



# International Women's Day

March 8, 2021; 4:30 - 6:00 PM EST Virtual

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Sharon Barnes-Simmonds CPA, CGA, FCCA, MBA, Chief Financial Officer at  
Action Against Hunger, **Canada**

Sharon Barnes Simmonds, CPA, CGA, FCCA, MBA is passionate, driven, and caring. She is a qualified accounting professional with a penchant for giving back, Sharon has worked in the for-profit and non-profit sectors for more than 15 years. Her senior-level experience has taken her to organizations such as the Region of Peel and the Toronto International Film Festival and more recently in the INGO sector at Children Believe. She is currently the CFO at Action Against Hunger, Canada a global organization fighting poverty and hunger on a world wide scale.



Sharon earned her accounting designation from ACCA in the U.K., then later her Master of Business Administration [MBA] from the University of Manchester. She followed that up by earning her Chartered Professional Accountants [CPA] designation from CPA Canada.

She has also volunteered on a number of Boards in the non-profit sector, and is currently the President Elect for the Kiwanis Club of Toronto, Caribbean.

Sharon loves learning more about the world through documentaries, biopics as well as travelling with her husband and daughter. In her spare time she loves to blog on natural health.

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Jenny Okonkwo, Jenny Okonkwo MBA FCMA(UK) CGMA, FPAC, CPA, CMA  
President, Transform Consulting Inc., Founder, Black Female Accountants  
Network, **Canada**

As President of Transform Consulting Inc. Jenny provides professional branding services to diverse women CPAs and helps industry leading organizations build and scale diverse and inclusive workplaces. In 2016 she received the Diversity Role Model Award from the Diversity Advancement Network.

She recently co-authored the book "21 Resilient Women" and is an international keynote speaker.



As a passionate volunteer and CPA, Jenny gives back to the accounting profession through the work she does as Founder and President of Black Female Accountants Network (BFAN), an award winning grassroots initiative launched in 2016 with over 1500 members in Canada and beyond. Her volunteer



work has also been officially recognized by CPA Ontario in the form of the inaugural 2019 CPA Ontario Volunteer Award.

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## Jillian Couse, Head of ACCA Canada, ACCA

Jillian is an experienced education and association management professional who has held various roles in higher education and not-for-profit organizations. Having joined ACCA in 2012, Jillian has held several posts, most recently as Head of ACCA Canada, overseeing Canadian operations and market development. Jillian holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations and a Master of Business Administration degree with a concentration in International Business.

