

REPORT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

2023

This report consists of a list of all nominees for all vacant positions on the Community Living Ontario Board of Directors together with biographical information about each nominee. The Nominations Committee has ensured candidates represent diverse regions of the province and represent a balance of skills and knowledge in accordance with the Board composition matrix.

There are presently six (6) positions available on the board. All six (6) positions are for a two-year term. The following eleven (11) candidates have been submitted for the positions of Director-at-Large.

- **Marybeth Barrett**, Thunder Bay
- **Jennie Chanda**, Simcoe, Norfolk County
- **Doug Cooper**, Tillsonburg
- **David Hill**, London
- **Edward Lau**, Toronto
- **Raymond Leveille**, Timmins
- **Stinder Lyall**, Richmond Hill
- **Jennifer Parker**, Foxboro
- **Theresa Somerton**, Belleville
- **Marcel St. Jean**, Ottawa
- **Laura Williams**, Toronto

The Biographies for each nominee are as follows in alphabetical order:

MARYBETH BARRETT, Thunder Bay

Since 2017, Marybeth has served as a Director on the Community Living Thunder Bay board where she has also sat on the Nominations, Finance and Strategic Planning Committees. She is currently participating in a formal strategic planning process addressing CLTB's Housing Strategy.

Marybeth has worked her entire career with people with intellectual disabilities in various capacities. Early on, she worked and volunteered in 6 different group homes throughout the province and has spent the last 30+ years in respite services. Her longstanding career at Westway, a respite agency, started when my then boyfriend, now husband and hosted children, teens, and adults with intellectual disabilities in her home to provide their caregivers with a much-needed break for an evening or a weekend at a time. She provided thousands of hours of respite as a Host Family and received the 25 Year Ontario Service Award. These relationships have continued to this day.

One very deep and significant involvement was with a young man with a range of special needs whom she maintained close contact with for over 30 years until he passed away from a flesh-eating disease while in Long Term Care. This part of my story leads to why she is interested in serving on the CLO Board.

She would like to see our sector support people with the option to 'age in place'. Her other passion is reaching out to Indigenous adults with intellectual disabilities. In her current position, she serves children with special needs in over 49 Indigenous communities throughout the province. For the past 4 years, she has also served on two regional networks, Mamou-Sukindoonanoo Regional Network, and the Steering Committee for Nokiwin Disabilities Services.

In recent years, our sector has been faced with a serious human resource shortage which is greatly impacting so many of the individuals and their families connected to CLO. Having been involved on the Executive Provincial Respite Network for over a decade, has given her the opportunity to work on recruitment and training province wide.

JENNIE CHANDA, Simcoe, Norfolk County

Residing on a farm near Delhi, I have a background that includes nursing, teaching and as a business owner. My career has been varied and most fulfilling. I started by career as an obstetrical nurse and then as an Evening & Night Supervisor at Norfolk General Hospital in Simcoe. Following that, I went on to be the Director of Nursing at Oxford Nursing Service and then on to VON as a Community nurse and finally moved to the Director of Homemaking Services and the Alzheimer programs. At the Brantwood Centre as Healthcare Manager, one of the most important tasks was to ensure people supported in the community receive quality healthcare. As a Professor at Fanshawe College, I have taught in the DWS and SSW programs and coordinated and taught the PSW program, Through Fanshawe, I have also taught several courses at a Six Nations Reserve.

I am currently the Vice President of Community Living Ontario and the Chair of the Board Development Committee. I am also a member of the Engagement committee, Finance committee, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee and involved with the Strategic Plan and Conference committees.

It has been my good fortune to have been involved with and hopefully contributed to many community Boards including District Health Council, Respite Ontario, MS Society, Delhi & Norfolk Library Boards, Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care, Canadian Mental Health Association, Delhi Youth Committee, Delhi Girl Guides, Delhi Community Health Care founding member and Board President of Community Living Access Support Services, Norfolk Hospital Nursing Home Volunteer Association Women's Institute including Branch, District area and at Provincial levels. Community Addiction & Mental Health Services, Tillsonburg Little School (daycare) Board as a founding member. I also was involved with fundraising, writing policies and procedures, developing courses, advocating, and guiding and assisting self-advocates.

As a proud family member of a child with disabilities, advocacy and community involvement has been of utmost importance. It was an honour to be named Delhi Citizen of the Year and awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship Award from Rotary International recognizing my community work and involvement.

I truly believe that advancing inclusion and creating a sense of true belonging and being an integral part of the community through advocacy, this needs to be ongoing for us all to celebrate the "complete" community that Community Living Ontario sees!

DOUG COOPER, Tillsonburg

Doug is seeking votes for Director-at-Large for re-election to the Community Living Ontario Board of Directors. He has been involved in the Community Living movement in Ontario for many years both provincially and locally. With my own local agency, Community Living Tillsonburg, I have served as President for a number of years. Provincially, I have been a member of the Board of Directors for many years including one year as Vice president and have served on several committees during those years.

Currently, he is Vice Chair of the Foundation Board and was Co-Chair of the Engagement Committee although still sits on that committee, member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, the 70th CLO Anniversary Committee and the Board Development Committee.

Outside of our sector, Doug is the Coach and General Manager of the Delhi Flames of the Western Ontario Super Hockey League. He has also done play-by-play broadcasts for another team in the league. Prior to that, he was the General manager of the North Middlesex Stars, Yeck division 2022-2023 season champions.

Doug also coaches men's and women's hockey for the Brantford campus of Laurier University. My coaching also extends into Special Olympics basketball and golf.

Doug is the News Anchor for an internet radio station in St. Mary's where he also writes, produces, and records a two-hour show called Sunday Morning Memories.

DAVID HILL, London, Ontario

David is from London, Ontario. He has been a member of the New Vision Advocates for the past 12 years. David has also held the co-chair position on the group's Executive board for 4 years.

David is a strong advocate for people with developmental disabilities and is highly active in educating others about issues facing people with disabilities. He is an experienced speaker, giving presentations to community groups, students at Fanshawe College, King's College and to conference participants.

David strongly believes in the importance of educating others about the barriers people with intellectual disabilities face. He shares his own life experiences and encourages others to share theirs so labels and barriers people face can be eliminated. After all, what better way to learn than from people with live experiences?

In 2018, David received the Kim Sparling New Vision Advocate award in recognition of his strong advocacy skills and helping others with developmental disabilities. This award is presented annually to a person who has an intellectual disability who demonstrates hard work and dedication in advocating to improve the lives of people with intellectual disabilities.

In the winter of 2019, David partnered with Community Living London to plan and host a benefit concert which raised over \$1,200 for the New Vision Advocates and Community Living London. In May 2023, David and Eva hosted their second benefit concert for CLL and raised over \$640. David currently sits on the Board of Community Living London and Community Living Ontario as a Director-at-Large.

In 2020, David was a member of the Nominations Committee and now sits on Pillar London Not-For-Profit board. David believes in giving back to his community and has been a volunteer at the Glendale Nursing Home since 2010. He attended Fanshawe College in London in 2008 and received his diploma in the General Arts and Science program. David is a Special Olympics athlete and works at the Windsor Factory Supply in London where has been employed for 12 years. Most recently, David has become a member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion group at WFS and the Disability Business resource group through Grainger (which is his parent company). He is active in educating others on the importance of accepting and belonging for all not only in the workplace but also in our communities.

EDWARD LAU, Toronto, Ontario

Edward is the co-founder of the ME & Lau Family Foundation and DD Community Connector, organizations that fund programs to support Chinese Canadians with intellectual disabilities. He is a retired board member at Community Living Toronto and Community Living York South. Edward is currently a board member at the APTUS Treatment Centre and the Vice Chair of the City of Markham's Advisory Committee on Accessibility.

Edward was the co-author of the Ontario Trillium Foundation funded Spirit of Life publication, *Moving Forward: A Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study for the Establishment of the Chinese Developmental Disability Services Council in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA)*. The findings of this research study had inspired Edward to create the ME & Lau Family Foundation and DD Community Connector.

Edward is a federal public servant. He has a Master of Arts degree in Public Policy and Administration from Toronto Metropolitan University. Edward's work portfolio involves overseeing operations at the Greater Toronto Areas, Kingston, Hamilton, Kitchener Waterloo, London, Windsor, Sudbury, North Bay, Timmins, Sault Ste. Marie, and Thunder Bay.

Edward and his wife, Michelle, received the 2023 Jim Turner Award for Outstanding Volunteerism from Community Living Toronto. He received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013 and the Transport Canada National Award of Excellence in 2010."

RAYMOND LEVEILLE, Timmins, Ontario

Raymond is 67 years old and was married 38 years to his beautiful wife Janice. Together they have two sons, Phillip, and Luke. Phillip is 37 years old, and he has Autism, and his other son Luke is 35 years old. Janice was sick, she had (Multiple Sclerosis) for 17 years and she was in a wheelchair for 14 years. He was her Primary Caregiver. She died in 2019, the day before their Wedding Anniversary.

Raymond is presently retired from working for 38 years at a large Mine in Timmins. He graduated from the Haileybury School of Mines in 1975 as a Mining Technician. This mine is one of the deepest base metal mines in the world which goes down 10,000 feet. He worked underground for 5 years, then worked in the Engineering office as a Planner, Ventilation Technician and worked on Blasting and Drilling Prints.

Raymond is a Francophone and has been a volunteer since he was 20 years old. He has worked in his church helping with youth, a spiritual leader, working to feed the poor and homeless and the food bank. He worked with a Telephone Crisis Line for 15 years called Telecare. He was on the Board of Directors for Telecare and CNIB. The Porcupine Youth Centre and a Fundraiser for the United Way. He currently sits on the Board for Community Living Timmins and also worked 20 years with Special Olympics.

Raymond is an encourager and has always encouraged friends and family to do their best to achieve their goals and dreams. He would like to continue to be a voice for those who have no voice. He would consider it a privilege to hold the position of Director-at-Large for Community Living Ontario Board of Directors.

STINDER LYALL, Richmond Hill, Ontario

Stinder Lyall is a current member of the Community Living Ontario Board of Directors. She has proudly served the board and several committees including the Engagement Committee, the Board Development Committee and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for the past 4 years. With over 25 years of experience in the disability field, Stinder is a seasoned advocate and a pioneer in the field.

Stinder's son, Shamil, was born in 1991 and two years later received his diagnosis of Tetrasomy 18p. In response to her son's complex medical needs, Stinder's advocacy began at the grassroots level in a number of community initiatives in the town of St. Catherines. She led the fight for medical supports within the schooling system for children with disabilities both for her own son, and for other families during a period when the world of disabilities was not well understood and respected within the school system in her community.

Stinder researched the effects of sensory equipment on young minds and lobbied for the installation of the first Snoezelen sensory room in St. Catherines that provided leading edge, sensory-focused technology to people with disabilities who would never otherwise have access.

As her son aged out of the school system, Stinder was faced with what is commonly referred to as the "Crisis of Care". At age 21 hundreds of young adults with disabilities across the province were left stranded without the daily supports they had previously received. Stinder spearheaded a political engagement campaign, linking up with other advocates throughout the province and organizing a coordinated campaign to contact MPPs and MCSS staff.

This campaign continued for two years and Stinder formed a network determined to voice their concerns. Around this time Stinder was introduced to Community Living York South (CLYS) and their outreach team. Over 10 years later and Stinder is well respected within the CLYS community as a Former President of the CLYS Board of Directors, an outspoken member on numerous Task Forces and Committees, and a founder in the establishment of 2 Community Programs: York Abilities and the Parent Education Advocacy Group.

Stinder continued her research into innovation in the world of disability and became involved in the exploration of Independent Facilitation and Micro boards. She has further entered into the Provincial Housing Task Force and is constantly educating herself on the next big thing. Stinder has a wealth of knowledge in these lesser-known areas that make her an invaluable resource.

Finally, Stinder is proud to come from an intersectional background. As a member of a cultured community, and as a woman, Stinder understands the complexities of where culture and lived experiences meet disability. Stinder is dedicated, passionate, and has a comfort and familiarity in the political and practical world of disability.

As a parent Stinder understands that the person comes first. She will always strive to put the needs of those she serves more than anything else and to support those around her. Stinder's campaign is rooted in determination, advocacy, knowledge, and a commitment to continue Community Living's mission of ensuring that every person could participate in an inclusive community with the support they need.

JENNIFER PARKER, Foxboro, Ontario

Jennifer Parker is a dedicated and compassionate individual with wealth of life experiences that qualify her to serve on the Board of Directors for Community Living Ontario. Over the past eight years, she has demonstrated commitment as a volunteer on the Board of Directors of member agency Community Visions & Networking (Quinte), providing governance and contributing to strategic planning to help the organization's success. As a parent of a child with disabilities, she brings an understanding of the challenges faced by families, which made her an advocate and voice for inclusivity and support.

Jennifer possesses exceptional advocacy skills, which have been honed through her experience as a parent, as a volunteer with CVNQuinte, and as a member-at-large on her local school board's Special Education Advisory Committee.

Having served on a Board of Directors for the past eight years, Jennifer has gained comprehensive knowledge of governance practices, strategic planning, and decision-making. Her experience in overseeing the governance of an organization and collaborating with fellow board members enables her to make well-informed and impactful contributions. Jennifer excels in fostering collaboration among diverse stakeholders.

She is an adept communicator, able to bridge gaps and build consensus among different perspectives leading to constructive dialogue and effective problem solving.

In her spare time, she enjoys camping, curling, and watching her son participate in Challenger Baseball and Adaptive Snowsports programs. With a deep commitment to the mission of the organization, Jennifer brings a strategic and forward-thinking approach to a Board of Directors.

Her vision for building a future where everyone belongs is valued and has the freedom to choose their life and make their own decisions aligns seamlessly with Community Living Ontario's goals.

THERESA SOMERTON, Belleville, Ontario

Theresa lives in Belleville and loves helping people who have disabilities. She helps them find their voice and strengths that they have and to show people that they can speak for themselves and do things in their own way.

Theresa's background and skills are advocating for people with different types of disabilities to make sure their dreams and goals are being met and that everyone is working and included in the community. Theresa is currently the Council appointed Director-at-Large on the Community Living Board of Directors. She is also

Involved with ODSP communities and with the 'Voice with Meaning' self-advocate group and sits on the Rights Advocacy Committee. She has been on Council 4 years and elected as Council rep for the last two years. She also started a self-advocate group in Belleville called 'Quinte Speak-up'.

MARCEL ST. JEAN, Ottawa, Ontario

Marcel was born and raised in Northern Ontario and lives in Ottawa. He retired from the Ontario Public service in 2011. Marcel St. Jean was first elected to the Board of Community Living Ontario in 2019. He is seeking another term on the Board. Marcel is Chair of the Engagement Committee. He has also been a member of the Strategic Planning Conference Planning and the 70th Anniversary Planning Committees. Since 2022, Marcel has been the Ontario representative on the Board of Inclusion Canada and is a member of the Deinstitutionalization Task Force and the Access to Justice Committee.

He has been a member of several Boards of Directors including six years with L'Association pour l'Integration sociale D'Ottawa (AISO) which is a member organization of Community Living Ontario. Marcel is fully bilingual and is married with one daughter and two wonderful grandchildren.

Marcel brings over 50 years of experience in the field of intellectual disabilities. In 1968, at the age of seventeen, he joined YACMR (Youth across Canada for the Mentally Retarded). Thus began his lifelong involvement with people with disabilities and their families.

In the 1990s, Marcel managed the long overdue return of over two hundred individuals from Rideau Regional Centre (RRC) in Smith Falls to their home communities across Ontario. During this time, Marcel became a volunteer with a man who had been placed at RRRC in 1952 at the age of five. This person returned to Ottawa in 2000 and since then Marcel has become his Power of Attorney but more importantly are very close friends and they continue to enjoy community activities together, travelling and just hanging out. Fourteen years ago, Marcel was also matched with a man who is blind and has an intellectual disability. This man is now 81 years old, and they enjoy lunches out, shopping and spending time together.

How can Marcel contribute to the work of Community Living Ontario? Through his extensive and varied experience together with his strongly held values of respect, fairness, and equality. He has a proven record in change/project management and policy and program development. He has worked within government is familiar with the dynamics of public funding, particularly in the not-for-profit sector.

Community Living Ontario is a grassroots organization with a long and successful history of working with and for people with intellectual disabilities and their families. If re-elected to the Board of Community Living Ontario, Marcel would continue the work of building inclusive communities across our province and promoting innovation particularly in the areas of youth involvement and residential supports.

LAURA WILLIAMS, Toronto, Ontario

Laura is a Clinician and healthcare leader with over 20 years experience in the field of patient, client and family engagement and caregiver/family support services. She is currently the Senior Director of Patient Experience and Engagement for the University Health Network. Past work experiences include Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital and Health Quality Ontario.

Laura is also an advocacy partner to her 16-year-old son. Bryson has a rare genetic condition called GRIN1 which causes both physical and intellectual disabilities. This experience prompted Laura to pursue a Doctorate in Rehabilitation & Health Leadership at Queen’s University with a focus on supported and inclusive living for young people and adults with intellectual disabilities.

Current list of Community Living Ontario Board members with their term extended to 2024 and not up for election this year.

Keira Lum	Re-elected in 2022
Tim Berry	Elected in 2022
Nicole Canzoneri	Elected in 2022
Mark Anderson	Elected in 2022
Yvonne Spicer	Elected in 2022
TBD	Council appointed Director to be elected this year
Donna Marcaccio	Family Engagement Steering Committee appointed Director-at-Large
Cathy Turner	Appointed in 2022 by the Provincial Executive Directors Coordinating Committee

**Respectfully submitted,
Jill Teeple, Chair of Nominations Committee**