

# ICE SUMMIT 2022

 BUILDING TOWARDS 2026

Name:

Shannon Valliant

Running for the Position of:  
Director-at-Large (2-year term)

Residence:

Toronto, Ontario



## Relevant Education, Career and Volunteer Experience:

I graduated on the Dean's List from the Bachelor of Commerce program at Queen's University in the spring of 1989. I started my career at Ernst & Young in the fall of 1989 after having worked there for the summer between third and fourth year of university. After passing my Uniform Final Exam and qualifying as a Chartered Accountant, I spent three years at Ernst & Young International in their Corporate Advisory Services division specializing in Mergers & Acquisitions, as well as Corporate Restructuring.

I passed my Chartered Insolvency Practitioners exam in 1993 and left public accounting in 1996 to join a large technology firm (SHL Systemhouse) that had recently been acquired by an even larger US telecommunications company (MCI). The role was Director, Corporate Development, which led M&A activity, as well as coordinated the launch of new business initiatives.

After 2 years in that role, I was tapped to lead the finance organization of the Canadian and International division which generated revenue of \$1.3 billion. I was in this position for 2 years and during that time I gained valuable experience leading a large team of 110 finance professionals, as well as leading the negotiation of the divestiture of SHL Systemhouse to EDS.

Following that transaction, my husband and I spent a fabulous year backpacking through over 20 countries including Australia, New Zealand and Nepal, as well as a number of countries in Africa and Southeast Asia.

Upon returning to Canada, I joined CompanyDNA, a start-up technology firm, as the Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") hired to raise private equity. We started the road show in the fall of 2000 and successfully closed a \$25 million round in the spring of 2001, which was one of the few deals to be done at that time given the impending burst of the technology bubble.

Following my time with this technology start-up, I incorporated my own company and spent three years advising technology companies on operational and financial matters. My clients ranged from angel stage technology firms to those with over \$100 million in revenue.

I enjoyed consulting, but missed being part of a management team. As such, I joined a niche financial services firm as the inaugural CFO. This company focused on structured credit derivatives and we grew the Assets Under Management to more than \$4 billion. The company was sold at a 10x return to the founding shareholders.

I then joined Rogers Media Inc. as their CFO and Chief Operating Officer. This operating division boasts some of Canada's iconic brands such as The Toronto Blue Jays, CHFI radio, CityTV, Sportsnet and MacLean's magazine to name just a few.



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After five years in that role, I spent four years in various operating and transformational roles in Rogers' Wireless and corporate divisions.

I then became the inaugural CFO of Boat Rocker Media to take the company public. I paved the way for that transaction before joining ScaleUp Ventures as a financial executive in residence.

I am now the CFO of NTT BPO.

## Experience Relevant to the Skate Canada Board of Directors:

I started figure skating when I was three years old growing up in Porcupine, Ontario, which is slightly east of South Porcupine (obviously) and part of the GTA (Greater Timmins Area), home of Shania Twain.

I chose the competitive stream of figure skating in my early teens passing my Novice Competitive and competing across Ontario during high school. Upon graduation, I skated for the University of Western Ontario and then Queen's University in singles, as well as on their respective Precision Teams.

Given I went the competitive route, when I finished the test route in high school I had my gold medal in Dance and was working on my gold level Free Skate and my 7th level in Figures.

All to say, I grew up with a passion for figure skating and that continues to burn within me.

In terms of my experience that would be relevant to the Skate Canada Board of Directors, I am what boards consider to be a "financial expert" given that I am a Chartered Accountant and have spent the last 33 years in financial and operational roles with increasing levels of responsibility and accountability.

In my corporate roles, I have had the opportunity to serve on a number of for-profit boards of directors to ensure our corporate interests were appropriately represented.

In addition to this board experience, I also served on the board of a non-profit organization for four years. During my tenure with the Canadian Women's Foundation (Canada's public foundation for women and girls that empowers women and girls in Canada to move out of violence, out of poverty, and into confidence), I served on the finance and investment committees, as well as became the Treasurer and head of the finance committee towards the end of my term.

Additionally, I served five years on the Finance Committee of the Georgian Peaks Ski Club, where we have been members for thirteen years. I led the Finance Committee for three of those years and also served on the Board of Directors for a year.

For the last twelve years I have been the Treasurer of Grey County Condo Corp. No. 1, which is the community on the west side of the Georgian Peaks Ski Club property. I also served on this board of directors for nine of those twelve years.

Finally, I have successfully completed the "Get on Board" program presented by Women Get On Board Inc. ("WGOB"), a leading member based company that connects, promotes and empowers women to corporate boards. They do that through an engaged community of women and men in Canada committed to advancing gender diversity in the boardroom. The program that I completed is to prepare women for board work of various types.



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As a member of WGOB, I participate in regular training sessions relevant to board members, which would be helpful were I to secure a role on the Skate Canada Board of Directors.

## Areas of Interest Within Skate Canada:

I am interested in becoming a Director at Large given my history with and passion for figure skating, as well as my very relevant corporate and board of director experience.

I think that I can immediately add value to the Skate Canada Board of Directors as a financial expert that is enhanced by my knowledge of and history with Skate Canada that goes back over fifty years.