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## Celebrating International Women's Day at WBM



**March 8th is International Women's Day. To celebrate the occasion, WBM Technologies would like to share some perspectives from the women that are so vital to our leadership, vision, operations and culture.**

*Pictured here are some of the 43 amazing women on our team.*

As **Lori Templeton** explains, "International Women's Day is the celebration of social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. It's about women building women up and supporting each other."

During 5 years as Compensation & Benefits Specialist, Lori has witnessed a positive evolution inside WBM. "The world of IT technology from the outside, would appear to be predominantly a male profession. I am happy to say that I have seen a significant growth in qualified female applicants to fill our IT positions and that is reflected in our team."

One of those applicants was **Faith**, now a member of WBM's IT Service Desk. "Women's Day to me is about being thankful for the progress we have made, so that women like me are able to pursue opportunities that used to be inaccessible. I appreciate that I can work and feel safe in a job and hope that we continue to help other women who

*might still be facing unfair restrictions or poor treatment because of their gender.”*

**Sheena**, Knowledge Manager and Enterprise Service Desk Member echoes these sentiments, *“I studied film and animation, but after a few years, I discovered WBM and everyone was so welcoming. I always was a computer nerd and gamer so IT always interested me and I’m excited to see where the path leads. I’ve been faced with the classic ‘women can’t work in IT’ and ‘can you put a guy on?’ type of comments, but in the end, you just come back stronger as long as you remember that you have an incredible support system around you. I think the welcoming culture of WBM is great. Everyone is open to help and what I found really neat is that you are treated with respect. Even though I didn’t have a crazy amount of IT knowledge to begin with, I always felt like I was treated like an equal, and this was really refreshing.”*

**Tammy Fleming** is a great example of a successful career story. *“I started at WBM 7 years ago as the Finance Manager. With a team of two, our focus was to ensure billing occurred accurately and on-time. Over the years we began to collaborate regularly with our customers to determine and confirm their needs. We began to align as a true business partner and identified the value in the management of the IT Assets. This led to opportunities for personal development such as the training I took with The International Association of Information Technology Asset Managers. This training and other personal growth opportunities contributed to me assuming my current role as Director – Asset Management & Customer Experience where I now work with a team of 7. To all of those women that are considering a career in IT, I just want to say that WBM offers a supportive learning environment to build a career. It is a great place to be and there are many opportunities to evolve and grow.”*

WBM’s President, **JoeAnne Hardy** sees reasons to celebrate. *“I’ve been extremely fortunate my entire life to be surrounded by strong, smart and inspiring women. My mom, my grandmas, my sister and my aunties all loom large as big influences in my life. These are women I look up to and admire not just because of what they accomplished and how they lived their lives, but because of what they taught me. To me, International Women’s Day is an opportunity to honour and celebrate these people and an important reminder of the power of a community and the importance of role models in our lives. To the Women of WBM and all of the incredible women in our community and our industry – thank you for being examples of what happens when we build each other up, support each other and believe in ourselves!”*