

Lori Ireland, CMA
Chief Financial Officer
AGT Food and Ingredients Inc.

I am a Certified Professional Accountant and am currently employed as the Chief Financial Officer for AGT Food and Ingredients Inc. AGT owns processing plants in Canada, the U.S., Australia and Turkey, as well as distribution facilities in China and South Africa. In addition, AGT has merchandising offices in the UK, Netherlands, Spain, India and China.

AGT grew quite quickly, from a private company in 2001, shipping out our first container of lentils in 2003, to an Income Trust in 2007 and finally to a publicly traded company listed on the TSX in 2009. In 2019 management successfully bid to take the company private again. As the Chief Financial Officer for AGT, I am responsible for financial oversight and risk management. Through the rapid growth of AGT I led my team in the development of controls as well as the development of financial and management reporting packages. In addition, my team and I are responsible for the successful integration of acquisitions and ensuring that financial systems and accounting policies are in line with AGT's policies and practices. As the second employee in a start-up company I had the opportunity to develop systems from the ground up. I recognize that in the grain industry, it is imperative to have the ability to track transactions in real time and that these transactions must be linked to the general ledger. I worked hand in hand with a software company to develop a fully integrated system and received a Laureate from Computerworld Magazine in 2005. As the company continues to grow, I oversee ongoing enhancements and changes to our software to ensure the integrity of our information.

AGT has approximately 2700 employees globally, with our head office located in Regina. Many corporate functions are centrally controlled and fall within my area of oversight and responsibility.

Key areas of oversight and/or responsibility include:

- Financial reporting
- Management reporting
- Foreign exchange hedging
- Human resources
- Treasury
- Accounting policies
- Annual audit
- Banking relationships and reporting

- Interaction with the Board of Directors and Audit Committee
- TSX reporting
- Strategy development and implementation
- Insurance and other areas of risk management

I was on contract with the Society of Management Accountants for several years and acted as a Moderator for the Strategic Leadership Program. This position involved the mentoring of candidates as they learn various areas of management; including strategic planning, human resources management, treasury, decision making and report writing.

The challenges associated with business growth, including human resources, risk management, integration and corporate culture differences are challenges that I have successfully navigated through.

I am the current Chair of the Board of the Regina and District Chamber of Commerce. I am also the Vice-Chair of the Board of CPA Insurance Plans West. I have also chaired the governance committees of both these boards. In addition, I chair the board of a condo corporation.

I love giving back wherever and whenever possible. Along with my 2 birth sons, I have 3 “adopted” children through World Vision and Christian Children’s Fund. I love my 4 dogs, 3 of which are rescues and am a regular donator to the Regina Human Society as well as numerous other charities.