

Driving innovation and competitive advantage: 'Canada's Best Diversity Employers' for 2018 are announced

TORONTO, March 2, 2018 – It's not difficult to identify the employers that embrace diversity and inclusion: more often than not, these organizations understand that diversity and inclusion create a competitive advantage that helps drive innovation in their organizations. That's the message from this year's winners of the *Canada's Best Diversity Employers* competition, announced today by the editors of Canada's Top 100 Employers at Mediacorp Canada Inc.



“The conversation has evolved immensely since the inception of the *Canada's Best Diversity Employers* competition over ten years ago,” says Kristina Leung, Senior Editor of the Canada's Top 100 Employers project, which manages the competition. “The focus for many organizations today is to cultivate diversity of thought and create an environment in which individuals have an equal opportunity to contribute, advance, and voice their opinions and perspectives.”

“Several employers on this year's list are also focused on shifting perceptions of disabilities,” adds Leung. “They are reframing the conversation to the employment possibilities, rather than what's not possible, whether it's mental health, intellectual disabilities or accessibility.”

Some notable initiatives the editors recognized this year:

- Along with a summer internship and scholarship program for students with disabilities, **TD** is piloting a recruitment program to hire individuals on the autism spectrum.
- Calgary-based **Shaw Communications** has a program to help veterans find meaningful employment.
- **Manulife** hosts a special employee group (Women@Manulife) that provides its female employees with opportunities to network, discussion groups, speaker presentations and special events with company leaders.
- **Shell Canada** has a network for employees with disabilities (enABLE), which recently organized an “Experiential Learning Day” pairing senior leaders with individuals who identify as having a disability.
- The **Nova Scotia Government** employs a Senior Consultant on Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity, in addition to maintaining formal guidelines to support trans and gender variant employees.

- Telecommunications provider **SaskTel** maintains a proactive Indigenous recruitment strategy to increase the number of Aboriginal employees through partnerships with community organizations, career fairs, and networking events.

Now in its 11th year, the *Canada's Best Diversity Employers* competition recognizes the nation's leaders in creating inclusive workplaces for employees from five diverse groups: women; visible minorities; persons with disabilities; Aboriginal peoples; and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) peoples. The annual competition is open to any employer with its head office or principal place of business in Canada. Employers of any size may apply, whether private or public sector.

Founded in 1992, Mediacorp Canada Inc. is the nation's largest publisher of employment periodicals. Since 1999, the Toronto-based publisher has managed the [Canada's Top 100 Employers](#) project, which includes 18 regional and special-interest editorial competitions that reach over 15 million Canadians annually through a variety of magazine and newspaper partners. Mediacorp also operates [Eluta.ca](#), the largest Canadian job search engine, which includes editorial reviews from the Canada's Top 100 Employers project and is now used by almost 7 million users in Canada each year. Together with Willis Towers Watson, Mediacorp hosts the [Top Employer Summit](#), Canada's largest conference for senior-level HR professionals.

The full list of *Canada's Best Diversity Employers* for 2018 is attached. The winners were announced in a [special magazine](#) published in The Globe and Mail this morning. Detailed reasons for selection, with additional stories and photos, were released this morning and are accessible via the [competition homepage](#).

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Further information:

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Canada's Best Diversity Employers 2018 Winners

Accenture Inc. (*Toronto ON*)

Access Communications Co-operative Ltd. (*Regina SK*)

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (*Ottawa ON*)

Air Canada (*Saint-Laurent QC*)

Amex Bank of Canada (*Toronto ON*)

BC Public Service (*Victoria BC*)

BDC / Business Development Bank of Canada (*Montréal QC*)

Bell Canada (*Montréal QC*)

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP (*Toronto ON*)

Boeing Canada Operations Limited (*Winnipeg MB*)

CAMH / Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (*Toronto ON*)
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation / CMHC (*Ottawa ON*)
Canadian National Railway Company / CN (*Montréal QC*)
Capgemini Canada Inc. (*Toronto ON*)
Capital One Bank (Canada Branch) (*North York ON*)
Children's Aid Society of Toronto, The (*Toronto ON*)
CIBC (*Toronto ON*)
Dentons Canada LLP (*Vancouver BC*)
Edmonton, City of (*Edmonton AB*)
Employment and Social Development Canada (*Gatineau QC*)
Enbridge Inc. (*Calgary AB*)
Export Development Canada (*Ottawa ON*)
General Motors of Canada Company (*Oshawa ON*)
Health Canada / Santé Canada (*Ottawa ON*)
Home Depot of Canada Inc. (*Toronto ON*)
HP Canada Co. (*Mississauga ON*)
Hydro Ottawa (*Ottawa ON*)
Jazz Aviation LP (*Dartmouth NS*)
KPMG LLP (*Toronto ON*)
Lafarge Canada Inc. (*Calgary AB*)
Loblaw Companies Limited (*Brampton ON*)
Manitoba Hydro (*Winnipeg MB*)
Manitoba Public Insurance (*Winnipeg MB*)
Manitoba, Government of (*Winnipeg MB*)
Manulife (*Toronto ON*)
McCarthy Tétrault LLP (*Toronto ON*)
National Bank of Canada (*Montréal QC*)
Northwest Territories, Government of (*Yellowknife NT*)
Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP (*Montréal QC*)
Nova Scotia Government (*Halifax NS*)
Ontario Public Service / OPS (*Toronto ON*)
Procter & Gamble Inc. (*Toronto ON*)
Public Services and Procurement Canada (*Gatineau QC*)
Red River College (*Winnipeg MB*)
Rogers Communications Inc. (*Toronto ON*)
Royal Bank of Canada (*Toronto ON*)
Ryerson University (*Toronto ON*)
Saskatoon, City of (*Saskatoon SK*)
SaskPower (*Regina SK*)
SaskTel (*Regina SK*)
Shaw Communications Inc. (*Calgary AB*)
Shell Canada Limited (*Calgary AB*)
Sodexo Canada Ltd. (*Burlington ON*)
TD Bank Group (*Toronto ON*)
Toronto Transit Commission / TTC (*Toronto ON*)
Toronto, City of (*Toronto ON*)

Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada Inc. / TMMC (*Cambridge ON*)
UBC / University of British Columbia (*Vancouver BC*)
Unilever Canada Inc. (*Toronto ON*)
University of Calgary (*Calgary AB*)
University of Manitoba (*Winnipeg MB*)
University of Toronto (*Toronto ON*)
University of Victoria (*Victoria BC*)
University of Waterloo (*Waterloo ON*)
Vancouver Airport Authority (*Richmond BC*)
Vancouver City Savings Credit Union (*Vancouver BC*)
Vancouver, City of (*Vancouver BC*)
William Osler Health System (*Brampton ON*)
YMCA of Greater Toronto (*Toronto ON*)
York, Regional Municipality of (*Newmarket ON*)