

ABOUT CPP INVESTMENTS

CPP Investments is a global investment management organization that helps to ensure the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) is strong and sustainable for the long term, safeguarding the best interests of CPP beneficiaries for generations. Investments are diversified by asset class and geography. For the fiscal year that ended on March 31, 2021, the fund had \$497.2 billion in net assets, a net return of 20.4%, a net income of \$83.9 billion, and over 20 million contributors and beneficiaries.

MAIN PROJECT: 2021 REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE INVESTING

What is it?

- CPP Investments' second-largest public disclosure document which explains how the organization integrates environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues according to its legislative mandate.

My Responsibilities

- Collaborate with teams across the organization to source and evaluate information on ESG materiality, sustainable value creation, proxy voting, and climate change strategy.
- Synthesize and communicate the implications of internal insights on current and future strategies linked to sustainable investing and ESG integration across multiple investment strategies including active equities, real assets, private equity, capital markets, and factor investing.
- Oversee internal and external stakeholder engagement, produce and review written content, manage review schedule for 25+ individuals, and facilitate meetings to ensure the efficient and timely delivery of a large-scale public disclosure document.

WHAT IS SUSTAINABLE INVESTING?

In a competitive and connected landscape, heightened expectations of stakeholders have brought environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues to the fore. Companies and investors that anticipate and manage ESG risks and opportunities are in the best position to drive enduring financial performance. This requires recognition that ESG factors can directly impact a company's profitability. CPP Investments believes those companies that effectively manage ESG factors are more likely to preserve and create long-term value for their investors, beneficiaries and broader stakeholder constituencies. They consider relevant ESG matters when evaluating opportunities, making investment decisions, managing our investments and engaging with companies to seek improvements in business practices and disclosure.

LESSONS LEARNED & KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Managing and working with stakeholders is like playing Jenga: To respond to unexpected challenges and solve problems quickly you need to consistently be forward-looking, scope out potential problems before they occur, and maintain clear lines of communication.
- Handling imperfect information: You will never fully know the outcome of a decision at the time of making it but being creative, actively measuring outcomes, and being capable of using good judgment is the key differentiator between a good and bad decision. Everyone needs to start somewhere to get elsewhere. This is especially true when evaluating business risks/opportunities.
- While complicated to navigate at times, the little details that are easy to overlook can matter a lot.

SOME ADDITIONAL PROJECTS I WORKED ON THIS SUMMER: SUSTAINABLE INVESTING & CLIMATE CHANGE



Re-designed the internal intranet page



Climate-related financial disclosures presentation



Climate change macro update



Policy peer review



Climate change data tools