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2024 Ones to Watch - Rising Stars: Edd Hamzanlui, MassCan Capital

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Edd Hamzanlui
Principal

MassCan Capital

"I met Edd a few years back when he was running the real estate development for a family office in RI. His strategic thinking and adeptness at navigating complex housing development challenges demonstrate his rising influence in real estate development. Edd's unwavering commitment to excellence in development highlights his potential in the industry in the region's current housing market." - Ian Gillespie, Owner of Gillespie and Co., Inc.

In the last 12 months what accomplishment are you most proud of? In November 2023, I launched MassCan Capital amidst a period when many developers were pausing new projects due to market conditions. Recognizing the severe statewide housing shortage and the unprecedented municipal support for housing production, I saw a unique opportunity for a new generation of developers to make a significant impact. By May 2024, I successfully put our first development project under contract. I am excited about the future prospects and the positive impact MassCan Capital will have on the community.

How do you balance your rising career with your personal life? Achieving a harmonious work-life balance, especially during the early stages of a startup, can be quite challenging. It's a dynamic process that evolves as the company grows and stabilizes. In my experience, open communication and mutual understanding with your partner are key. My wife has been incredibly supportive, providing both courage and motivation as I navigated the complexities of establishing a real estate development practice. As the company becomes more established, I'm confident that a sustainable balance between professional and personal life is attainable.

Who are the key people in your life that have contributed to your success? Success is a collective effort, a tapestry woven by the threads of many people.

Family: My parents, especially my dad, instilled hope, dreams, and resilience in me during my upbringing. Their unwavering support and encouragement shaped my journey.

Spouse: My wife has been my rock during challenging times. Her selflessness, understanding, and encouragement have helped me overcome hurdles and build a strong foundation for success.

Mentors: Throughout my life, I've been fortunate to have mentors who guided me, shared their wisdom, and inspired me to reach higher. Learning from their experiences has been invaluable.

Outside of your career, where else do you seek continuous learning and personal growth? While my startup demands much of my time, I prioritize continuous learning and personal growth through several avenues. I actively engage with industry organizations like the Urban Land Institute (ULI) to stay informed and connected. Additionally, I participate in University of Chicago alumni activities

whenever possible, benefiting from the strong network and learning opportunities they offer. I also find great fulfillment in volunteering with non-profit housing organizations across the state, contributing my skills and gaining valuable experiences in the process.

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