

## *Canada's Investment Industry Faces*



### **Edward Ma**

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#### **How long have you worked in the industry?**

I have worked with Odium Brown since March 2002. Before that, I worked in various other industries such as paper making, IT outsourcing and insurance.

#### **Please tell us about any volunteer activities you may be involved in.**

I volunteered with S.U.C.C.E.S.S. in the past for their summer day camps and the Walk with the Dragon fundraiser.

#### **Please tell us a bit about your average day in the office.**

I start my day by reviewing the help desk tickets and emails to identify any urgent/scheduled tasks. After that, I allocate time to various projects, security patches, and maintenance work. As well, there are many opportunities to work with my colleagues to discuss and troubleshoot issues.

#### **What drove your interest to work in the investment industry?**

It was a coincidence that I joined an investment company, as my role with Odium Brown is in IT. After working with the Firm for 3 years though, I can see why it is such an attractive industry to be in.

#### **Do you find the work you do satisfying? If yes, why?**

The work is very satisfying in several areas. I find myself constantly learning on the job, so it is rare that I feel the work is repetitive. There is always something new to learn and share. Also, there is a sense of ownership.

My coworkers and I share a similar vision and drive to perform to the best to our abilities. They boost team morale and productivity to align all with a common goal: i.e. to provide maximum availability to systems critical to the company's daily operations.

**How do you see the industry helping investors and the Canadian economy as a whole?**

Financial responsibility was not something I was taught in school. The knowledge was mostly passed on by my parents, which encouraged saving at a young age. Having investment professionals providing sound advice to ensure a sustainable financial future is very important and goes beyond saving, especially for younger clients.

**Would you recommend a career in the investment industry to a young Canadian considering his/her career options?" If yes, why?**

Yes. If a young Canadian enjoys working in a dynamic environment and interacting with people from diverse backgrounds, the investment industry is certainly appealing.