

2017 YWCA TORONTO WOMAN OF DISTINCTION

TRANSFORMING LIVES



JANICE FUKAKUSA

Corporate Leadership - Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer, Royal Bank of Canada (retired January 31, 2017)

It may be counter-intuitive to think that the first female Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer at Royal Bank Canada (RBC) has the time to help others, but Janice Fukakusa's actions have debunked that notion since 2004. As an avid champion of diversity and inclusion Janice has always made time to support the goals and aspirations of female professionals through mentorship and advocating for systemic change.

Her leadership on the Advancing Women in Leadership Group at RBC has driven change in the senior representation of women, helped build the pipeline for the next generation of women leaders, and championed leading-edge diversity initiatives. For example, RBC is currently rolling out a Career Continuation Program for Women with Ryerson University, which will prepare women who have been on leave for re-entry into the workforce by combining training on innovation and entrepreneurial skills with work rotations.

Since joining RBC in 1985, Janice has held positions in retail and business banking, corporate banking, account management, corporate finance, treasury, strategic development and corporate functions. In 2007 Janice was inducted into Canada's Most Powerful Women Hall of Fame and in 2016 she was named one of the 25 Most Powerful Women in Banking by American Banker magazine for the fourth consecutive year. With only eight percent of executive-level positions across Canada's top 100 publicly traded companies held by women, Janice's position makes her a powerful role model for women in business.

Not only is she a powerhouse in Canadian banking, Janice is also an exemplary philanthropist and volunteer. In 2015, Janice and her husband made a major gift to Ryerson University's Brookfield Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, securing resources to support the next generation of young women and under-represented youth interested in technology and innovation. She was elected Chair of Ryerson University's Board of Governors in 2014, and has served on the charitable boards of the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation, the Wellspring Cancer Foundation, Schulich Dean's Advisory Group and United Way Toronto and York Region Campaign Cabinet.

Janice has dedicated her life and career to ensure future generations of women will have the chance to shine brighter and achieve their dreams.



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