



# Annual Report

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2012

Reviewing a Year of Success and  
Looking Forward to the Continued  
Expansion of this Unique Program



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*Distinguished Scholars of  
Canada Representatives at the  
Annual Youth Assembly at the  
United Nations, with Washington  
Scholars from the United States,  
China, and Brazil, in August 2012*



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## Special Thanks

A cornerstone of the Distinguished Scholars of Canada program is that our Scholars show thanks and acknowledge those that have helped them along the way. Keeping with that mantra, the organization itself feels it absolutely necessary to recognize those who have worked so hard to make the 2012 year so successful. We feel no better way to show our appreciation than by opening up our 2012 Annual Report with a special “thank you” to these spectacular individuals.

Rear Admiral Donald P. Loren (Ret.) of the US Navy and Major General Donna Barbisch (Ret.) of the US Army are constant strong supporters of both the Distinguished Scholars of Canada and Washington Scholars Fellowship Program. More specifically, to our Canadian Scholars in Washington, DC, they have acted as unbelievable mentors, passing on decades worth of knowledge and insight to our bright young individuals. These two fine and decorated individuals have been such important assets to our program and our Scholars, that, without their support, we would certainly not have achieved the success we are currently enjoying.

Onwards, we would like to thank The Honourable Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration, and Multiculturalism, The Honourable Julian Fantino, Minister of International Cooperation, Ted Opitz, Member of Parliament for Etobicoke-Centre, and Roy Boerschke, Senior Advisor (Government of Canada). These four individuals have been instrumental to expanding our program’s policy arm into Ottawa. Their support, and openness to their offices, has been to the benefit of a new generation of keen individuals who seek the betterment of Canada and a career in public policy. Furthermore, through their various efforts, our intents have been noticed across political and bureaucratic lines in our nation’s capital, ensuring that 2013 will continue to be a successful year for the program as we place more Scholars in Ottawa. We thank them for their ongoing commitment to building the Canadian public policy side of the program.

Our efforts in Washington, DC have also been strongly supported by Lieutenant-Colonel Doug Martin (Ret.) of the Canadian Army, formerly posted at the Canadian Embassy. Our Scholars at the Embassy, over the past two years, benefited tremendously from the support put forth by this wonderful individual, who was also equally supportive of our partner program, the Washington Scholars Fellowship Program.

We must also give thanks to Colonel Robert J. Bateman of the New York Guard, who is member of our Board of Trustees and our Senior Mentor for all our United Nations visits. This special individual is such an important asset for all our coordination and liaison needs at the United Nations. Without his unwavering support, particularly when in New York City, there is absolutely no way visits would be as memorable *and valuable* as they are to our Scholars.

Lastly, a very special thank you to Fernando Cortes, Chief of Staff for the Admiral Carey Foundation, and Rear Admiral James J. Carey (Ret.) of the US Navy, for their countless hours of mentoring, assistance, and advice in expanding the Distinguished Scholars of Canada-Washington Scholars Fellowship Program partnership, in conjunction with support from the Admiral Carey Foundation. Indeed, these Washington, DC linkages have helped expand and better Canada/USA partnership that will be to the benefit of both countries for the coming decades. These two individuals have been critical to ensuring a vision that benefits the future generations of our two great nations.

To all of these rare, special, and fine individuals – *thank you!*

## Year in Review

This has certainly been an exciting year for the Distinguished Scholars of Canada ([www.distinguishedscholars.ca](http://www.distinguishedscholars.ca)). From continuing our partnership with the Washington Scholars Fellowship Program ([www.washingtonscholars.org](http://www.washingtonscholars.org)), to placing Scholars in the offices of the Canadian Federal Government, to the establishment of prestigious Chairs, and even further involvement with the United Nations, 2012 has certainly picked up where the previous year left off. Ultimately, this ensures that 2013 will be yet another exciting – and successful – year for the Distinguished Scholars of Canada! Of course, we would also like to give a special thank you to Rear Admiral James J. Carey, through the support of his foundation ([www.admiralcareyfoundation.org](http://www.admiralcareyfoundation.org)) for facilitating so many our linkages into the Capitol Beltway in DC.

## The Scholars of 2012

The past year was a first for Distinguished Scholars of Canada: *a Scholar in every consecutive semester of the year!* We started off the year with Second Lieutenant William Simmons serving at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC, followed by David Zhou, also in DC, serving at the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. In the Fall semester, we were thrilled to announce Christie Oh serving in the Office of the Minister of International Cooperation, the Honourable Julian Fantino, both in Toronto and Ottawa! Certainly a great achievement, proving we are truly expanding our program into in Canada! We should also like to inform you that we have already placed our Winter 2013 Scholar, Joshua Matthewman, at the Conference of Defence Associations Institute in Ottawa.

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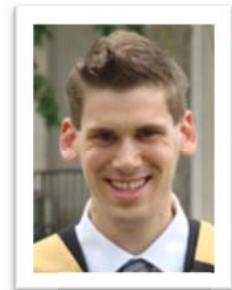
**Winter 2012 – William Arthur Simmons**  
*Canadian Embassy in DC*

**Summer 2012 – David Zhou**  
*American Institute of Public Accountants in DC*

**Fall 2012 – Christie Oh**  
*Office of the Minister of International Cooperation in  
Toronto and Ottawa*

**Winter 2013 – Joshua Matthewman**  
*Conference of Defence Associations Institute in Ottawa*

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## Establishment of Chairs

This past year saw the establishment of three new Chairs for Study in specific fields, each related to a Scholar's particular interest or placement. Thanks to the strong financial support of Rear Admiral James

J. Carey, Dr. George Jackowski of Pivotal Therapeutics, and Mr. Nick Migliore of Executek International/Reilly Group of Companies, we established the following Chairs:

- The Admiral Carey Chair for Study of International Relations
- The Dr. George Jackowski Chair for Study of Science and International Development
- The Nick Migliore Chair for Study of Security and Defence

We thank these donors for their generous contributions, for without their support, it would be impossible to keep the program operational. If you are interested in supporting the Distinguished Scholars of Canada, please contact us (details at the end of this report).



*Mr. Nick Migliore, of Executek International and the Reilly Group of Security Companies, presenting to Distinguished Scholars of Canada a cheque in support of Scholars for the upcoming 2013 session*

## Outlook for 2013

As noted, we already have our first Scholar of 2013 placed in Ottawa and after our initial, and tremendous success, we are certainly creating a buzz on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. Inasmuch, we look to expand our involvement with Parliamentary and Cabinet Offices throughout the year. Furthermore, we plan to be very aggressive in launching our Toronto-based program, which will focus more closely on economic policy issues, seeing that it is the country's financial heart. We look forward to the continuing support of members of Canada Company ([www.canadacompany.ca](http://www.canadacompany.ca)) to achieve this breakthrough.

Of course, our Washington linkages remain and look to grow even further. Likewise, we are expanding our involvement in United Nations activities. As always, members of Distinguished Scholars of Canada will be attending the Annual Youth Assembly at the United Nations, which take place at UNHQ in New York City in the summer. Additionally, we will also be attending various events of ECOSOC at the United Nations, starting with the "Shaping Tomorrow's Innovators" session in March. Our invitation and presence at these events, along with our Washington Scholars partners, is proof that the Distinguished Scholars of Canada program is not only growing, but demonstrating an international presence.

## The Mission of Distinguished Scholars of Canada

Our mission is simple: help fill the urgent need that Canada will face as crucial roles within all levels of government and industry begin to vacate over the next generation. The wealth of "corporate knowledge"



that currently exists in the system will soon be lost if initiative is not taken *today*. Thus, to ensure the next generation of leadership have the proper skill sets to meet the pressing challenges and needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, we equip and enable bright young potential candidates with the tools needed to succeed in the policy arena.

In all, this program looks to benefit all of Canada's citizens, interests, and allies. The fellowship program is specifically formulated to bring the nation's best and brightest young men and women to these critical policy and economy centres, all with a view to providing them with the skills and opportunity to pursue a career in national and international public policy. We currently operate as the private corporation, Distinguished Scholars of Canada Enterprises, Inc. until the not-for-profit entity Distinguished Scholars of Canada Foundation, Corp. is approved by the Canada Revenue Agency.

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### *Training Canada's Next Generation of Leaders Today*

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## The Need for the Program

While there are current government programs designed to encourage recent university graduates to pursue careers in public policy, their success is arguably limited. Far too often these programs are used as stepping stones or "ticket punches" for graduates to move on to other careers, instead of securing this talent into a career path for public policy. The same can be said for the economic policy arenas where far too often, university graduates do not have the "macro skills" to understand a 21<sup>st</sup> Century economy that is so globally interconnected. The result of this reality is that our next generation of leadership may be inadvertently focusing too much on the short-term, ultimately having a significant long-term cost to society. It is therefore important to get these young and bright individuals immersed – early on in their careers – in order to see the "big picture" of what their future holds.

Through our strategic opportunities, vast networking capabilities, programmatic guidance, and expertise, coupled with mentoring and career-planning opportunities, the Distinguished Scholars of Canada cultivates youth-elder dialogue in a *meaningful* and *productive* manner. This provides the superior training and technical assistance needed for the young persons who endeavour to work in the national and international public and economic policy arenas.



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*Rear Admiral James J. Carey with  
Christie Oh and Chairman of  
Distinguished Scholars of  
Canada, Walter J. Perchal*

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## Our Funding Philosophy

Through our experience, we have unfortunately found that Canada's brightest and best young talent is often deterred from accepting volunteer or low paying internships, which is why we strive to fill that gap by providing the brightest and best with scholarships and grants that are exclusively used for travel, study, housing, or similar purposes that are *directly linked* to their leadership development. It is for this reason why the program ensures to go "outside of the traditional structure" in providing a myriad of opportunities, which include, but are not limited to: workshops, educational workshops, conference, and social events. Without this active involvement across a broad base of communities, the value-add is limited, and, far too often, is exactly what is lacking from many of today's program offerings.

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*Brigadier-General Charles Bouchard  
(Commander of NATO military  
mission in Libya) with Distinguished  
Scholar of Canada, Second  
Lieutenant William Simmons*

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Moreover, and something that the program feels from a philosophical standpoint is incredibly important, is that we operated with *zero* taxpayer money. This non-governmental effort accrues over time to the benefit of Canada, which is why it makes it so unique and powerful. Due to the existing networks that can be leveraged, and the cost to the public purse being zero, such an opportunity is a net-net-net immaculate deal for all those involved.

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*Strategic partnerships and networking, both nationally and internationally, are critical to the success of the program*

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## Engaging all Communities for the Public Benefit

We will also foster and promote the role of: science, arts, education, media, and public awareness, all within the context of civic youth activity, meaning that program does not limit its opportunities to the public sector. Realizing the complexities of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, we strive to ensure Scholars have an interdisciplinary mix of skills that can be used for their future careers. Inasmuch, while the focus is on public policy and economics, if we identify a proper fit that can ultimately benefit the policy arena in a larger scale, we will help support a Scholar in these private and not-for-profit sectors wherever possible.

## History

In the 1980s, key members within the Reagan Administration came to a very stark reality: the future leadership of their own country was in jeopardy, for the sheer fact that incoming human resources did not have the proper skill sets required to operate an effective and efficient government. Apart from the very necessary operational skills, the incomers lacked the strategic partnerships and networks required to achieve any real success in government. In order to fill this identified gap, these key members, led by Rear Admiral James J. Carey (Ret.) of the US Navy, and former Chairman of the US Federal Maritime Commission, invested heavily to ensure a program was created that would develop the necessary skill sets for the future leadership entrusted to run a government properly.

By using vast personal networks to place Scholars, the program has graduated over 500 Fellows in 25 years, with over 100 of them currently working within the US Capitol Beltway today. What this provides is an ability to *pay forward* the success of the program as graduates are expected to give back to the Washington Scholars Fellowship Program; there is the same expectation of graduates of the Distinguished Scholars of Canada. Furthermore, the network-base that is built becomes unmatched.

## Strategic Alliances & Networking

Our alliance with the Washington Scholars Fellowship Program gives us an access portal that would otherwise be unavailable. In building the Canada/USA relationship, Canadian Scholars have been able to experience, firsthand, the real world experiences of government in action at numerous locations in Washington, DC. We have already seen this over the last two years with Canadian Scholars attending placements in our Embassy in Washington, along with think-tanks and professional associations.

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*Networking that works, Networking that matters, and Networking of the largest possible scale*

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Opportunities to attend lectures and functions with dignitaries, Congressmen, Senators, Judges and Administration Officials are numerous, and, a great chance to do some networking of *true value*. Scholars in DC become well acquainted with the Supreme Court, the Capitol Building, and have the opportunity to attend events at the White House, the Pentagon, the FBI Training Facilities at Quantico, and even travel to conventions across the country, such as the Annual Youth Assembly at the United Nations.



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*Rear Admiral James J. Carey and  
Dr. George Jackowski at the  
Admiral Carey Foundation  
Commitment to Leadership  
Awards in Washington, DC*

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With the program now active on the Canadian side of the border, we have similar expectations of the program in both Ottawa and Toronto. Ultimately, as the Americans welcome our Canadian candidates to Washington, DC, we will be reciprocating by bringing American candidates of the Washington Scholars Fellowship Program to Canadian hosts over time.

## One Piece of a Larger Puzzle

The Distinguished Scholars of Canada is just one piece of a larger public policy puzzle. With close working relationships between the Canadian Defence Foundation, Canada Company, The Flag and General Officer's Network, the National Defense Foundation, the Friendship Ambassadors Foundation, the Chinese Society of Education Training Center, and so many other influential groups, Scholars get "plugged in" to an international network that, if utilized properly, gives them a network that can last for nearly 50 years. And it is not only the Scholars that are continually building this network, but our Leadership Team does so as well. Through their own vast networks, the Leadership Team continues to expanding linkages, all with a view to benefitting Scholars for years to come.

## Life of a Scholar

There are many exciting benefits which come from being a Scholar in Washington, DC, and over the longer term, Ottawa and Toronto. One could expect to gain an intimate level of understanding of how governments work, as well as how to gain a foothold into a political or governmental career. Many Scholars interns go on to law school, graduate school, and some even obtain jobs at think-tanks, or even the sitting administration upon the completion of the Fellowship.

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*COL Robert J. Bateman, member  
of the Board of Trustees, and  
Senior Mentor for our United  
Nation visits*

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For example, our first Scholar to be placed in Ottawa in the Fall of 2012, Christie Oh, did such a phenomenal job at her placement, at the completion of her term, was offered a full-time position on the Minister's staff, something, which would otherwise be unattainable if it was not for the Distinguished Scholars of Canada. It is critical that Scholars understand if they make the best of networking during their Fellowship, they network they develop will establish valuable connections that become extremely handy later on in life. And by also securing the support of numerous Members of Parliament and key officials in civil service who have the vision to see this project through, we see only continued benefit for our next generation and expansion of the program.



## Professional & Social Development

Even with a full time commitment to their respective internships while in the program, many Scholars found free time to enjoy all that the each city has to offer. Throughout the ten-week program, Scholars are required to attend training events and a series of guest speaker lectures. The training events focus on resume building, job search capabilities, and improving professional skills. The lecture series is composed of guest speakers with varying degrees of experience in national public policy.

Some of the events focus on leadership, networking, and career advice, specific to a variety of differing industries. We believe that such activities allow Scholars to expand their network outside the program and build strong roots in the host cities, something that will encourage them to return to the region and become an active part our network.

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*Being socially comfortable and aware is a critical skill set required in the public policy arena*

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A large part of the public policy arena includes the social setting. This is why we not only encourage Scholars to take part in social functions, but also make them mandatory, including ones that ensure they are bound to meet up with national and international public policy leaders.



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*Distinguished Scholar of Canada, David Zhou, at the Washington Scholars Graduation (Summer 2012) with newly appointed Executive Director, Kyle Knapp, and Chairman for Future Leaders for America, MacLane C. Key*

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## Our Needs

Through our alliances in the United States, we are fairly secure in what we can provide for Scholars south of the border. Currently, our primary efforts are focused on building our Canadian presence. Inasmuch, we are seeking support in the following ways:

- Hosts from government offices in Ottawa
- Hosts from the private sector in Toronto
- Funding from private citizens and corporations
- Occasional pro bono professional services, such as legal and accounting

We thank you for your consideration and look forward to your support from this one-of-a-kind and special program that will pay dividends for many future generations to come. Unfortunately, as we are currently operating as a private corporation, at this time we cannot issue any tax receipts for donation purposes.

It is also important for us to note that our Leadership Team and Support Staff are 100% volunteer, meaning that **all funding goes directly to the needs of the Scholar** and any minor administrative costs that may arise.

## Contact & Inquiries

If you have any questions about our program, please visit: [www.distinguishedscholars.ca](http://www.distinguishedscholars.ca) or contact our Chief Operating Officer, George Platsis, directly at:

E-mail: [gplatsis@distinguishedscholars.ca](mailto:gplatsis@distinguishedscholars.ca)

Canada: +1.416.875.7877

USA: +1.312.731.5416

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## Supporters & Websites

Distinguished Scholars of Canada: [www.distinguishedscholars.ca](http://www.distinguishedscholars.ca)  
Washington Scholars Fellowship Program: [www.washingtonscholars.org](http://www.washingtonscholars.org)  
Rear Admiral James J. Carey Foundation: [www.admiralcareyfoundation.org](http://www.admiralcareyfoundation.org)  
SRI Professionals: [www.sriprofessionals.com](http://www.sriprofessionals.com)  
Alliance Defense Marketing Associates: [www.admallc.com](http://www.admallc.com)  
Pivotal Therapeutics: [www.pivotaltherapeutics.us](http://www.pivotaltherapeutics.us)  
Executek International: [www.executekinternational.com](http://www.executekinternational.com)  
Reilly Security Group of Companies: [www.reillysecurity.com](http://www.reillysecurity.com)  
Canadian Defence Foundation: [www.defencecanada.org](http://www.defencecanada.org)  
National Defense Foundation: [www.nationaldefensefoundation.org](http://www.nationaldefensefoundation.org)  
Canada Company: [www.canadacompany.ca](http://www.canadacompany.ca)

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## Leadership Team

### Walter J. Perchal

#### Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

Professor Perchal is a retired member of the Canadian Armed Forces and former Special Advisor to the Commander of Land Forces, serving as a reservist Lieutenant-Colonel. Additionally, he is appointed at York University in both undergraduate and graduate faculty in the department of Disaster and Emergency Management. He also serves as the Program Director for the Centre of Excellence in Security, Resilience, and Intelligence Management at the Schulich Executive Education Centre.

### George Platsis

#### Vice-Chairman & Chief Operating Officer

Mr. Platsis is the first graduate to hold the title of Distinguished Scholar of Canada. He has an interdisciplinary background in the fields of Business Administration, Disaster and Emergency Management, Constitutional Law, and Cybersecurity. He is currently the Research Director for the National Defense Foundation (Washington, DC), the Program Director of the Centre of Excellence in Security, Resilience, and Intelligence Management, the Chief Administrative Officer of SRI Professionals, and is a Fellow of the National Security Management Course from Syracuse University.

### RADM (Ret.) James J. Carey

#### Board of Directors

Rear Admiral (Ret., USN) Carey is the former Chairman of the US Federal Maritime Commission and was a Presidential Advisor to Ronald Reagan. He currently is the Chairman of The Flag and General Officers Network, an organization with over 3,400 active and retired Flag and General Officers of the United States. He is also the Chairman of the Admiral James J. Carey Foundation and the Science in Service to Humanity Foundation. Admiral Carey is an active and influential individual in the Washington, DC public policy arena.

### Dr. George Jackowski, Ph.D.

#### Board of Directors

Dr. Jackowski is Chairman and Chief Science Officer of Pivotal Therapeutics. He is also part of the Departments of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology and Surgery at the University of Toronto (Toronto, Canada) and holder of over 140 international pharmaceutical patents, making him one of the greatest contributions to medical science the world has seen in the last few decades, particularly in the bio-tech industry.

### Blake Goldring, MSM, LLD, CA

#### Board of Directors

Mr. Goldring is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of AGF Management Limited, a world-wide organization that is one of Canada's premier investment solutions firms with offices across Canada and subsidiaries around the world. He is also the Chairman of Canada Company, an organization supported by some of the most influential Canadians with a view to supporting the Canadian Armed Forces and their veterans.



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**Karen Smith, MA C. Psych., MA-DEM****Board of Trustees**

Sergeant Smith is a member of the Ontario Provincial Police working within the Greater Toronto Region, with over twenty years front-line experience. She has an interdisciplinary background in the fields of Psychology and Disaster and Emergency Management. She is currently writing emergency plans for the OPP Highway Safety Division for large scale events. Emergency plans have included the following: G8/G20, Nuclear Response Plans, and Pan Am / Para Pan Am Games for 2015. Additionally, she is currently pursuing a PhD in Psychology. Sergeant Smith is a member of the Canadian Psychological Association, Extremism and Terrorism Section.

**Dr. Michael Papadimitriou, D.D.S.****Board of Trustees**

Dr. Papadimitriou is an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, with memberships in the Chicago Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, Illinois Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, Chicago Dental Society, Illinois State Dental Society and the American Dental Association. Additionally, he serves as a lecturer at Advocate Illinois Masonic Hospital and is an Attending Surgeon at Advocate Luther General Hospital. Originally from Canada, he holds Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education degrees from the University of Windsor, and attended Dental School at the University of Detroit Mercy where he received his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree, ultimately being elected into the Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society. In Chicago, he completed his 4 year surgical residency at John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County (Cook County Hospital) and is Board Certified in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and is a Fellow of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

**COL Robert J. Bateman****Board of Trustees**

Colonel Bateman is a member of the New York Guard serving on the General Staff, Army Division Headquarters as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence (G/2) and is the Past Deputy Commander of the 88th Brigade, (Headquarters, New York City). He has 15 years Federal Service with the United States Department of the Treasury and has also served as a Front Line Law Enforcement Officer for the Hampton, New Hampshire Police Department for 9 years. He is the Founder and President of Alliance Defense Marketing Associates, LLC and sits on numerous boards, including the National Defense Committee (Washington, D.C.), The Admiral James J. Carey Foundation, The Good Samaritans of the Knights Templar Foundation. He is the Past Chairman of the Board, Military Association of New York (The Officers Association of the Combined Military Forces of New York State); Past Commander-in-Chief, The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. He is a member of numerous Military, Law Enforcement, Cultural, Fraternal and Hereditary Organizations. Moreover, Colonel Bateman is our Coordinator and Liaison for all our United Nations events and participation.

**Jasmina Germanski, BHS, MA-DEM****Board of Advisors**

Ms. Germanski is the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Leader and Privacy Analyst for York Central Hospital and was formerly the Emergency & Regulatory Compliance Coordinator at Region of Peel. Her background is in the fields of Health Administration, and, Disaster and Emergency Management. Ms. Germanski also has hands-on experience working in hospital emergency rooms for many years.

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## Marco Iannucci, BBA

### Board of Advisors

Mr. Iannucci is President and Chairman of Lupo Business, a San Francisco-based consulting firm designed to help business with their operational and strategic functions, ranging from payroll, to forecasting, to development, and strategy. He is also a Partner at Vicar+Tart, An ad(Venture) Agency specializing in Branding, Communications, and Environment. He joined the company at its foundation in 2008 being one of its first 3 members. With a passion for Marketing and Resources, he turned his attention to building the foundations and managing Operations of Vicar+Tart. Lately, he has turned his direction to helping the Start-Up community in San Francisco providing strategy, finance, operational insights and planning. His goal is to build the Venture business of Vicar+Tart. Formerly, Mr. Iannucci worked as a Marketing Manger for L'Oreal Canada in Montreal and a Communications Manager at Mercedes-Benz head office in New Jersey, USA.