

**MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Ottawa Board of Trade Announces New Board of Directors and Executive Committee

OTTAWA, October 2, 2020 – The Ottawa Board of Trade has announced its new Board of Directors and Executive Committee including Ian Sherman elected for a second term as Chair of the Board. Last night at a virtual meeting of the members, the board hosted its 163rd annual general meeting with close to 100 members and guests in attendance. The agenda included presentations of year-end reports, bylaw amendments, election of directors, opening remarks from City of Ottawa Mayor, His Worship Jim Watson and a keynote by the President & CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Hon. Perrin Beatty. Immediately following the AGM, the new board elected the Executive Committee for 2020/2021.

“I am extremely excited to work with this new board, the first officially elected board since our three Ottawa Chambers joined forces in 2018,” said Ian Sherman, Chair of the Board of Directors. “The consolidation was the first step in building a stronger voice for business in Ottawa. Our outgoing board has worked diligently, tirelessly and enthusiastically through the transition and has created a solid foundation for us to scale up our impact and advocacy to better serve our business community. The new board is well aligned to this advocacy vision, excited to make a difference, and committed to continuing to work with our many community partners, all three levels of Government and our stakeholders for a post-pandemic economic rebound followed by community prosperity for all of us who are privileged to live and work in this city. I am proud to announce the following Board of Directors for the Ottawa Board of Trade.”

- Ian Sherman, EY - Chair
- Joelle Hall, Richardson GMP – Vice Chair
- Mischa Kaplan, Ottawa Tourism – Vice Chair
- Robert Rheaume, BDO - Treasurer
- Ruby Williams, Deloitte – Corporate Secretary
- Andrew Arnott, RBC - Director
- Andrew Scott, Pita Pit - Director
- Brendan McGuinty, Strategy 360 - Director
- Craig Bater, Lawyer - Director
- David Coletto, Abacus Data - Director
- Erin Benjamin, Canadian Live Music Association - Director
- Erin Crowe, Martello Technologies - Director
- Greg Skotnicki, Market Makers AG - Director
- James Baker, Keynote Group - Director
- Karla Briones, Karla Briones Consulting/Freshii/Global Pet Foods - Director
- Mark Nisbett, Brookstreet Hotel - Director
- Megan Wallace, Perley-Robertson, Hill & McDougall - Director
- Priya Bhaloo, TAG HR - Director
- Sally Douglas, Grey Smith Douglas Co. - Director
- Shelley True, True Dot Design - Director
- Wayne French, Waste Management – Director

Sueling Ching, President & CEO, also presented at the meeting, saying, “I have spent many years associated with Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade. I always said, if anything big ever happens, you better hope you have a strong voice of business. Well, this year, I got to test that theory firsthand. The day I was named the CEO was the same day the pandemic was declared. And I am happy to report that the foundation we have set up in the last two years allowed us to pivot quickly, engage our business and community leaders at a whole new level, and influence program and policy decision making in ways that were unprecedented. Our Chamber network, including our leadership contributions at the Ontario and Canadian Chambers of Commerce has been a bright light of leadership during this time of challenge, change and uncertainty.”

About the Ottawa Board of Trade

The Ottawa Board of Trade is the primary independent voice for business in Ottawa, representing the interests of all local businesses of every size and every sector. It is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit organization with a mandate to create prosperity through advocacy, collaboration and leadership. The Board is uniquely positioned to impact community prosperity through its focus on advocacy, economic development and strategic initiatives. In addition, businesses benefit directly through membership services that help promote and save money, develop leaders and influence policy that reduces barriers to business and creates new opportunities.

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