

November 26, 2014

PRESS RELEASE

RITU BHASIN WINS CITY OF TORONTO'S WILLIAM P. HUBBARD AWARD FOR RACE RELATIONS

Toronto, Ontario – Ritu Bhasin, LL.B. MBA is the recipient of the City of Toronto's 2014 William P. Hubbard Award for Race Relations, for her continuing efforts to improve race relations in the city of Toronto.

"This is the reason that I chose to commit my life's work to advocating for the voices of difference, for those of us who experience oppression because of our cultural identities," said Ritu, who is the Founder and Principal of **bhasin consulting inc.** "I want my actions to contribute to the collective experience of breaking down barriers for all. But more importantly, I want everyone who feels different or 'less than' because of their race, to feel elevated, empowered, and beautiful in their skin."

The City of Toronto will present the **2014 Access, Equity and Human Rights Awards** in recognition of Human Rights Day on Wednesday, November 26th, 2014. These awards will be presented to seven recipients who have made a significant impact on the lives of Torontonians through their work to eliminate barriers to equality and discrimination.

The **William P. Hubbard Award for Race Relations** was established in 1989 and is named in honour of one of Toronto's first African-Canadian Councillors, William P. Hubbard, who was first elected in 1894. The City gives this Award to a person whose outstanding achievement and commitment has fostered a positive race relations environment in Toronto and has encouraged others to become actively involved in the elimination of racism and prejudice. All recipients must be residents of the city of Toronto.

Ritu thanks the City of Toronto for their continued support of her work.

Social Media:

On Twitter: @Ritu_Bhasin

On LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/ritubhasin/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ritubhasin/)

For more information, contact Sarah Israel, Client Relations Coordinator at 416.821.3554 or sarah@bhasinconsulting.com.

About Ritu Bhasin:

Ritu Bhasin, LL.B. MBA, is the Founder and Principal of **bhasin consulting inc.** She has extensive experience in delivering leadership programming, program facilitation, and coaching services across a range of people management areas, with a focus on diversity and the advancement of women. She is certified to administer intercultural competence assessment tools for teams and individuals, including the Intercultural Development Inventory and the Intercultural Conflict Style Inventory. Along with her sister, Ritu is Founder of **Insayva**, a platform for self-empowerment for those seeking personal and professional growth, which includes a series of leadership retreats for professional women. Ritu is also Co-Founder of **Mivoko**, an application that puts a voice to everyone's name in order to address the many issues surrounding name mispronunciation.

Previously, Ritu spent 10 years in the legal profession, first practicing civil litigation and then serving for 7 years on the senior management team of a preeminent Canadian law firm as their Director of Student and Associate Programmes, focusing on talent management for law students and lawyers including spearheading diversity and inclusion strategies and programming.

An inspiring and engaging speaker, Ritu is a regular contributor in the media, including NPR Forum as well as her past column, *Work It Out*, on the leading morning Toronto radio show, CBC's Metro Morning, focusing on workplace issues, leadership and diversity. Ritu has also instructed in the governance area over the last 3 years in the Executive Programs at the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto, and is a member of NextGenLeaders, a network of preeminent consultants and coaches who focus on talent management and leadership development with clients around the world.

Ritu has spent over 15 years volunteering in the community. She has been a member of the Toronto 2015 Pan Am Games Board of Directors' HR Committee and Employment Advisory Council, served on the City of Toronto's Yonge-Dundas Square Board of Management, and served on the Board of Directors for the Canadian Centre for Diversity. Ritu is a recipient of several awards and distinctions, including most recently: the City of Toronto's 2014 William P. Hubbard Award for Race Relations; Western University's 2013 Young Alumni of the Year Award; Women Of Influence named Ritu a "2012 Canadian Diversity Champion"; and, the 2011 Gordon Cressy Leadership Award from the University of Toronto. Lastly, Ritu is a trained instructor in a few yoga disciplines and, when she is not working, you will find her in a 'downward dog'.

Education

- MBA, Rotman School of Management (Executive Program), University of Toronto
- LL.B. (With Distinction), University of Western Ontario
- B.A. (With Distinction), University of Toronto