

KPMG

Toronto, ON

For my second work term, I had the opportunity be working at KPMG on the Technology Risk Consulting team. I worked alongside a large-scale team to communicate and help companies reach their technology-related goals. I have not been able to explore the technology risk consulting path, so this is a work term that I was both extremely grateful for, and nervous about as I venture off to a new stream in my career.



ABOUT THE COMPANY

KPMG is a multinational professional services company that operates in the fields of audit, tax, and advisory services. The company has a strong focus on technology, and the Technology Risk Consultant team plays a key role in helping clients navigate the risks associated with technology and digital transformation.

As a Technology Risk Consultant at KPMG, I had the privilege to be part of a team that helps clients understand and manage the risks associated with their technology systems and processes. This includes assessing the security of clients' systems and data, identifying potential vulnerabilities, and helping clients put controls in place to mitigate those risks. In addition to working on technology risk assessments, Technology Risk Consultants at KPMG may also work on technology-related projects such as implementing new systems or processes, developing cybersecurity strategies, and helping clients adopt new technologies.

Overall, the Technology Risk Consultant team at KPMG plays a crucial role in helping clients navigate the risks associated with technology and digital transformation. The team helps clients understand the potential vulnerabilities in their systems and processes, and works with them to develop strategies to mitigate those risks and ensure the security and integrity of their technology systems.

LEARNING GOALS

- ☒ To better understand how to collaborate with my team members from different backgrounds to complete the active engagement.
- ☒ Learn how to communicate my findings from an engagement through written reports (i.e., SOC1/SOC2 reports).
- ☒ Improve my time management and organization skills in order to maintain efficient work progress on simultaneous engagements.
- ☒ Improve my ability to use, manage, understand, and assess the IT security behind entities.

TECHNOLOGY RISK CONSULTING (TRC)

The Technology Risk Consulting (TRC) team at KPMG helps organizations identify, assess, and manage the risks associated with their technology and information systems. This includes evaluating the security and reliability of an organization's systems, as well as the risk of data breaches, cyber-attacks, and other threats.

The team works with clients to understand their unique business needs and goals, and helps them develop strategies to mitigate technology-related risks. This may involve conducting risk assessments, implementing new controls and processes, and providing guidance on compliance with relevant laws and regulations. The team may also work with clients on issues related to data privacy and security, such as helping them implement data governance frameworks and complying with data protection regulations like the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Throughout this work term, I was on engagements such as SOC reports and a smaller engagement regarding penetration testing for the cyber security team. Each of these engagements was very different than what I worked on in my previous co-op, or even in my courses. As this term was not development/programmed focused, I had the chance to look at technology/IT from a different perspective. I was able to join and eventually lead walkthroughs with the client, work on both the business and IT process sides of the SOC engagements, and overall just look at the bigger picture and discover that there is more to technology than development. I learned through both experiences and engaging in learning conversations with my PM how businesses function around their IT processes, and how an entity's IT system works and is integrated with all

components (i.e., accounting). I extremely enjoyed this work term as it gave me a chance to explore a different field I wouldn't have been able to otherwise.



MY ROLE

My official title is Technology Risk Consultant. My duties consist of:

- Identifying, assessing, and mitigating technology risks for clients across various industries.
- Providing guidance to clients on how to implement effective risk management processes and controls.
- Conducting technology risk assessments, including identifying vulnerabilities and threats, evaluating the likelihood and impact of these risks, and recommending risk mitigations.
- Assisting clients with incident response planning and execution, including identifying the root cause of incidents, developing corrective actions, and implementing prevention measures.

My skill set for the job consist of:

- Strong understanding of various technologies, including hardware, software, and networks, as well as the ability to analyze and evaluate the risks associated with these technologies.

- Ability to identify, assess, and manage risks related to technology and information systems. This includes being able to identify potential vulnerabilities and develop strategies to mitigate those risks.
- Potential to work with clients and colleagues across various departments- strong communication and collaboration skills.
- A good understanding of business principles and practices, as I will often be working with clients to help them manage the risks associated with their technology and information systems.
- Analyze complex data and information in order to identify trends and patterns, and to develop strategies to address potential risks.



REFLECTION

Completing a co-op work term at KPMG as a technology risk consultant has been a valuable and rewarding experience. Throughout the term, I had the opportunity to work on a diverse range of projects for clients in various industries, which allowed me to expand my knowledge and skills in the field of technology risk consulting.

Throughout this work term, I found myself working on SOC 1 and 2 reports (of both types). As this is a field within tech that I have not been exposed to before, there was a lot of learning to do. I'm thankful I have the most supportive, approachable PM - Raul Fuentes Gomez -, who took the time to support me and teach me everything I needed to know in order to complete my

engagements correctly. Due to this open, welcoming environment, I found myself comfortable taking risks early on and becoming knowledgeable in a field within technology that I would have never else been able to. Raul, alongside the wonderful “Red Team”, has directed and supported me in ways that will always leave a positive impact on my career for the better.

Overall, my co-op work term at KPMG has been an invaluable experience that has helped me to grow both personally and professionally. I am excited to apply the skills and knowledge I have gained in my future studies and career.