



DINA CALCATTERA, GPC.D

Governance Coordinator and Executive Assistant to the CEO, Healthcare Insurance Reciprocal of Canada (HIROC)

Fun fact:

I have two small children of my own now, but when I was in my 20's I taught English to underprivileged children in Greece and Mexico.

Why have you joined GPC?

I joined GPC really to expand my horizons and understanding of all things governance. I have a paralegal background originally and I have enjoyed learning more about the corporate, legal, and compliance aspects of my position. I appreciate the support that GPC provides, as in my position, I need to make sure that everything we are doing is being done correctly.

Why do you think GPC is an important organization for any governance professional to belong to in Canada?

Any organization like GPC that supports learning and professional development is a great organization to join! I did a lot of research before I joined GPC, I spoke to my peers and they all recommended GPC for the range of knowledge on governance topics. I also wanted to complete the GPC-EP and gain my GPC.D designation.

How did you get into governance and your current role?

I was working in an administration role, assisting our CEO, and once my predecessor retired my boss suggested a governance role as I was doing more than administration. I completed my GPC.D through GPC and got the position of Governance Coordinator added to my title and started to focus on board-related matters.

What does governance mean to you?

Governance means a lot of things and can often feel like being an "underpaid CEO!" But in seriousness, it means making sure that everything is in order and being the one individual that can be relied on for all things governance related.

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What do you believe is a key topic right now in the governance industry?

ESG is a topic that is in the headlines at the moment. There is an understanding that every organization should have an ESG framework and to work this framework into the organization's strategic plans. I believe that all organizations should also have a diversity statement and it is great to have board support in this area.

Where do you see, or would like to see the role of governance in the next few years?

I see governance becoming more recognized as a profession and more individual awareness of what the governance function does for the organization. I also see our role becoming a more streamlined position that is highly respected and not just added into other roles.

What is the most fulfilling part about your role in governance? What do you love most about your job?

I love lots of things about my job! I love not being micro-managed and being trusted to make the right decisions. People can come to me with questions, and I can answer them and put them on the right track to succeed.

What is the best career advice you can provide?

Ask questions and make mistakes! And don't be afraid to acknowledge when you have made a mistake.