vis a vis their board's oversight and accountability of ESG and climate risks. It is also relevant for investors, owners, and professionals involved in sustainability, CSR, risk, strategy, investor relations, or capital markets who seek to better understand and be on top of this trend.

## Pricing

**WEBINAR GPC Member** – \$450.87 (\$399 + HST)

**WEBINAR Non Member** – \$563.87 (\$499 + HST)

**WEBINAR Partner\*** – \$508.50 (\$450 + HST)

*\*Registration code required*

Register here: <https://gpcanada.org/event-3749372>

## About GPC

GPC's mandate is to be the voice of governance professionals in Canada. Its members deal with all matters affecting corporate governance, from board and committee processes, management and structure, disclosure, stakeholder engagement, legal and corporate compliance, as well as issues crucial to boards, their accountability and oversight. As such, GPC strives to provide valuable and timely information on recent changes and developments which affect our members – in all industries and sectors (listed, private, public, crown, not for profit, etc). Our members include professionals with positions such as Corporate Secretary, Corporate and General Counsel, Manager Corporate Governance, VP/Director/Officer Compliance, Risk, Legal or Regulatory Affairs, Associate/Assistant Corporate Secretary and Board Administrator, CEO, CFO, Board Chair, Director, Committee Chairs.

