

Judges Profiles

Vancouver for Acumen Fund Case Challenge: Investing for Impact

MAX BAESSATO

Program Assistant, SeedRock Social Enterprises

Max graduated with a BA in International Studies with a French Language Minor from Simon Fraser University. Max' current work focuses on sustainable development, socio-economic development and environmental issues.

Max is currently a Program Assistant with SeedRock Social Enterprises (SSE). SSE's vision is to support the improvement of social capital in SeedRock partner communities and foster economic growth in rural communities in need (West Africa, primarily). We provide solutions for the improvement of social capital in a community while creating and supporting vibrant and viable local business opportunities.

PELEG BARTFIELD

Associate Analyst, Phillips, Hager & North

CHRISTINE BERGERON

Investment Manager, Vancity Community Capital

Christine has spent fifteen years working with entrepreneurs, financing innovative companies and building financial firms. For the past decade she has been focused on investing within the energy, alternative energy and sustainability sectors.

As a founding team member and Vice President of Chrysalix Energy, an early stage venture capital firm, she was part of a team that pioneered "cleantech" investing. She then co-founded a successful alternative asset management firm furthering her expertise in sustainability financing. Christine's financial know-how ranges from early stage private companies and local non-profits to capital markets and international micro-finance organizations.

She has experience in board governance, corporate strategy, fundraising, portfolio management, restructuring, risk management and investment strategy. Her passion for education led her to teach an entrepreneurial finance course at the University of British Columbia. During her career she has been a keynote speaker, panelist and moderator at finance and sustainability events around the world.

Christine holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Guelph, an MBA from UBC's Sauder School of Business and also holds the Canadian Investment Manager designation. In

2007, she was named one of BC's Top 40 Under 40 business leaders. An avid athlete with a diverse set of interests, she can usually be found enjoying all that Vancouver has to offer – running, hiking, skiing, cycling. What she loves most of all is spending time with her husband and son

AMIR BOLOOR

Associate, TD Securities

Amir is responsible for supporting the day-to-day execution of financing and advisory mandates at TD Securities in Vancouver. Amir's experience includes advisory on a wide variety of acquisition, divestiture, restructuring and financing transactions for clients in the energy, mining, forestry and technology sectors. Prior to assuming his role in Vancouver, Amir worked in the Mergers & Acquisitions group at TD Securities in Toronto where he worked on a number of high profile transactions in the technology and telecom sectors. Amir holds a Bachelor of Commerce (with Honours) from University of British Columbia. Amir is also actively involved in various charitable and non-profit endeavors.

LANDON DOWNS, CFA

Partner, Agentis Capital Partners

Landon is currently a partner at Agentis Capital Partners. He has worked on a wide range of transactions including capital raisings, buy-side and sell-side financial advisory mandates, international financing transactions, and project finance transactions with a total aggregate value of committed financing and completed transactions of more than \$6 billion. He has worked on transactions in North America, South America and Europe.

Prior to Agentis, Landon worked at Macquarie Capital Markets Canada in the investment banking division and in the treasury department at one of BC's top 50 companies. Landon received a Bachelor of Commerce (with distinction) from the University of Victoria and is a CFA Charterholder.

In addition to working in the corporate finance and investment banking field, Landon has served on the board of or advised several non-profit organizations including the Victoria CFA Society and the VANCOUVER+acumen volunteer chapter of the Acumen Fund.

BONNIE FOLEY-WONG

Founder, Pique Ventures

Bonnie Foley-Wong is a CA, social financier, and former investment banker. In 2012, she founded Pique Ventures, an investment advisory business to help successful women make angel investments, confidently and passionately. She has over 15 years experience developing financial strategy and making financing and investment decisions, working directly with entrepreneurs, investors, and financial institutions. She advises on business models and has insight on how positive impact can be achieved through them. Find her on Twitter @BonnieOWong.

DAVID GENS

CFO, Merchant Advance Capital

Was an investment analyst with CAI Capital Management Co., a New York based private equity firm focused on mid-market transactions in Canada and the US. At CAI, David worked on buyouts, restructurings, acquisitions, recapitalizations and investments in corporate growth in Western Canadian companies. CAI invests \$20 to \$75 million of equity capital in each opportunity with the ability to deploy \$100 million+ in special situations with some of its limited partners as co-investors.

While studying at the University of British Columbia, David was a member of the UBC Portfolio Management Foundation, an extracurricular finance program in Western Canada, where he and five other students managed a \$4 million pool of capital of North American publicly traded fixed income and equity securities. David holds a BComm (Finance) degree from the University of British Columbia where he graduated with honours as a Leslie Wong Fellow.

CHERRY ITTY

Director, Contracts & Loans, Intrawest Resort Club Group

Cherian (or Cherry) Itty Verghese is an MBA-graduate (2007) of Queen's University, Kingston, ON and is currently working as Director with Intrawest ULC in the financial services, sales support and regulatory compliance functions. Having done his BBA from Capilano University, he is currently also serving as a Director on the Board of the Capilano University Alumni Association. As a keen observer of the social impacts (or in many cases, the lack of it) brought about by fast-paced, yet unregulated growth in the developing world, he is always on the look-out for discussions around the application of stakeholder-driven business tools to sustainable development – and hopes to hear some invigorating and thought-provoking presentations at the 2nd Annual VANCOUVER+acumen Case Challenge.

DARIAN KOVACS

Principal, Venus Industries Ltd.

Darian spends his time on the board of a few foundations and consulting in the realm of philanthropy and current and future media. Find him on Twitter @dariankovacs or visit his personal website at www.dariankovacs.com.

PAULINA LIPSKA

President, YWIB and Staff Accountant, KPMG

Paulina graduated from the Sauder School of Business at UBC. During her last term, she taught a self-directed seminar entitled "Leadership in Social Enterprise" and has been pursuing her passion for social entrepreneurship and innovation ever since. She is a co-

founder and the President of Young Women in Business, a non-profit society for emerging female leaders in Western Canada. By day she works at KPMG Vancouver on Industrial Markets clients and is in the last year of completing her CA. Paulina is currently part of the Minerva Leadership Committee and chairs the Internship Committee.

In 2010, Paulina was the award recipient of the National Leadership Award from KPMG. In that same year she was nominated by Bob Elton, retired CEO of BC Hydro, and Michelle Pockey, partner at Fasken Martineau DuMoulin for the YWCA Young Woman of Distinction Award for the positive impact of her work with YWiB and other community organizations. In 2011 she was awarded the World of Difference 100 Award from the International Alliance for Women in Washington, DC, for her outstanding work to advance the economic empowerment of women locally, regionally, and worldwide.

MARK MCCOY

Director, IECA Consulting Inc.

Mark has been coaching case competition teams for local, national and international competitions. Prior to the VANCOUVER+acumen competition, he trained UBC teams for the JDC West competition. Mark is now leveraging his 5 years of coaching experience to expand the opportunities that students have to learn the fundamentals of critical thinking and applications of solutions.

At work, Mark is the director at IECA Consulting where he works primarily with non-profits on capacity building, sponsorship development and event planning. He has a passion for empowering organizations and is working to incorporate what he has learned consulting non-profits with the coaching curriculum provided to students.

He believes that true solutions are made or broken through implementation, a frequently overlooked aspect of many consulting relationships.

WAHEED NAZERALI

President & CEO, Kamina Corp Inc.

Mr. Waheed Nazerali has been the President & CEO of Kamina Corp Inc since January 2007. Since starting Kamina Corp, Mr. Nazerali has invested in both private and public companies, primarily those, in the water, natural resource, and technology sectors. Prior to starting Kamina Corp, Mr. Nazerali was a co-founder in a trade company focused on Latin America as well as a co-founder in a lifestyle music label and clothing line, which had relationships with a major Internet company and music label.

Mr. Nazerali has spent the majority of his career assessing, financing, structuring, and performing due diligence on early stage companies in the TMT and water space in regions covering: Japan, Europe, the Middle East, South America and North America. He holds a BSc in MIS and an MBA.

ANGIE RAI

Consulting Business Analyst, Accenture

RASEEL SEHMI

Regional Campaign Coordinator, Aga Khan Foundation Canada

Raseel Sehmi is a M.Sc. Graduate with three years of global work experience invested in developing communications and building strategic partnerships to support sustainable global development and social change initiatives. She currently works for both the BC Council for International Cooperation and the Aga Khan Foundation Canada.

She is interested in local-global issues as a result of her work experience with non-profits and United Nations agencies in South-East Asia, as well as her upbringing around Africa, India and Canada. She holds a M.Sc. in International Development Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies, London, U.K., and a BA in Political Science & Sociology from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver. In her spare time, she volunteers with VANCOUVER+acumen, the David Suzuki Foundation, and the Canadian Earth Summit Coalition. She also sits on the Board of the Environmental Youth Alliance.

CARISSA VADOS

Summer Associate, Acumen Fund

ELIZABETH VOSSEN

Investment Analyst, Vancity Community Capital

Elizabeth Vossen is passionate about social impact, both locally, and on the global scale. Most recently, Elizabeth worked as a Governance Officer at the First MicroFinance Foundation in Cairo, Egypt, as part of Aga Khan Foundation Canada Fellowship Program.

Previously, Elizabeth worked as an Analyst for Export Development Canada, and as an Associate for Raymond James Equity Research. Since 2007, Elizabeth has been a leading member of a locally-based international development NGO, working with representatives of a rural Kenyan community to launch several economic development projects.

Elizabeth studied Finance at the University of British Columbia, where she earned her Bachelor of Commerce degree. Elizabeth loves traveling to unique parts of the world, participating in cultural exchanges, and learning about innovative and inspiring ideas.

TRAVIS WONG

Senior Accountant, KPMG Industrial Markets Practice

Travis Wong is a Senior Accountant in KPMG's industrial markets practice. He leads several teams to complete the audits of publicly traded companies with a specialization in the mining industry. His client portfolio consists of listed companies on the TSX, TSX-V, and NYSE including those with market capitalizations exceeding \$8 billion. Besides the case training received while earning his CA designation, Travis has a tremendous amount of experience in case competitions with a special focus on the JDC West business case competition. He served as the faculty advisor for the Simon Fraser University team for two consecutive years and assists in a variety of other competitions including Royal Roads, and Ace the Case. Not only does Travis have a passion for case competitions, but he is also heavily involved in the community. He currently sits on two non-for-profit Boards including SFU's Alumni Association and the Youth Parliament of BC.

EDWIN AU YEUNG

Internal Auditor, Vancouver Coastal Health

Edwin is currently working in internal audit at Vancouver Coastal Health. He has also worked at a Big 4 accounting firm and volunteered as a Kiva Fellow in Cambodia and Indonesia with the peer-to-peer microfinance website www.kiva.org.