

# DR. DEBORAH ROSATI

**FCPA, FCA, ICD.D GCB.D, CCB.D**

**Founder and CEO Women Get On Board Inc. & Corporate Director**

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Deborah Rosati, an award-winning entrepreneur and corporate director, has been defined in three interconnected ways throughout her 35-year career – as a corporate governance champion, catalyst for change and community builder.

As the founder and CEO of [Women Get On Board Inc.](http://Women Get On Board Inc.) (WGOB), an 850-member social-purpose company, Deborah is building a community of the next generation of women corporate directors. WGOB amplifies the voices of women leaders, board members and professionals across Canada through education, mentorship and allyship. It's been called The Power of Three – one woman in the boardroom is a token, two is a presence, and three is a voice.

Deborah is a leading and serving corporate director, currently chairing the board of Profound Impact Corporation and has chaired many public company audit committees and nominating & corporate governance committees. In addition, Deborah has led and served on numerous special committees with various mandates (including going public, going private, M&A, restructuring and special investigations). Deborah's passion for good governance and board diversity is rooted in her board journey when she was often the only woman in the boardroom. These first-hand experiences cemented Deborah's conviction that having more women on boards makes better business sense.

Never satisfied with the status quo, Deborah always seeks ways to challenge expectations and drive change. She brings an environmental, social and governance (ESG) lens to every board she serves on, as she believes in the power and responsibility of business to change our world for the better.

As a visionary leader, [Deborah recently launched Women Funding Women Inc. \(WFW\) with her co-founders, Sherry Shannon Vanstone and Lara Zink](#), to bridge the funding gap for women founders.

Deborah's commitment to sustainable change and empowerment, deep governance and financial expertise and dynamic personality have made her a sought-after thought leader and speaker – Deborah's thought leadership on corporate governance, sustainability, EDI and social impact is profiled on her website, [deborahrosati.ca](http://deborahrosati.ca).

## BOARD CANDIDATE HIGHLIGHTS

- A certified Corporate Director (ICD.D), global designated ESG Director (GCB.D), global designated climate & biodiversity Director (CCB.D) accomplished Entrepreneur and Fellow Chartered Professional Accountant (FCPA)
- Over 35 years in high growth and transformational companies in the Technology, Consumer, Retail, Cannabis, Life Sciences, Private Equity and Venture Capital industry sectors
- Proven value and contributions to effective corporate governance, M&A, restructuring, going private and equity financing (private and public) transactions
- Creative and resourceful in business leadership, board interactions and collaboration in strategic transformations
- Forward-thinking in corporate governance and leadership roles from start-up to scale-up to public companies within emerging, established and regulated industry markets
- A steadfast advocate of modern corporate governance, sustainability, ESG and board diversity
- Founder and CEO of member-based social purpose company Women Get On Board Inc.
- Deborah's recent awards include:
  - GNCC & WIN-Ruth Unrau Legacy Award, November 2023
  - Honorary Doctorate of Laws-Brock University, June 2023
  - Canadian Women Entrepreneur (CWE) Award-Gender Equity in the Workplace, 2023
  - SustainabilityX Magazine's inaugural Global 50 Women in Sustainability Award, 2022
  - WXN's Top 100 Canada's Most Powerful Women: Entrepreneur (2021) and Corporate Director (2012)
  - 2020 "Director to Watch."

## STRENGTHS & EXPERTISE

- Board Leadership & Collaboration
- Financial Expertise
- Sustainability, ESG & Board Diversity
- Corporate Governance
- Financing (Equity & Debt/Private & Public)
- Transformation (M&A/Digital/Operations/Restructuring)
- Corporate Strategy
- CEO and Board Succession
- Entrepreneurship

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

- Board Diversity, Sustainability, ESG
- How to Get Yourself On a Board
- Elevating Your Board Effectiveness
- Financial Intelligence in the Boardroom
- Ethical Intelligence in the Boardroom
- Modern Governance & Sustainability

## BOARD SERVICE - CURRENT

**Profound Impact Corporation** Chair of the Board (May 2023- )

## BOARD SERVICE - PREVIOUS

**TAAL Distributed Information Technologies Inc.** (CSE: TAAL)

Lead Director and Chair of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee; Chair of the Special Committee-going private transaction, Board member (2020-2022)

**Khiron Life Sciences Corp. (TSXV:KHRN)** Lead Director and Chair of the Audit Committee; Board member (2019-2022)

**Lift & Co. (TSX-V: LIFTV)**

Vice Chair and Chair of the Audit Committee; Board member (2018-2020) filed for voluntary bankruptcy 2020

**MedReleaf Corp. (TSX: LEAF) acquired by Aurora Cannabis (TSX: ACB)** Chair of the Audit Committee and member of Special Committee of the Board and Board member (2017-2018)

**NexJ Systems Inc. (TSX: NXJ)** Chair Audit Committee, Board member (2015-2018)

**Sears Canada Inc. (TSX: SCC)** Chair Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee, Chair Audit Committee and Board member (2007-2018)

**Brock University** Member Board of Trustees, Audit Committee and Strategic Planning Committee (2014 - 2015)

**Canada's National Ballet School** Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee and Board member (2011-2014)

**Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA)** Chair of the Board and the Executive Committee, Chair of the Audit Committee, Chair of the Nominating Committee, Member of the Nominating Committee (2011-2015)

**Karma Athletics Ltd.** Chair of the Board, Advisor (2011-2014)

**Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation** Member of the Audit & Risk Management Committee and the Human Resource & Compensation Committee and Board member (2007-2009)

**Women In the Lead** Board member (2007-2010)

**Axis Investment Fund acquired by Best Funds in 2006** Chair of the Audit Committee and Board member (2002 - 2007)

**CATA Alliance** Co-founder & Chair of CATA Women in Technology Forum and Board member (2004-2007)

**Junior Achievement of Eastern Ontario (Ottawa Chapter)** Chair of the Governance Committee and Board member (2002-2004)

**Various Venture-Backed Early Stage Technology Companies**

OLAP@work, SigPro Wireless, Valaran, GotMarketing, Distil Interactive, NeuroLanguage. Board member(1999-2009)

## EDUCATION

- **Competent Boards (2022)**- ESG Designation Program – GCB.D, Climate Change Designation Program – CCB.D
- **Institute of Corporate Directors (2008)** – ICD.D designation
- **Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario (2009)** - Fellow Chartered Professional Accountant (FCPA, FCA)
- **Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario (1985)** - Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA, CA)
- **Brock University (1984)** - Honors Bachelor of Business Administration

## SELECTED BOARD SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS

- Served as Chair of the Special Committee of TAAL(with a mandate to review going private transaction, successfully completed (Dec. 2022), and served as the Lead Director & Chair of The Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee to develop governance practices for a potential up-listing to TSX.
- Served on the Board and as Chair of the Audit Committee and as a member of the Special Committee (with a mandate to review strategic and financing alternatives) of MedReleaf Corp. providing strategic guidance and fiduciary oversight on the \$3.2B sale to Aurora Cannabis Inc. in 2018
- Served as Chair of the Audit Committee NexJ Systems Inc. providing oversight and insight into a successful strategic spinout of NexJ Health and CEO transition
- Served on the Board and as Chair of the Audit Committee and Chair of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and as a member of the Special Committee (with a mandate to review strategic and financing alternatives) of Sears Canada Inc. providing oversight and insights through a series of complex restructuring transactions involving multiple stakeholders, creditor protection and contested proceedings leading up to the liquidation of assets and operations in Canada in 2018.

## ADVISORY LEADERSHIP

- **Goodman School of Business, Brock University** Advisory Council Member (2022- , previously 2014-2017)
- **CPA Canada** Member Audit Committee Conference Advisory Committee (2019-2023) and Audit Committee Certification Program Task Force (2020-current); Member of the Risk Management and Governance Board (2009-2012)
- **Correctional Services Canada** Departmental Audit Committee (2015-2017)
- **Brock University** Member of the President's National Advisory Council (2008-2013)
- **Institute of Corporate Directors** Ottawa Chapter Co-Chair (2008-2011)
- **Brock University** Member of the Business Faculty Advisory Council (2003-2010)
- **ENGAGE! Ottawa** Founder and Co-Chair of the Advisory Board (2005-2008)
- **OCRI** Member of the Entrepreneurship Centre Advisory Council (2004-2007)

## CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Co-Founder** - Women Funding Women Inc. (2023- )
- **Founder and CEO** - Women Get On Board Inc. (2015- )
- **Founder and CEO** - Deborah Rosati, Corporate Director (formerly Rosatinet, Inc.) (2002- )
- **Partner** - Celtic House Venture Partners (2000-2002)
- **Chief Financial Officer** - TimeStep Corporation (Acquired by Newbridge Networks (NYSE: NN, TSE: NNC) (1994-1999)
- **Owner** - Deborah Rosati Consulting (1991-1994)
- **Divisional Controller** – Calmos Microsystems (A division of Newbridge Networks Corporation) (1988-1991)
- **Policy & Procedural Analyst** – Cognos Inc. (Acquired by IBM January 2008) (1987-1988)
- **Audit Manager** – BDO Dunwoody (co-op accounting student) 1982-1987)