

Schulich Alumni Panelists



Carl De Souza (MBA '02)

Senior Vice President and Sector Lead, North American Financial Institutions Ratings, Morningstar DBRS

Carl has 25 years of experience in banking and regulation. He covers the Canadian Banking sector and is the Lead Analyst on a portfolio of banking and non-bank financial institutions issuers.

Before joining Morningstar DBRS in 2021, Carl worked for nine years as a banking regulator in Canada with the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions covering various functions and federally regulated financial institutions. Additionally, he has 14 years of experience working for three of Canada's large banks assessing credit risk in retail, business, and counterparty credit lending.

Carl holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree with majors in Statistics and Economics from Toronto Metropolitan University. He also holds a Master of Business Administration in Finance and Strategy from York University's Schulich School of Business.



Dr. Eileen de Villa (MBA '03)

Medical Officer of Health, City of Toronto

Dr. Eileen de Villa is the Medical Officer of Health for the City of Toronto. In this position, she leads Toronto Public Health, the largest local public health agency in Canada, which offers various programs and services to the city's more than 3 million residents.

Dr. de Villa received her Doctor of Medicine and Master of Health Science (MHSc) degree in Health Promotion from the University of Toronto. Additionally, she holds a Master of Business Administration from the Schulich School of Business at York University. She is also an Adjunct Professor at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto.

As the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. de Villa has been at the forefront of public health efforts in Toronto, including guiding the largest vaccination campaign in Toronto's history during the COVID-19 pandemic. She has also advised elected officials on implementing municipal government measures such as declaring a state of emergency and introducing local bylaws related to physical distancing and mask usage – all aimed at curbing the transmission of COVID-19.

Dr. de Villa's unwavering dedication to guiding Toronto through the pandemic has been evident in her tireless efforts to equip residents with the necessary tools and information to protect themselves and their communities. Dr. de Villa maintains a pivotal advisory role in the City and Province's ongoing COVID-19 response and recovery.



Zeeshan Syed (MBA '06)

Vice President Operations Transformation, Data & Automation, RBC

Zeeshan Syed is a financial services executive with over 20 years of experience specializing in strategy, consulting, data, operations, and technology. As Vice President of Operations Transformation at RBC, he has led initiatives that significantly enhance efficiency and achieve cost savings. His expertise encompasses business transformation, automation, data analytics, and guiding diverse, high-performing teams to foster innovation and achieve strategic objectives. Zeeshan holds an MBA from the Schulich School of Business and a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Purdue University.