

Jill Kowalchuk

Accomplished LEADER and GOVERNANCE expert in the not-for-profit sector with 20+ years of experience in executive and governance positions focusing on multi-stakeholder environments, strategy development, cybersecurity and operating federated companies. Known for expertise in managing complex partnerships and projects and facilitating solutions to complex challenges. Strong problem-solving skills and the ability to bring together diverse perspectives to develop consensus and make decisions and deliver unique solutions in an effective and timely manner. Exceptional interpersonal skills and an ability to listen to stakeholder challenges and translate issues between partners. Recognized as a strong leader with integrity, passion and accountability.

CAREER TRACK

CANARIE (www.canarie.ca)

May 2020 - Present

Senior Director, CanSSOC Services

- Accountable for the creation of a federated Shared Security Operations Centre, that leverages existing resources and technologies to deliver cybersecurity services across Canada.
- Responsible for managing funding from 14 major research universities to deliver a program to collaboratively reduce cybersecurity risks targeting research intensive institutions.
- Lead the team to curate and deliver actionable, timely threat intelligence to the higher education sector in Canada.
- Responsible for developing and managing partnerships with national and international partners including the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security, RCMP National Cybercrime Coordination Centre (NC3), and the Canadian Security Establishment to share threat intelligence and mitigate cybersecurity threats targeting the higher education sector,
- Provide leadership to a team that supports institutions during active and ongoing cybersecurity incidents.
- Responsible for the hiring of staff, development of the necessary legal requirements, creation of the financial model and supporting the development of a long-term governance model to support the organization.

CANARIE (www.canarie.ca)

August 2017 – April 2020

National Research and Education Network (NREN) Coordination Manager

- Accountable for the operation of the federated NREN which includes facilitating collaboration between 12 separate regional organizations and CANARIE.
- Enabled consensus-based decision making around the NREN Governance Committee which includes 12 regional CEOs.
- Led the development and implementation of the 5-year strategic plan including a national procurement across 12 organizations to acquire and deploy a community Security Incident Event Management (SIEM) system.

Consultant

April 2014 – August 2017

Provide strategic and operational consulting to startup and not for profit clients across Canada. Select activities (and clients) include:

- Responsible for strategic development and management of a startup company. Grew annual revenue by 50% in less than a year. Developed processes and procedures to support the ongoing operations of the startup company. (Paradocs Mountain Software).

- Provided guidance on the most appropriate path forward for incorporation of a new not-for-profit organization. Analyzed governance models and liaised with legal counsel. (WestGrid).
- Brought together stakeholders to evaluate needs, requirements and support the development of strategies to enable research data management within Canada (CANARIE).

Compute Canada-Calcul Canada (www.computecanada.ca) March 2012 – April 2014

Interim President (From April 2012 to December 2012 – Executive Director)

- Led the incorporation of the not-for-profit organization. Managed a multi-stakeholder consultation to develop the governance structure for the organization.
- Setup and managed the federal office including the development processes and systems to support the organization. Recruited and managed staff, contractors and volunteers necessary to support the organizations ongoing operations.
- Responsible for driving the multi-stakeholder process to develop the 5-year Strategic Plan for the organization.
- Responsible for budgeting and financial management of the organization. Developed the 5-year \$21 million annual operating budget for the corporation. Established short term and long-term funding priorities for the organization.

Cybera Inc (www.cybera.ca) April 2002 – March 2012 Alberta, Canada

Recent Role: Vice-President Project & Partnership Development

- Responsible for the development and ongoing management of Cybera's strategic partnerships and stakeholder relations.
- Developed funding priorities for the organization and doubled Cybera's annual operating budget for three consecutive years.
- Cultivated and maintained positive relationships with various individuals to advance Cybera's goals and priorities within key stakeholder organizations.
- Developed, secured funding and implemented 15 projects over two years ranging in value from \$50K to \$2M and spanning two weeks to two years. Accountable for more than \$6M flowing to participants at major stakeholder organizations.
- Project Manager for Cybera's initial projects and then transitioned to managing a team of four Project Managers who were responsible for the execution of all projects.
- Responsible for determining client/customer requirements, maximizing staff utilization, negotiating and supporting the CFO in the execution of contracts.
- Overall corporate responsibilities included strategic alliance of corporate mandate and goals with potential projects and partners and reporting to the Board on key projects and partners.
- Past roles included: Project Manager, Member Relations, Programmer and Systems Analyst

WestGrid (www.westgrid.ca) March 2008 – March 2012 Western Canada

Executive Director

- Direct and manage a five-year, \$50+ million high performance computing, data storage, collaboration and visualization consortium.
- Responsible for facilitating consensus based decision-making in the Executive Committee (operating as the Board) consisting of multi-disciplinary researchers from eight institutions.
- Provide leadership and develop strategy related to all aspects of the organization including purchasing, staffing and proposal development.
- Managed and supervise technical and management staff directly and indirectly employed by WestGrid (through 14 partner institutions).

- Responsible for directing all communications and marketing for the organization.
- Developed a strong rapport with the major funder and all partners including vendors, institutions, Vice-Presidents (Research), administrative offices, researchers and national consortia partners (including technical, administrative and management levels).

EDUCATION, PRESENTATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Board & Committee Experience:

2017-Present	Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) Present role: Board Chair Past roles: Community Investment Committee Chair, Board Vice Chair
2016-2021	Highland Park Community Association (Treasurer)
2015-2020	Highland Park Preschool Parent Committee
2014-2016	Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA), Nominating Committee
2012-2014	Leadership Council for Digital Infrastructure
2012-2014	Research Data Canada Steering Committee
2010-2012	Open Grid Forum, Board of Directors
2009	Summit 09 Conference Program Chair
2006-2011	Calgary Ultimate Association, Board of Directors (Finance Director)
2004-2007	Cambridge Square Condo Association, Board of Directors (President)

Education:

Institute for Corporate Directors, Directors Education Program, Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto
 Bachelor of Science: Major in Computer Science, Minor in Management, University of Calgary

Community Involvement:

2010-Present	Calgary Women's Competitive Ultimate Frisbee Team Player Coach
2016-Present	Highland Park Community Association strategic advocacy working group
2005-2007	Bishop Grandin High School, Sr. Girls Basketball Team Coach
2000-2005	Bishop Grandin High School, Team Handball Coach
1995-2009	Calgary Basketball Officials Association, Official