

STEVE J. W. GEISEL

Fractional enterprise architect & AI transformation advisor

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Fractional Enterprise Architect and AI Transformation Advisor with 25+ years of experience aligning business strategy, governance, operating models, technology capabilities, and transformation delivery. Helps organizations establish practical enterprise architecture foundations, define future-state operating models, strengthen decision-making and governance, and develop responsible AI adoption roadmaps. Provides executive-level architecture guidance to organizations that require strategic capability without the cost and commitment of a full-time Enterprise Architect.

ADVISORY VALUE PROPOSITION

Strategic Architecture

- Enterprise and business architecture
- Future-state operating model design
- Business and technology alignment
- Transformation roadmaps

AI Transformation & Governance

- AI readiness and opportunity assessment
- Governance, decision rights, and risk oversight
- AI-enabled capability planning
- Practical adoption roadmaps

ENGAGEMENT MODEL

- Fractional Enterprise Architecture Leadership
- Strategic Advisory Retainers
- AI Readiness and Transformation Assessments
- Architecture and Governance Reviews
- Operating Model and Roadmap Development
- Fixed-scope or advisory engagements

SELECTED ENTERPRISE OUTCOMES

- Directed multi-million-dollar integration and transformation programs spanning 18+ concurrent initiatives, security alignment, risk mitigation, regulatory compliance, and enterprise populations exceeding 1,800 users.
- Led large-scale technology and operating environment upgrades, including consolidation of Wealth business groups and deployment of Windows 10 and Microsoft 365 capabilities to more than 5,000 users while maintaining business continuity.
- Served as a strategic internal consultant to the Independent Electricity System Operator, guiding enterprise reorganization and cross-platform integration within a regulated, security-critical environment.
- Advised senior leaders on organizational structure, security zoning, identity and access management, governance, and long-term roadmaps, translating technical complexity into actionable executive decisions.

REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

Scotiabank, Global Wealth Engineering

Challenge: Integrate MD Financial and Jarislowsky Fraser while maintaining security, regulatory compliance, organizational alignment, and uninterrupted business operations.

Architecture and governance response: Developed an enterprise integration roadmap and program structure across approximately 18 concurrent initiatives. Aligned security, infrastructure, legal, regulatory, and operational requirements while coordinating cross-functional delivery teams.

Outcome: Supported integration across legal entities, reduced enterprise risk, strengthened governance, and maintained regulatory and operational continuity during significant organizational change.

Scotiabank, Canadian Branch Distribution Technology

Challenge: Consolidate Wealth business groups and modernize the enterprise operating environment during COVID-driven disruption.

Architecture and transformation response: Defined the assessment, roadmap, governance structure, deployment strategy, business continuity approach, and organizational readiness plan supporting Windows 10, Office 365, and domain consolidation.

Outcome: Migrated more than 5,000 users remotely and deployed more than 600 laptops within four weeks, enabling sustained remote operations and reducing delivery risk.

CIBC, Wealth Management

Challenge: Modernize desktop infrastructure and manage middleware change across multiple Wealth business lines without interrupting critical operations.

Governance and delivery response: Secured \$3.5 million in funding, established transition teams, and implemented structured risk mitigation, governance controls, pilot planning, and rollout frameworks.

Outcome: Completed the migration with zero downtime while improving productivity and reducing operational and delivery risk.

Independent Electricity System Operator

Challenge: Separate Windows and UNIX/Linux initiatives created duplication, inconsistent security controls, organizational fragmentation, and limited long-term alignment in a regulated environment.

Enterprise architecture response: Progressed from architectural delivery into Strategic Architect accountability. Defined a unified future-state infrastructure and operating model, developed five-year technology roadmaps, and guided consolidation of Windows and UNIX/Linux teams into one integrated IT organization.

Outcome: Established a unified infrastructure strategy, improved security and audit readiness, reduced organizational fragmentation, and provided a long-term roadmap aligned with regulatory and operational objectives.

ADVISORY CAPABILITIES

- Enterprise and Business Architecture
- AI Readiness and Transformation Planning
- Future-State Operating Model Design
- Architecture and Governance Reviews

- Business and Technology Strategy Alignment
- Transformation Roadmaps and Investment Planning
- Executive Decision Support
- Program and Portfolio Governance
- Risk, Compliance and Business Continuity
- Infrastructure Modernization and Systems Integration

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Loblaw Companies Limited

- Delivered infrastructure and enterprise messaging initiatives supporting more than 25,000 users.
- Led architecture design, planning, stakeholder alignment, vendor coordination, and delivery oversight across IT, security, and operations.

Hewlett Packard

- Managed complex enterprise migration programs and distributed delivery teams.
- Applied structured, repeatable migration models to support quality, stakeholder satisfaction, and risk mitigation.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

- Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, Carleton University
- Project Management Certificate, Sheridan College
- Business Analysis Certification, Sheridan College
- Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer (MCSE)
- Microsoft Certified Product Specialist
- ITIL Foundations Certification

TECHNOLOGY & DELIVERY ENVIRONMENT

Microsoft 365, Azure AD, Exchange Online, SharePoint, Windows Server, Active Directory, enterprise infrastructure, SQL, Oracle, cloud and hybrid environments, Microsoft Project, Visio, portfolio and program governance, risk registers, executive reporting, and Agile/Waterfall hybrid delivery models.

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONING

Steve works with professional services firms, law firms, municipal governments, not-for-profit organizations, and growing small and mid-sized businesses that need executive-level architecture and transformation guidance without maintaining a full-time enterprise architecture function.

CONTACT

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*Available for remote engagements across Canada and North America,
and hybrid advisory engagements throughout the Ottawa region.*