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**PREMIER'S ECONOMIC ADVISORY COUNCIL ON COMPETITIVENESS****Curt Vossen (chair)**

Curt Vossen is the president and CEO of Richardson International. Vossen is an active member of both the business and arts communities. Vossen currently serves as chair of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's board of directors and is the past chair of the Manitoba Business Council, the Prince Rupert Grain Company and the Misericordia Health Centre. He is also a board member on the Business Council of Canada and the Rabobank North American Advisory Board, and is a trustee to the Richardson Foundation. Vossen graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a bachelor of arts (English) and a bachelor of science (Agricultural Economics).

**Bram Strain**

Bram Strain is the president and CEO of the Business Council of Manitoba. Strain served as past president of the Greendell Park Community Centre and is a current board member of the Assiniboine Park Conservancy. Strain is the former deputy minister of Manitoba Infrastructure and Education and Training. Strain received his bachelor of arts from Brandon University.

**Daniel Friedman**

Daniel Friedman is the president and CEO of Pavilion Financial Corporation. Friedman is the former managing director of a private equity fund and was executive vice-president at Assante Corporation. Friedman is a director on the board of the Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art and Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. Friedman holds a bachelor of law degree from Tel Aviv University and a masters of business administration degree from the University of Manitoba.

**Dan McConnell**

Dan McConnell is the CEO of the North West Company. McConnell has been an employee of the North West Company for over 20 years, joining in 2002 in the role of manager, real estate and store development, and quickly advancing to hold multiple positions over the years including executive vice-president and chief development officer. McConnell is a board member of the North West Company, Transport Nanuk and United Grocers Inc., and has received several industry and community recognitions over the years. McConnell received a bachelor of arts from the University of Winnipeg and an MBA from Aberystwyth University.

### **Jamie Brown**

Jamie Brown is the founding CEO of Frantic Films. Brown is the creator, producer and executive producer of many successful film and TV projects and has won over 160 awards. Brown is a former lawyer with McMillan LLP (Toronto), where he focused on corporate finance and entertainment law. Brown is the first recipient of the Lions Gate innovative producer award, one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40, a recipient of the I.H. Asper broadcast entrepreneur of the future award and was named the Canadian Film and Television Production Association's entrepreneur of the year in 2008. Brown is the past chair of the Canadian Media Producers Association, Canada's National Screen Institute and Onscreen Manitoba. Brown also serves on the board of the Manitoba Business Council, CancerCare Foundation Manitoba and the Assiniboine Park Conservancy.

### **Darryl Levy**

Darryl Levy is president and CEO of Wynward Insurance Group, a subsidiary of James Richardson & Sons. Prior to joining Wynward, Levy was president of Western Canada and Ontario regions at Rogers Communications and served in various senior executive positions. Levy is chairman of the Business Council of Manitoba, a trustee of the Richardson Foundation and a board director of FP Newspapers Inc. He has served as a member of the Winnipeg region United Way cabinet since 2012 in various chair capacities. He has also served on the boards of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, Junior Achievement of Manitoba, the University of Winnipeg's faculty of business executive advisory board and Tell Us About Us, a Winnipeg-based tele-service company. Levy is also a member of the World Presidents Organization.

### **Chuck Davidson**

Chuck Davidson has been the president and CEO of the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce (MCC) since 2013, the largest business organization in the province, representing 65 local chambers of commerce and nearly 10,000 organizations throughout Manitoba. Under Davidson's leadership, MCC has seen a renewed focus on policy and advocacy as the voice of business in Manitoba and has been recognized as an accredited chamber of commerce with distinction. Davidson was appointed as co-chair of the newly established Rural Manitoba Economic Development Corporation. In addition, Davidson chairs the \$20-million Manitoba Mineral Development Fund; is a board member of the Community Economic Development Fund, and serves as co-chair of Travel Manitoba's provincial tourism strategy. Davidson is currently president of the Chamber of Commerce Group Insurance Plan and past chair of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce Accreditation Council as well as a former president of the South Winnipeg Community Centre.

### **Tanya LaBuick**

Tanya LaBuick is principal and founder of LaBuick & Co. and is COO and equity partner at CW2 Construction and Design Ltd. and Guardian Fencing Ltd. LaBuick is the president of the Brandon Chamber of Commerce, former chair of the Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation, and a former board member of the Keystone Centre. She was awarded the Manitoba 150 award in 2020 for her volunteer efforts and lifelong commitment to her community. LaBuick holds a bachelor of arts in sociology from the University of Manitoba, a master coach certification from Behavioural Coaching Institute and a project management professional certificate from Project Management Institute.

### **Mark Jones**

Mark Jones is a partner with Olafson & Jones, Chartered Professional Accountants Inc. Jones is actively serving as chair at the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and a treasurer, board of directors for the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame. Jones has served on the board of CPA Manitoba, CGA Manitoba and is a Chartered Professional Accountant (Manitoba).

### **Dayna Spiring**

Dayna Spiring is the president and CEO of Economic Development Winnipeg Inc. Spiring is the former chief strategy officer and general counsel for the Canadian Wheat Board. Spiring currently serves as a board member of Winpak Ltd., is former chair of the Winnipeg Football Club's board of directors, and the first woman to serve on the Canadian Football League's board of governors. Spiring holds a bachelor of laws and bachelor of arts from the University of Manitoba, and has participated in the directors education program with the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto.

### **John Heimbecker**

John Heimbecker is vice-president at Parrish & Heimbecker, an agribusiness company headquartered in Winnipeg. Heimbecker has served as past president of the Canada Ports Clearance Association, past president of Winnipeg Commodity Clearing Ltd, director of Martin Mills Ltd., chairman of the Winnipeg Commodity Exchange feed grains committee and director of Smith Brokerage Ltd. Heimbecker has also served as an independent director of Ceres Global Ag Corp. and as president of the Western Grain Elevator Association.

## **TAX COMPETITIVENESS WORKING GROUP**

### **Cameron Friesen (Chair)**

Cameron Friesen is finance minister and chair of the treasury board for the Manitoba government.

### **Kevin Ploegman**

Kevin Ploegman is a partner at Fort Group Chartered Professional Accountants. Ploegman earned his bachelor of commerce (honours) degree from the University of Manitoba in 2002. In October 2004, Ploegman became a member of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada by receiving his Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA, CA) designation and in 2011, he completed the CPA Canada in-depth tax program to complement his assurance and business advisory skills.

### **Mark Jones**

Mark Jones is a partner with Olafson & Jones, Chartered Professional Accountants Inc. Jones is actively serving as chair at the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and a treasurer, board of directors for the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame. Jones has served on the board of CPA Manitoba, CGA Manitoba and is a Chartered Professional Accountant (Manitoba).

### **Al Babiuk**

Al Babiuk is the president and CEO at Loewen in Steinbach. Babiuk first joined Loewen in 2003 as chief financial officer and treasurer. Babiuk is a former vice-president and treasurer at Investors Group. Babiuk is currently serving as co-chair for the Business Council of Manitoba's economic competitiveness committee. Babiuk holds a bachelor of commerce in accounting and finance from the University of Manitoba, is a fellow of the Chartered Professional Accountant designation (CPA, Canada), a chartered director (C.Dir.) designation and is a certified professional accountant of the United States.

### **Kathleen Cook**

Kathleen Cook is the provincial director for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the North, Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB). Cook helps lead the advocacy, research, policy analysis, and communication activities on issues affecting small- and medium-sized businesses across the region. Prior to joining CFIB in 2021, Cook accumulated a range of experience working at both municipal and provincial levels of government in policy, strategy and communications. Cook also held a senior leadership role with a large non-profit. She holds a bachelor of arts in political science from the University of Winnipeg.

### **Trevor Sprague**

Trevor Sprague is a partner with MNP LLP, responsible for providing Canadian and cross-border tax services. Sprague has previously served as chairman of the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, a director of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, the honorary treasurer of St. John's-Ravenscourt School and a governor of the Canadian Tax Foundation. Sprague is a chartered professional accountant with a bachelor of arts (honours business administration) from the Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario.

### **Jessica Dumas**

Jessica Dumas is the president of Jessica Dumas Coaching and Training, host of the Confidence and Communication Podcast, and the former chairperson for the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and the Indigenous Chamber of Commerce. Dumas is a member of the City of Winnipeg Mayor's Indigenous Advisory Circle and a member of Keeseekoowenin First Nation in Treaty 2. She is a certified life coach and advanced business design facilitator with certifications from the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management and leadership and strategy from the University of Manitoba.

### **Ryan Palmer**

Ryan Palmer is a partner of KPMG Canada, current chair of the CPA Manitoba tax committee, and a past sessional instructor at the Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba. Palmer's expertise spans many areas of Canadian income tax including planning, acquisitions and divestitures, reorganizations, and business succession planning. Palmer has extensive board experience including being the current vice-president and past treasurer of Prairie Theatre Exchange, past chair of CPA Manitoba Foundation, and past treasurer of Community Financial Counseling Services. Palmer is a chartered professional accountant (CPA) and a family enterprise adviser (FEA) with a bachelor of commerce (honours) degree from the University of Manitoba.

### **Dan Kelly**

Dan Kelly is the president and CEO of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB), which represents 95,000 small business owners across Canada. Prior to becoming president, Kelly served as CFIB's western vice-president in Calgary and as Manitoba director in Winnipeg. Kelly spent his first 30 years in Winnipeg and holds a bachelor of commerce degree from the University of Manitoba.