



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: March 12, 2018
Contact: Councillor Andrea Reimer
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VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-21
Meeting Date: March 13, 2018

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Nomination Subcommittee
SUBJECT: Appointments to the Vancouver Economic Commission Board

IN CAMERA RATIONALE

This report is recommended for consideration by Council on the In Camera agenda as it relates to Section 165.2(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*: (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the city or another position appointed by the city.

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT the following individuals have their respective terms on the Vancouver Economic Commission Board of Directors be extended up to and including March 14, 2018 and that Council ratifies all acts and decisions taken by those Directors up to and including March 14.

Name
Joel Calvo
Tom English, Q.C.
Bruce P Flexman
Warren Franklin
Shahrzad Rafati
Karri J. Schuermans

- B. THAT the following individuals be appointed to the Vancouver Economic Commission Board of Directors, terms to commence March 14 and end at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with the below term expirations:

Name	Term Expiration
Joel Calvo, CEO, Calvo Capital	2019 Annual General Meeting
Jennifer Podmore Russell - SVP, Rennie Group	2020 Annual General Meeting
Shahzad Rafati - CEO BroadbandTV Corp.	2018 Annual General Meeting
Karri J. Schuermans, Owner/CEO, Chambar Restaurant Corp.	2019 Annual General Meeting
Mischa Steiner - CEO, Awesense	2021 Annual General Meeting
Jill Tipping - CEO, BC Tech Association	2021 Annual General Meeting
Denise Williams - ED, First Nations Technology Council	2020 Annual General Meeting

Note: Bios are included within Appendix A.

- C. THAT, the following Director's terms be confirmed for so long as they remain in the following City of Vancouver roles:
- Mayor: Gregor Robertson
 - General Manager, Finance, Risk and Supply Chain Management: Patrice Impey
- D. THAT, the City Solicitor be authorized to prepare, sign, and submit all necessary documents to transition the Vancouver Economic Commission to the new Societies Act (enacted November 2016) prior to the November 28, 2018 deadline, and to update and consolidate its Constitution and By-laws and bring them forward for approval by City Council (in their capacity as Honorary Members) shortly thereafter.

REPORT SUMMARY

This report recommends appointments to the Vancouver Economic Commission Board of Directors to commence immediately and end in accordance with the term dates listed in Recommendation B above.

The report also recommends that Council authorize the City Solicitor to transition the Vancouver Economic Commission to the new Societies Act and update and consolidate the Vancouver Economic Commission's Constitution and By-laws and then bring same back for approval by Council.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

On December 11, 2003, City Council approved selection criteria for appointments to civic agencies, and the establishment of a Nomination Subcommittee of Councillors to screen applications in accordance with those criteria. On January 13, 2004, City Council approved the selection process for making appointments.

On December 8, 2014, Councillors Elizabeth Ball, Andrea Reimer and Tim Stevenson were appointed to, and currently are the members of, the Nomination Subcommittee.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager recommends approval of the foregoing.

REPORT

Background/Context

The Vancouver Economic Commission's By-laws require that

- (a) appointments be made for staggered terms (three years more or less) with a view to ensuring that some Directors have substantially longer or shorter terms than the other Directors, and
- (b) the number of Directors shall be not more than 15 nor less than 9.

Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)

Financial

There are no financial implications.

CONCLUSION

The Nomination Subcommittee has reviewed the applications for the Vancouver Economic Commission Board and recommends Council appoint the individuals noted above.

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APPENDIX A - BIOS

Joel Calvo, CEO, Calvo Capital

Joel Calvo has been a business and community leader for more than 30 years. He is an accomplished senior executive whose strategies, communication skills and financial acumen have consistently delivered a successful track record of growing company profitability and meeting diverse stakeholder interests in small privately-held to large publicly-held organizations.

Professional highlights include the following:

- Chairman/CEO of WM Financial Services, a national broker/dealer with more than 2,000 brokers;
- Chairman/CEO of WM Advisors, a \$28 billion mutual fund complex;
- Partner of ZAAZ, a full service interactive agency: strategy, design, development, user experience, web analytics, optimization, social networking & search marketing;
- President of PNC Capital Markets, a public finance investment banking firm;
- President of PNC Investments, a multi-state retail broker/dealer;
- Director of Sales and Marketing for Bank of America's Global Private Bank;
- President of Main Street Trading, an institutional and retail commodities firm;
- Led and integrated numerous business turnarounds, mergers, acquisitions and divestitures;
- Established strategic partnerships and joint ventures to grow product distribution and optimize capacity; and

Current Vancouver Economic Commission Board Member

Jennifer Podmore Russell - Senior Vice President, Rennie Group

Jennifer Podmore Russell is the Senior Vice President responsible for Operations and Strategy at Rennie Group. Jennifer joined the Rennie Group, from Deloitte, in 2017 to bolster Rennie's advisory services for its institutional land owners, First Nations and legacy family portfolios. Having built a career and reputation on her ability to develop real estate strategies tailored to both the client, circumstance and desired outcome Jennifer is a sought after advisor to blue chip Canadian institutions, recognized private families and public entities for nearly two decades. Jennifer oversees Operations for Rennie to ensure the smooth delivery of services by its 135 advisors and 70 team members that comprise the head office support.

Shahrzad Rafati - CEO of BroadbandTV Corp

Shahrzad Rafati is the founder and CEO of BroadbandTV Corp, a digital media and technology company that operates the largest multi-platform network in the world. Recognized by Fast Company as one of the 100 Most Creative People in Business, Shahrzad is accredited with pioneering both the technology and business model that made peace between big entertainment entities like the NBA and their fans who were uploading premium content to video sites like YouTube.

In addition to her work at BroadbandTV Shahrzad is the founder of VISO Give, an online channel that allows viewers to donate to charities by watching YouTube videos about them. She is also the co-founder of Chopra Yoga in partnership with Dr. Deepak Chopra.

Current Vancouver Economic Commission Board Member

Karri J. Schuermans, Owner/CEO, Chambar Restaurant Corp.

Upon moving to Vancouver Karri started an organic fashion label, then went on to open and operate Chambar Restaurant, Cafe Medina and The Dirty Apron Cooking School with her husband Chef Nico Schuermans.

Professional highlights prior to Vancouver:

- Director of the Peninsula Community Internet Network which went on to become CitySearch, and the Editor for Northern Beaches Magazine in Australia; both lending her valuable experience in advertising, publishing, tourism and internet marketing.
- Worked for the Manly Chamber of Commerce before taking over the Publishing Department at the City of Sydney to rebranded the city services. She was part of the competitive tendering process which put the City of Sydney services up against the private sector, resulting in a profitable corporation owned by the City of Sydney and run predominantly by public sector executives.
- Marketing Manager for these diverse group of services. Her reputation at the City of Sydney brought about an offer to work for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games as the International Film Liaison Manager where she was charged with ensuring positive exposure for Sydney's attributes and defining Sydney as the business centre for Asia South Pacific.

Current Vancouver Economic Commission Board Member

Mischa Steiner - CEO, Awesense

Mischa is an ambitious professional with a drive for knowledge and new challenges. He is known for his high level of enthusiasm, strong work ethic with an ability to communicate clearly and concisely. He has experience in project management, customer relations, and time sensitive product development related to software (enterprise, cloud, analytics) and embedded systems (hardware, firmware, M2M). Specialties: Enterprise Software, Smart Grid, System Architecture, Solution Sales, Project Management, Product Development, Strategic Planning, Systems Engineering.

Mischa's product development and management experience in the embedded electronics, wireless, and software industries was honed at organizations such as ECO Fuel Systems, Newpoint Thermal and the Okanagan Research & Innovation Centre. Mischa is a frequent speaker and panelist at industry conferences, university programs and government events on the smart grid and the innovation potential of technology to transform business and society.

He represented Awesense as a voting and participating member during the inception of the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP) led by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Jill Tipping - CEO, BC Tech Association

Jill Tipping is a passionate advocate for the tech industry—having spent most of her career working with, and for tech companies, she is no stranger to the challenges and needs of the sector. As BC Tech's President and CEO, she is determined to make BC a top ten startup ecosystem worldwide by strengthening connections through collaboration, building a strong home team of anchor companies, and pursuing a global strategy.

Denise Williams - ED, First Nations Technology Council

Denise is Coast Salish from Cowichan Tribes on Vancouver Island. She is an advocate for social justice and has spent her career seeking out opportunities to play a role in the advancement of Indigenous sovereignty and social change. For the past ten years Denise has worked under the mandate of First Nations communities to address specific capacity building efforts in education and technology. She has worked to gain experience at the federal, provincial and local levels and has enjoyed using a genuine approach to collaboration and partnership development to build strong networks across organizations.