

institutional
CONNECT

Awards

2023

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Message from the host



The Canadian institutional investment industry is undergoing significant changes in the areas of macro investment environment, organizational culture, and investment strategies. The Institutional Connect Awards 2023, held at the OMNI King Edward Hotel in Toronto on November 20, 2023, acknowledged and celebrated leading pension funds and investment managers, both at the organizational and individual levels. They were recognized for their forward-thinking strategies, unwavering commitment to fiduciary responsibilities, and approaches to challenge the status-quo.

Institutional Connect would like to take this opportunity to express gratitude to the Canadian institutional investment industry and peers for their hard works and support throughout the nomination process and the awards ceremony. We also extend our sincere appreciation to the independent judge committee members for their expertise and dedication during the evaluation process. Their expertise and commitment played a pivotal role in recognizing individual and firms' accomplishments, contributing significantly to the success of the event.

As the host of the awards ceremony, we feel honoured to have witnessed the celebrations of the winners, acknowledging their exceptional performance, resilience, and commitment to success. We are delighted to present the winners' profiles to highlight the achievements of these individuals and firms. Looking ahead, we anticipate recognizing more innovations from the Canadian pension and institutional industry in the years to come.

Institutional Connect

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION AWARD

Ivanhoé Cambridge



Ivanhoé Cambridge believes that diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) are crucial for being an innovative and sustainable employer and investor. As so, the firm launched their DEI strategy in 2021, which is putting in place a cross-departmental team with representation from all their regional offices and all levels within the organization. The firm also took the opportunity to review their company policies and practices, and conduct a company-wide survey while also benchmarking their internal diversity and culture through meetings and interviews with employees. Ivanhoé Cambridge focuses on catalyzing swift progress in DEI across the board, executing thoughtfully designed strategies to DEI, and positioning the company as the commercial real estate industry leader regarding the above objectives. All the strategy is guided by 4 key principles: to be intentional; to prioritize; to be accountable; and to make DEI a business imperative. As so, cultivate and influence are the two strategic objectives that the firm built their strategy around.

Throughout the past year, Ivanhoé Cambridge has undertaken various internal initiatives featuring different guest speakers to heighten awareness. These actions included commemorating different celebrations, such as International Women’s Day, Black History Month, Pride, National Truth and Reconciliation Day, World Autism Awareness Day, and more. Additionally, the firm established the Ivanhoé Cambridge Women and Ivanhoé Cambridge Pride employee resource groups to cultivate an inclusive, safe, and equitable work environment. Moreover, the firm issued a company-wide call for participation in the new BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) group. The firm has maintained an annual partnership with the Women in Governance organization, alongside partnerships with three CREW Network chapters (CrewM, Crew Toronto, Crew France) and Pride at Canada. In 2022, Ivanhoé received the Silver Parity Certification for the fifth consecutive year. Additionally, the firm also obtained the EDGE assess certification and EDGEplus certification.

Ivanhoé Cambridge has been supporting DEI targeted organizations and added DEI clauses in several transactions for supporting their partners’ progress in the DEI area. In 2022, Ivanhoé Cambridge joined as a signatory of ILPA’s Diversity in Action initiative. This initiative aims to unite investors and managers in committing to specific actions that drive diversity and inclusion in the industry. Also, it offers resources and actionable insights to collectively address shared challenges. Ivanhoé Cambridge took the effort to connect with approximately 60 of their strategic partners to invite them to join as a signatory, and 23 of their partners are signatories of this initiative. As the early adopter of the WELL Equity framework, Ivanhoé Cambridge’s headquarters in Montréal participated in a pilot project to develop the WELL Equity Rating and show their dedications to creating spaces centered around health, well-being and inclusion.

Judges Comment:

“Ivanhoé Cambridge has provided very detailed supporting materials to demonstrate the organization has done an excellent job to meet all criteria of this award. The firm has intentional and specific goals, tied to human capital, investment strategy, reflection internally and externally, and desire to benchmark against other datasets.”

INVESTMENT TEAM AWARD Portfolio Construction Group, OPTrust



The Portfolio Construction Group (PCG) at OPTrust is responsible for the design and implementation of the Total Fund investment strategy. This includes advising on the investment objective, design of the asset mix, currency hedging, liquidity management and rebalancing, capital and risk allocations across active and passive strategies, total portfolio strategy research and stakeholder communication. OPTrust was an early adopter of the Total Portfolio Approach (TPA) to investment management which is now being followed more broadly within the industry. The PCG strongly advocates for the TPA, encouraging a shared alignment of interests among pension beneficiaries, the Board of Trustees and management. The TPA motivates the investment team to focus on the members' interests – pension security and plan sustainability – by managing total portfolio return and risk instead of outperforming an often-static policy asset mix benchmark to deliver value-add only.

PCG has developed an innovative approach to total portfolio construction and management, integrating Asset-Liability Modeling with industry-leading multi-horizon dynamic portfolio liquidity modeling. These tools offer comprehensive portfolio analytics across the three metrics of expected return, Plan funding risks and liquidity risks. Using these analytical tools, largely developed in-house, OPTrust conducts industry leading research on various pension and investment management topics. Analyses could include: assessing plan funding risks under different asset mixes and structural economic and market assumptions; examining the impacts of changes in plan design on funding risk metrics; examining how the Plan's maturing status impact the liquidity constraint and liquid/illiquid mix; analyzing the effects of different rebalancing rules on return, risk, and liquidity and leverage metrics; and assessing the risk and liquidity impacts of internally-managed, dynamic derivative based strategies across a variety of market return paths.

The PCG has collaborated with ORTEC Finance and other teams at OPTrust to conduct Climate Scenario analysis in the Asset-Liability Modeling space. This collaboration has yielded insights on the Plan's funding risks in different climate scenarios, and informed shifts in portfolio design and risk-talking to make the fund more resilient.

Overall, the research-intensive approach of the PCG team allows OPTrust to better make use of its scarce risk and liquidity to deliver improved outcomes for plan members. The PCG is also actively engaged in the Canadian and international pension community, promoting information sharing and thought leadership so the industry can better serve its pension beneficiaries.

Judges Comment:

“OPTrust were early adopters of the total portfolio approach to portfolio construction, focusing on delivering long-term pension security rather than beating a policy benchmark. The Portfolio Construction Group developed an innovative approach that integrates asset-liability modelling with multi-horizon portfolio liquidity monitoring. This has allowed portfolios to be better viewed across the three dimensions of expected return, funding risk and liquidity risk. They have also worked to apply climate scenario analysis into asset-liability modelling in order to better understand the fund's risks in different climate scenarios. The collaborative solutions developed by the Portfolio Construction Group have been a big part of the success of OP Trust over the years, making them very worthy recipients of the Investment Team Award.”

CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPION AWARD

Ivanhoé Cambridge



Since 2017, Ivanhoé Cambridge has actively incorporated ESG factors into their business, investment strategy, and overall investment life cycle. The firm has showcased promising and diverse innovations in climate action across different program, such as portfolio decarbonization targets, governance, environmental actions, climate change risk management, sustainable green finance and proptech initiatives. The firm has established 3 detailed and long-term objectives for their portfolio decarbonization to achieve by 2040: 35% reduction in the operational carbon intensity of their portfolio by 2025; at least C\$6B of new low-carbon investments by 2025; and starting from 2025 all new developments will be on a net-zero operational carbon basis.

Ivanhoé Cambridge leads the way in promoting transparency on climate-related financial disclosures, such as their first special report, released in September 2023, which aligns with the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD). Their leaderships also actively participate as an at-large member of the Global Board of Directors, a Global Governing Trustee of Urban Land Institute (ULI) America, and Carbon Risk Real Estate Monitor (CRREM), and more. As of December 31, 2022, their estimated operational carbon intensity of their directly owned portfolio has been reduced by approximately 30% in contrast with the amount during 2017, and 58% of their assets have at least one green building certification. In order to face the challenge of defining a low-carbon building, Ivanhoé Cambridge decided to support BBCA for the launch of the first pan-European low-carbon real estate label, LCBI. Ivanhoé Cambridge recent examples on deep decarbonization initiatives within existing assets are expanding influence in different regions, including Moorebank Logistics Park (Sydney), Place Ville Marie (Montréal), 3 Bryant Park (NYC), and 10 & 120 South Riverside (Chicago). Furthermore, Ivanhoé Cambridge engages in preserving biodiversity with the Haleco project in Montréal announced in June 2022. The project involves incorporating an urban farm, and a site with 57% of the land dedicated to revegetation efforts aimed at conserving local biodiversity.

In high-risk assets, Ivanhoé Cambridge has developed various supporting materials, methodologies, and models for identification and resilience measures. Asset managers utilize climate-risk and resilience dashboards to comprehend and enhance the climate resilience in both assets and portfolios. Ivanhoé Cambridge also recognizes the pivotal role of technology in climate initiatives, investing significant funds in partnerships across different proptech sectors. These partnerships aim to consistently drive technology innovation to Ivanhoé Cambridge's Cambridge ESG strategy.

Judges Comment:

“Ivanhoé Cambridge demonstrated the breadth of innovation on climate across different programs. It has been an active player in green financing and the idea of linking the cost of debt to its own ESG and carbon-emission performance in a brilliant idea to align the interest while achieving economic benefits by reducing financing cost. Finally, the firm is promoting innovation and being willing to deploy capital in venture space that supports clean technology development. This should help the firm be better prepared for the future and develop knowledge in this space by better understanding the impacts of these new technology on their core assets going forward.”

INVESTMENT DUE DILIGENCE AWARD OPTrust's Multi-Strategy Investing Team



The Multi-Strategy Investing (MSI) Team at OPTrust consists of eight investment professionals within the Capital Markets Group (CMG). The MSI team manages the organization's public markets value-add programs and a portion of its Incubation Portfolio. These value-add programs include the Multi-Strategy, Emerging Market Equities and Credit programs. The team is responsible for constructing and managing the portfolios of external managers, including sourcing, due diligence and allocation.

The MSI team's thoroughness and their approach to risk management are the keys to successfully managing such a large and diverse program. The team's success in adding value across their portfolio draws on their collective expertise in diverse asset class strategies, such as multi-asset, alternative-risk premia, quantitative and fundamental pure alpha, liquid and illiquid credit and fundamental and quantitative equities. Their detailed and meticulous attention to the selection of managers, portfolio construction and relationship management are key contributors to the team's success. This process is supported by an internally-developed framework that starts with a thorough review of the investment landscape. It is a risk-focused, tailored approach with an emphasis on deal structuring and responsible investing. In collaboration with internal control functions, in depth manager evaluations are conducted and strong relationships are forged.

The MSI team has developed a comprehensive process to both identify and mitigate the potential risks in investment transactions. This includes manager and portfolio selection, careful operational due diligence and reflecting on learnings throughout the investment lifecycle. Various strengths are leveraged in this process, drawing on an in-house team of investment professionals with decades of experience in both public and private markets, as well as calling on outside expertise as required. A wide range of reference material is sought and considerable time is devoted to the review and discussion of each investment.

This comprehensive due diligence process ensures the MSI team identifies risks at an early stage, allowing more time to explore flexible solutions to mitigate these risks. Solutions may include tailored agreements, the location of assets for business and operational related risks, the customization of mandates to achieve desired risk exposures and characteristics, working directly with emerging or early-stage managers on their risk frameworks, and addressing conflicts of interest or simply refraining from pursuing investments that involve material risk that cannot be mitigated. The MSI team utilizes this same framework to support their investments in the Incubation Portfolio.

Judges Comment:

“The Multi-Strategy Investing Team is part of the Capital Markets Group at OP Trust and conducts comprehensive, detailed and multi-faceted due diligence on external managers. The team prioritizes collaboration within the group, with subject matter experts within OP Trust, with external consultants, and with the prospective manager. Key risks and mitigation strategies are identified as part of the evaluation process, which also includes a comprehensive examination of a manager's approach to investing responsibly. This comprehensive and detailed approach to due diligence has been a key factor in the success of OP Trust's public market program, and has been recognized by Institutional Connect with the Due Diligence Award.”

ASSET OWNER AWARD
UBC Investment Management



UBC Investment Management was established in 2003 as a wholly owned subsidiary of the University of British Columbia (UBC). The organization, with \$5.8B AUM (FY 2022-2023) funds, provides comprehensive portfolio management services to invest, grow and amplify the impact of UBC’s endowment, pension and capital funds. Presently, the organization manages four main funds: the UBC Main Endowment Fund that collected from the donors and the leases of UBC endowment lands; the UBC Staff Pension Plan; the UBC Working Capital Fund that consists of monies from the reserves of the university’s capital pool; and other funds.

There are five broad investment programs that categorize the investment assets, sharing similar attributes and guiding the organization’s Strategic Portfolio allocation. These five broad investment programs are the Fixed Income Program, Equity Program, Real Assets Program, Absolute Return Program, and Total Portfolio Management Program. Each investment program is governed by an annually submitted policy, undergoing a technical review of program composition and performance for the approval by the UBC Investment Management Board. These program policies outline the investment objectives of the program, performance benchmarks for sub-asset class strategies, and any constraints related to portfolio construction.

For the year ending March 31, 2023, the UBC Main Endowment Pool saw a \$32 million increase in value, even after paying \$61 million in net distributions to the university from the fund. Between 2022 to 2023, the assets of the UBC Staff Pension Plan (SPP) expanded by \$73 million, driven by moderate overall portfolio returns and strong positive cash inflows into the plan. Over extended periods, the Investment Portfolio delivered annualized returns of 6.7% over five years and 8.2% over ten years, surpassing the portfolio benchmark by 1.2% and 0.7%, respectively.

Moreover, the continuous evolution of UBC Investment Management relies on robust governance principles. In 2021, the firm established a fresh investment framework. This framework includes the description of the firm’s governance structure, along with defining the tiers of investment decision making and accountability among the UBC Board of Governors, the UBC Investment Management Board of Directors, and the investment team led by the President and Chief Executive Officer. Central to UBC Investment Management’s philosophy is embedding Responsible Investing practices in all aspects of the firm’s investment framework. UBCIM’s Responsible Investing Strategy looks beyond simple divestment from fossil fuels to use all tools available to the team and the managers the firm works with to advance climate and social considerations. The key pillars of UBCIM’s Responsible Investing Strategy are: Active Ownership, Divestment, Leadership, Measurement and Disclosure. The firm reports on its Responsible Investing performance in its annual Responsible Investment Report.

Judges Comment:
“The organization demonstrated strong delivery of its objective with significant outperformance of its total portfolio over policy benchmark consistently over multiple time horizons. It demonstrated governance at the high level that helps clearly define accountabilities.”

CLIMATE CHANGE PARTNER AWARD

BMO Global Asset Management

BMO Global Asset Management ('BMO GAM') considers climate change to be the defining issue of our time and fully supports the goals of the Paris Agreement. To help address this, they have made climate action one of two core ESG themes such that it permeates all elements of their responsible investment approach: ESG integration, Stewardship, Market Education and Product Development.

BMO GAM understands the urgent need to accelerate the transition towards global net-zero emissions and for asset managers to play their part to help deliver the goals of the Paris Agreement and ensure a just transition. As a founding member of the Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative (NZAM), their ambition is to reach net zero across all their assets under management (AUM) by 2050. They are consistently ratcheting up their commitment to NZAM across their AUM to demonstrate real climate progress.

BMO GAM is a member of several climate-related industry groups and non-government organizations (NGOs) to work collectively with investor peers to advance climate action. They are a founding member of the Climate Engagement Canada (CEC) steering committee and, as of November 2023, they have ongoing engagements with 12 companies – more than any other financial institution involved in CEC – and they actively lead collaborative engagement for five of these companies.

Their leadership in climate action-related stewardship resulted in BMO GAM being awarded the Responsible Investment Association's (RIA) 2022 Leadership Award for Stewardship¹. They are also heavily involved with company engagement and tracked 998 climate action-related engagements with 538 companies during 2022. Their engagement efforts led to 111 tangible improvements in company practices and/or policies².

Judges Comment:

"The firm presented a very well-established climate action strategy covering ESG integration, Stewardship, Market Education and Product Development with the goal of aligning with the Paris Agreement to achieve net zero by 2050. For each component of their climate action strategy, the organization presented several concrete examples of actions undertaken, which gives tangible feeling on how the strategy has been implemented and the progress it has made towards its goals. Overall, the firm has demonstrated its thoughtfulness, thoroughness, and breadth of coverage in designing its climate action strategy, and more importantly, how it has implemented its strategy and made progress towards its goals."

¹ Reference: Responsible Investment Association (riacanada.ca) Leadership Awards / BMO GAM RIA Stewardship Winner-2022

² Source: [BMO GAM Responsible Investment 2022 Annual Report](#)

PORTFOLIO MANAGER AWARD

Fiera Capital Canada Large Cap Equity Team



FIERACAPITAL

The Canada Large Cap Equity team at Fiera Capital is comprised of six professionals who consistently exhibit outstanding performance and innovation within the realm of investment management, setting new benchmarks in the industry. Their commitment to excellence, risk management, and dedication to Responsible Investing principles have singled them out for nomination and led to their receipt of the award.

In terms of portfolio outperformance, the investment team consistently demonstrates an exceptional ability to surpass benchmarks. Through targeted selection of high-quality, attractively valued companies and a focus on capital preservation, their diverse strategies consistently deliver substantial value over time. Notably, the flagship Canadian Equity strategy surpassed the S&P/TSX Composite by 336 basis points annually over the 10-year period ending June 30th, 2023. Additionally, the strategy exhibited its prowess in protecting investor capital by outperforming by over 600 basis points in 2015, 2018, and 2022 – the only negative years for the S&P/TSX Composite in the last decade.

The Canada Large Cap Equity team stands out for its notable emphasis on risk mitigation and safeguarding against market downturns. Their approach involves a meticulous research process, utilizing a detailed 21-question research template and a proprietary intrinsic value calculation. These measures ensure a comprehensive understanding of every company in the portfolio and on the watchlist. In terms of ESG integration, the team has demonstrated a remarkable commitment to incorporating responsible investing factors into the investment process. Embracing sustainability as a core principle, they recognize its alignment not only with their investment philosophy and values but also its positive impact on long-term financial performance. With the goal of identifying and owning profitable, well-established companies, the team extensively explores company histories, financial metrics, and extra-financial aspects.

Judges Comment:

“The manager boasts a very promising financial performance, showcasing consecutive 10-year outperformance over its benchmark. Notably, their focus on capital preservation is evident through a more substantial outperformance compared to the benchmark during equity drawdown years. They maintain a rigorous risk management process, emphasizing downside protection for clients. Their demonstrated significant outperformance over benchmarks stands as the pinnacle of successful risk management. Additionally, the manager showcases a well-thought ESG integration within their investment process, detailed in a comprehensive sustainable investing report. This report highlights numerous aspects of ESG awareness and thoughtfulness, providing concrete examples outlining the ESG implementation path towards their 2050 net-zero goal.”

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT FIRM AWARD Franklin Templeton



Franklin Templeton Canada drives client success through an unwavering focus on investment excellence, delivered on a robust global platform. This is backed by investments in cutting edge technology and product innovation. In this way, clients receive a consistent, coordinated experience, and are provided with an extensive range of specialized capabilities, all delivered through one trusted global partner.

The firm has worked diligently to broaden their capabilities by building an expansive team of public and private market investment managers. These specialized managers retain their investment independence while benefiting from access to Franklin Templeton's capital, technology, risk management, and sustainability resources.

- They're one of the largest fixed income managers in the world.
- They manage over 200 billion USD in alternatives.
- They offer dedicated portfolio construction services, tailoring solutions for retail and institutional clients around the world.

Alongside their comprehensive and robust investment offering, the firm adds extensive value to clients by equipping them with the tools, services, and thought leadership necessary to build better investment portfolios.

With a 75+ year tradition, Franklin Templeton continues to focus on stability, innovation, and long-term value creation, guided by their commitment of creating better financial futures for Canadians.

For more information, please visit franklintempleton.ca and connect with Franklin Templeton on [X](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

Judges Comment:

“This manager has showcased numerous instances of innovation in their investment management approach. For instance, the Goals Optimisation Engine stands out as an intriguing asset allocation tool designed to reflect the dynamics of today’s market for a more customized design of clients’ portfolio to achieve the highest likelihood of success. Additionally, Franklin Templeton’s fintech incubator is another notable initiative focused on supporting promising start-ups with disruptive technological potential, emphasizing a forward-looking perspective. This incubator significantly nurtures innovation, preventing promising ideas from faltering and positioning the firm as an early mover in emerging technology spaces.”

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Derek Dobson – CEO & Plan Manager at CAAT Pension Plan

Derek Dobson, CEO and Plan Manager, CAAT Pension Plan, has over 30 years of pension leadership experience. He was recognized for a lifetime achievement that continues to impact and improve retirement outcomes for thousands of Canadians. Derek's vision and success in challenging global misconceptions that DB pensions are an unsustainable holdover of the past, have materially changed the trajectory of Canada's pension and investment landscape. Indeed, Derek spearheaded the creation of DBplus, a modern defined benefit pension open to all Canadian employers. CAAT currently has more than 91,700 members from more than 360 employers across 21 industries, including the support of 21 unions and member associations.



His influence has helped provide secure lifetime income for an increasing number of Canadians who otherwise would never have had access to long-term financial support. CAAT's consistent funding and investment outperformance make the plan one of the most sustainable and fastest growing pensions in the country. Mr. Dobson has consistently demonstrated exemplary leadership and an extraordinary capacity to navigate through challenging economic and market environments. Even amid inflationary pressures and volatile investment markets in recent years, Mr. Dobson's leadership ensured strong performance from the CAAT team and an unwavering focus on long-term results. The plan has a 10-year annualized net rate of return of 9.7%. In 2022, it achieved a net return of 2.3% after accounting for management fees, surpassing the policy benchmark by 5.2%. CAAT remains dedicated to long-term returns, offering members assurance that their retirement savings benefit from a solid history of careful management, securing every pension dollar promised.

His ability to adapt and thrive under shifting investment landscapes has not only steered CAAT Pension Plan towards success, but has also set an industry-wide standard for excellence.

Judges Comment:

“Derek, a highly respected Canadian pension fund veteran, has shown unwavering commitment to enhancing retirement income security for thousands of Canadians. DBplus, spearheaded by Derek, stands as one of the most innovative and groundbreaking pension solutions offered by an existing DB pension plan to a broad Canadian audience. The adaptable design of DBplus has enabled CAAT to attract numerous new members, leading to rapid growth of this DB pension solution – a remarkable success achieved within a remarkably short timeframe. Derek has exhibited exceptional leadership skills, particularly during challenging periods such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing complex investing environment. His guidance has steered the organization smoothly through these challenges. Despite these obstacles, CAAT has maintained an impressively stable funded status, coupled with remarkable growth in portfolio value.”

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Barbara Zvan – President & CEO at University Pension Plan

Barbara Zvan is the inaugural President and CEO of University Pension Plan Ontario (UPP), and former Chief Risk and Strategy Officer for Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan (OTPP). Throughout her 25-year career in the pension industry, Ms. Zvan has been recognized as a leading global voice on sustainable investing and a tireless ambassador for defined benefit pensions, including her notable role in designing the world-renowned Maple pension model.



Under Ms. Zvan's visionary and determined leadership, UPP launched in 2021, attracting a team of talented individuals from leading pension and investment organizations from around the world toward a shared commitment to delivering sustainable pension security to members across Ontario's university sector. Responsible investing is a key part of UPP's approach to building long-term value, and its ambitious, credible Climate Action Plan has earned high-level recognition, including an invitation for Ms. Zvan to address the United Nations Climate Ambition Summit in September 2023.

Ms. Zvan leads or contributes to many domestic and international initiatives bringing together financial institutions, governments, companies, NGOs, and scientific experts to mobilize and standardize sustainable finance. She is a member of the Government of Canada's Sustainable Finance Action Council, where she chairs the Taxonomy Technical Experts Group (TTEG) and is the chair of the steering committee of Climate Engagement Canada, a financed initiative which she played a key role in establishing. She is also the co-chair of the C.D. Howe Institute's Pension Policy Council, and serves on the board of the Responsible Investment Association and the advisory board of the Institute of Sustainable Finance at the Smith School of Business.

Judges Comment:

“Barb, globally recognized as the most prominent female Canadian pension veteran, played a pivotal role as one of the key designers of the ‘Canadian Maple Model’. Her contributions were instrumental in establishing OTPP as a successful global pension fund, a legacy acknowledged by many. Serving as a key representative for Canada, Barb has been a distinguished global champion for sustainable investing. She held high-profile engagements with the Government of Canada's SFAC, aiming to position Canada as a world leader in sustainable finance. Barb has earned many domestic and international credentials and is a regular keynote speaker at numerous forums and conferences. Notably, she was honoured as Canada's CEO of the Year and Corporate Citizen of the Year by Global and Mail in 2022.”

