

2022 Board of Directors



Heather MacBeath, Chair

Heather is a Management Consultant with Deloitte's Human Capital practice. She is experienced in leading and contributing to learning and development, governance, project implementation and execution, and change management to develop, engage and transform individuals and organizations.

Heather's background in Education includes teaching, curriculum development and design, researching and evaluating curriculum standards and developing content and assessment criteria. She is comfortable working in diverse, global, and virtual environments to collaborate with and lead diverse stakeholders.

Heather holds an MBA from Queen's University, a Bachelor of Education from Acadia University, and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Lethbridge.



Elizabeth Pratt, Vice Chair

Elizabeth is currently a Senior Development Associate at a national public policy think tank and has business development and project management experience across multiple industries including non-profit, third-party food delivery and university athletics.

Through her various community leadership roles, co-founder of *Langley Youth for the Fallen*, Director of Fundraising for *Telephone Aid Line Kingston*, and Director of Marketing for *Product Calgary*, she joins the CanLearn Board with a wealth of nonprofit experience and a passion for giving back to her local community.

Elizabeth holds a B.A. in International Relations from UBC and an MBA from Queen's University.



Krishna Peesapati, Treasurer

Krishna is a Manager, Vendor Audit at Suncor Energy – one of the biggest Canadian integrated energy companies. Before Suncor, Krishna worked with Big 4 public accounting firms in Canada, Kuwait, Bahrain, and India.

Most recently, Krishna left EY as a Senior Manager in the Risk Services Practice. Krishna has over 17 years of progressive experience in consulting, risk management, risk-based internal audits, internal control reviews and vendor compliance reviews in various industries.



Emilie Stewart, Secretary

Emilie is a Human Resources Professional with over six years of experience with for-profit and non-profit organizations. She strives to showcase the importance of aligning the HR function with organizational strategy. Emilie has a specific interest in Diversity & Inclusion, Talent Attraction and Retention, Compensation, and HR Analytics. Prior to her HR career, she worked in various departments in the Hospitality industry including Accounting and Housekeeping Management.

Emilie has volunteered as a Stylist with the Between Friends Club, a youth empowerment program that provides clothing, shoes and accessories to in-need youth identifying as female. She is also a Mentor to current undergraduate and graduate students at the Haskayne School of Business.

Emilie is a Chartered Professional in Human Resources (CPHR), holds a Master of Business Administration from the Haskayne School of Business, a Certificate in Leadership and a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) from the University of Guelph. As a life-long learner, Emilie is currently completing an Award of Achievement in Diversity and Inclusion through the University of British Columbia.



Alex Brierley, Director

Alex is a Senior Analyst with the Learning Governance team at Suncor Energy, an integrated energy company. She has worked in Learning and Technology for over 25 years, with experience in design, development, technical consultation, and support. Her work across corporate, private, post-secondary and non-profit sectors has provided experience and insight into multiple viewpoints and perspectives. She has a passion for helping people leverage technology and applying learning principles at work.

Alex holds a Masters in Distance Education from Athabasca University, a B.A. in Liberal Arts from York University in Toronto, and an Executive coaching certification from Royal Roads University.

Alex also volunteers as a facilitator of the Salvation Army Foundations Life Skills program.



Sabrina Brock, Director

Sabrina is a professional Human Resources Manager offering over 10 years of experience in a variety of industries including Manufacturing, Landscape Construction, Oil & Gas Services, and currently in the Utilities industry.

Sabrina also spent many years working with children and families for non-profit organizations as a Child and Youth Care Counsellor prior to working in human resources. Sabrina is highly involved in various volunteering, as she has mentored HR professionals for both MRU and CPHR, additionally, her CPHR designation holds SPHRi designation. Sabrina also has worked closely with the Human Resources Certification Institute in Virginia, USA developing and reviewing international certifications.

Sabrina holds a Bachelor's of Arts in Sociology from the University of Alberta, a Certificate in Human Resources Management from Mount Royal University, and a Certificate in Business Essentials from Haskayne School of Business.



Natalie Ilkiw, Director

Natalie is a Change Advisor at WestJet. She specializes in developing and implementing change management strategies to help leaders and employees effectively navigate and adopt change.

Natalie's passion for wellness and continuous improvement has formed the foundation of her career. Prior to her role at WestJet, Natalie worked in the healthcare industry for over 7 years. This included her role as a Quality Improvement Consultant for Alberta Kidney Care South where she applied her background in clinical experience, research, and program development to contribute to quality improvement initiatives throughout southern Alberta. She has worked as a kinesiologist with the University of Alberta, Primary Care Network, and Alberta Healthy Living Program to improve patient quality of life through activity.

Natalie obtained her undergraduate degree in Kinesiology at the University of Alberta and an MBA from Queen's University.



Jodie Jeworski, Director

Jodie holds a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) and a Master's degree in Human Resources Management (MHRM). She holds a Chartered Professional in Human Resources (CPHR) designation and Work-Life Certified Professional (WLCP) designation.

Currently, the Manager, Compensation and Recognition, at the University of Calgary, Jodie has previously been involved with other areas of Human Resources such as employee wellness, and workplace investigations.

Jodie is a life-long learner, passionate about the field of Human Resources. It has been a privilege to work with a variety of stakeholders to support and enhance the overall employee experience.



Deanna Shymkiw Yeo, Director

Deanna is a passionate and enthusiastic CPA, CMA, with over ten years of experience in senior oil and gas accounting roles. With a love for lifelong learning, she enjoys volunteering for CPA Alberta and facilitating CPA PEP modules for the Western School of Business.

She brings a wealth of enthusiasm, integrity, and a critical eye for looking at issues and finding new and exciting ways to create efficiencies.

Deanna holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree with a double major in Accounting and Human Resources and a minor in social psychology from the University of Manitoba.



Alec Silenzi, Director

Alec is the General Counsel & Corporate Secretary of Alberta Innovates, the Alberta government's research and innovation agency. In that role, which he has held since April 2019, he provides guidance on corporate governance and risk management practices, as well as leading Alberta Innovates' legal team and navigating the corporation through contract management, regulatory information management and research ethics.

Alec has more than 25 years of legal and business experience, both as in-house counsel and in private practice.

Alec received his B.A. from the University of Calgary in 1990 and his law degree from the University of Alberta in 1994. He was called to the Bar of the Law Society of Alberta in 1995.

Helen Squance, Director

Helen is a Certified Professional Accountant and Director with KPMG, specializing in corporate audit. She has extensive audit experience in both Canada and the UK, primarily with large multinational public companies in various sectors. Helen is a quality resource professional within the Calgary office, interpreting and providing guidance in evolving audit areas.

Helen holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Calgary.



Jesse Stilwell, Director

Jesse is a third-year law student at the University of Calgary Faculty of Law. She has experience in policy development and governance, as well as experience in the practice of law at a large full-service firm in Calgary. She possesses extensive research and writing skills and studied digital governance during her undergraduate studies. Jesse believes that education and access to learning opportunities are the best way to create a better society for all and that education is a major component in achieving different policy outcomes.

Jesse is the director of Treasury and Membership of the UCalgary Faculty of Law Gender Equality in Law Association (formerly known as CWSLA). She has also served as a caseworker for Student Legal Assistance and volunteered with the Law Student Ambassadors club.

Jesse is currently completing her J.D. and holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons.) in Political Science from the University of Calgary.

