

## **2014 TOP 25 WOMEN OF INFLUENCE™ ANNOUNCED**

### ***Prestigious ranking celebrates success and influence of 25 Canadian female executives***

**TORONTO, September 2, 2014** – Celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, Women of Influence Inc. is thrilled to announce its 2014 Top 25 Women of Influence™. This prestigious ranking showcases and celebrates the achievements of senior executives who have made a significant difference in their field and who are true leaders in business, health, non-governmental organizations (NGO), professional services and public sectors.

“Women of Influence is proud to celebrate the accomplishments of these 25 exceptional Canadian female executives,” explained Carolyn Lawrence, President and CEO of Women of Influence. “This year’s women may have varied backgrounds, professions, personalities and skills, but they all share in common the passion, ambition and drive to make meaningful contributions to the Canadian economy, their communities, their workplaces, and to the next generation. They are true women of influence in every sense of the word.”

To honor and salute their legacy of achievements, all 25 women will be profiled in the winter issue of *Women of Influence* magazine. But that’s not all – from September 2<sup>nd</sup> to September 15<sup>th</sup>, fans and supporters are encouraged to get involved and vote online for the woman they would like to see grace the cover of this marquee edition at [www.womenofinfluence.ca/top-25-cover-contest](http://www.womenofinfluence.ca/top-25-cover-contest). This flagship issue will be available November 2014 at [www.womenofinfluence.ca/magazine/subscribe](http://www.womenofinfluence.ca/magazine/subscribe).

They will also be celebrated on December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Deloitte Women of Influence Luncheon at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Kathleen Wynne, Ontario’s 25<sup>th</sup> Premier and the first woman to serve in this role, will be headlining this event. Ranked as one of this year’s Top 25 Women of Influence™, her talk will focus in part on how she made history as the first female Premier in Ontario politics and how she is handling the pressures of the public eye.

Below, please find a summary of this year’s Top 25 Women of Influence™ by category:

### **BUSINESS**

1. Mary Ann Turcke, Executive Vice President, Field Operations, Bell Canada Enterprises Inc. (BCE)
2. Kathy Bardswick, President & CEO, The Co-operators Group Limited
3. Zabeen Hirji, Chief Human Resources Officer, Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)
4. Karen Sheriff, President & CEO, Bell Aliant Regional Communications Inc.
5. Suhayya (Sue) Abu-Hakima, Co-Founder, President & CEO, Amika Mobile Corporation

### **HEALTH**

1. Dr. Eve Tsai, Staff Neurosurgeon, Clinician Scientist, The Ottawa Hospital, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, University of Ottawa
2. Catherine Zahn, President & CEO, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)
3. Connie Clerci, President & CEO, Closing the Gap Healthcare Group
4. Dr. Rosemary Moodie, President, YWCA of Toronto
5. Daniela Crivianu-Gaita, Vice President & Chief Information Officer, The Hospital for Sick Children

### **PUBLIC SECTOR**

1. Ann Buller, President & CEO, Centennial College of Applied Arts & Technology
2. Anne Sado, President, George Brown College
3. Olga Kovalchuk, Professor and Board of Governors’ Research Chair, CHIR Chair in Work and Health, University of Lethbridge
4. Kathleen Wynne, Premier, Government of Ontario
5. Dr. Janis Sarra, University of British Columbia (UBC) Presidential Distinguished Professor, UBC, Faculty of Law at the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies

### **NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION (NGO)**

1. Rosemary McCarney, President & CEO, Plan International Canada Inc.
2. Farah Mohamed, Founder & Chief Empowerment Officer, G(irls) 20
3. Carol Wilding, President & CEO, Toronto Region Board of Trade
4. Irene Orysia Sushko, President, World Federation of Ukrainian Women Organization (WFUWO)
5. Sara Austin, Director – President’s Office, World Vision Canada

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

1. Annette Bergeron, Principal, Bergeron Consulting
2. Cheryl Reicin, Partner, Chair of the Technology and Life Sciences Practice Groups, Torys LLP
3. Fiona J. Macfarlane, Managing Partner, Vancouver and Western Canada, Chief Inclusiveness Officer, Ernst & Young LLP
4. Pernille Fischer Boulter, President & CEO, Kisserup International Trade Roots Inc. & Europe
5. Sharon Geraghty, Partner, Torys LLP

### **About the Top 25 Women of Influence™**

Now in its fourth year, the Top 25 Women of Influence™ recognizes a select group of executives who have achieved the highest levels of professional success in business, health, non-government organizations, professional services and the public sector. Recipients are selected based on both accomplishment and the magnitude of their influence over the past year, including number of employees, awards, board memberships, funds raised, business deals initiated and/or led, and published work. Having made a significant difference in their fields, these women serve as important role models for future female leaders across Canada. For more information, visit: [www.womenofinfluence.ca/events/top-25](http://www.womenofinfluence.ca/events/top-25).

### **About Women of Influence**

Celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, Women of Influence Inc. is North America’s leading organization dedicated to the advancement of women. It offers solutions to women through corporate consulting on Gender Intelligence, professional coaching, events, and media. It produces and hosts the renowned *Deloitte Women of Influence Luncheon Series*, *RBC Canadian Women Entrepreneur Awards* and *the Top 25 Women of Influence*, in addition to the publishing the *Women of Influence quarterly magazine*. Women of Influence has a community and reach of 120,000 in nine cities across North American including Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, Waterloo, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax, New York City, and Washington, DC. For more information, please visit: [www.womenofinfluence.ca](http://www.womenofinfluence.ca).

### **For further information or for interview requests, please contact:**

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