

# East African Opportunity Company

## Directors and Advisory Board



### **Femi Ade**

Femi Ade has over twenty years of research, consulting and management experience in environmental/water management engineering. He is a registered engineer with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA). In the early years of his career, Femi practised for a few years as a highway engineer and a structural engineer. He has been working for Total E& P Canada as a Senior Environmental Advisor since 2010. Prior to this, he spent almost 14 years as a water management engineer with Golder Associates Calgary Office where he worked on several oil sands water management projects, managed the water resources group for a couple of years and became an Associate of the company. Femi made a personal visit to South Sudan in 2011 and he is keen on getting involved in the growth of this young country.



### **John Elson**

John Elson is a Professional Engineer and businessman with many years as a Project Manager (sometime a very modest investor) including projects in the energy, technology & Real estate sectors. These projects ranged in size from a few thousands to billions of dollars. John has served on numerous boards in public, private & Not for Profit sectors. He has worked extensively both nationally & internationally in North & South America, Africa, the Middle East and some European countries. Throughout his career, John has sometimes learned from his mistakes.



### **S. Mark Francis, CIM**

Mark Francis is a consultant whose business passion revolves around the small cap capital markets. His primary engagement is as an advisor to Canadian Securities Exchange, Canada's alternative stock exchange for small-cap issuers, but also advises other small growth companies. Mark has prior experience both as an Investment Advisor and also as a program review and business program analyst with the Province of Manitoba, and earned the Canadian Investment Manager designation. He currently has interests in other entrepreneurial projects, including mineral exploration, and several angel investments in industrial innovation/technology in Alberta through Alberta DealGenerator and VentureAlberta.



### **Glen Jones**

Glen Jones is a Director for SNL Metals and Mining and has 40 years' experience in the mineral resource industry. SNL recently purchased IntierraRMG where Glen worked for the past 11 years. With IntierraRMG his role was Head of Data Products and Technology and was responsible for data content, production and software development. As an executive director, Glen was instrumental in the expansion and growth of the company especially the data base and web applications. With SNL, Glen will be working with a team to help with company integration, product development and merging of the data bases. Glen started his career in the mineral exploration industry mapping underground stopes and logging drill core. He founded Mineral Information Maps in 1980, a company which monitored global exploration activity, compiled data bases and produced global activity maps. In 1992 he developed the "Hot Play" map concept and began publishing maps that showed rapidly developing area plays around the world.



### **Raj Joshi**

Raj has experience working with both small and large cap companies on market access and expansion strategies across emerging markets, including East Africa. He has worked in a number of (post-)conflict zones. Both during and after his time with global consultancy A.T.Kearney, he advised MNCs, the World Bank and national governments. Raj has also worked with startups and undertaken market analysis for CSE - the Canadian exchange for entrepreneurs. Raj holds a BEng (McGill), MBA (Oxford), along with qualifications from Harvard and Cambridge.



### **Jim M. Smith, B.Comm., C.A.**

Chartered accountant with twenty five years of experience working closely with entrepreneurs and small businesses. Currently operate a growth oriented, client focused public accounting firm with total staff of 5. Financial advisor (CFO) for the Winkler & District Health Care Board Inc. for the past 12 years. past treasurer for the Winkler Community Foundation (9 years), treasurer for Amy Janzen Memorial Fund. Have coached and managed numerous minor sports teams over the past several years. Involved in the livestock industry (cattle) with good knowledge of agricultural based enterprises.



### **R Stewart Thompson**

Randy is a builder of companies, angel investor and angel group leader at Canada's most active angel group. He is currently invested in twelve companies and has been working in the startup venture space since 1992 when he started the first ISP in Alberta. In 1999, he started working on developing angel groups in Alberta, beginning with an organization that matched deals for Western Canada investors on the Internet. In 2001, Randy began to work as a venture capital advisor to the Province of Alberta and started the Alberta California Venture Channel, bringing together investors and companies in both regions. He is founder and CEO of VA Angels, which has funded 66 companies for 29 million dollars, including a few deals in the US. He is also working with some new companies in Puerto Rico. In addition to this work, Randy is a member of the A100. | @VentureAlberta



### **Iris Thornton**

Iris Thornton is a former Air Force Captain and logistician whose unconventional career has taken her from various industries and roles worldwide, including remote, austere and conflict-zones. Iris started her career as an Air Force officer in the Canadian military as a logistician, where she worked in various locations managing the airlift for the resupply of remote military bases and in theatre for the first Gulf War. She was subsequently posted to HQ, where she was responsible for managing the airlift for many global operations, including humanitarian relief and major military deployments. After leaving the military she worked for 10 years in a series of roles of progressive responsibility in marketing and business development in the railway industry. Iris subsequently left to work in Afghanistan at a major NATO base, where she managed an international workforce of over 500 people, providing support services including Utilities, Airfield support camp maintenance and civil works. Iris' current role is as the Logistics Execution Lead for a new mega-project in the Canadian Oil Sands for Shell Canada. Iris holds a BA and MBA from the University of Manitoba, and is a member of the Association for Project Management.



### **Craig Watt**

Craig Watt is currently working in a senior role with the Government of Alberta. Previously he spent time with CAPP, assisting with the marketing and execution of the 23rd annual Investment Symposium in Toronto. This followed four years as a member of the Leadership Team at the Calgary Chamber of Commerce, where he looked after external programming and events, internal operations, and helped set the strategic direction of the organization in areas such as government relations, public policy, and communications. He came to the Chamber following a successful career in the food and beverage industry, including 10 years as the owner of a company involved in the importing of specialty wine, beer and spirits from around the world. He is married with two young children, and is very active as a volunteer in his community.