

**Women in Transportation Roundtable**  
**Engaging women in leadership roles**

**March 14, 2017 – 8:00 am to Noon**

**CN Strategy Room**  
**SFU Segal Centre for Graduate Studies**  
**500 Granville Street, Vancouver, BC**

The Asia Pacific Gateway Skills Table (Skills Table) and the Western Transportation Advisory Council (WESTAC) are bringing together stakeholders for a conversation on engaging women in leadership roles within the transportation industry.

Women are underrepresented in transportation-related industries and occupations across **Canada. The Asia Pacific Gateway Skills Table's (Skills Table) recent research determined that** female participation in the transport sector is only 25%, compared to nearly 50% for all other industries.

The Government of Canada is prioritizing increased opportunities for women. The government demonstrated this through appointing a gender balanced Cabinet and by introducing Bill C-25 which will require publicly traded corporations to report on the diversity of its Board of Directors and senior management.

In late 2016, WESTAC conducted interviews with over 30 women and men in the transportation sector. The goal was to understand the career paths of successful women and to identify barriers faced. A review of the conversations found common themes and concerns. The report will be made available before the roundtable.

This half-day roundtable will validate findings from research conducted and will attempt to identify strategies and initiatives **to increase women's participation in the transportation sector** and its principal occupations.

*Participation in the roundtable is by invitation only.*

## AGENDA

*as of March 2, 2017*

**March 14, 2017**

- 7:30 am **Registration & Continental Breakfast**
- 8:00 am **Opening Remarks & Introductions**
- Oksana Exell, President & CEO, WESTAC
- 8:10 – 8:30 am **Welcoming Remarks – Government of Canada**
- MP Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, Parliamentary Secretary for International Trade
- 8:30 – 8:40 am **Plan for the Day**
- Oksana Exell, President & CEO, WESTAC
- 8:40 – 9:10 am **Presentation of Business Case – Women are Good for Business**
- Vandana Juneja, Senior Regional Director, Central Canada, Catalyst Canada
- 9:10 – 9:30 am **Plenary Discussion – issue identification & prioritization**
- identify stumbling blocks for women reaching executive level
- 9:30 – 10:15 am **Breakout Group Discussions**
- curated breakout groups will focus on priority areas identified in plenary session
  - work on identifying how employers, employee and government can make meaningful changes
- 10:15 am – 10:30 am **Coffee break**
- 10:30 – 10:55 am **Plenary Session – Reports on Breakout Group Discussions**
- 10:55 – 11:35 am **Diversity in Action: Leaders Panel**
- Michele Mawhinney, Vice President Human Resources & Supply Management, Vancouver International Airport Authority
  - Teck (confirmed)
- 11:35 – Noon **Next Steps – Practical & Concrete Actions**
- Noon **Lunch**

About Asia Pacific Gateway Skills Table

The Skills Table is a non-profit, regional partnership between labour, business and education/ training institutions. Our mission is to ensure the Asia Pacific Gateway has enough people with the right skills and training to meet its needs. The Skills Table produces labour market information, works to address skills gaps and researched the future of work in the Gateway.

About WESTAC

WESTAC (Western Transportation Advisory Council) is a council of transportation leaders in business, labour, and government from across Canada, with an interest in the long-term competitiveness of Western Canada's trade and transportation network. A neutral and trusted platform for over 40 years, the WESTAC forum hosts conversations on important issues in transportation and encourages collaboration on supply chain challenges.