

About CWT

Diana L. Nelson Chair

Responsible Business: at the heart of all we do



As Carlson's Board Chair, I am proud to see the principles of community engagement, philanthropy, and leadership on which Carlson was founded more than 80 years ago visibly being championed today. More than this: they are weaved into the fabric of how we all act every single day.

We understand that stakeholders have a vested interest in sustainability and corporate responsibility. They, like us, know the value these behaviors deliver to society. At a time when the world is looking to business to take immediate action to address our most pressing challenges, our company is creating positive and meaningful change. Let me share just a few highlights of our Responsible Business achievements in 2018.

We were thrilled to receive **Gold certification from EcoVadis** for the third consecutive year. Our enterprise-wide approach to embedding sustainability across our operations continues to place CWT in the top 1% of companies worldwide for Responsible Business – showcasing our commitment to RB at all levels of the organization. This commitment is further reinforced by our continued support of the **United Nations Global Compact's (UNGC) Ten Principles** on the environment, labor, human rights and anti-corruption (see p75).

Our people make our business what it is today: a successful and trusted enterprise with operations in every corner of the globe. It is the diversity of our colleagues that makes us thrive, and in 2018 we continued to promote ways to expand diversity and enhance inclusion. I was honored to sign the **UN Women's Empowerment Principles** (see p29) with CWT's top leaders. This action alongside the launch of our Global Diversity and Inclusion Charter signifies our belief that equality is the foundation of our business.

Our approach to Responsible Business does not end at our doors. It is our privilege and responsibility to support the communities around us and create a stronger, better society. In honor of Carlson's 80th anniversary, the Carlson Family Foundation offered eight **significant grants to nonprofits and charitable organizations** (see p64). The beneficiaries were selected by vote of CWT employees, who chose causes close to their hearts including **anti-human trafficking**. With long-term partners including The World Childhood Foundation and ECPAT (see p67), our company continues to take a leading role in confronting this critical human rights issue.

I hope you find this report as inspiring as I do. It is tangible proof of how enterprise-wide and individual actions have the power to make a positive difference. I am proud of all we have done, and continue to do, to ensure Responsible Business is *business as usual* at CWT.