American Express Canada recognized as one of Canada's Best Diversity Employers for third year in a row

Monday, March 05, 2018 11:00:00 AM (GMT)

Amex awarded for its exceptional workplace diversity and inclusiveness programs focused on the advancement of women and mentorship, among others

TORONTO, March 5, 2018 /CNW/ - American Express Canada is proud to announce that it has been recognized by Mediacorp Canada Inc. as one of *Canada's Best Diversity Employers* for the third year in a row. This distinguished competition awarded Amex for its various diversity and inclusion programs, most notably those that support the advancement and growth of women in the workplace.

"At American Express, we take pride in having a diverse workforce and inclusive culture – in fact, it's one of our company's greatest strengths," says Catherine Finley, Vice President of Human Resources, American Express Canada. "By fostering a workplace where differences are celebrated and embraced, our employees are enabled to reach their full potential and connect better with our customer base."

American Express' *Women at Amex* initiative, which is aimed at supporting the development and advancement of women in corporate Canada, continues to play a key role in the company's focus on gender diversity. In support of this strategy, Amex recently partnered with the Women's Executive Network to launch *Mentorship Fundamentals*, a practical new guide designed to help women start, structure and get the most from their mentorship relationships. Thanks in part to *Women at Amex* and the company's ongoing mentorship and sponsorship opportunities, women represent 60 per cent of all Amex Canada's employees, and 46 per cent of the senior leadership team, while the board of directors is comprised of 52 per cent women.

On top of mentorship and sponsorship, Amex holds numerous internal opportunities to help employees reach their full potential. Among the most recent include self-development workshops, company-wide panel discussions with female leaders, and ongoing employee-led events focused on female empowerment.

Employee Networks also play a key role in further building the company's inclusive culture. There are currently ten Employee Network chapters at Amex Canada, which over 530 employees participate in, that actively support diversity, including: Women's Interest Network, Women in Technology, HOLA (Hispanic Origin & Latin American), ANA (Asian Network at AXP), BEN (Black Employee Network), PRIDE, SALT (Christian Employee Network at Amex), Families at Amex, and the Millennial Network.

Externally, American Express continues to develop strong partnerships with organizations that align with its various diversity initiatives, including: Forward Together, Women of Influence, Catalyst, and the Women's Executive Network (WXN).

About American Express Canada

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Countries: Canada

Industries: Finance & Insurance, Oil, Gas, Coal

Languages: English

Primary Identifiers: AXP-US, 06SR6M-E Related Identifiers: AXP-US, 06SR6M-E