

GLOBAL BOARDS ALUMNI

The Advisor Accelerator Program™

Real boards. Shared learning. Lasting value.

A six-month, fully online program for advisors and ventures

alumnigb.com

The Advisor Accelerator Program™

Real boards. Shared learning. Lasting value.

A six-month, fully online program for experienced executives and ventures from trusted alumni and professional networks. Advisors develop observable board behaviors through real practice. Ventures experience how sustained independent challenge can strengthen strategic decisions and preparation for future capital rounds. GBA matches both sides to maximize mutual learning.

At a Glance

6 Months

Full program duration

3 Sessions

Training sessions in your track

5 Meetings

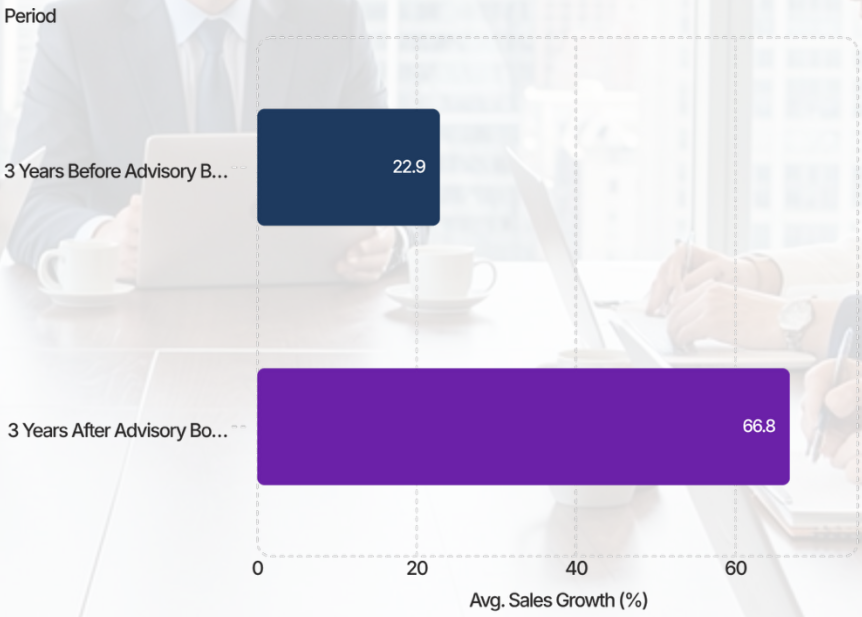
Professionally facilitated board meetings

18–20 Hours

Scheduled online hours per participant, plus pre-reading and individual preparation

Why Advisory Boards Matter

Historical evidence from Canadian SMEs shows a dramatic impact of advisory boards on business growth. Average sales growth was **22.9%** in the three years *before* establishing an advisory board — and **66.8%** in the three years *after*. Yet only **6%** of surveyed SMEs had an advisory board, representing a significant untapped opportunity.



Source: BDC, Advisory Boards: An Untapped Resource for Businesses (2014). These historical findings do not establish causality or predict AAP outcomes.

Preparation for Both Sides of the Table

BEFORE THE PROGRAM

After acceptance and payment, GBA matches advisors and ventures around venture priorities and advisor learning goals.
Strategic progress for the venture and the advisor's development carry equal weight.
Participants complete the pre-reading before the training begins.

MONTH 1: TWO LEARNING TRACKS

Each participant attends **three** online training sessions in their own track.
The following topics span those sessions.

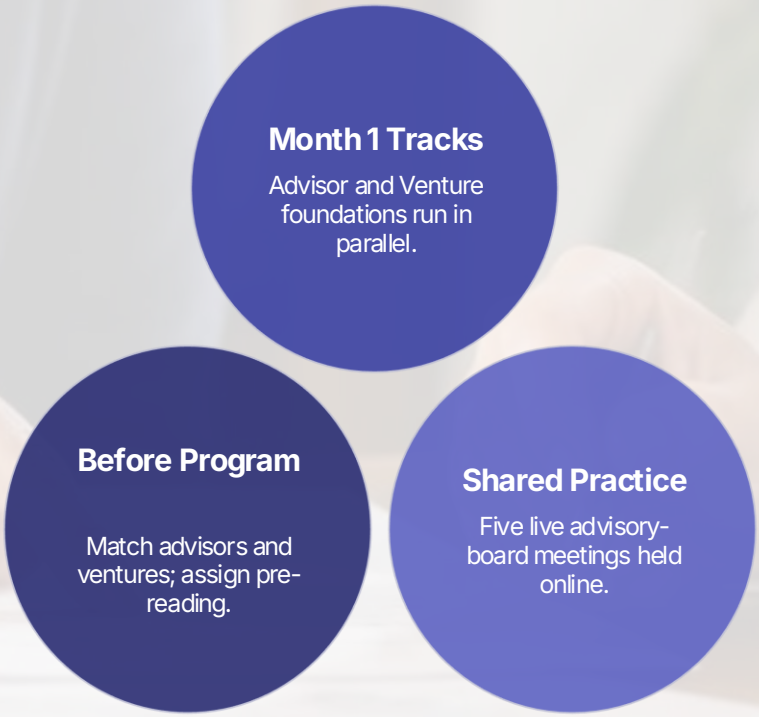
Advisor Foundations

- **Advisory versus statutory governance:** understand the role and its limits.
- **Strategic judgment and constructive challenge:** ask questions that improve decisions.
- **Financial and risk fluency:** interpret the information that matters.
- **Board dynamics and role boundaries:** contribute without taking over.
- **Board discipline and effectiveness:** prepare and follow through.

Venture Foundations

- **Using an advisory board effectively:** turn senior input into strategic value.
- **Defining mandate and decision priorities:** focus the board's contribution.
- **Board information and reporting:** give advisors useful context.
- **Framing decisions and trade-offs:** make the choices clear.
- **Receiving challenge and accountability:** engage openly and act on commitments.

Shared Practice: Both tracks converge in five real advisory-board meetings.
Each board has 3 advisors, 1 facilitator and 1–2 cofounders (5–6 total). All sessions take place online.



Five Board Meetings. Real Strategic Work.

MONTHS 2–6

One facilitated advisory-board meeting each month.
Advisors work with their matched venture on real decisions, with professional moderators supporting constructive discussion and learning for both sides.

Each board: 3 advisors + 1 facilitator + 1–2 cofounders.

The Five Board Cycles

1. **Mandate & Strategic Priorities**
   Clarify the board's focus and the venture's key decisions.
2. **Business Model, Finance & Risk**
   Examine assumptions, relevant metrics and business risks.
3. **Growth, Customers & Capability**
   Explore growth choices and the capabilities they require.
4. **Major Decisions & Investment Readiness**
   Challenge strategic trade-offs and preparation for future capital rounds.
5. **Future Strategy & Continuation**
   Review priorities and discuss the value of continuing the advisory relationship.

Each Cycle

Prepare

Review the board information and decision priorities.

Meet

Contribute to a focused discussion with professional facilitation.

Document

Capture decisions, actions and follow-up.

Reflect

Complete the 360° participation survey after every session, with input from advisors, founders and facilitators.

Small Cohorts

9–10
Ventures per cohort

25–30
Advisors per cohort

~3
Advisors per venture

Participation calls for preparation, respect and constructive engagement throughout.

What Participants Take Forward

FOR ADVISORS

Board Evidence

Develop behaviors that founders and chairs can recognize when interviewing candidates for future director or advisor roles. Real practice provides concrete experiences to discuss and a more effective way of contributing to a board.

Six Shifts: Executive to Advisor

Executive Mode	Advisor Mode
Providing answers	Improving questions
Authority	Influence
Speed	Patience
Experience	Curiosity
Being right	Being useful
Individual judgment	Collective judgment

Source: GBA, The Boardroom Bridge, Ed 5

FOR VENTURES

The Value of an Ongoing Board

Experience how preparation, openness to challenge and sustained follow-up can support strategic progress and readiness for future capital rounds. The ambition is for the value to justify the commitment and make an advisory board worth retaining.

Boards comprise 3 advisors, 1 facilitator and 1-2 cofounders. All sessions are online.

Advisors and ventures agree any continuation directly. GBA encourages that continuity.

Joint Debrief

Advisors, the venture and their facilitator reflect together on the experience and learning at the end of the program.

Certificate of Completion

Attend every meeting and complete the 360° participation surveys. GBA and the advisor and venture partner platforms involved in the cohort jointly issue the certificate.

The program does not guarantee a board appointment or fundraising outcome after it's been completed.

Admissions & the GBA Alumni Community

Who Can Apply?

Advisors

- C-suite leadership experience
- Membership of an executive or alumni network
- Availability to participate
- No previous board experience required

Ventures

- A clear strategic plan
- The founder or venture belongs to an alumni network
- Previous participation in an acceleration program
- Availability to participate

MATCHING GUARANTEE

Tuition fees are only payable once the cohort is ready for matching. If a suitable match cannot be secured after payment, participants may choose to transfer their tuition to a future cohort or receive a full refund.

The Admissions Process

01

Enroll

02

Admissions Committee Review

03

Acceptance

04

Payment

05

Matching

Payment follows acceptance and precedes matching. Cohort places are very limited.

Each board comprises 3 advisors, 1 facilitator and 1–2 cofounders (5–6 members in total). All program sessions are held online.

12 Months of GBA Membership Included

Advisors and ventures join one shared alumni platform, creating opportunities for future collaboration and investment. Your vintage cohort is your permanent cohort identity, helping fellow alumni recognize and stay connected with each other.

Membership Benefits

Exclusive Access

Exclusive content and events

Priority Pre-Sale

Priority pre-sale access to future regular and exclusive thematic cohorts

Alumni Discount

20% discount on future cohorts and additional weighting for alumni applications in admissions committee reviews



Priority access remains subject to admission and availability.
After the first 12 months, membership costs **US$300 per year**.

Apply as an Advisor or Venture

alumnigb.com/enroll/
Questions: hello@alumnigb.com



GLOBAL BOARDS ALUMNI

Your next board chapter

Join the Advisor Accelerator Program™ as an advisor or venture.

alumnigb.com

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Founders.
Advisors.
Results.