



## Michael Barrett

Ontario

*Director since: 2023 / Term expires: 2026*

### Key areas of expertise

- Co-operative expertise
- Governance
- Leadership
- Strategy

Michael Barrett is the chairperson of the Governance and Co-operative Identity and the Resolutions Committees, and a member of the Co-operators Community Fund Board. He previously served as a member of the Governance & Co-operative Identity, Risk, Sustainability and Democratic Succession Committees. He served as a delegate to Co-operators representing Gay Lea Foods Co-operative Limited (Gay Lea Foods) from August 2009 to April 2023. Within that time, he served as Regional Chair (Ontario) and as a member of the Resolutions Committee.

Michael has over two decades of leadership experience within the co-operative sector at the local, provincial, national, and international level. He was employed for 23 years with Gay Lea Foods and retired as president and CEO in January 2023, a role that he held for nine years. Michael has held many leadership roles within the co-operative sector, including Chair of the Co-operative Development Foundation (CDF) and a delegate to both the Ontario Co-operative Association and Co-operators and Mutuals Canada.

Michael has served as School Trustee (for the City of Oshawa) for almost two decades, chairing for seven years and leading the provincial association for four years, and also served as Chair of the Dairy Processing Association of Canada (DPAC) for three years. He has developed, advocated for, and taught many governance award-winning training modules which today serve as an outreach for multiple sectors. Michael continues to work with organizations across Canada developing their governance skills.

Michael has an undergraduate degree from the University of Toronto, a Bachelor of Education from Western University, a Canadian Human Resource Profession (CHRP) designation from Rotman School of Business, and holds the Institute of Corporate Directors Designation (ICD.D). He has enrolled and is continuing his educational journey through the Chartered Insurance Professional (CIP) designation program.



## Brent Clode

Ontario

*Director since: 2023 / Term expires: 2026*

### Key areas of expertise

- Finances, Financial Accounting and Audit
- Insurance, Financial Services
- Risk Management/Oversight
- Stakeholder Relations

Brent Clode is chairperson of the Risk Committee. He served as a delegate to Co-operators representing Central 1 Credit Union (Central 1) from 2017 to 2018 and from August 2021 to April 2023. Brent is the chief investment officer at Central 1, responsible for the management of a \$10 billion investment portfolio, and leading businesses that provide funding and wholesale financial services to member credit unions in British Columbia and Ontario, and to credit unions across Canada. Brent is also the President and CEO of the Central 1 Trust Company. Prior to Central 1, Brent held senior treasury positions at Manulife Financial and various roles with CIBC in Toronto and New York.

Brent is on the board of Aviso Wealth Inc, where he is a member of the risk committee and chair of the audit committee. Brent is also on the boards of CU CUMIS Wealth Holdings Inc and Central 1 Trust Company.

Brent holds a Masters of Business Administration degree from McMaster University and is a Certified Financial Analyst charterholder.



## Mike Csversko

*Manitoba*

*Director since: 2021/ Term expires: 2027*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Finances, Financial Accounting and Audit
- Governance
- Regulatory
- Sustainability

Mike Csversko is chairperson of the Sustainability Committee and a member of the Audit and Finance committee. He previously served as a member of the Compliance and Ethics, Corporate Governance and Conduct Review, Audit and Finance, and Sustainability committees. He served as a delegate to Co-operators representing Credit Union Central of Manitoba from May 2019 to April 2021.

Mike served for six years on the board of Credit Union Central of Manitoba, where he was the Audit and Risk chair for three years. He is currently the board chair of Westman Communications Group, and is a board member of the Dauphin Regional Airport.

Mike is the Brand & Business Development Manager at Fusion Credit Union. For 16 years Mike was a Tim Hortons restaurant owner; for seven of those years, he was the Manitoba director on the Tim Hortons National Advisory Board, representing 96 restaurants and 32 franchisees in the province.

He obtained the Institute of Corporate Directors Designation (ICD.D) as well as the Not-for-Profit ICD designation. He is a Canadian Credit Union Accredited Director and has completed numerous industry and governance courses.

Mike holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Manitoba.



## Pierre Dorval

*Ontario*

*Director since: 2021 / Term expires: 2027*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Finances, Financial Accounting and Audit
- Governance
- Leadership
- Strategy

Pierre Dorval is the chairperson of the Audit and Finance Committee. He previously served as a member of the Audit and Finance Committee. He served as a delegate to Co-operators representing Caisse Alliance from July 2017 to April 2021.

Pierre is the president and chief executive officer of Caisse Alliance, one of the largest and most profitable co-operative financial institutions in Ontario.

Pierre is a member of various boards of directors and is vice-chair of the Board of Governors of the University of Hearst and of the Cooperation Council of Ontario (CCO). He was a member of the board of directors of the Caisse populaire de Hearst for 13 years, serving as chair of the board for the last 5 years. After his tenure in the private sector, Pierre continued his career as general manager of the Caisses populaires of Mattice and Kapuskasing, and later as president and chief executive officer of L'Alliance des caisses populaires de l'Ontario. He then led the largest co-operative project in the history of this group: the merger of the 12 caisses populaires, to later become Caisse populaire Alliance limitée. He also participated in the creation of the Co-op grocery store in Moonbeam.

Pierre has a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Hearst.



## François Hastir

Quebec

*Director since: 2024 / Term expires: 2027*

### Key areas of expertise

- Co-operative Expertise
- Governance
- Stakeholder Relations
- Sustainability

François Hastir is a member of the Compliance and Ethics Committee and Co-operators Community Funds board. He previously served as a member of the Governance and Co-operative Identity Committee. He served as a delegate of the Fédération québécoise des coopératives en milieu scolaire (FQCMS/COOPSCO) from 2010 to 2015 and 2022 to April 2024.

François is Executive Director at Regroupement étudiant franco-ontarien. He also serves as President of FQMS, where he has been involved in the Quebec and pan-Canadian cooperative network for 14 years, in addition to having acquired nearly 10 years' experience as a manager. He is a director of COOPSCO Outaouais; the Coopérative funéraire de l'Outaouais; the Fondation pour le développement des coopératives en Outaouais; the Conseil québécois de la coopération et de la mutualité; and the Fondation pour l'éducation à la coopération et à la mutualité. François has previously served on the boards of Caisses populaires and credit unions, retail and multi-stakeholder cooperatives in Ontario, and Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada. François has also been a director of several not-for-profit organizations, a private company, and the North West Local Health Integration Network of Ontario.

While in a managerial position with the Cooperation Council of Ontario (CCO), François also served as a governance consultant to cooperatives. His areas of involvement and training have included strategic planning, co-operative governance and the legal obligations of directors, policy and by-law revision, integration of new directors, social enterprise development, and change and development management. He was also responsible for managing and preparing files from Northern Ontario for the CCO's microfinancing program.

François has studied both political communications and law, and is currently completing a Master of Business Administration. He is also a member of the Ordre des administrateurs agréés and has taken several training courses at the Collège des administrateurs de sociétés, Institut de Leadership, the Institute for Governance of private and public organizations, and the Governance Institute.

François campaigns for the inclusion of youth and future generations of leaders, both in the co-operative movement and in other forms of organizations. He has been president of the Canadian and Quebec young co-operators networks and the pan-Canadian youth delegation to the 2016 International Summit of Cooperatives. He has also been a keynote speaker at several international events, including the International Summit of Cooperatives (2016), the International Cooperative Alliance's Asia-Pacific Youth Summit (2017), and the National Cooperative Business Association conference (2023).



## Kate Hill

*Alberta*

*Director since: 2021 / Term expires: 2026*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Insurance/Financial Services
- Risk Management/Oversight
- Regulatory
- Strategy

Kate Hill is a member of the Risk Committee, and previously served on the Risk and Compensation, and Compliance and Ethics committees. She was a delegate to Co-operators representing Credit Union Central of Alberta from July 2019 to April 2021.

Kate is a member of the executive management team of Credit Union Central of Alberta, the central banking facility for credit unions of Alberta. In this role Kate is the chief risk officer, chief compliance officer, chief anti-money laundering officer and has responsibility for business continuity planning. She also oversees relationship management, government relations, policy support, economics and research, audit services, credit union compliance support services and records management.

Kate's prior experience includes working for the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, Central 1 and the House of Commons.

Kate holds an Institute of Corporate Directors Designation (ICD.D) and a Masters Certificate in Risk Management and Business Performance from York University. Kate has a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Queen's University and a Master of Arts in Public Policy and Public Administration from Ryerson University.



## Tim Hofstra

*Alberta*

*Director since: 2025 / Term expires: 2028*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Co-operative Expertise
- Client Experience, Relations and Services
- Governance
- Strategy

Tim Hofstra is a member of the Compliance and Ethics Committee. Tim previously served as a delegate to Co-operators representing Agrifoods International Cooperative Ltd. ("Agrifoods"). He served as a delegate to the Alberta region for over 12 years, and as regional chair for six years.

Tim has served on the board of Agrifoods since 2000, where he has held the position of president/chair since 2016. In addition to his duties as chair, he is also involved in the following committees: governance & member, investment, finance & audit, and human resources. Tim also serves as a director of Westgen (Western Canada's Genetic Centre) where he has held senior positions with that organization over the past 20 years, and as Westgen's representative on the Cryogen and Bow Valley Genetics boards. Tim is also a director of Edmonton Global (since April 2024), and Wetaskiwin Coop Association (1983 to February 2025), where he has held various positions, including director, secretary, vice president and president, during his 42 years of service. Tim is serving the last year of his two four-year terms on the board of Edmonton International Airport, where he has served as a director since 2016, and previously served on the human resources committee.

Tim previously served as Westgen's representative on the Semex Alliance board (2002 to 2013), and as director, executive director, and vice president of Alberta Milk (2003 to 2019). He previously represented Alberta Milk on the Agri-Environmental Partnership of Alberta (2008 to 2010) and served on the County of Leduc Sub-Division Appeals Board (2009 to 2011) and the North Saskatchewan Regional Advisory Council (2014).

For the past 45 years, Tim has owned Hofstra Farms, a family-operated, 1,900-acre, dairy and cattle farm located in the County of Leduc.

Tim has taken numerous board development courses on teamwork, leadership and communication skills, government lobbying provincially and federally, interviewing for management positions, public speaking, and board governance.



## Chris Johnson

Ontario

*Director since: 2018 / Term expires: 2027*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Co-operative Expertise
- Governance
- Regulatory
- Strategy

Chris Johnson chairperson of the Compliance and Ethics Committee. He is a former member of the Sustainability and Citizenship, Member and Co-operative Relations, and Democratic Structure Review\* committees. He served as a delegate to Co-operators representing Gay Lea Foods Co-operative Limited (Gay Lea Foods) from April 2015 to April 2018.

Chris is a director of Gay Lea Foods, where he is a member of the Risk and Human Capital committees. He has previously served as chair of the Training and Development Committee and as a member of the Audit and Governance committees. Prior to being elected to the Gay Lea Foods board Chris served as a delegate and completed the Leadership in Governance Foundation as well as the Advanced Leadership programs.

Chris owns and operates a dairy farm with his family and has been an active participant in his community through several agricultural organizations. He holds a Professional Director Designation and a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics from the University of Guelph.





## John Kay

*British Columbia*

*Director since: 2025 / Term expires: 2028*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Co-operative Expertise
- Finances, Financial Accounting and Audit
- Governance
- Sustainability

John Kay is a member of the Audit and Finance Committee. He previously served as a delegate to Co-operators representing Realize Solutions Cooperative. Prior to his nomination as a director, he served as Region Chair for British Columbia, and as a committee member on Co-operators Democratic Succession Committee formed in 2024.

John is Chief Executive Officer of Realize Solutions Cooperative, an advisory services firm that specializes in providing governance, leadership and strategy solutions to purpose-driven businesses. He is also an entrepreneur and business and financial strategist, including through his roles as principal of Hyperion CPA Ltd., a chartered professional accounting firm, chief financial officer and head of strategy at 7 Leagues Leather, a tannery and wholesale fish leather manufacturer, as well as co-founder of Buy Social Canada, a social enterprise that supports business, governments and consumers to practice social procurement.

Over the last thirty years, John has held senior and executive leadership roles in the cooperative, private and public sectors. His former roles include chief executive officer and co-founder of ASH (Affordable Sustainable Homes) Ltd. from 2009 to 2012, executive director, corporate development for the Ministry of Advanced Education from 2007 to 2010, co-founder and founding publisher of The Tyee from 2003 to 2006, and chief operating officer of the WE Group of Companies from 2001 to 2006. In this role, he led six business units including a full-lines national insurance brokerage. From 1999 to 2001, he also served as ministerial advisor to British Columbia's minister of finance and corporate relations.

John has served as a non-profit director at the international, national and community level. His past roles include chair of the board of Fairtrade Canada, director and chair of the finance committee of Fairtrade International and chair of the BC Cooperative Association. He currently serves as chair of the Board of Cooperatives and Mutuals Canada.

John is a Chartered Professional Accountant. He also holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Simon Fraser University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree (Honours) from the University of Western Ontario. He speaks English and professional working French.



## **Lorna Knudson**

*Saskatchewan*

*Director since: 2023 / Term expires: 2026*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Co-operative Expertise
- Client Experience, Relations and Services
- Governance
- Regulatory

Lorna Knudson is a member of the Compliance and Ethics and Sustainability Committees. She served as a delegate to Co-operators representing Access Communications Co-operative from August 2020 to April 2023 and previously served as a delegate representing Regina Community Clinic from 2008 to 2017. She was the Chair of the Saskatchewan Regional Committee for several years during her delegate service.

Lorna has extensive career experience in the co-operative sector, having held positions that included the Executive Director of Regina Community Clinic, Alberta Regional Manager at the Canadian Co-operative Association, Member Relations Director at Edmonton Co-operative Association Ltd., and Youth Program Manager at Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program. Additionally, she was self-employed as an organizational development and strategic planning consultant.

Lorna has served on the boards of many local, provincial, and national co-operative and community organizations. She currently serves as chair of the board of Access Communications Co-operative Ltd.

She holds a certificate in youth and community development from the University of Zambia and a human resources professional designation in the province of Alberta. She is the recipient of the Co-operative Merit Award from the Saskatchewan Co-operative Association.



## Jim Laverick

*Alberta*

*Director since: 2011/ Term expires: 2026*

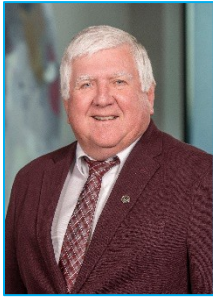
### **Key areas of expertise**

- Co-operative Expertise
- Client Experience, Relations and Services
- Finances, Financial Accounting and Audit
- Insurance/Financial Services

Jim Laverick serves as a member member of the Audit and Finance and Democratic Succession Committees<sup>^</sup>. He previously served as the chairperson of the Audit and Finance Committee, a member of the Special Capital<sup>\*\*</sup>, CEO Search, Risk and Compensation, Executive, and Investment Policy committees. Jim was a delegate to Co-operators representing United Farmers of Alberta (UFA) Co-operative Limited from May 2008 to April 2011.

Jim is Co-operators representative on the Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada board. He was a member of the UFA board of directors from 2008 to 2021, serving as chairperson from 2010 to 2014, and also served as a director of Addenda Capital Inc., one of Co-operators group of companies, the Canadian Co-operative Association, the precursor national apex organization to Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada, and several other co-operative boards.

Jim retired from Co-operators in 2007 as vice-president, western region. He held a variety of positions of increasing responsibility over his 38-year career with the company. He holds a Chartered Life Underwriter designation.



## **Jim MacFarlane**

*Nova Scotia*

*Director since: 2020 / Term expires: 2026*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Co-operative Expertise
- Governance
- Stakeholder Relations
- Sustainability

Jim MacFarlane is a member of the Governance and Co-operative Identity and Sustainability Committees. He previously served as the chairperson of the Democratic Succession Committee<sup>^</sup> and member of the Risk and Member and Co-operative Relations committees. He was as a delegate to Co-operators representing Atlantic Central from 2007 to 2013 and served on Co-operators Board from April 2013 – April 2014, during which time he was a member of the Corporate Governance and Conduct Review Committee.

Jim has participated in the credit union sector since 1976. He was the chairperson of the League Savings and Mortgage Company board of directors, and a member of the Teachers Plus Credit Union board of directors. Jim retired from the Board of Atlantic Central after 19 years of service, of which he served as a Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Atlantic Central from 2021 to 2023. In spring 2025, Jim would be returning to the Board of Directors of Atlantic Central for his last three-year term.

Jim retired from a career in education in 2004 after 33 years of principal and teacher positions in the junior high school and elementary school systems. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Education from St. Francis Xavier University and a Master of Education from Saint Mary's University.



## Shelley McDade

*British Columbia*

*Director since: 2021 / Term expires: 2025*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Governance
- Insurance/Financial Services
- Leadership
- Talent Management, Culture and Compensation

Shelley McDade is a member of the Human Resources Committee. She previously served as a member of the Sustainability Committee. She served as a delegate to Co-operators representing Central 1 Credit Union (Central 1) from April 2018 to April 2021.

Shelley is a Board Chair of Central 1 and a member of its Human Resources, Nominations and Elections, and Risk Review and Investment and Loan committees. She also serves on the boards of the Wealth Management CUSO Strategies, Rhiza Capital and Sunshine Coast Insurance Services. Shelley previously served on the Capilano University Board of Governors and the Central 1 Solutions Center board.

Shelley is chief executive officer of Sunshine Coast Credit Union and her financial services career spans over 35 years in the B.C. Credit Union System.

Shelley has completed a variety of courses through Sauder School of Business, British Columbia Institute of Technology, and the Institute of Chartered Secretaries Canada and obtained her Master of Business Administration from Aspen University. Shelley is an Accredited Director through the Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD.D).



## Robert Moreau

*New Brunswick*

*Director since: 2021 / Term expires: 2027*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Corporate Development
- Insurance/Financial Services
- Strategy
- Talent Management, Culture and Compensation

Robert Moreau became chairperson of the board in April 2025 and is a member of the Governance & Co-operative Identity Committee. Robert Moreau joined Co-operators Board of Directors in 2021. He previously served as the vice- chairperson of the board between April 2024 and April 2025.. He has previously served as the chairperson of the Human Resources Committee and member of the Audit Committee. He served as a delegate to Co-operators from January 2017 to April 2021.

As a seasoned bilingual executive, Robert boasts over two decades of senior leadership experience in the financial services sector that includes banking and life insurance as well as manufacturing and distribution by leading a wide range of responsibilities. He has consistently demonstrated a practical ability to redefine vision and business models, drive sustainable growth, built successful business partnerships, significantly enhance fiscal stewardship and strengthened engagement towards talent development and high-performance cultures.

He led various executive mandates and portfolios including finance, strategic planning, strategic marketing, mergers and acquisitions, IT, human resources, real estate, commercial and residential lending.

He was recognized by the Atlantic Canada Business Magazine's *Top 50 CEO Awards* in 2021, 2022, and 2023 while serving as president and chief executive officer for UNI Financial Cooperation.

Robert also held executive responsibilities as vice president and chief financial officer for Assumption Mutual Life Insurance Company. He also served as chief financial officer for Imperial Manufacturing Group, a privately owned manufacturing company catering to retail hardware stores across North America.

As a community leader, he was cabinet chair for Sistema New Brunswick's \$12 million successful fundraising efforts in support of the *10,000 children campaign* aiming to end intergenerational poverty through a youth musical youth program for underprivileged children.

He also served on several board and committees including: member of the executive council for the New Brunswick Business Council, director for the Canadian Credit Union Association, Chair of the Conseil économique du Nouveau-Brunswick, Partenaire Dumont (healthcare) and provincial Chair for Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference.

In 2020, the faculty of Business of the Université de Moncton recognized his support for students with the *Grand Ami de la Faculté d'administration* honorary award. In 2019, CPA New Brunswick awarded him with the prestigious title of *Fellow (FCPA)*, the highest honour to the profession.

Robert is a graduate of the business administration program at University Laval and the Director's Education Program at McGill Executive Institute (ICD.D).



## Reba Plummer

Ontario

*Director since: 2025 / Term expires: 2028*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Co-operative Expertise
- Client Experience, Relations and Services
- Governance
- Sustainability

Reba Plummer is a member of the Governance and Co-operative Identity Committee. She previously served as a delegate to Co-operators, representing the Canadian Worker Co-op Federation (CWCF).

With over 30 years of experience as an entrepreneur, Reba is the Co-Executive Director of Urbane Cyclist Worker Co-op. Before joining Urbane in 2000, she operated her own bicycle shop and has owned Push The Envelope since 1995.

In January, Reba expanded her expertise to co-op housing management as the Coordinator at Arauco Housing Co-operative in Toronto. She is also pursuing her Co-op Housing Management Accreditation through CHF Canada.

Reba has been on the board of CWCF since 2010, serving as its president since 2016. She is currently in her second term as a director of Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada and holds a position on the board of the Ontario Co-operative Association. Previously, she was a board member of Co-operators (2018 to 2021) and worked as the Greater Toronto Area Co-op Network Regional Manager for the Ontario Co-operative Association.

In 2010, Reba completed the inaugural Co-operative Management Certificate program at the Schulich School of Business. She has also taken various courses covering topics such as HR management, accounting, negotiation, co-op development, and board governance.

An avid cycling enthusiast, Reba has logged over 28,000 kilometres purely for enjoyment. She is a certified bicycle mechanic through the Winterborne Bicycle Institute and a professional bicycle tour leader through Adventure Cycling Association.



## Jessica Provencher

Quebec

*Director since: 2019 / Term expires: 2028*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Co-operative Expertise
- Governance
- Leadership
- Sustainability

Jessica Provencher is vice-chairperson of the Board, chairperson of the Democratic Succession Committee and a member of the Governance and Co-operative Identity Committee. She previously serves as the chairperson of the Governance and Co-operative Identity and Resolutions Committees, and as a member of the Human Resources and Corporate Governance and Conduct Review committees. She was as a delegate to Co-operators representing the Canadian Worker Co-operative Federation (CWCF) from October 2012 to April 2019.

Jessica is a member of the board of directors of CWCF and a former board member of the RESEAU Quebecois de la coopération du travail. She served as youth director on the board of the Coopérative de développement régional Québec-Appalaches (CDR-QA) as well as vice-chairperson of the board of La Barberie, a workers' co-operative microbrewery, where she worked for eight years.

Jessica is a leadership coach and a consultant in facilitation and organisational development, especially for non-profit and co-operative organizations. She holds a bachelor's degree in social work from Laval University and received a master's degree education in developing people and organizations, also at Laval University. She is currently completing a professional coaching certification.

In recognition of her contribution to the co-operative sector, Jessica received the inaugural CQCM Majella-St-Pierre prize in 2016 recognizing youth co-operative involvement and leadership.





## Mark Reusser

Ontario

*Director since: 2025 / Term expires: 2028*

### Key areas of expertise

- Client Experience, Relations and Services
- Innovation
- Strategy
- Sustainability

Mark Reusser is a member of the Risk Committee. Mark previously served as a delegate to Co-operators representing the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

Mark has served as a director of the Waterloo Federation of Agriculture since 1997, where he also currently serves as vice-president. He has served as a director of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture since 1998, a director of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture since 2015, where he also currently serves as an executive, and as a director of the Ontario Farmland Trust since 2023. He is a member of the Ontario Biodiversity Council, the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance, the Water Quality Board of the International Joint Commission on the Great Lakes, and the Greenbelt Foundation Grants Advisory Committee. He is also a lifetime member of the Seed Savers Exchange.

Mark previously served the Waterloo Region on the Biosolids Master Plan Advisory Committee, the Agricultural Economic Impact Study Advisory Committee, the Growth Management Strategy Committee, the Rapid Transit Advisory Committee, the Reurbanization Advisory Committee, and the Official Plan Review Committee. He was formerly vice-president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, co-chair of the Lake Erie Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative, chair of the Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church, member of the Canadian Federal Species At Risk in Agriculture Core Planning Team, and chair of the Ontario 4R Technical Standards Committee.

Mark has owned and operated a grain, oilseeds and poultry farm raising chicken and turkeys in the Waterloo Region since 1996. Prior to that, he owned and operated a hay and straw business as well as a grain and oilseeds farm in Middlesex County from 1979 to 1996.

Mark graduated from the University of Guelph with a BSc. in Crop Science. He is also a graduate of the Ontario Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program, Class 4.



## Shanti Samaroo

*Newfoundland and Labrador*

*Director since: 2025 / Term expires: 2028*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Finances, Financial Accounting and Audit
- Governance
- Regulatory
- Risk Management/ Oversight

Shanti Samaroo is a member of the Audit and Finance Committee. She previously served as a delegate to Co-operators representing Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Cooperatives (NLFC).

Shanti currently serves as a director of the NLFC, as well as NLFC Audit Committee (Chair), NLFC Education Committee member. She previously served as a director of the Southern Labrador Development Association.

Shanti served as a member of several local and regional committees - the Atlantic Credit Unions Shared Services builder group, the CU Auto Finance group, Atlantic Large CEO Group, Atlantic Regional Liquidity Strategy Group, and the Atlantic Wealth Management. She currently is a member of the NL Credit Union Managers Association, of which she held the Chair's position for 2 years, the Atlantic CU Finance Group, as well as the Cooperators' Atlantic Regional Committee, and the Cooperators' Group Resolution Committee. In addition, Shanti was previously the Newfoundland and Labrador representative on CCUA's Professional Development and Education Advisory Committee.

Shanti has held the position of Chief Financial Officer of Atlantic Edge Credit Union since January 2022. Prior to that, she held increasingly senior roles at Eagle River Credit Union from 2013 to 2021, most recently as Chief Executive Officer from August 2019 to December 2021. Prior to migrating to Canada, held several roles at the Intercommercial Bank Ltd, the most recent of which was Manager, Finance & Planning.

Shanti is a Chartered Professional Accountant/Certified General Accountant (Canada) and a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (UK). She also holds a Master of Science in Finance - Investment Banking and Securities from the London School of Business & Finance (UK). She has completed the Canada Development Education Program, Gender, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (GEDI) Training with the Women's Economic Council 50:30, and Sustainable Funding Solutions through the Thriving Non-Profits Program.



## Christie Stephenson

*British Columbia*

*Director since: 2023 / Term expires: 2027*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Governance
- Insurance/Financial Services
- Risk Management/Oversight
- Sustainability

Christie Stephenson is on the Risk and the Sustainability Committees. She previously served as a member of the Audit and Finance Committee. She served in the capacities of delegate and/or alternate delegate to Co-operators representing Central 1 Credit Union (Central 1) from August 2021 to April 2023.

Christie is the executive director of the Peter P. Dhillon Centre for Business Ethics at the University of British Columbia's Sauder School of Business, which has repeatedly been recognized by the BC Business Magazine's Business of Good Awards, and for which she received the Clean50 award for outstanding contributions to clean capitalism in Canada. Prior to her current role, she worked at credit union subsidiary NEI Investments (Ethical Funds), during which she spent five years as an advisor on responsible investing to Desjardins, was a contributor to Credit Union Central of Canada's *Scan* magazine and served for five years as member of its national Cooperative Social Responsibility Committee.

Christie is on the board of directors of Vancouver City Savings Credit Union (Vancity) and Central 1 Credit Union. She served on the donations policy committee, a board compensation policy task force, and the social audit committee of Metro Credit Union/Alterna Savings and on the governance and conduct review committee of BlueShore Financial

Christie has also been active in the co-operative movement outside the credit union sector, including serving on the boards of Vancouver's NOW BC Food Cooperative and Toronto's Karma Co-op Food Store and as a mentor in the National Young Co-operators (NYC) Mentorship Program.

Christie is a member of the Climate Governance Experts Network of the Canadian Climate Law Initiative, the Metro Vancouver Zero Emissions Innovation Centre's investment committee, and the British Columbia Securities Commission Corporate Finance Stakeholder Forum, and has served as a judge for both Governance Professionals of Canada's Excellence in Governance Awards and the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada's Corporate Reporting Awards.

Christie holds an Institute of Corporate Directors Designation (ICD.D), an Advanced Trust Management Standards (ATMS) Certificate of Achievement from the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans, and completed the Innovation Governance Program (Level 1 Graduate) of the Council of Canadian Innovators. She also has a graduate degree from McGill University and a bachelor degree from the University of Victoria.



## Jennifer Uhren

Saskatchewan

*Director since: 2023 / Term expires: 2027*

### **Key areas of expertise**

- Co-operative Expertise
- Stakeholder Relations
- Strategy
- Talent Management, Culture and Compensation

Jennifer Uhren is on the Human Resources Committee. She served in the capacities of delegate and/or alternate delegate to Co-operators representing Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan (SaskCentral) from August 2021 to April 2023.

Jennifer is the Executive, Corporate Services with SaskCentral working with the organization since March 2004. In her current position, Jennifer is a member of the executive leadership team with a wide breadth of accountability. She leads a dynamic team of professionals in the fields of strategy and planning, technology, human resources, stakeholder engagement and communications, project management, facility management and administration.

Jennifer holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Calgary and the Chartered Professional in Human Resources (CPHR) designation. Most recently, she completed the Executive Development Course with McGill Executive Institute and received her Human Capital Management Certificate from the Queen's School of Business. In addition to being a member of the Co-operators Board of Directors, Jennifer is also a member of the Board of Directors of 189286 Canada Inc. (operating as CUCC).



## Nicole Waldron

Ontario

*Director since: 2021 / Term expires: 2027*

### Key areas of expertise

- Co-operative Expertise
- Governance
- Talent Management, Culture and Compensation
- Sustainability

Nicole Waldron is a member of the Human Resources and Sustainability Committees. She previously served on the Governance and Co-operative Identity, Member and Co-operative Relations Committees and the Co-operators Community Fund Board.

She was a delegate to Co-operators representing Cooperative Housing Federation of Canada from June 2019 to April 2021. A professional event specialist, transformational speaker, podcaster as well as a CIHR-funded Research Collaborator. Nicole has a 30+ year career spanning varied fields including project management, arts administration, public relations, governance and social advocacy.

She has worked for various festivals and organizations across Canada, the United States, and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Nicole is on the board of the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada (CHF Canada), the Ontario Caregivers Organization, Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto Charitable Board and is an Hon. Board Member of CHFT.

She sits on committees for Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and Stella's Place. She is a passionate advocate for Mental Health and Family caregivers, Affordable Housing and Violence Against Women. She has served as a volunteer with such organizations as the CHF Canada's Ontario Council (Past President); the Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto (CHFT); Dr. Roz's Healing Place, and Urban Music Association of Canada to name a few.

Ms. Waldron was named one of the Outstanding Black Women by the City of Brampton, the City of Ajax, and Shifter Magazine (IWD). She was named one of the 100 Black Accomplished Canadian Women and highlighted as one of 150 Women in Canada by How She Hustle's HERstory in Black series. She is the recipient of the 2020 Brian Burke Community Service Award from the Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto, the Outstanding Community Service Award from Dance Caribe and the Social Housing Service Corporation Kathleen Blinkhorn Award for Excellence in Volunteerism.



## Rod Wilson

Manitoba

Director since: 2023 / Term expires: 2026

### Key areas of expertise

- Co-operative Expertise
- Client Experience, Relations and Services
- Governance
- Leadership

Rod Wilson is currently serving as chairperson of the Human Resources Committee. Rod has served as a member of the Human Resources Committee since April 2023. He served as a delegate to Co-operators representing Arctic Co-operatives Limited from 2016 to April 2023.

Rod is the Chief Executive Officer of Arctic Co-operatives Limited (Arctic Co-ops) & Arctic Co-operative Development Fund (ACDF), a position he has held since January 2016. He originally joined Arctic Co-ops in 2003 as Vice President of Member Management. He is responsible to the elected board of directors of member-owned and democratically controlled service co-operatives. Rod provides leadership and direction in the business affairs and operations of Arctic Co-ops, which includes a wide range of services and technical support to 32 community-owned and controlled co-ops in the Arctic.

Rod also oversees the financial arm of Arctic Co-ops, ACDF, which helps member co-ops achieve and maintain financial stability, sound business practices and operational growth. ACDF operates a self-managed fund of pooled financial resources.

For the past eight years, Rod has been a board member of Nunavut Sealink and Supply, a marine carriage of dry cargo and sealift operations to the eastern Arctic. Rod also has served six years as Chairperson for the Manitoba Cooperative Association. Rod has completed the Co-operative Director certification program through the Canadian Centre for the Study of Co-operatives, Executive Education at the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, the ICD-Rotman Director Education Program and holds the Institute of Corporate Directors Designation (ICD.D). He is also a graduate of Queens School of Business Executive Education program.

**\*Democratic Structure Review Committee** - to ensure the current and emerging needs of Co-operators and our members are met, Co-operators conducts a review of our democratic structure at least every 10 years.

**\*\*Special Capital Committee** - From April 2020 to April 2022, the Board struck an ad hoc committee in consideration of the unique circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 crisis and resulting impacts to Co-operators operating environment.

**^Democratic Succession Committee** - in August 2023, the Board approved the formation of a Democratic Succession Committee which assists the Governance & Co-operative Identity Committee and the Board of Directors in (i) overseeing intentional succession and renewal in Co-operators democratic governance structure and (ii) working with members to achieve effective governance composition.