

Council Member biographies

Michelle Aarts, M.Sc., Ph.D., Trustee, Toronto District School Board

Hailing from a farm in rural Ontario, Michelle attended Western University and McGill for postsecondary and graduate degrees in Pharmacology and Endocrinology respectively. Michelle then moved to Toronto to pursue a research career in Neuroscience, specifically focussing on interventions and treatments for stroke.

Michelle's career path took her to the University of Toronto Scarborough, continuing her neuroscience research and including teaching in Biochemistry and Molecular Endocrinology, and taking on the roles of Biosafety Coordinator and Core Facility Director.

Outside of work Michelle has taken on advisory and board member roles across pharmacology research, childcare, ethics, and education advocacy. Michelle became more involved in the TDSB when her children entered the public education system, especially engaged in policy consultations and parent resources, eventually leading her to her current role as TDSB Trustee for Beaches-East York. Michelle is an active community volunteer, especially with groups that serve poverty, equity, and community health.

Teresa Di Felice, AVP Government & Community Relations, CAA Club Group

Teresa is AVP of Government & Community Relations at CAA Club Group, Canada's largest CAA club. She has been with CAA since 2005. She is responsible for the overall direction and execution of the organization's advocacy strategies and programs, representing and raising awareness on relevant issues to CAA's over 2 million Members and with policy makers in Ontario.

Teresa's breadth and range of knowledge on infrastructure, transportation, safety, automotive and industry issues related to CAA's work has resulted in many contributions to the development and execution of sound public policy. These include input into the province's cycling strategy, being a member of the Premier's panel on the Transit Investment Strategy, tow industry reform and on the transition team of the Mayor of Toronto, to name a few.

Over the last four years, Teresa has released two Conference Board of Canada reports related to how much motorists contribute to the cost of infrastructure and various tools and strategies related to mitigating congestion.

Dr. Charles Gardner, MD, Medical Officer of Health, Simcoe Muskoka Health Unit

Charles has been the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) for the Simcoe Muskoka Health Unit since 2005, after having served as MOH with the Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit for seven years. Prior to that, he worked in general medical practice in Newfoundland, New Brunswick, and Zimbabwe.

Charles has been the chair of the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health, president of the Association for Local Public Health Agencies, president of the Ontario Council for Community Health Accreditation, member of the Ontario Public Health Leadership Council, and co-chair of the Healthy Environments Both Natural and Built Table for the Ontario Public Health Sector Strategic Plan.

Most recently Charles was a member of the Ontario Tobacco Control System Committee and of the Modernization of the Smoke Free Ontario Strategy Executive Steering Committee, and is a member of the Smoke-Free Ontario Scientific Advisory Group and of the Ontario Tobacco Research Network.

Charles is active personally and professionally on the promotion of health through green, compact, complete, walkable and cyclable communities.

Colleen Hill, Manager, Children and Youth, Heart and Stroke Foundation

Colleen is a passionate community builder, advocate and champion, who works on projects and issues that are dear to her heart - children's health and wellbeing, the arts and the environment. For more than 25 years, Colleen has dedicated her passion and her talents to community engagement, partner and funder relations and strategic communications skills in academic, public and not-for-profit positions.

Colleen has enjoyed a colourful career so far at the local, national and international levels in early childhood education, as curator at an international children's film festival and as an educator and advocator of AIDS awareness and prevention in rural America. Colleen currently works with Heart and Stroke Foundation partners and communities to improve the heart health of children where they live, learn and play.

Originally from Sudbury, Colleen studied at the University of Guelph, spent three years teaching at the University of Wyoming and now lives in Toronto with her two children and their dog.

Barry Horrobin, Director of Planning & Physical Resources, Windsor Police Service

Barry is a long practicing Environmental Criminologist who regularly combines meaningful civic engagement with technical expertise to improve the safety, comfort and functionality of our built environment. In a career spanning 30+ years of experience, Barry has made a strong commitment of using social networking to develop innovative solutions to community issues that impact public safety and security. He has combined his career pursuits with widespread volunteer involvement with organizations such as United Way, Habitat for Humanity, the Windsor Historical Society serving all Canadian Veterans, and the Alzheimer's Society; along with many years as a little league and travel baseball coach.

Barry has enjoyed a fulfilling career to date with the Windsor Police Service and also as an independent safety design consultant for the past 20 years. A lifelong resident of Windsor, Ontario, Barry holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in Resource Management from the University of Windsor, a diploma in Municipal Administration from St. Lawrence College, and professional planning and municipal management designations. Barry is also a board-certified expert in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), having obtained his training at the University of Louisville.

Vicky Kyriaco, Chief Administrative Officer and General Manager, Ottawa Student Transportation Authority

Vicky Kyriaco is the Chief Administrative Officer and General Manager of the Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA). OSTA provides multi-modal transportation solutions for the students of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board and the Ottawa Catholic School Board. Vicky drove the transformation of the organization, and its transportation systems, to eliminate funding deficits and increase services for students in the Ottawa community. The Ministry of Education rated OSTA as a highly efficient consortium. Vicky was named Businesswoman of the Year in 2016.

Under Vicky's leadership, OSTA has evolved into an organization that integrates sustainable mobility, and active modes of transportation, as essential

components in promoting the health and well-being of children across the city today, and in the future. She has been invited to speak in various forums including the ACT Canada Sustainable Mobility Summit, the Heart and Stroke Active and Safe Routes to School Provincial Summit, and the University of Western Ontario Children's health and the Environment Conference, among others.

Vicky has been involved in air and ground transportation of passengers and cargo for over 25 years. Previously, she taught French Immersion, music, and physical education.

Leslie Maxwell, School Travel Planning Supervisor, Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region

Leslie was first troubled by the state of active school travel when her children attended an elementary school stateside, where not a single child could walk because of a lack of sidewalks. To Leslie, this negatively impacted her children's physical empowerment, their sense of community, and the safety of her neighbourhood. She since moved her family into a more walkable Canadian neighbourhood, and she sees her current work in School Travel Planning as an opportunity to work towards more walkable school communities for all families.

Leslie's involvement in School Travel Planning in various capacities from the school level to the national level has given her insight into the systemic needs of this work as well as the on-the-ground delivery and the impact it has on families. She now leads a team of School Travel Planners in the Waterloo Region that is housed at the transportation consortium, sponsored by two major school boards and three lower-tier municipalities, and bolstered by various local partners. This multifaceted collaboration has led to greater continuity of programming, greater alignment of walkability practices, and strength in policy development.

In Active School Travel work, words have power. Leslie holds a Master of Arts in Professional Writing and an undergraduate degree in Honours English.

Craig Murphy, Consortium Manager, Student Transportation Services of Thunder Bay

Craig is the Manager of Student Transportation Services of Thunder Bay (STSTB), the transportation consortium between the Lakehead District School Board (LDSB), Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board (TBCDSB) and

Conseil scolaire de district catholique des Aurores boréales (CSDCAB). Craig has spent 14 of the last 20 years within the transportation profession both in Ontario and abroad. This includes managing student transportation for a school bus operator in the Waterloo Region, managing NATO base transportation in Afghanistan and has been with STSTB since 2012, including as its manager since April 2017.

Craig became interested and then enthusiastically involved in Active School Transportation soon after becoming manager of STSTB when tasked by its member school boards to research significant transportation cost savings while minimizing impact on service. Among several recommendations made to and approved by the boards was that STSTB would take a leading role in promoting AST within our school communities. Since then Craig has become a founding stakeholder in the local AST Committee and promoter its Walk Or Wheel (WOW) TBay program.

Originally from Windsor, Ontario, Craig has a diploma in Business Administration as well as certificates in Industrial Relations, Human Resource Management and Pupil Transportation Management.

Tammy Shubat, Director of Programs/Directrice des programmes, Ophea

Tammy has been with Ophea for more than 10 years, and has been connected to the development of most of the organization's programs and services. Tammy is fully bilingual and has supported a number of Government of Ontario initiatives related to concussions, prevalent medical conditions, the Health and Physical Education curriculum, Daily Physical Activity, road safety, and cycling education. She has informed a number of Ministry of Education Healthy Schools Working Tables on a variety of issues, and has been a subject matter expert in a variety of data collection exercises and audits undertaken by the Government of Ontario related to Daily Physical Activity, student safety, and the curriculum.

Jamie Stuckless, Executive Director, Share the Road

Jamie is the Executive Director of the Share the Road Cycling Coalition, a provincial advocacy organization working to make Ontario a safer place for people who bike. In this role, Jamie has leveraged her partnership management and group facilitation skills to maintain a network of hundreds of cycling stakeholders who regularly contribute to Share the Road's work.

Under her leadership, participation in the Ontario Bike Summit and Greg's Ride have increased by 72% and 148% respectively, Share the Road has been an invited speaker in more than 30 communities and conferences and the Bicycle Friendly Communities Program has grown to reach over 90 municipalities, including a new expansion into Northern Ontario. Jamie regularly makes presentations at Queen's Park as well as City Council meetings and community events across Ontario to build support for cycling and to better understand local challenges. She represents Share the Road at meetings of the Queen's Park All Party Cycling Caucus and the Minister's Working Group on Cycling.

Prior to joining Share the Road, Jamie coordinated Ottawa's Bike to Work Month and Sustainable Transportation Week activities and facilitated the School Travel Planning Program across the City. Her objective has always been to work in the active transportation field, where she could apply the knowledge acquired while completing her Masters thesis on the behaviour of bicyclists in Hamilton, ON. Ms. Jamie is a member of the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals and an active member and volunteer with Cycle Hamilton.

Benita van Miltenburg, Sustainable Transportation Coordinator, City of Guelph

Benita has an MA in Social Health and Gerontology, and her Master's thesis focused on the physical, structural and social barriers to cycling, and cyclists' subjective identities in the City of Hamilton. Benita completed the University of Amsterdam's inaugural Planning the Cycling City summer intensive program in 2015, and has worked in the non-profit and public sector applying skills, knowledge and experience related to cycling infrastructure design, community outreach, engagement, and sustainable transportation planning since 2016.

Nancy Wirtz, Senior Specialist, Cancer Prevention, Canadian Cancer Society

Nancy has more than 10 years' experience in Health Promotion/Recreational Programming, and a passion for active living. As Senior Specialist, Cancer Prevention, Nancy's work supports Ontarians to address cancer risk factors. She is the provincial team lead for the Canadian Cancer Society's Walking School Bus program.

Staff Support (Green Communities Canada):

Mary Anna Zakula, Executive Assistant, Green Communities Canada (Peterborough)

Mary Anna has worked at Green Communities Canada since 2004. An avid (some might say rabid) proponent of active transportation, she makes the daily 5k trek to work by foot or bicycle. Prior to joining GCC, Mary Anna worked at Queen's Park.

Kate Berry, Program Director, Ontario Active School Travel Green Communities Canada (Hamilton)

Kate works with school boards, municipalities, public health and other civic organizations to promote active school travel and implement School Travel Planning in Ontario. Kate is a civil engineer and previously worked for Sustrans, a leading UK sustainable transport charity, where she managed the design and construction of active transportation infrastructure. Kate has also worked in Ontario as School Traffic Plan Coordinator for the Upper Grand District School Board, working with schools to improve traffic safety, reduce vehicle congestion, and increase student active travel.

Wallace Beaton, Manager - Community Engagement & Capacity, Ontario Active School Travel (Ottawa)

Wallace discovered his passion for active school travel in 2007 as a parent volunteer directing bell-time traffic at his children's school. In 2009 he joined GCC as a School Travel Planning Facilitator and then Active & Safe Routes to School program manager for Ottawa. He conceived and launched an innovative Walking School Bus program, helped create the Ottawa School Active Transportation Network and was recognized by the City of Ottawa and Ottawa Safety Council for his commitment to safe, sustainable school travel. A graduate of Queen's University and Algonquin College, Wallace recently completed the Next Generation Transportation certificate at Simon Fraser University.