



MARY DEACON

Chair – Bell Let's Talk mental health initiative

Mary Deacon is Chair of the Bell Let's Talk mental health initiative, the largest-ever corporate initiative of its kind in Canada. Over the course of the next 5 years Bell has committed at least \$100 million to support new mental health research, workplace best practices, improved care and access, and anti-stigma programs including Bell Let's Talk Day - a national day of conversation about mental health – that takes place each year.

Mary assumed her role as Chair after a long and successful career in the philanthropic sector. Over the last 25 year years she has held a series of senior positions in the not-for-profit sector including almost a decade as the inaugural President of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health Foundation – Canada's largest mental health hospital.

A passionate advocate and leader in the mental health community, Mary has an established track record of bringing people and ideas together for positive change.

Mary has a Bachelor of Arts degree and is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Foundation for Canada. She has also received the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris cause* from the University of Guelph, for her pivotal leadership role in Canadian philanthropy, most notably in the field of mental health.

Mary serves on several boards and is also a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Mental Health. She resides in Toronto, Canada and has four children.