



Capital Region Housing announces Board of Directors appointments

EDMONTON – September 1, 2020 - Capital Region Housing officially welcomes six new members to its Board of Directors: Gabrielle Battiste, Janice Guzzo, John McGowan, Jan Mulligan, Karen Oshry and Deb Rodrigo.

“We’re excited to welcome these new members to our Board of Directors,” says Capital Region Housing Board Chair Paul Whittaker. “Each person brings with them an expertise and passion for social housing that will help guide the corporation at a strategic level. We appreciate these members for giving their time to help Edmontonians find a safe and affordable home.”



Gabrielle Battiste is a practicing lawyer with over 20 years of experience across Canada. She brings a wealth of consulting and legal services to government, private and public councils and boards on human resources, employment law, governance, policy and strategy. Having held both board and executive roles, she has extensive experience in helping boards stay focused on governance & oversight accountabilities. She is currently a Partner and Director of Ladder Up Consulting Ltd., offering management & governance consulting expertise and owner of Battiste Law, a general practice with a focus on employment and human resource matters.



Janice Guzzo is a City of Edmonton appointed member of our Board. Janice is Vice-President, Human Resources at AIMCo (Alberta Investment Management Corporation) where she oversees the attraction, recruitment and retention of their greatest asset, people. Prior to joining AIMCo, Janice worked in a number of HR leadership positions within the information technology and oil and gas sectors in Alberta. Janice is actively involved in the community by volunteering at shelters and fundraising events. She previously sat on a not for profit board in Saskatchewan and board steering committees in Edmonton.



John McGowan is currently CEO of his own consulting firm, McGowan & Associates. Prior to his retirement at the end of 2016 he was a municipal manager, a senior executive at Alberta Municipal Affairs and finally as the CEO for the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association. John is a CPA skilled in Board Governance, building strategic alliances and currently services as the Chair of the Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation.



Jan Mulligan is a chartered professional accountant and a trusted senior financial advisor. She has more than 30 years' of industry experience including nine years with a national accounting firm, 25 years with Stantec Inc., including 10 years on the executive leadership team and currently is the Chief Financial Officer for The Canadian Brew House. She has also served as a board member with Habitat for Humanity. Her passions include social and economic issues that impact the housing industry.



Karen Oshry is an Edmonton lawyer specializing in commercial real estate and corporate commercial matters. She works with small and medium-sized business owners, institutional clients, builders and land owners. She understands the concepts of building communities and land development. A long time Edmonton resident and advocate, Karen sits on several boards including Edmonton Economic Development Corporation (EEDC), the Jewish Federation of Edmonton and she provides pro-bono legal services to several charitable organizations.



Deborah is a chartered accountant and is currently the Chief Operating Officer of HighStreet Insurance Group and a TEC Canada Chair. She has more than 30 years' business experience including 22 years as a financial executive with public and privately held companies. Deborah is a hands-on collaborative strategic partner who has a proven track record in areas such as governance, risk assessment, stakeholder relations and strategic execution among others.

Board members serve between two and eight years as well as serving on various committees including: Executive Committee, Audit & Finance Committee, Governance Committee, Real Property Committee and the Capital Region Housing Foundation.