

# IT'S TIME TO TALK ABOUT THE "S" AND "G" LOOKING AT THE FINANCIAL INDUSTRY THROUGH A SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE LENS

Thursday, September 21, 2023; 8:30 am to 4:30 pm ET

One King West Hotel, Grand Banking Hall

1 King St. West, Toronto ON

8:30 am **Registration and Breakfast**

9:30 am **Opening Remarks:** Jasmin Jabri | Executive Director & Head of Wealth | Investment Industry Association of Canada (IIAC)

9:40 am **Session 1: How Can Social and Governance Strategies Add Value?**

Millennials and Gen Z investors are pouring record amounts of money into products that aim to help the environment and promote the social good. This trend is set to continue, particularly as their income rises and more wealth transfers to them. How can firms translate this into tangible initiatives to create value?

Moderator: Ian Tam, Director of Investment Research, Morningstar Canada

Speakers: Patricia Fletcher, CEO, Responsible Investment Association

Kelly Gauthier, President, Rally Assets; Director, Responsible Investment Association

Melissa Kennedy, EVP & Chief Legal and Public Policy Officer, Sun Life

10:40 am **Session 2: It's Not Just About Gender**

In considering the current juncture of the financial industry, with the largest transfer of wealth in history moving from men to women, the future of socially responsible investing appears to be in female hands. Is this why we should care about gender and equality in financial markets?

Moderator: Sonja Volpe, CEO, BNP Paribas in Canada

Speakers: Julie Cafley, Executive Director, Catalyst Canada  
Paula Glick, Co-Founder, Honeytree Investment Management  
Julie Savard-Shaw, Executive Director, The Prosperity Project  
Mary Vitug, Acting President & CEO, Women in Capital Markets

11:40 am **Lunch & Networking**

12:30 pm **Keynote Address: Confronting Our Common Future**

Speaker: Dr. A. Haroon Akram-Lodhi, B.A. (SOAS, London), M.Phil. (Cambridge), Ph.D. (Manitoba), Professor, Department of International Development Studies, Trent University

The social dimensions of the ESG agenda focuses upon an organization's relationships with stakeholders and the communities within which the organization works. However, it is difficult to engage with the social dimensions of ESG if the economy, and hence the investment climate, is misunderstood.

Having done extensive international work with the United Nations and in various political economies utilizing feminist development economics, Dr. Akram-Lodhi will discuss how using a gender lens thoroughly changes the way in which the operation of the economy is approached, and the implications of such for understanding the constraints upon, and challenges in, our financial framework.

1:10 pm **Session 3: Governance Greater Good – It's All About Accountability**

The Governance element of ESG is about fostering a reputation for trustworthy leadership, with decision-making policies that are built on positive morals and ethics. By investing in strong leadership that's guided by an ESG compliant moral compass, businesses and portfolio managers can add significant long-term value to their concerns. But it's a slower game to play – is it really worth it in an environment where people seem to be looking for short-term profitability?

Moderator: Tanya van Biesen, Managing Partner, Board & CEO Services Canada, and Senior Client Partner, Global Board & CEO Services, Korn Ferry

Speakers: Mark Bonham, President, Veritas Charity Services Inc.; Executive Director, The Veritas Foundation; Senior Fellow, Massey College, University of Toronto; Advisory Board Member, LGBTQ+ Corporate Directors Canada

Shelley Gilberg, National ESG Markets Leader and Canadian Platforms Leader, PwC Canada

Ivy Lumia, CEO and Founder, Best in Governance Inc.

2:10 pm **Session 5: The Power of Ethnic Diversity in Financial Services**

In one poll, 85 percent of financial services CEOs said promoting inclusion and diversity helps enhance business performance. Other research also supports the business case for inclusive cultures that lead to increased profitability, creativity, and innovation. This panel will examine the power of ethnic diversity in financial services, discuss where things currently stand, and speculate on what the future holds.

Moderator: Anthony Okolie, On-Air Host and Investment Producer, TD Wealth

Speakers: Bindu Cudjoe, Executive Vice-President, Chief Legal Officer, Chief Inclusion and Equity Officer and Corporate Secretary, Laurentian Bank of Canada

Dennis Mitchell, Chief Executive Officer & Chief Investment Officer, Starlight Capital; Director, Toronto Foundation; and Co-Founder and Director, Black Opportunity Fund

3:10 pm **Closing Remarks:** Jasmin Jabri | Executive Director & Head of Wealth | Investment Industry Association of Canada (IIAC)

3:15 pm **Cocktail Reception**