

Committee: **Upper Thames River Conservation Authority**

Organization/Sector represented:

Name: **Ryan Finnon**

Occupation: **Director, Investment Operations and Fund Valuations (AGF Investments Inc.)**

Work experience: **Experienced CPA with a demonstrated history of working in the investment management industry. Currently, I work as AGF's Director, Investment Operations and Fund Valuations, leading a broad range of functions, including accounting, financial and client reporting, treasury, performance measurement and management, information technology, and database maintenance for AGF Management Limited and its subsidiaries. Previously, I was the Manager, Investment Operations, where I led a team of 10 employees that handled key operational processes for over 120 funds, worth over \$30 billion in assets under management. Including accounting, pricing, valuations, variance analysis, reporting, cash and collateral management, performance measurement, risk measurement for a wide range of investments products, strategies and structures.**

Originally breaking into the industry as a financial analyst at the quantitative asset management firm Highstreet Asset Management where I directed the execution of fund accounting and valuation activities including net assets values, yields, distributions, benchmark and variance analysis, cash management for over \$6 billion in assets under management across 50 pooled, institutional and segregated funds. Skills include: business operations; analytics; strategic leadership and management; operations management; budgeting; implementation; VBA; Bloomberg; Eagle Investment Systems.

Education: **CMA Strategic Leadership Program (2009-2011), The Society of Management Accountants of Canada, London, ON CMA Accelerated Program (2009), The Society of Management Accountants of Canada, London, ON Athabasca University (2007-2008), Courses Included: Intermediate Financial Accounting, Intermediate Management Account, Corporate Finance, London, ON Canadian Securities Course & Conduct and Practices Handbook (2005), Canadian Securities Institute, London, ON Honours Bachelor of Arts – Political Science with Business Administration Option (2004) Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON**

Skills: **A professional designation coupled with a proven track record of achievements in operational development, strategic planning, and relationship management. Leadership: Direct 3 teams responsible for a broad range of functions, including accounting, valuations, financial and client reporting, treasury, performance measurement and management, information technology, and database maintenance supporting AGF Management Limited and its subsidiaries, worth over \$30 billion in assets under management. Oversee employee management from hiring, training, compensation, performance evaluation, career development to work distribution, and project management. Project Management: Played a leading role in the implementation of a new investment management platform.**

Centralized fund accounting, valuations, portfolio management, fund performance, client and financial reporting activities for \$30 billion of assets under management. Resolved complex integration issues while designing business processes and ensured modernized controls were in place to mitigate risk factors identified during the process. Audit and Financial Statements: Review and approve semi-annual financial statements for 11 pooled funds, monthly client specific reporting and internal corporate reporting. Coordinate with Internal and External Auditors, Governance and Compliance on ISAE 3402 and GIPS audits. Mitigating operational risks with well-developed processes, controls, and oversight. Team Building and Development: Developed the investment finance department as part of our strategic initiatives, building a team from 2 accountants to a team of 10 diverse individuals in order to successfully scale operations to handle over 120 funds. Hands on leadership cultivated a culture of high performance and fostered a proactive environment of innovation. Change Leadership: Effective change agent during critical operational restructuring. Leading by example, communicating effectively across all functional areas with associates at all levels; gaining respect, trust, credibility, while motivating others.

Demonstrated throughout the integration of subsidiaries and externally provided shared services into our investment operations. An operational increase of \$20 billion in assets under management. Relationship Management and Collaboration: Collaborated with Senior Management and Investment Management teams to develop and implement key initiatives including cash projection analysis, asset allocation tools for \$6 billion in assets under management and straight through processing of equity options and currency

hedging for 14 derivative enhanced funds. Maybe the most important skill is not a skill itself but a passion for the cause itself and what UTRCA represents truly strengthens my skillset mentioned above.

Interest reason: I want to be on this board to play a role in deciding policies and programs that will lead to a healthy watershed. After helping coach the London Jr Knights Minor Midget AAA team for 5 years you see what you can give back and on you can make an impact to your community. (Non-parent coach). The reason I live and London and rise my family in London is the access to the outdoors and all the activities you can be involved outside in the fresh air. Working in the Investment Industry, it's a fast paced environment filled spreadsheet and computer screen so when I am not in the office I spend as much time as possible outside. My family enjoys the outdoors whether it be taking the family dog for a hike or spending time on the water kayaking, or biking through the trails the outside gives us that opportunity to connect and achieve a work-life balance.

Contributions: My business experience and knowledge combined with my enthusiasm for the role would be my overall contribution but specifically, my first goal is to be part of the Audit Committee and the Investment Advisor group in order to leverage my background. I have a professional accounting designation with a breadth of experiences that can play a pivotal role in strategic development of UTRCA. I am a father with a young family, a family that will benefit from UTRCA achieving its mandate and I want to play an active role in that mandate.

Past contributions: In my role and AGF/Highstreet I work with our Board of Directors regarding the financial statements and reporting. In addition, being an Asset Manager our company assists with the investment management for many similar organizations and groups and as part of that I interact with the client on a regular basis. Lastly I have contributed to our community by helping coach the London Jr Knights Minor Midget AAA team for five years and volunteering at tree planting events.

Interpersonal: In my role as a Director or Investment Operations, interpersonal skills and collaboration are vital to our success. We have offices and clients across the world which allows me to interact with many different people with diverse backgrounds, skill sets, languages, and personalities. My leadership and ability to nature positive relationships has helped me develop the ability to identify and seize opportunities for constructive collaboration. Some of my key relationships include the investment management team, investment operations, client relationship managers, institutional sales, research, auditors (internal and external) and compliance. The interaction and collaboration is the aspect I most enjoy about my work.

Interview interest: Yes