

Board Opportunities for Women General Counsel: Opportunities and Strategies for Board Success

Presented in Partnership with Women General Counsel Canada and Legal Leaders for Diversity



Date: September 26, 2017

Program Agenda:

3 – 3:30 p.m. Registration

3:30 – 3:40 p.m. Welcome Remarks

Representatives from Blakes and WGCC

3:40 – 4:30 p.m. Accelerating Our Momentum: Where Do We Go from Here?

Legislators, regulators and diversity champions from across Canada have increasingly focused their efforts on improving gender diversity on boards. We are seeing a steady build of momentum and commitment to the number of women on boards across the country. How do we accelerate this momentum and intensify the level of engagement across key stakeholder groups to support meaningful progress? Our panel of regulators and diversity champions will outline strategic steps already underway to help sustain the momentum and share their thoughts on where we go from here.

4:30 – 4:40 p.m. Board Opportunity Report for Women GCs: The Public Company Landscape for Legal Professionals on Boards

In the summer of 2016, Blakes initiated novel research examining the professional backgrounds of directors on public company boards to gain a better understanding of the current landscape for GCs and lawyers on Canadian boards. The research revealed some fascinating findings summarized in the Board Opportunity Report for Women GCs, which will be shared at our Exchange Forum.

Speaker: **Alison Jeffrey**, Senior Adviser, Strategic Initiatives & Client Development Coaching, Blakes

4:40 – 5:30 p.m. Positioning Yourself for Board Opportunities: Framing the GC Value Proposition

Today's GC has risen to a new level of responsibility within the company and is a core member of the CEO's strategic advisory team. GCs are well-positioned for board opportunities, but is there a gap in awareness of the value that the GC's experience and skill can bring to the role of director? What does the board expect from their directors? What skills and experience are required in a director to be able to meet those expectations? What are the opportunities for GCs to serve on boards? Our panel of directors from private- and public-sector boards, including current and retired GCs, will explore these questions and offer practical guidance on positioning your value proposition to meet the needs of the board.

5:30 – 5:35 p.m. Closing Remarks

5:35 – 7 p.m. Reception

Contact:

For additional information, please contact us at van.events@blakes.com.