

Executive Members of the ESCC Board

Joan Welch

Co-Chair



Joan Welch retired from Provincial Medical Affairs in Alberta Health Services in 2014. Her work experience includes government, a regulated health profession, and serving as Executive Director of the Fort Edmonton Foundation. She has a BA, an MBA, a certificate in mediation and negotiation, and is a CHRP (Retired).

As a volunteer, she is a public representative on the University of Alberta Senate, the Vice Chair of the City of Edmonton's Community Services Advisory Board, a member of the Executive of the South East Edmonton Early Childhood Community Coalition, and a board member on the Garneau United Assisted Living Place (Ashbourne House). She served for six years on the Edmonton Public Library Board (two years as Chair), and the River Valley Alliance, the Edmonton Social Planning Council, the Government of Alberta's Board Development Program and the boards of both the Edmonton and Alberta human resources organizations.

Joan became a Member at Large on the ESCC Board in 2014 and currently serves as Co-Chair and on the Executive and Personnel Committees. She feels that being on the ESCC Board is a wonderful opportunity to work with other seniors' and community organizations to make Edmonton truly Age Friendly.

Sheila Clifford-MacKay

Co-Chair



Sheila is a retired teacher who taught in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Alberta and was employed by Edmonton Public Schools and at the University of Alberta. She is also a registered medical technologist and has a Dip.Th., a B.Sc., a B.Ed. and an M.Ed. Sheila worked with Local 37 (Edmonton Public Schools), the Alberta Teachers' Association and was a western representative for the Canadian Teachers' Federation.

Sheila has served as Canadian Area Representative for DKG International and has also served on her community league,

at the Edmonton Food Bank and at her church. She recently received an award from the Alberta Retired Teachers Association for her volunteerism. Sheila has served for many years on the board at SEESA and is currently the past-president.

Ratna Basappa

Vice-Chair



Ratna holds a BA with majors in Economics, Political Science and Public Administration. She also holds an Accounting Diploma and certification as a Systems Analyst. Her work experience includes 27 years with Legal Aid Alberta in their Information Technology department as a Manager-system Analyst.

Ratna has been involved in volunteering since she was 12 years old. More recently she served on the Board of the Mill Woods Seniors Association (MWSA) for five years, two of which as the Board Secretary. She is currently the President of the Indo Canadian Women's Association, Secretary for the South East Edmonton Seniors Association (SEESA) Board and Vice-Chair of the ESCC Board.

Ratna is a great ambassador for seniors when it comes to diversity and inclusion. She chaired the Diversity and Inclusion Committee for MWSA for four years and is now Deputy Chair.

Vicky Sandouga

Treasurer



Vicky holds Master Degree in Business Administration and is a Certified Professional Accountant. Throughout her career, Vicky held various senior management positions within government as well as provided financial expertise to small businesses including the family business. Since retirement in 2010 Vicky has kept her skills current through volunteer work and keeping up with new trends through self-interest studies, seminars at the University of Alberta, Athabasca University and Chartered Professional Accountants.

When Vicky isn't busy with family and friends you might find her at North Edmonton Senior Association (NESA) participating in different programs and clubs or volunteering. She has served on the NESA Board as past Vice Chair, Treasurer, Chaired the Risk Management Committee and is Treasurer for NESA Council of Governors. In 2016 Vicky joined the ESCC Board as Member at Large and is now serving as Treasurer. When time permits Vicky also volunteers at other organizations and is a life time member of the Edmonton Interfaith Center. Her motto is "No matter what you try do your best but make sure you have fun".

Barb Gibson

Secretary



Prior to retirement Barb enjoyed a very successful forty-four-year career in the field of Nursing, forty-one years of which were focused on Nursing Education. She has been affiliated with the University of Alberta since 1970. She holds a B.Sc. in Nursing as well as a M.Ed. in Educational Administration. Barb has held a variety of administrative positions including a 4-year term as Undergraduate Assistant Dean in the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Alberta. At the time of retirement Barb was serving as the Faculty Undergraduate Quality Assurance Coordinator. Post retirement, Barb volunteered for several years

participating in national nursing accreditation site visits.

From a community involvement role, Barb is involved with a number of organizations including the Westend Seniors' Activity Centre (WSAC). Barb is serving a second term on the WSAC Board of Directors and is the Board's second Vice President. Indeed, Barb has shown a strong commitment in giving back through her community involvement starting in 1965.

Directors of the ESCC Board

Michael Alpern



Dr. Michael Alpern is the founder and past Executive Director of the Job Safety Skills Society and a retired educator with more than 40-years' experience including 17 years as a senior manager with Alberta Education. He is a graduate of the University of Alberta earning B.Ed. and M.Ed. degrees and a PhD which researched the fields of organizational culture, development and leadership.

Michael has a long career as a volunteer and has served on many community boards including roles as President of Jewish Family Services Edmonton, Past-President of the Jewish Drop-in Centre, President of Beth Shalom Synagogue, Treasurer and currently Chair of the Futures Committee of the Edmonton Chevra Kadisha and an Alberta Safety Council board member. He has served as Treasurer and Co-Chair of the ESCC Board.

Michael is passionate about building community through volunteerism and in ensuring that the needs of seniors are given appropriate levels of appreciation and consideration in the development of public policy and implementation of community action. He has a keen interest in how boards of non-profit organizations function and over many years as a volunteer has developed skill-sets in the areas of board governance, visioning, bylaw and policy development.

F.W. [Rick] Brick



Rick retired in 2014 from his role as the Executive Director of Human Resources for the Alberta Government's Department of Health. Rick has been employed in the Human Resource function for over 30 years and has served as an HR Director in all three levels of government. He holds a Master's degree in Business Administration [specializing in Human Resource Management] and is certified as an HR professional by the HR Institute of Alberta, the Society of HRM, the HR Certification Institute, and the International Personnel Management Association-Canada. Additionally, he holds certification as a Project Management Professional and in administering various psychometric instruments. Rick is a former President of IPMA-Canada.

Rick is a faculty member of the University of Alberta's School of Business. He is actively involved in retirement issues including being a Director on the Edmonton Chapter of National Association of Federal Retirees (NAFR).

Paul Cheung



Paul has a varied and strong background in the areas of media and marketing. A few of his accomplishments in those areas include successfully delivering a full hour news program to Cantonese viewers in Alberta as well as establishing the operation of a new housing and care facility for seniors. He has been employed as a producer, program host and director in television and radio. Paul also has worked as the Manager of the Edmonton Chinese Seniors Lodge and is currently the Project Director and Owner of his own small business.

Paul's education includes a BA in Psychology as well as specialized training for a Site Management Certification in Seniors' Housing and an Elders' Planning Counselor credential. Paul has an extensive background in public involvement with the Lions, within the Chinese community and various other organizations.

Linda Ensley



Linda F. Ensley, MBA, earned her MBA while living in Boulder, Colorado and working in the Marketing Department of General Electric. She transferred to Edmonton with GE and continued her work in International Marketing, until she went to work for NeuroInspired Marketing, a brain based marketing enterprise.

She has worked for international non-profits, and attended school in England, where she lived for many years.

She was Executive Director of the Strathcona Place 55+ Centre for three years and currently works as the Centre Manager at the Edmonton Seniors Centre.

Cindy Lind Hanson



Cindy is a retired municipal government employee who has worked in various public and non-profit recreation and parks settings throughout her career. She earned a degree in Recreation Administration from the University of Alberta.

She has demonstrated a passion for lifelong learning resulting in her volunteering and participating with the Edmonton Lifelong Learners Association (ELLA) programs. Cindy is currently the Marketing and Communication

Chair on the ELLA Board of Directors.

She has personal experience in assisting others with various aspects of aging in place and is especially interested in how society can support people to continue to live engaged lives as they age.

Vina Locke



Vina is Secretary on the Board of Trustees of North West Edmonton Seniors Society (NWESS), a position she has held for the past five years. A very energetic person, she is also Corporate Fundraising Chair, Special Events Coordinator, Fitness Instructor, Pianist for “Calder Cuties” and Emcee at social and other events.

Vina graduated from Alberta College with a diploma in Office Management and was employed as an Executive Assistant. She has also achieved certification in computers, fitness and music and is a former Piano Teacher with the Royal Conservatory of Music. Before retirement she was on staff at NWESS managing office affairs and programs and organizing outreach activities and volunteers. With illness in her family, she was a dedicated caregiver for many years.

Volunteerism is a very integral part of her life and Vina has worked with people of all ages while serving on Boards and Committees including NWESS; music, dance and athletic associations; and schools, church and community organizations. She provided office assistance to an Alberta MLA for years and acquired valuable insight into provincial and federal politics. Vina has participated in many Scottish and Ukrainian activities and has previous connections within the Muslim community.

Bauni Mackay



Bauni is a retired high school English teacher who served as provincial president of the Alberta Teachers’ Association from 1993 to 1999. She also served on the board of directors of the Canadian Teachers’ Federation for nine years. She holds two degrees from the University of Alberta.

Bauni represented the City of Edmonton on the provincial Electoral Boundaries Commission in 2002. She served on the board of directors of the Edmonton YWCA from 2002 to 2004 as well as on the SAGE board of directors since 2010. Bauni currently co-chairs the Age Friendly Edmonton initiative.

Holly Matthews



Holly is currently employed as Director of Care at Chartwell Wild Rose Retirement Residence. She is a Licensed Practical nurse and a graduate of Northern Island College, Port Alberni, British Columbia.

She has held both educational and administrative positions in Alberta including a posting for two years as a charge nurse at the La Crete Continuing Care Centre in La Crete, Alberta. Her northern experience demanded extensive medical and community collaboration in order to tend to the needs of people in that community. It also demonstrated an ability to successfully provide care in an isolated and different cultural milieu. Holly has demonstrated that she is an independent and keen learner with a great desire to continue to serve seniors in whatever capacity possible.

Gary Pool



Gary is a retired business man having spent 24 years with Syncrude largely in Fort McMurray. His final position with Syncrude was manager of Regulatory Approvals and community relations with surrounding communities which included five first nations, six metis groups and a number of environmental groups. This position required him to build relationships, communicate effectively with many groups and to develop skills in community leadership. As well he learned firsthand the importance of respecting ethno-cultural diversity.

Following retirement Gary put all those skills to good use in his volunteer career. He has served on the Board of the Morinville Seniors Rendez-Vous Centre since 2001. This centre receives no funding, has no paid employees but is maintained by the seniors who volunteer there and who frequent the centre. Some of you will know Gary from his long-standing committee and volunteer history with the Alberta Council on Aging (ACA). He is a great proponent of the Senior Friendly initiative and he has served the ACA as president and has represented ACA on the Senior Task Force, coordinated through Public Interest Alberta. Gary is a master at volunteering – helping seniors whenever and however he can.

Sam Radke



Sam retired three and a half years ago from a 40-year career as a Project Director with the provincial government. He has been a member of the SouthWest Edmonton Seniors Association Board of Directors for the last two years.

Sam has also shown his commitment with a wealth of other volunteer experience including chairing the Government of Alberta's United Way campaign for three years. Sam is a graduate from the University of Alberta with a degree in Computer Science. His extensive skills include strong talents in communication, consulting and project management.

Bernice Rempel



Bernice has enjoyed a variety of experiences through her working years to retirement and beyond. Degrees in Home Economics and Education from University of Saskatchewan and University of Regina offered a strong foundation for family focused activities in various military communities with her husband and children from 1966 to 1989. She was responsible for the development of home support services provision to military families posted in Germany when their personal family supports were an ocean away. The focus on

family support continued into her role as coordinator of Family Aide Services with the City of Leduc for 12 years ensuring the personal care and home supports were in place to allow aging community residents to remain in their own homes for as long as possible. She also served Leduc residents as Director of Parks Planning, Recreation and Culture prior to her retirement in 2006.

As Chair of the Edmonton chapter of Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP), Bernice advocated for seniors in relation to health and financial security and freedom from discrimination such as ageism. This role also fostered opportunity to work with other Edmonton organizations such as Seniors United Now and the Seniors Task Force with Public Interest Alberta. She believes that a family is a gathering of members of all ages and in order to have a positive life we need to have interactive support for all the ages in all their stages.

Mary Whale



Mary is a nurse with diverse experience in acute care, rehabilitation and health promotion. She is currently working with the Southside Primary Care Network specializing in the care of elderly patients within the context of a multi-disciplinary team. Mary holds certification as a Gerontological Nurse coupled with extensive training and background in that area. She has co-chaired the Age Friendly Edmonton Healthy Aging Working Group for the last four years.

In addition to her B.Sc. in Nursing, Mary holds a BA in Fine Arts and is active provincially and federally in societies of artists. She is an enthusiastic individual with a good sense of humour and a strong work ethic.

Ex-Officio Members of the ESCC Board

Shelley Kwong



Shelley Kwong is a graduate of Education from the University of Alberta. She has over 25 years of leadership experience including being the city-wide youth coordinator, working with community organizations in neighbourhoods and involvement with city initiatives such as Child Friendly, Youth Council, Nextgen and now with seniors.

Over the years, Shelley has been responsible for chairing the Youth Development through Recreation Symposium (YDRS), being an advocate for the voice of children and youth within the municipal government structure, planning events like Go Girl, Girl Power, Youth Week, LRT dance parties and National Child Day, and facilitating High Five courses to recreational staff and Kids At Hope training.

An underlying goal throughout the years has been providing the means where women of all ages can develop self-esteem, self-confidence and leadership skills through recreational opportunities.

When Shelley isn't busy writing up strategic plans, planning events or facilitating courses, you can find her giving high-fives to her kids at the baseball diamond and finding great deals at West Edmonton Mall.