

Meet a Member

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Where do you work and what is your role there?

I am Senior Counsel, Corporate Real Estate for Royal Bank of Canada. RBC has a property portfolio of more than 23 million square feet of real estate in approximately 2,000 locations around the world. I direct a team of legal professionals advising on RBC's global corporate real estate portfolio of retail, office, data centre, operations centres and other critical properties.

What areas of commercial real estate do you specialize in?

I have a fairly wide-ranging role which touches on strategy as well as more core real estate areas such as leasing, property acquisition and disposition, construction, environmental and litigation management.

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

The in-house legal role continues to evolve, I find, from a more traditional legal advisor position when I first went in-house in 2004, to my role today which requires an in-depth knowledge of the business, its goals and its challenges and the ability to apply your legal knowledge to assist in reaching those goals and finding creative solutions for new challenges. Finding innovative ways to resolve problems keeps things fresh.

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

I just joined CREW in 2018 as a member, though I've attended CREW events as a guest for years. I'm looking forward to meeting more members and keeping up to date on where the industry is going. I think this is an exciting time in commercial real estate and I look forward to hearing how others are dealing with some of the interesting challenges the industry is dealing with.

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

... to talk about issues or new ideas.