



**awf** **peakawards**  
HONOURING WOMEN IN FINANCE

[www.womeninfinance.ca](http://www.womeninfinance.ca)



## Information, Procedures, and Rules for PEAK Awards 2020

Wednesday, May 13, 2020 - 6:00pm  
Fairmont Waterfront – 900 Canada Pl, Vancouver, BC

# About the Association of Women in Finance

The Association of Women in Finance (AWF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the advancement of women in the field of finance. We are executives, bankers, lawyers, accountants, analysts, investment professionals, actuaries, venture capitalists, insurers, and entrepreneurs. We work in both private and public practice across a wide range of industries. Our mandate is to encourage female finance professionals to claim their seats at the boardroom table. Since 1996, we have been honouring the success of women in finance, supported their advancement throughout their careers, and served as a convener of knowledge.

## What are the PEAK Awards?

Performance. Excellence. Achievement. Knowledge (PEAK). These are the qualities celebrated by the AWF at the highly-anticipated annual PEAK Awards. Join us on May 13, 2020 as we host the PEAK Awards honouring outstanding individuals in the field of finance.

At our 23rd annual PEAK Awards, we will honour five individuals in the following categories, who have made a positive impact on British Columbia's finance community:

- Rising Star;
- Excellence in Industry;
- Lifetime Achievement;
- \*Champion; and
- Significant Board Contribution.

\*A Champion honouree is a professional of influence, either female or male, who furthers the advancement of women in finance for leadership positions in management or on boards.

The Peak Awards also honour the deserving recipients of the AWF's scholarship fund, and serve as an important opportunity for the AWF to fundraise for its scholarship fund.

For over two decades, the PEAK Awards have honoured talented, respected and deserving women and men who combine professional excellence with a passionate commitment to championing women in the workplace. We invite you to join us for a memorable evening as we celebrate the PEAK Awards honourees and support changing the landscape of women in finance.



# Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to receive a PEAK Award, the Nominee must:

1. Live and work in British Columbia.
2. Be currently or recently employed in the field of finance\* or retired from the field.
3. Satisfy each of the criteria for her/his PEAK Award category as listed below.
4. Consent, in writing, to the nomination and the publication of her/his name, photo and biographical information, if chosen as the successful honouree.
5. Be available to attend the PEAK Awards on the evening of May 13, 2020 and a dress rehearsal earlier that day.
6. Honourees will automatically be enrolled in the AWF Alumni Network which includes invitations to
7. Alumni events and information about other Alumni initiatives.
8. Not be a staff member of the AWF or a current Director of the AWF.

\*The "field of finance" is defined broadly and includes, but is not limited to, educators, public service employees, finance professionals, including accountants, CFAs, CFPs, CBVs, actuaries, bankers, CFOs, CEOs and lawyers (such as corporate finance, business, securities, real estate, tax and financing).

## PEAK Awards Criteria



A **Rising Star** PEAK Nominee is a female finance professional or woman in the field of finance who:

- is under 40 years of age (please provide birthdate);
- 70%: an emerging leader who has made meaningful professional contributions to her institution, industry and professional community that are outstanding and unique;
- 15%: guides, supports and encourages the promotion/advancement of women; and
- 15%: actively involved in her personal community.



An **Excellence in Industry** PEAK Nominee is a female finance professional or woman in the field of finance who:

- has shown excellence in her industry, sector or field in recent years;
- 60%: demonstrates a high and quantifiable contribution to her company, industry and professional community;
- 20%: guides, supports and encourages the promotion/advancement of women; and
- 20%: actively involved in her personal community.



A **Lifetime Achievement** PEAK Nominee is a female finance professional or woman in the field of finance who:

- has 30+ years of experience;
- demonstrates an enduring commitment to achieving excellence; guides, supports and encourages the promotion/advancement of women;
- is actively involved in her professional or personal communities; and
- is described as a leader, ground-breaker, or visionary by her peers.



A **Champion** PEAK Nominee is a professional of influence, either female or male who:

- furthers the advancement of women in finance for leadership positions in management or on boards;
- has sponsored women in finance, putting her/his reputation on the line to advocate for change and the advancement of these women;
- has seen women that she/he mentored progress into position of leadership; and
- is actively involved in her/his professional or personal communities.

The Champion Nominee should have at least one external reference letter from a woman who has been sponsored by the Champion and if submitting two external references letters, another from a woman who has been positively influenced by the Champion in her career.



A **Significant Board Contribution** PEAK Nominee is a female finance professional or woman in the field of finance who:

- 60%: has made meaningful contributions for the board she works with that are outstanding and unique whether it is on a not-for-profit, public or private board;
- 30%: has shown significant leadership, oversight and/or stewardship on her board; and
- 10%: has seen the board that she works with progress or advance during the time of her involvement.

# Nomination Procedure

## Nomination Process

To make a nomination you must complete the Official Nomination Form and Package and provide us with the required supporting documentation (as set out in the Official Nomination Form and Package).

Given the timing required to obtain external reference letters, please feel free to submit Part 1 - Part 3 of the Official Nomination Form and Package in advance of the deadline.

The fully completed Official Nomination Form and Package must be submitted with all supporting documentation (including reference letters) in confidence to Charlene Joanes, AWF PEAK Nominations Director, by email - [cjoanes@owenbird.com](mailto:cjoanes@owenbird.com) by Friday December 20, 2019.

## Judging and Evaluation Process

All complete and eligible nominations are forwarded to an independent judging panel composed of finance professionals at various stages of their careers. The judging panel will be chaired by a Director of the AWF. The AWF reserves the right to move Nominees into another PEAK Award category if it is deemed suitable.

## Successful Honourees

The successful PEAK Award honourees will be announced in early February 2020 and individually honoured at the PEAK Awards.

## Tickets to the PEAK Awards

PEAK Award honourees attend the PEAK Awards 2020 on May 13, 2020 as guests of the AWF. We encourage friends, family and colleagues to attend as well but given the AWF is a non-profit organization we are unable to extend complimentary tickets to supporters of honourees.

# Rules for Nominations and PEAK Awards

1. A nomination may be submitted by another person or by a company or an organization.
2. Self-nominations will not be accepted.
3. Each Nominee must meet all the eligibility criteria and the criteria for her/his PEAK Award category as listed above.
4. Nominees can be nominated for more than one PEAK Award per year.
5. Nominees cannot be nominated in a PEAK Award category that they have previously won.
6. Unless specifically declined by the Nominee, nominations will be considered for two consecutive years (assuming that the eligibility criteria are met).



# Past PEAK Award Honourees

## Lifetime Achievement

- 2019 - Susan Chortyk, Founding Partner and Vice-President (retired), PBI Actuarial Consultants Ltd.
- 2018 – Bev Briscoe, Corporate Director
- 2017 – Geri Prior, Board Director
- 2016 – Maureen Howe, Corporate Director
- 2015 – Joanne Gassman, Senior Vice President, Women’s Market, BMO Bank of Montreal
- 2014 – Anne Lippert, Principal, Anne Lippert Consulting
- 2013 – Shelley Brown, Partner, Deloitte
- 2012 – Anne Stewart, Partner, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
- 2011 – Nancy McKinstry, C.M. ,Chair of the Board of Directors, ICBC and Founding Member, Minerva Foundation
- 2010 – Sarah Morgan-Silvester, Chancellor - UBC
- 2009 – Virginia Greene, President & CEO - Business Council of BC
- 2008 – Carol Newell, Principal - Renewal Partners
- 2007 – Doreen McKenzie-Sanders, Executive Director - Women in the Lead
- 2006 – Wendy McDonald, Chairman - BC Bearing Engineers Ltd.

## Excellence in Industry

- 2019 - Tamara Vrooman, President and CEO, Vancity Credit Union
- 2018 –Shannon Rogers, President & General Counsel, Global Relay

## Rising Star

- 2019 - Abigail Ma, Director, Financial Planning and Analysis, British Columbia Lottery Corporation
- 2018– Jayana Darras, Partner, Deloitte
- 2017 – Jodi Moss, Partner, KPMG
- 2016 – Michelle Grant, Partner, Ernst & Young
- 2015 – Lana Kirk, Partner, PwC
- 2014 – Miranda Lam, Partner, McCarthy Tetrault
- 2013 – Julie McGill, Director, CAI Capital Management Co.
- 2012– Christine Bergeron, Investment Manager, Vancity Capital
- 2011 – Lisa Skakun, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, Coast Capital Savings Credit Union

## Champion

- 2019 - Walter Pela, Managing Partner, Greater Vancouver Area, KPMG LLP
- 2018 – Elisabeth Finch, Partner, PwC
- 2017 – Bob Elton, Executive-in-Residence, Vancity
- 2016 – Anna Tudela, Vice President, Diversity, Regulatory Affairs and Corporate Secretary, Goldcorp
- 2015 – John Montalbano, CEO RBC Global Asset Management

## Significant Board Contribution

- 2019 - Annalisa King, Chair of Governance Committee & Director, Vancouver Airport Authority, Director: Saputo Inc., The North West Company, and First Capital Realty Inc.
- 2018 – Angela Kaiser, Corporate Director

## Excellence in the Private Sector (Award category retired and combined together within Excellence in Industry)

- 2017 – Sue Paish, CEO, Lifelabs
- 2016 – Karla McCarthy, Director, BMO
- 2015 – Kathy Butler, Managing Director and Head, Wholesale Banking - British Columbia, CIBC
- 2014 – Sandra Stuart, COO, HSBC Bank Canada
- 2013 – Gail Edwards, President, JH Investments Inc.
- 2012 – Jane Russell, Senior Vice President, TD Canada Trust, Pacific Region, TD Bank Group
- 2011 – Bev Park, President & COO, Couverdon Real Estate

# Past PEAK Award Honourees

## **Excellence in the Public Sector** (Award category retired and combined together within Excellence in Industry)

- 2017– Brenda Liggett, CFO, Fraser Health Authority
- 2016 – Carolyn Rogers, CEO of the Financial Institutions Commission
- 2015 – Cathy McLay, CFO, Translink
- 2014 – Jacqueline Hogan, CFO, University of the Fraser Valley
- 2013 – Cheryl Yaremko, EVP Finance & CFO, BC Hydro
- 2012– Stephanie Sharp, President, Ferax Consulting Corp.
- 2011– Dr. Patricia Hibbitts, Vice President, Finance & Administration, Simon Fraser University

## **Community Legacy** (Award category retired)

- 2014 – Virginia Weiler, Chair, Vancity Board of Directors & Consultant
- 2013 – Elise Rees, Partner, Ernst & Young, LLP
- 2012 – Joanne Hausch, Associate Partner, Tax, Deloitte & Touche, LLP
- 2011 – Christina Anthony, Director, Odlum Brown Limited and Founder & Chair, Forum for Women Entrepreneurs

## **PEAK Performance & Excellence Honourees** (Award category retired)

- 2010 – Patrice Impey, CFO and General Manager of Financial Services and Human Resources - City of Vancouver
- 2009 – Elizabeth J. Harrison, Q.C., Partner - Farris, Vaughan, Wills & Murphy LLP
- 2008 – Tracey McVicar, Managing Partner - CAI Capital Management Co.
- 2007 – Catherine McLeod-Seltzer, Executive Chair and Director - Pacific Rim Mining Corp.
- 2006 – Gail Stephens, CEO - BC Pension Corp.

## **PEAK Knowledge & Leadership Honourees** (Award category retired)

- 2010 – Sue Hutchison, Senior VP & Head of Commercial Banking, BC Region - HSBC Bank Canada
- 2009 – Eleanor M. Joy, Associate Partner - PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
- 2008 – Elaine Reynolds, Principal - Legacy Tax + Trust Lawyers
- 2007 – Tamara Vrooman, Deputy Minister and Secretary to the Treasury Board - BC Ministry of Finance
- 2006 – Julia Kim, Vice President & Investment Counsellor - Phillips, Hager & North Investment Management Ltd.

## More Information

Please feel free to contact the AWF PEAK Nominations Director with for more information or any questions:

Charlene Joanes  
Telephone: 604-691-7579  
Email: [cjoanes@owenbird.com](mailto:cjoanes@owenbird.com)



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