



Frances Donald

ALUMNA '05

Frances was born in Montréal and spent her early years in the West Island, attending school in Beaconsfield. She enrolled in the Honours Social Science with Math program at John Abbott College and graduated in the spring of 2005. Her academic achievements were complemented by an active role in the governance of the College through her participation in SUJAC, John Abbott's student government. Frances was the president of SUJAC for the 2004-05 academic year and represented the students as a member of a remarkable number of college committees:

- Academic Council
- Social Science
- Policy on Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures
- Code of Values
- Administration-Faculty-Congress
- Leadership
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Campus Daycare

Added to her time spent studying and contributing in several committees, Frances was captain of the cheerleading team which won the silver medal at the 2004 provincial championships.

Her concluding contribution to John Abbott, as a student, was her address to donors and participants at the annual John Abbott College Foundation golf tournament held in June of 2005. Her heartfelt testimonial was so well received by her audience that they applauded her with an emotional standing ovation.

Frances continued her education at Queen's University receiving a B.A. in Honours Economics in 2008, followed by a Master's degree in Economics from New York University in 2010. While in graduate school she gave some thought to a teaching career but ultimately chose the business world where she has enjoyed considerable success.

Prior to her tenure at New York University, Frances worked as a research analyst for the Bank of Canada. Following her graduation, she held positions in several high-profile financial institutions before joining Manuvie in 2016 as a senior economist. Two years later, Frances became head of Macro Economic Strategy. In 2019, at the age of 33, she was named Chief Economist, the youngest in Canada and one of only two women to hold that position.

Her accomplishments have been recognized by the Women's Executive Network (2019) where she was honoured as one of the 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada. Also, in that same year, Frances was recognized by La Presse as the Personality of the Week, and by the Globe and Mail as one of "The chosen few: a new generation of leaders who are changing the face of business in Canada."

It is not at all surprising that she is often sought after as a public speaker in her field as well as an expert commentator in the financial media.