

YWCA TORONTO WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

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NANCY BARBER Corporate Leadership

Nancy Barber has spent her career blazing a trail for women in the aerospace industry. Starting as an intern at Bombardier, she navigated the male-dominated field and became the company's first female Chief Operating Officer, where she was responsible for delivering the largest Business Aircraft Program in the industry.

Now serving as Senior Advisor to the Chief Executive Officer at De Havilland Canada and President of Women in Aerospace Canada (WIA-Canada), Nancy is committed to opening doors for the next generation of women and gender diverse professionals. Under her leadership, WIA-Canada has grown tenfold, expanding its reach and impact through mentorship programs, career development initiatives, and newcomer integration programs.

These efforts have directly supported hundreds of women and non-binary individuals in their careers. She also partners with leading aerospace companies to drive meaningful Diversity, Equity and Inclusion transformations, ensuring lasting change across the sector. Nancy's impact has been widely recognized. She is a recipient of the prestigious Elise Award for Business from the Northern Lights Aero Foundation, and was named one of Women's Executive Network's 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada (2020).

Beyond aerospace, Nancy is deeply committed to fundraising and advocacy for cancer research. As a survivor, she has dedicated countless hours to raising awareness and funding through her fundraising team, Pink Armour, winning the Women's Challenge Award for top fundraiser six times. In 2015, Nancy served as the keynote speaker at the CIBC Run for the Cure opening ceremonies, inspiring many with her leadership, resilience, and advocacy.

A trailblazer, mentor, and industry leader, Nancy Barber continues to reshape the aerospace landscape, ensuring women and gender diverse individuals have the opportunities, support, and visibility they deserve.

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