



## CANDIDATES: FIRST TERM DIRECTORS

### **James Lamouche**

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James is Cree/Métis and grew up in Treaty 8 Territory, near kapawe'nohk (Grouard) on the shores of the Lesser Slave Lake.

After moving to amiskwaċiwâskahikan (Edmonton) to attend the University of Alberta, he worked as a Research Fellow at Harvard Medical School before returning to work in Indigenous education focusing on the links between Indigenous Knowledge and Science. He has extensive experience working with Indigenous nations and organizations in the areas of health, Indigenous knowledge, traditional medicine, education, and Indigenous rights.

He has served as Director of Research and Indigenous Health Sciences Coordinator at the University nistameyimakanak Blue Quills (UnBQ); and as Associate Director of Indigenous Student Services at McMaster University. He currently serves as Director of Innovation and Research with the Indigenous Knowledge and Wisdom Centre.

### **Kathryn Gwun-Yeen 君妍 Lennon**

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Kathryn was born and raised in amiskwaċiwâskahikan (Edmonton), with mixed Hong-Kong Cantonese and Irish settler ancestry. With an eye to equity, diversity, and inclusion, Kathryn is especially interested in intangible cultural heritage and has touched on this in the realms of arts and culture, Chinatown placemaking, and urban food systems.

She has worked at the intersections of community-building, engagement, communications, planning, and research. Kathryn's experience with a diversity of organizations and audiences includes those in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, working with local government, arts, advocacy, Indigenous, multicultural, cultural, faith, and grassroots organizations. She is also the co-creator, along with Kyla Pascal, of *Hungry Zine*, a community-focused food publication. Kathryn holds an MA in Planning from UBC, and a Bachelor of Environment from the University of Waterloo.

### **Abbey Preston**

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Abbey is a born and raised Edmontonian with a significant interest in the heritage and historical integrity of our dynamic and beautiful city. A library and information professional, Abbey works as community librarian with the Edmonton Public Library and has a decade of experience providing heritage, cultural, and outreach services to communities.

After completing her undergraduate degree at the University of Alberta, she pursued a Master's in Library and Information Services Management in Sheffield, England. Spending five years abroad fostered her deep appreciation for preserving and advocating for heritage and history in Edmonton. She is also passionate about storytelling and creating opportunities for community connections.

## **Rahil Verma**

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Rahil is a mortgage advisor and banking consultant. She has served as Chair of the Park Allen Community League, working with Heritage Days Festival on behalf of the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues. She is a founding member of YEGPro, a South Asian networking group offering seminars, workshops, and events to connect community members. She has served as an event organizer, also providing communications support for school parent councils and organizations like Bollywood YEG.

She has worked in rural management, training, and development in India and holds degrees from the University of Rajasthan in Business (MBA) and Science (B.Sc).

## **Geoff Wagner**

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Geoff is a Professional Engineer with over 25 years experience in the power industry. He holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Engineering from the University of Alberta. Geoff currently works in Project Development with EPCOR. For the last 12 years, Geoff has been responsible for the Rossdale Generating Station, a provincially designated historic resource.

Geoff is currently a director for the Edmonton Power Historic Foundation, which operates a museum in Leduc Country and whose mission is to preserve the history of electric power in Alberta. Previous volunteer roles include serving on the board of the Thompson Nicola Cariboo United Way, leading Scouts, and coaching soccer.

## **CANDIDATE: SECOND TERM DIRECTOR**

### **Jean-Louis Zokpe (Vice-chair 2021-2022)**

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Jean-Louis is a former member of the board of the Council for the Advancement of African Canadians (CAAC), where he served on the governance policy committee. He is a founding member of Edmonton Beninese Association, and past vice-president and treasurer. He currently works as a senior compliance officer for the federal government, with 10 years' experience in the pharmaceutical industry as a manager, supervisor, and specialist in quality assurance.

Prior to coming to Edmonton, he was a volunteer with Pastoral of Oratory Saint-Joseph (Montréal), working to help the homeless in the downtown streets. He served on the Social Issues committee of the board of Conseil Jeunesse de Montreal (CJM), an advisory council on youth issues for the City of Montreal.

## **CONTINUING DIRECTORS**

### **Jessica Burylo (Secretary 2021-2022)**

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Jessica Burylo is the Outreach Officer for Elk Island National Park, where she collaborates with heritage organizations in the Edmonton area to preserve our history and natural spaces. She has developed her expertise in visitor services, community engagement, and site curation through past positions in municipal committees, heritage foundations, and museum management in Southern Alberta.

Jessica holds a Bachelor of Science in Anthropology with post-graduate studies in Heritage Resource Management. She has published work advocating for the use of historical case studies to teach science curriculum to promote science accessibility and literacy. She believes that heritage is a valuable platform for citizens to cultivate their own identity and to explore complicated societal issues.

## **Greg Cardinal**

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Greg, who works as a Referral Clerk with Indigenous Services Canada and an Indigenous Interpreter at Fort Edmonton Park, has expertise in history, storytelling, research, and administration. Previously Supervisor of Indigenous Narratives at Fort Edmonton Park, Greg has specialized in oral storytelling, residential school intergenerational trauma, and Indian day school experience.

He has an interest in advancing Indigenous representation within local organizations, community groups, and mainstream think tanks. He also served on an advisory committee for the River Crossing grants program in 2018. Greg is a member of Saddle Lake Cree Nation and has a B.A. in English and History.

## **Tim Gilchrist (Treasurer 2021-2022)**

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Tim has spent much of his life in the Edmonton area and has deep family ties to the University of Alberta and various local clubs. He has a passion for history, heritage, and architecture and enjoys exploring these pursuits around the world.

His more than two decades of experience in the accounting sector includes working for home builders and local development companies. He is a partner at an accounting firm and enjoys the relationship building opportunities the role brings.

## **Robert Hobson (Chair 2021-2022)**

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Robert is a professional planner with over 40 years of experience in policy, conservation, and environmental land use planning. He has been active in local government, serving as a City Councillor for the City of Kelowna from 1988-2014 and Chair of the Central Okanagan Regional District from 1993-2014, among other positions. In 2015, Robert moved to Edmonton and in 2016 he was appointed to the City of Edmonton Subdivision and Development Appeal Board.

Robert was awarded the Queens Jubilee Medal for his leadership on municipal, regional, and provincial issues. He has focused on reconciling interests between local and regional governments and between municipalities and First Nations.

## **Henry Maisonneuve**

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Employed in the building design consulting industry for 25 years, his professional passion for delivering built environments led to a personal passion in people who occupied those environments. He strongly believes great places are where community thrives.

Volunteering with the Old Strathcona Foundation for 18 years, Henry advocated for local historic preservation and heritage celebration at national, provincial, and municipal levels. He once served as Alberta's representative on the National Trust for Canada's Board of Governors, leading a Strategic Issues Committee. Henry is an 11th generation Canadian and a 2nd generation Edmontonian.

## **Eleonora Sermoneta**

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Eleonora, an Edmonton resident since 2018, works with the Royal Alberta Museum as Adult Programmer, with previous experience in education and school programs at Fort Edmonton Park as well as with heritage organizations in British Columbia. She has served on the board for Vancouver Heritage Foundation and on the Advisory Committee of the Burnaby Art Gallery.

A passion for cultural heritage has taken Eleonora from museum collections research and management to heritage education programs, as well as the development of initiatives related to heritage and museums advocacy, policy, fundraising, and outreach. As a heritage professional and a new Canadian, she is passionate about connecting with and participating in her community's cultural and social life.

## **DEPARTING DIRECTORS**

**Wendy Birch**

**Andrea Diamond**

**Martin Kennedy (Past Chair 2021-22)**

**Catherine Roy**

**Sarah (Sally) Scott**

**Paul Bujold (departed September 2021)**

**Jeanne Lehman (departed September 2021)**

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