



Julia St. Michael

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Where do you work and what is your role there?

I work at the Real Property Association of Canada, overseeing the areas of Research and Environmental Programs. In both areas, I work with academics, consultants, and contributors to develop ideas and deliver informative reports and programs to the industry.

What areas of commercial real estate do you specialize in?

The research that we undertake touches all areas and asset classes within commercial real estate. Our association represents multiple facets of the industry across Canada and our work must support the varied interests of our many members. In the area of environmental programs and sustainability, we try to provide thought leadership and have focused on building energy and water benchmarking programs, corporate responsibility reporting standards and other global trend research for our members.

What do you find is most challenging or satisfying in your role?

The most challenging part of my role is likely the need to be up-to-date on the incredible number of topics our member companies want to know about. From academic research on capital markets and portfolio management, to comparative research on development processes, to global standards on carbon reporting and building rating systems, it is challenging to keep up with it all! On the other hand, learning something new and being able to engage with industry professionals on different topics and provide meaningful information/insights is a satisfying part of my role..

How long have you been a CREW member, and what do you get most out of being a member?

I have recently become an official CREW member (this year) but have been involved in Toronto CREW programs since 2009. Over the years, I have benefited from the Scholarship Program (as a recipient), from the Mentorship Program (as a mentee) and from the Real Jobs Day Event and Committee participation (as a volunteer). In each of these situations, I have met amazing women who are open to sharing their experiences and supporting young women within the industry and these relationships have proven invaluable for me.

I would like CREW members to call me whenever they need...

information on new commercial real estate research or on global trends in sustainability and green buildings. .