

JOHN WEEKES

John Weekes is a senior business advisor in the Ottawa office of Bennett Jones LLP. He is an expert in international trade policy, trade agreements, and the settlement of trade disputes. He provides clients with an insider's perspective on how governments approach such matters, including the negotiation, implementation and management of trade agreements and trade relations. With his extensive experience, he assists businesses and governments to develop strategies to advance and protect their interests.

John participates regularly in conferences on the challenges facing the trading system. He frequently appears on television, is a source of perspective for journalists, and contributes articles to newspapers and magazines.

He serves on several boards and advisory panels and is a fellow of the Canadian Global Affairs Institute.

He served the Government of Canada in numerous senior positions in the field of foreign economic policy including as Assistant Deputy Minister for Trade Policy, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister for the United States, Chief Negotiator for the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and as Ambassador to the World Trade Organization (WTO).



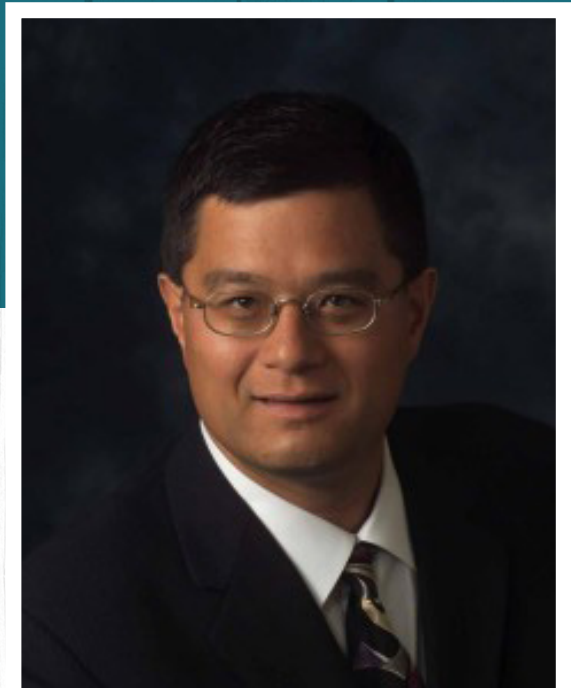
photo Jean-Marc Carisse

CHRIS DEKKER



Chris Dekker assumed the role of President & CEO with Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP) in May, 2015. He obtained an Honours Degree in Commerce from the University of Saskatchewan and worked in marketing with Maple Leaf Foods in Edmonton before joining the provincial government in a number of executive positions including Chief of Staff to the Leader of the Opposition. In 1996, he was appointed to the position of Manager of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs and Special Projects for the City of Saskatoon where his duties included Project Management for the River Landing redevelopment initiative. Chris returned to the Government of Saskatchewan in 2009 as Senior Vice President of Marketing and Investment Attraction for Enterprise Saskatchewan and was appointed Chief Executive Officer in 2010. Before joining STEP, Chris served as the Associate Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Economy. He is an Accredited Public Relations Practitioner (APR), and two-time winner of the prestigious Premier's Award for Excellence in the Public Service.

DR. KEE JIM



Dr. G. Kee Jim received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.) in 1983 from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He is the founding partner of Feedlot Health Management Services Ltd. (FHMS), and the 2008 recipient of the American Association of Bovine Practitioner's Practitioner of the Year award. Dr. Jim is also a past recipient of the American Association of Bovine Practitioner's Beef Award for Excellence in Veterinary Preventative Medicine, the Schering-Plough Animal Health Veterinary Award from the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, and the Canadian Animal Health Institute Leadership Award. Dr. Jim is currently the CEO and Managing Director of Feedlot Health Management Services Ltd.

Kee Jim's companies, G.K Jim Farms and affiliated companies Cattlinc Inc, Silverado Cattle Inc., Taweel Cattle Company Ltd., Korova Feeders Ltd., Quality Beef Producers, CAntex Feeders and Diamond Feeders are major players in the Canadian and United States cattle industries through ownership of cows, backgrounding cattle, grass cattle and feedlot cattle. In addition, Kee has served on the board of directors of several beef industry groups including the Alberta Cattle Feeders' Association, Canadian Cattlemen's Association, Livestock Identification Services Ltd., Canadian Cattle Identification Agency, Canada Beef Export Federation and the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency. Also, he has served as Board Chair of the Canada Beef Export Federation and Vice Chairman of the Alberta Cattle Feeder's Association

DR. STAN BLADE

Dr. Blade is Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES) at the University of Alberta. The Faculty is made up of 500+ faculty and staff, 1600 undergraduates and 550 graduate students. ALES is focused on teaching, research and community service in its departments and schools: Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Sciences, Renewable Resources, Human Ecology, Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology as well as the University of Alberta Botanic Garden and the Alberta School of Forest Science and Management. The Faculty has an annual budget of \$85m, with approximately \$45m of that composed of external research support. The Faculty has a large research infrastructure which includes 25,000 acres of farm and ranchland in key ecologies across Alberta. Dr. Blade is a full professor in the Faculty's Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Science.



Dr. Blade was born in Alberta, Canada where he was raised on a dairy and grain farm. He attended the University of Alberta for his first degree (B.Sc.) in genetics. He obtained his M.Sc. (Crop Science) from the University of Saskatchewan for a breeding/physiology study on wheat. Dr. Blade's doctorate was awarded by McGill University (Montreal, Canada) for work done at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture on a Canadian International Development Agency Ph.D. Scholarship. The thesis topic was a plant breeding/farming systems approach to improving an indigenous grain legume (*Vigna unguiculata* L.) for use within the complex cereal-legume cropping systems of the West African savanna.

Dr. Blade is a 2012 graduate of the Wharton Business School's Executive Development Program (University of Pennsylvania). In 2012 Dr. Blade was named by Alberta Venture as one of "Alberta's 50 Most Influential People".

Dr. Stan Blade was the founding Chief Executive Officer (2008-2014) of the Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions Corporation (AI Bio). Dr. Blade previously served as the Deputy Director General (Research) for the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA). IITA is a world-class research organization that is part of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (www.cgiar.org). Dr. Blade was a member of the Alliance Deputy Executive of the CGIAR. IITA is based in Ibadan, Nigeria, and has additional research stations in eastern and northern Nigeria, Benin, Cameroon, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. IITA has 150 internationally-recruited research and technology transfer experts based in fifteen countries within Africa.

Dr. Blade has published 90+ research articles, ten book chapters, 170+ conference abstracts and has edited four books. He has been the winner of several awards from the American Society of Agronomy and the Crop Science Society of America. Dr. Blade is a member of several professional societies and international committees, and has served on the editorial boards of several international journals. Dr. Blade has worked and traveled in 90+ countries.

He currently serves as Vice Chair on the Board of Trustees of the African Agricultural Technology Foundation, a Nairobi-based agency supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Dr. Blade also serves as a board member for Edmonton Global (regional economic development agency), Genome Alberta, the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute and the Alberta Cancer Foundation.

MARTHA HALL FINDLAY

Martha Hall Findlay joined the Canada West Foundation as President and CEO on September 1, 2016.



Martha is a thought leader whose insight on issues such as pipelines, international trade, foreign investment and foreign affairs, energy and the environment, and supply management have framed the debate for decision-makers and everyday Canadians. Her career has been diverse, spanning law, technology, politics and public policy.

Previously, Martha was the Chief Legal Officer of EnStream, a Rogers/Bell/TELUS mobile payments joint venture. As a lawyer, senior business executive and successful entrepreneur, Martha has more than 25 years of domestic and international experience with major multinationals as well as startups, primarily in telecommunications and technology.

As an Executive Fellow at the University of Calgary's School of Public Policy, Martha focused on Canadian economic, social and environmental prosperity in a global context.

She was a member of Parliament from 2008 to 2011, and served as a member of the House of Commons Standing Committees for Finance; Transport; Government Operations and International Trade.

Martha has served as a board director and executive for several policy, environmental, community and cultural organizations, including the Couchiching Institute on Public Affairs; the Canadian Centre for Responsibility to Protect (CCR2P) at University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs; the Georgian Bay Association and Alberta's CKUA not-for-profit radio network. She is currently Chair of the Board of Alpine Canada and a member of the Advisory Council for the University of Ottawa's Positive Energy project.

DR. DAVID CHALACK

Dr. David A. Chalack is a veterinarian and owner/partner and president of Rocky Mountain Holsteins Inc, as well as the International Sales Manager with Alta Genetics Inc. based in Balzac. Dr. Chalack is a past President for the Calgary Stampede. He also serves as a Director of Horse Racing Alberta, on the Dean's Advisory Council for the new University of Calgary Veterinary Medicine Faculty and on the Board of Alberta Ingenuity Centre for Livestock Genomics. Chalack is also a member of the Canadian Institute of Corporate Directors. He previously held the position of director of the Canadian Livestock Genetic Exporters Association. He is also an official judge with Holstein Canada and has judged in more than 14 countries.

