

Riz Ahmad, ICD.D – Chief Risk Officer, Board Director, Expert Witness

Finance and banking C-suite senior executive available for interim executive and expert witness assignments. Prior leadership roles at financial institutions in London, New York and Toronto. Extensive governance and oversight experience with shareholders, regulators, auditors, rating agencies, and other stakeholders. Demonstrated people leadership, team realignment, and coaching and mentoring capabilities with excellent written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills. Calm, thoughtful, and measured demeanour with global mindsight. Comfort working across cultures and geographies. Toronto-based with global mobility and travel capability. Dual United States / Canadian citizen.

Representative Successes and Professional Experiences

Enterprise Risk Management: Inaugural CRO role required normalization of regulatory oversight with full team hiring, organizational design, and development of policies and procedures. Instituted 1st, 2nd, and 3rd line of defense segregation of duties. Deliver monthly portfolio and quarterly Board risk management reports. Promote enterprise risk culture and awareness. Lead provincial and federal financial regulator relationships.

Technical Knowledge: Strong experience in wholesale banking debt and structured finance transactions, data analytics and portfolio stress modelling, and legal documentation and recovery / insolvency engagements. Enterprise Risk Management skill sets demonstrated in credit, market, operational, counterparty and IT / project risk management plus anti-money laundering, regulatory compliance, legal counsel, corporate secretary oversight.

Governance and Board Engagement: Board governance skills demonstrated with ICD.D certification and two current Board director positions at regulated entities. Significant experience in C-suite negotiations and Board level presentations. Oversight of corporate secretary and legal counsel teams. Previous not-for-profit and fund-raising Board roles.

Change Management and Crisis Management: Change management demonstrated with CRO responsibilities for business resilience, business continuity, recovery plans, and resolution plans and through risk oversight of 2020 banking system conversion project. Crisis management competence demonstrated by leading Emergency Response Team during pandemic.

Stakeholder Relations: Debt restructuring responsibilities included interaction with legal counsel, insolvency experts, advisors, consultants, and bankruptcy courts across jurisdictions. Structured finance role includes dealings with rating agencies, investment banks, and investors.

DUCA Financial Services Credit Union, Toronto – Chief Risk Officer

Enterprise Risk Management: CRO, 2017- present

Royal Bank of Canada, Toronto

Debt Structuring and Loan Portfolio Management: Managing Director, 2011 – 2015

Client Relationship Sales and Marketing: Vice President, 2004 – 2006 and 2009 - 2011

Reinsurance: Head, Business Development, 2006 – 2009

Corporate Banking: Senior Manager, 1994 – 1997

RBC Capital Markets, New York

Debt Restructuring: Senior Manager, 2002 – 2004

Risk Management: Senior Manager, 1997 – 2000

A.M. Best, Oldwick, New Jersey - Structured Finance Ratings: Senior Analyst, 2001 – 2002

GE Capital, Stamford, Connecticut - Structured Finance: Vice President, 2000 – 2001

Royal Trust Corporation of Canada, Toronto - Corporate Finance: Manager, 1990 – 1993



- Demonstrated success in enterprise risk management through inaugural CRO role in turnaround FI leadership team
- Solid technical knowledge and skill set in banking, finance, and risk management. Extensive dealings with regulators in Canada (FSRA, FINTRAC) and US (OCC)
- Successful career track record in banks, non-bank financial institutions, rating agency, and consulting across geographies, allowing for agility, learnings, and experience
- Strong academic background:
 - MBA, Ivey School of Business, Western University, Canada
 - M.Phil., Cambridge University, United Kingdom
 - BA Hons., Sussex University, United Kingdom
- A different and interesting personal story with global travel, international schools, and fluency with economics, politics, and culture around the world