

2025 ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING – MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Hello.

I'm Vivian Abdelmessih, Chair of EDC's Board of Directors.

I would like to begin by honouring the traditional unceded territory lands of the Anishnaabe Algonquin Nation that I am on today.

Welcome to EDC's Annual Public Meeting.

2024 was a year of milestones for EDC.

The organization celebrated its 80th anniversary.

And we are now 5 years into our ambitious 2030 strategy.

As board chair, I am inspired by our mandate to support and grow Canada's export trade.

This mandate is more relevant than ever, as we engage in nation-building efforts collaboratively with our Team Canada partners.

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With each milestone attained this past year, I saw our mission in action making Canada, and the world, better through trade.

It's clear in our 2024 numbers.

EDC facilitated more than \$123 billion in trade-related business activities more than \$23 billion of this was in emerging markets.

We supported close to 28,000 customers with our financial and knowledge solutions almost 1,000 more than in 2023.

We served a record 500 cleantech companies maintaining and evolving our commitment to responsible business.



And we issued our 6th green bond valued at one billion U.S. dollars helping to further attract capital for climate-focused investment.

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EDC also took steps to advance Canada's trade agenda and broaden opportunities for exporters. We continued boosting our presence in the Indo-Pacific, with 3 new representations there...in Vietnam, Japan, and the Philippines.

This brings our total to 10 representations in the region, plus our Singapore branch. We also have 16 offices across Canada and 15 additional international representations - all focused on all focused on helping Canadian companies succeed globally.

This in-market presence is instrumental in helping Canadian companies navigate market complexities so they can seize business opportunities.

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Alongside these milestones, our year was also marked by transition.

In February of 2025, we welcomed Alison Nankivell as our new President and CEO.

Alison has over 25 years in global trade finance and capital markets.

She has the skills and outlook our customers need, as we continue to navigate today's complexities, challenges and opportunities.

Alison's expertise in international investments and finance, strategic planning and leading high performing teams through transformation is invaluable to EDC as we evolve the organization to meet this critical moment for Canada.

She returns to EDC where she previously spent almost 15 years. She brings to her role a deep knowledge of international business, having spent 14 years working in Asia.

As we welcome Alison back to EDC, I want to extend my gratitude to Mairead Lavery. Her vision and commitment to our mandate never wavered during her six-year tenure as CEO. Mairead worked tirelessly to grow EDC's market presence, international standing, reputation, and impact.

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As I record this message, times are uncertain. The months and years ahead will, no doubt, bring about many new challenges and opportunities.

Heading into this critical time in our nation's history, EDC's capabilities are needed more than ever.

And we are well-positioned to deliver for Canadian companies.

We have the geographic footprint, both in Canada and internationally, including in key regions such as the Indo-Pacific, to help exporters diversify and expand internationally.

We are supporting Canada's priority sectors, including agri-food and cleantech with a focus on responsible business growth.

We are putting our customers' needs first. Enhancing our digital capabilities with faster and more efficient offerings.

And we are leveraging our greatest assets: our people and our partners. They have the experience and skills to drive our success - our customers' success.

These are the qualities that have helped shape EDC over the past 80 years and will see us through the next 80.

Before I sign off, I would like to express my gratitude to my fellow Board members and the Executive management team, for their service to this organization.

And, to our Government of Canada and Team Canada partners across the ecosystem: you prove time again that, when we go at it together, we go further.

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With that, I welcome you to read our 2024 integrated annual report. In it, you will see a full picture of the initiatives and progress we made throughout the year.

The report pays tribute to our customers and the dedicated teams at EDC that support them on their journey from local to global.

We will continue to work for Canada, to build back our share of international trade and for the success of Canadian companies.



Thank you.

