

WED., 9:33 A.M.

Name: John C. Daldin
Occupation: Director of sales, Cameron Thomson Group
Location: Temperance and Bay

Where are you going?

Nowhere in particular. I'm just clearing my head after a conference call to Helsinki.

Do you walk around the neighbourhood often?

Rarely. My relationship to Bay Street is an early one—I wake up with it. I'm in the office by 6 a.m. because so much of our business is in Europe, and I need to talk to our Italian and U.K. offices.

What's it like on the Street that early?

It's like Armageddon—there's nobody out here. I usually see the guys throwing the newspapers, between 6 and 6:30.

Are the coffee shops open?

I don't stop for coffee. At the office, we have an espresso machine. At dinner, I usually go downstairs and pick up something at Mercatto, a relatively authentic Italian place.

Is your topcoat Italian?

No, it's by a local designer, Dubuc. I like to support local whenever I can. The suit is from my tailor, Tony, at the House of Salgado, over in the Royal Bank Tower. He's been down there for years, since the '70s.

Do you ever wear a tie?

Sometimes. But we're a more creative boutique firm, so we're not managing money or pushing wealth management products down the throat of middle America. We're strictly focused on media, entertainment and technology, so I can let my hair grow.

Where are you when you're not here?

I travel a lot, to France, New York, Italy and London for gaming conferences. We have an office in London on Park Place, one in Milan, and our latest address is Lago di Como.

How is the Bay Street state-of-mind different than, say, Milan or London?

It's not as international, maybe. London, it's a more intellectual culture—the conversation, the people. Milan I find busier than Toronto, and more beautiful, architecturally—with the exception of BCE Place by that architect Santiago Calatrava. I remember watching that going up. It's amazing.

Do you hang out around here after work?

When I leave the office around 7 p.m., it's dark. It's the other end of what I see in the morning.

When I was more "traditional" Bay Street—I worked at a trading desk—I did all the usual stuff. But Jump, the \$40 hamburger—I don't do that.

—Nathalie Atkinson