

William Downe
President and Chief Executive Officer, BMO Financial Group

William Downe is President and Chief Executive Officer of BMO Financial Group. He was appointed C.E.O. on March 1, 2007. He previously served as Chief Operating Officer.

Mr. Downe joined Bank of Montreal in 1983 and held a variety of senior management positions in Denver, Houston, Chicago and Toronto. In 1999, he was appointed Vice-Chair, Bank of Montreal and, in 2001, he was named Deputy Chair of BMO Financial Group and Chief Executive Officer, BMO Nesbitt Burns.

Mr. Downe serves on the Federal Reserve Board's Federal Advisory Council (FAC). The FAC is composed of twelve banking industry leaders in the United States appointed to represent their Federal Reserve Districts.

Mr. Downe is Chairman of the Board of Directors of St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, where he has served as a board member since 2001. Mr. Downe is also a past board member of Goodwill Industries of Chicago and is a member of the Chicago Club.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wilfrid Laurier University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Toronto, which he obtained in 1978. In 2003, he received the Rotman Distinguished Business Alumni Award from the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management and in 2005, an Arbor Award from the University of Toronto in recognition of outstanding personal service to the university.

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