

# Women in the Workplace:

**How the Hamilton - Burlington Bay Area is working to close the Gender Gap**

Special Panel Discussion | April 7th | 6:00-8:00 PM | Free Registration  
The Hamilton Spectator Auditorium, 44 Frid Street, Hamilton



**Jean A. MacKinnon, MBA,  
CPA, CMA, President  
Blue Sky Governance  
Consulting Inc.**

Jean is President of Blue Sky Governance Consulting Inc. an organization that is dedicated to creating boards of directors that excel by customizing the assessment, recruitment, selection, integration and succession planning process used by organizations. She is also a member of the board of directors for MTE Consulting Inc. where she is the chair of the audit committee, a member of the compensation committee and is the ethics officer. MTE Consulting Inc. is a mid-size engineering consulting firm with offices in Kitchener-Waterloo, Burlington and Stratford. Jean is also Past Chair for the Burlington Chamber of Commerce board of directors.



**Lynda Hykin  
Owner, The House Purger  
Coach and Motivational Speaker**

Lynda is a Canadian Author, Coach and Motivational Speaker whose topics included issues of wage equality, gender differences in the workplace and women and leadership. Using her research findings and drawing on vast personal experience, she leaves audiences with enlightening, actionable ideas and insights to break through barriers and learn how to start asking for what you want. She has published 4 books including, 'Negotiation for Women – 3 Simple Strategies to take Control; of your money, your career and your life' and 'The Bank of MOM is Now Closed – a Teenager's Guide on what to do with a Dollar'.

Lynda is also the Founder and Managing Director of The House Purger, a company offering compassionate cleanout services for Hoarder Homes, Senior Relocation and Estate Sale Staging.



**Audie McCarthy  
President and CEO  
Mohawk College Enterprise (MCE)**

Audie McCarthy is an expert in leading people and projects, and in curriculum design, development and facilitation. Combining her personal values of integrity, lifelong learning and respect for all with over twenty five years of corporate experience, another ten as an entrepreneur and now as President and CEO of Mohawk College Enterprise, Audie has built strong relationships with clients and associates to attain a high level of success.

Audie volunteers her time and leadership skills throughout the Hamilton community by accepting positions on boards, mentoring individuals and participating in events as a keynote speaker. Her passion is helping others become the best they can be. And in doing so Audie continues to improve her own skills.



**Maisie Raymond-Brown – MBA, B.Sc.  
Director of Employment & Training  
Services, YWCA Hamilton**

Maisie Raymond-Brown is passionate about the success of women. She believes that if women are successful, their children will also be successful and that this will transfer to the community and society in general. In her role as Director of Employment and Training Services at the YWCA, Maisie manages and finds funding for programs for women who have multiple barriers to employment, as well as for newcomer women. These programs, including a number of Pre-Apprenticeship Programs, help women gain the necessary skills to overcome barriers and to gain meaningful employment. YWCA Hamilton also offers programs to help women get into traditionally male-dominated fields. Maisie enjoys helping people in both her role at the YWCA and as a volunteer in the community. Nothing brings her greater joy than hearing the success stories of the women who pass through the programs at YWCA.



**Mary De Sousa  
Executive Vice President,  
Marketing & Communications  
FirstOntario Credit Union**

Mary De Sousa joined FirstOntario Credit Union in 2010 as Assistant Vice President of Marketing and was appointed Executive Vice President in June 2014. Mary took on the role of directing all facets of marketing and communication for the credit union. Her experience in marketing and the financial services industry, combined with her extensive industry knowledge, led to her appointment of Executive Vice President of Marketing. Her responsibilities include public relations, advertising, branding, corporate strategy development, product development, and corporate communications, corporate social responsibility, government relations and most recently, overseeing facilities and property management. Mary was also a member of the Athena Oakville Steering Committee – a group that recognized women executives who gave their time and expertise to local community initiatives.

**Moderated by: Krysta Boyer, Ambitious Realty & YEP Division, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce**

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