

Shannon MacDonald FCA, CPA, ICD.D is well-known in Canadian business circles for her leadership, innovation, resourcefulness, and energy. Some would describe her as a “powerhouse.”

A native of Blooming Point, PEI, Shannon graduated from UPEI in 1990 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and from the University of Toronto in 1999 with a Masters of Health Science degree.

With over 27 years of professional experience, she has led client relationships for significant organizations in Canada, including governments and health care organizations. She has a strong ability to bring diverse services together for better outcomes for clients.

She is known as a thought leader and popular speaker on topics ranging from productivity and governance to financial imperatives for provincial government programs and health care systems. Designated as an ICD.D (Institute of Corporate Directors Designation), she is passionate about board governance and the role of ethics in organizations and professions. Her professional uniqueness is rooted in a track record of combining deep vertical sector knowledge and functional expertise with a passion for teamwork and inclusion in order to successfully drive growth and client satisfaction.

Currently, Shannon is a senior managing director at Accenture Canada, a leader in Canada’s health and social services marketplace. Prior to her position with Accenture Canada, she worked for Deloitte, retiring in 2017 as Vice Chair of Industry. In this role, she was responsible for programs that trained staff to handle client needs specific to the industry they operate in. These included oil and gas, mining, public sector, consumer and industrial products, and financial institutions, as well as emerging sectors such as FinTech, CleanTech, IOT, Indigenous Communities, and Smart Cities.

She also spent four years as Deloitte's lead client service partner for the Government of Ontario, and served on Deloitte’s global and Canadian boards and its national executive. A champion of diversity, Shannon was a founding member of Deloitte's diversity council and was the firm's Chief Inclusion Officer for three years. As Managing Partner for Deloitte Atlantic from 2008 to 2013, she oversaw the quality, client satisfaction, growth, marketplace, and human resource initiatives for the region.

Frequently honoured for her contributions to business and community leadership, Shannon was named one of Canada’s Most Powerful Women by the Women’s Executive Network in 2010, 2012, and 2016 and one of Atlantic Canada’s Top 50 CEOs in 2011 and 2012.

She believes in the importance of community and philanthropic involvement, and she lives up to that belief. She is chair of the UPEI Board of Governors’ governance committee and a member of advisory council for the School of Mathematics and Computational Sciences and the Faculty of Business. She has been involved in the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer, Compute Ontario, Atlantic Provinces Economic Council, Capital District Health Authority, Canadian Cancer Society, and Women's College Hospital Board.

For her dedication and leadership in business and in community and philanthropic organizations, the UPEI Alumni Association is proud to present Shannon MacDonald with a 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award.