



PROFILE:

Interview with Shauna Mason, ACIS 2017 Rising Star Award Recipient

Tell us a bit about your background.

I have 13 years of oil and gas experience specializing in corporate communications, investor relations and corporate secretarial roles. I currently work as the Manager of Corporate Affairs at Bellatrix Exploration Ltd. Prior to this, from 2004 to 2009 I was the Manager of Corporate Social Responsibility at Artumas Group Inc.

I am constantly in the limelight with many stakeholders including colleagues, management, Board of Directors, retail investors and analysts. I act as one of the gatekeepers to management and the Board of Directors in the role of Assistant Corporate Secretary. I take the minutes, maintain minute books, draft resolutions plus board agendas and I am responsible for communicating all Board material.

What about your educational background prior to ICSA?

I hold a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Queen's University and an Honours Bachelor of Commerce (HBCOM) degree with a minor in political science from McMaster University. It was during my undergraduate degree that I found my passion for governance and social responsibility. I currently sit on the Board for Energy for All and the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of Alberta.

What made you decide to start the ICSA CSQS program?

I am constantly looking for ways to increase my knowledge by both mentors/colleagues and professional education systems. Public and political concern about governance, ethics, probity, accountability and good practice is higher than ever before. To succeed in this climate, it is essential to have people who can chart a course through the jungle of legislation, regulation and best practice; people who identify the problems, understand the issues and have the expertise to provide the right solutions; people who will keep an organization on track and help it to prosper and develop. In order to excel further in this area, I decided to start the ICSA CSQS program.

What was your biggest challenge in the program?

I found it most difficult to find the time and self-discipline to study on my own while working full time and having 2 small children at home.

How did you manage it/overcome it?

I gave up on sleep and all fun things.

What do you enjoy most about your membership with ICSA Canada?

I value the network of likeminded people through the ICSA membership.

How has your networking within ICSA affected your career?

Through the network within ICSA, I have developed lifelong friendships and mentors. It also resulted in me being asked to join the Board of the Alberta branch of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators.

What are the next steps for you following your recent award?

I would like to work towards becoming a governance leader in my industry.

What advice do you have for new members?

Good governance is here to stay no matter what business or industry you are in. However the best practices is always evolving and the only way to stay on top of the trends is through an ICSA membership. Besides we are a fun bunch of people, so come hang out with us!