

Basia Ruta

Assistant Deputy Minister



Ms. Ruta obtained a Bachelor of Commerce degree, Honors (Specialty Accounting) from the University of Ottawa.

Her career spans both the private and public sectors. Ms. Ruta joined Ernst & Young (then Clarkson Gordon) in 1980 and practiced public accountancy in Ottawa, obtaining her chartered accountant (CA) designation in 1983.

In 1984, she joined the Office of the Auditor General where she achieved the position of Senior Principal, Audit Operations. During Ms. Ruta's last ten years with that Office, she led a number of audits with reports tabled in Parliament, addressing public accounts, financial risk management, governance and alternative delivery regimes at Revenue Canada and Transport Canada.

In 2000, Ms. Ruta became Director General, Corporate Planning, Governance and Balanced Scorecard with the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA). There she was recognized for demonstrating exceptional leadership in helping to engender added robustness in the Agency's corporate governance and accountability structures.

In 2003, Ms. Ruta became Acting Deputy Assistant Commissioner with the Customs Branch of CCRA where, among other achievements, she led and successfully concluded a comprehensive operational review to overhaul Customs' \$35 million-a-year Trade Compliance Verification programme.

In 2004, Ms. Ruta was appointed Assistant Comptroller General. Among her key achievements was developing a new Policy on Internal Audit that is viewed as transforming internal audit across government, and leading edge for governments world-wide.

In 2006, Ms. Ruta assumed her current position of Assistant Deputy Minister, Finance and Corporate Branch for Environment Canada (EC). As part of her role, she is EC's Chief Financial Officer and the single point of accountability for the financial management of the Department – an over a-billion-dollar-a-year funded organization. In addition, Ms. Ruta is responsible for leading EC's participation in the Government of Canada's Corporate Administrative Shared Systems Initiative, ensuring proper stewardship over assets, contracting and EC's environmental management as well as for programmes and processes supporting the department's governance, values and ethics regimes.

Photos from top left clockwise:
• Basia Ruta in her office • At the Polish Canadian Youth Leadership Challenge conference *Quo Vadis*, University of Ottawa, 2009 • In front of her office in Ottawa
All photos – private archives

POLISH SPIRIT