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MEDIA RELEASE

Actua CEO Jennifer Flanagan named one of Women's Executive Network 2018 Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award Winner

Toronto, ON November 22, 2018/ We are pleased to announce that Actua CEO, Jennifer Flanagan, has been named a Women's Executive Network (WXN) 2018 Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award Winner presented by KPMG.

The list of Top 100 Winners was released today, paying tribute to the outstanding women across Canada who have advocated for diversity in the workforce, and who serve as an inspiration for the next generation of leaders.

"We are celebrating 100 of Canada's highest achieving women in diverse fields," said Sherri Stevens, CEO of WXN.

This is the second time Ms. Flanagan has been honoured with this distinguished award. She was also named to the list in 2006. She was recognized in the CIBC Trailblazers and Trendsetters category for her decades-long leadership in advancing women and other underrepresented audiences in STEM and the economy more broadly.

"Actua has been committed to diversity and inclusion in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) STEM for over 20 years. My career has been dedicated to fighting for women and other underrepresented audiences to have a voice at the innovation table," she said. "That requires early engagement of these groups of youth to ensure they have the skills and confidence to fully participate. We still have a lot of work to do in Canada to see women achieve parity in all fields - especially at the highest levels of leadership."

The Top 100 Awards span the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, with the initial candidates selected by WXN's Diversity Council. The final vetting process for the 2018 Top 100 Award Winners was completed by WXN's 2017-2018 Diversity Champions.

Past Award Winners include Canada's most iconic women trailblazers: Margaret Atwood, best-selling author, Dr. Roberta Bondar, astronaut, Arlene Dickinson, chief executive officer, Venture Communications, Christine Magee, president, Sleep Country Canada, Michaëlle Jean, former governor general of Canada, Heather Reisman, founder and CEO, Indigo Books & Music, and Kathleen Taylor, chair of the board, Royal Bank of Canada.

To mark this year's awards, WXN is hosting an Awards Gala on November 22 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. More than 1,400 senior professionals will attend.

For the full list of winners, visit <https://wxnetwork.com/wxn/top100winners/>.

About Actua: Actua is Canada's leading science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) youth outreach network representing 37 university and college based members. Each year 250,000 young Canadians in over 500 communities nationwide are inspired through hands-on educational workshops, camps and community outreach initiatives. Actua focuses on the engagement of underrepresented youth through specialized programs for Indigenous youth, girls and young women, at-risk youth and youth living in Northern and remote communities. Actua's major funders include: Government of Canada, Google Canada, Suncor Energy Foundation, GE Canada, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Finning Canada, Toyota Canada Foundation and Lockheed Martin. For more information about Actua, visit actua.ca.

About the Women's Executive Network (WXN): Women's Executive Network (WXN), a member-based organization, exists for the advancement, development and recognition of professional women in Canada. WXN delivers this advancement through training, events, mentoring, networking, and award and recognition programs for members and partners. At WXN, equity, inclusion and the advancement of professional women make industry stronger and society better. Their passion is 100% centered on empowering women and creating positive social change. WXN currently operates in Canada and Ireland.

- 30 -

Contact Information:

Kristina Martin, Director of Communications, Actua
111 Murray Street, Ottawa ON K1N 5M5
Tel: (613) 234 4137 Fax: 613 234 4779
Email: kristina.martin@actua.ca Email: kaitlynn.carroll@actua.ca
Web: www.actua.ca