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**2015 PEAK Award Honouree**

**John Montalbano - Champion**

*Presented by*





The Association of Women in Finance is proud to honour John Montalbano with its inaugural PEAK Award in the newly created Champion category.

Throughout his career, John has demonstrated a passionate commitment to improving gender diversity in business leadership in Canada. With tremendous generosity and insight, he has mentored women at all stages in their careers to take bold steps toward achieving their leadership potential. In many cases, his support and counsel has helped highly qualified women overcome significant barriers to earn important senior leadership positions, most notably in the finance industry, but on boards of directors and in academia as well.

As CEO of RBC Global Asset Management, John has worked diligently to advance a diversity agenda in his organization. His championing of RBC GAM's diversity committee and its recommendations has resulted in the implementation of important new initiatives at the company, including a formal mentoring program and specialized leadership development opportunities for women.

John embraces his role as a leading advocate of leadership diversity in Canada's business community and takes every opportunity to speak on the topic, both in the media and in forums across the country. He has also invested financially to find solutions to the barriers facing women and others who are underrepresented in positions of leadership in the Canadian workforce. In 2014, he and his wife Dana established the Montalbano Professorship in Leadership Studies: Women and Diversity at UBC's Sauder School of Business. This initiative seeks to influence perceptions and practice in business surrounding diversity in leadership, both in Canada and around the world, and its findings will contribute greatly to improving opportunities for women leaders – now, and for generations to come.

We extend our sincere congratulations to John and invite you to join us in celebrating his achievements at the PEAK Awards Gala on May 13, 2015.