

AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UKRAINE



Valentyna Beliakova

**Country Director** 

TIU Canada (LLC "TIU 1")

## **BRIEF BIOGRAPHY:**

TIU Canada is an independent energy company working in the sphere of the renewable energy, and is based in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. In Ukraine, TIU Canada started its operation in June of 2017, becoming the first Canadian investor in the Ukrainian economy under CUFTA, the Canadian Ukrainian Free Trade Agreement. I joined the TIU Canada company in June 2017 from my role as the Director of the European-Ukrainian Energy Agency. While at the Agency, I headed the efforts to advocate for renewable energy companies and progressive energy market policies. Previously I worked at Contour Global Solutions and managed a large scale Quad-Gen plant and related business operations in Ukraine. Prior to that I managed on-site and administrative matters for the coordinated construction of multiple large solar power plant projects in Ukraine. Before Contour Global, I worked for AES Company where I was responsible for the



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operational side of DSO's as well as involved in working on continuous improvement projects in Kazakhstan and Latin America. I have more than 15 years' experience in the energy sector and I hold

multiple certifications and degrees. Four years ago I created Women's Energy Club of Ukraine – nongovernmental organization - a voluntary, self-dependent professional association of women working in an energy related spheres in Ukraine. Our goal is to bring together women-professionals working in the energy sector for a mutual beneficial cooperation to increase the percentage of women employed in the sector and to reduce a gender gap in energy sector in Ukraine.

Why do you think membership in the American Chamber of Commerce is important for business operating in Ukraine?

During last 25 years American Chamber of Commerce made a significant role in development of the transparent environment for the Foreign Investments. Once you are a member of an association, you get exclusive insights and information about your industry. This usually helps members to foresee trends, get to know new products and services, and generally be involved in the relevant information about their specific industry and create the professional dialogue with the government representatives. It helps you to coordinate the efforts with the other industry representatives, to share your ideas and to hear others. Through the common voice the industry representatives could create the best environment for the growth, stability and strengthen of the businesses, as well as the innovation development and professional support.

## What motivates you to be a Chamber Board Member?

For more than 15 years I was working in the Energy Sector in Ukraine, by having international experience in work and invitations to work abroad – I have never had in mind to left my lovely Ukraine. I believe that our country is well growing and could grow much more and be more attractive for the Foreign investors as well as for the local ones. I spent several years in lobbying of the green energy and energy efficiency legislation as I believed that the transparent rules in the open market will bring the best tariffs vs best quality of services, will bring new market players. As a Country Director for TIU Canada I've chosen a proactive role in the ACC activities, by contributing my efforts as a Co-Chair of the Working Group and later Co-Chair of the Renewable Committee. From my side I see a need to have a Board Member who will be responsible for the Energy Sector, as Ukraine has now a lot of the challenges and opportunities for the investors – non-payments for renewable projects, start of the auctions, privatization program, gas production, supervisory boards in the state Companies, decarbonization and many other activities on which we should cooperate our efforts together. My skills and experience will be relevant at the Board level and I believe Ukraine can attract more investments into the Energy Sector and Ukrainian economy through the voice of business community and improvements in the business environment.



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Why do you feel you are qualified to serve on the Chamber Board? What skills would you bring to the Board?

I used to work on the both sides of the investment activities – from the business and business protection side – association. I encouraged effective cooperation among different businesses that bring them together. I provided practical and expert services to the international business community, I was a leading ACC member by initiating the dialogues, developing strategy ideas by being a Co-Chair.

I'd provide the time and efforts for the proper attention to Chamber commitments and responsibilities. I have the ability to inspire others in responding to the ACC initiative. My ability to work constructively and harmoniously with directors, members and ACC staff in accordance with the policies, established by ACC will bring the top-level decisions made and further grow of Ukrainian economy.

How have you been active in the Chamber over the course of the last two years?

During last two years I, as a Director of TIU Canada was a very proactive ACC member, I applied and have been chosen as a Co-Chair of the working group on Renewables, as well as a Co-Chair of the Renewables Committee. I initiated meetings, discussions, gathered different opinions on the needed changes in the sector. Me and our Company provided our time, efforts and resources to contribute into the ACC strategy and agenda and to help business prosper and grow. We supported different ACC activities related to the energy sector, regulative work and social initiatives.

What activity or Committee would you participate in and be responsible for?

I'd like to be responsible for the Energy Committee, specifically Strategy development, initiation of the meetings and activities. As I described - Ukrainian Energy Sector has a unique opportunity to growth and attract more investors through the development of the transparent rules for the all market players and stable legislation. It is strictly important to have as a Board Member an expert from the Energy Sector, who could bring value to the existing ACC members as well as to bring the new members into ACC. It'd be the benefit for both sides, as having as much members as you can - could give you the strongest voice of business in front of the all challenges on the way to the successful growth. I'd gratefully participate in the WELDI activities, I could help there with the Events organization, interesting topics development and further assistance with the strategy of growth. I could participate in the different round-table discussions, interviews and be a speaker at the conferences.

Thank you for your consideration and time, I'll do my best to be the leading Board Member for the Energy industry and to make Ukrainian Market attractive for the Investors.