

Open For Business appoints four new Trustees of the Board

London, 18 June 2021 – Open For Business, a coalition of global companies promoting LGBT+ inclusive societies, has appointed four new Trustees of the Board.

Ken Chan is the Vice President of Administration at Brock University. Ken's previous roles included: Assistant Deputy Minister with the Province of Ontario (Canada), Public Affairs Director at Vertex Pharmaceuticals and Vice President of Advocacy, Research and Healthcare at Cystic Fibrosis Canada. He has extensive board experience across the public, private and non-profit sectors, and is an accredited corporate director through the Institute of Corporate Directors.

On his appointment, Ken said: "As the world continues to struggle with the impacts of a global pandemic, concerted action on LGBT+ inclusion is all the more important. Open For Business brings together strong global brands and deeply committed individuals to push for equality and true LGBT+ inclusion. I am delighted to join the Board and look forward to making change happen."

Liam Rezende is Assistant Director for Brand, Marketing & Communications at EY and based in the team dedicated to Global Talent, Diversity and Inclusiveness. Prior to joining EY, Liam was Senior Marketing Communications Manager for EMEIA at Hyatt where he also worked as an Open For Business Fellow, focused on our research in the Caribbean. Originally from Trinidad and Tobago but based in London, Liam has over ten years' experience in the hospitality and tourism industry and is a champion of LGBT+ inclusivity.

On his appointment, Liam said: "I like the work of Open For Business and I know that companies working with activists and LGBT+ experts in-country can bring about real change. No-one should ever feel the pain of laws criminalising their identity or a lack of protection from discrimination. We're here to change that."

Netanya Clixby is a financial services lawyer, specialising in derivatives and structured finance. Netanya sits on the Law Society's LGBT+ Lawyers' Division Committee and is Co-chair and Co-founder of the London Bisexual Network, the first professional network for bisexual people and allies working in London.

On her appointment, Netanya said: "I am a strong believer in the importance of businesses taking a stand on LGBT+ inclusion. Open For Business supports companies in bringing about change through real action in challenging countries around the world. This action is needed now more than ever."

Nicolas Patrick is a partner at DLA Piper, a global law firm, where he leads the Responsible Business team. He advises governments, businesses and NGOs in relation to human rights and ESG risks.

On his appointment, Nicolas said: "Businesses have a unique ability to influence public policy and community attitudes and I'm looking forward to working with the members of Open for Business as they make the case for LGBT+ inclusion around the world."

Welcoming the new Trustees, Kathryn Dovey, Executive Director of Open For Business said:

"We are delighted to be joined by our four new Trustees at Open For Business. Their breadth of expertise and their dedication to LGBT+ inclusion is so inspiring. We are excited to see what their new energy will bring to our work as we continue to push for LGBT+ inclusion globally and catalyse the business voice."



-NOTES FOR EDITORS -

About Open For Business

Open For Business is a coalition of leading global companies dedicated to LGBT+ inclusion. Open For Business builds the business and economic case for LGBT+ inclusion in challenging countries. We believe that inclusive, diverse societies are better for business and better for economic growth.

Open For Business has dedicated regional programs in the Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe and East Africa with a program in South East Asia planned for this year. Each of these programs works with advocates in the local business communities, strengthening local business voices by providing them with evidence and fact-based arguments.

For more information on Open For Business, please visit Open For Business