



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEE BIOS 2020 AGM**

### **1. Marta Filipski**

Marta is a healthcare administrator with experience focused in senior's health and the social services industry and has a multidisciplinary background in health policy and management, human resource planning and quality improvement. She earned a B.Sc from McGill University in Immunology and Microbiology, Medical Anthropology, and she holds a Master's in Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley, with a focus on elder health. She has worked with a variety of non-profit organizations, and boards, as a Project Management Instructor with the Project Management Institute's Western Canada Chapter. She is also a volunteer with Vantage Point where she supports strategic planning for non-profit boards and teaches courses on board succession planning.

Marta would like to serve on the West End Seniors' Network (WESN) Board of Directors because it is in perfect alignment with her personal and professional goals; to improve the quality of life for seniors and do all that she can to ensure that they are living in safety and dignity.

### **2. Alison Maher**

I have lived in Vancouver's West End since 2007. My career has had multiple prongs, from art educator at a not for profit gallery, to corporate libraries in the energy industry, to knowledge management, research and analysis positions in a global financial services firm supporting global and local client teams. I have held various volunteer positions, including representing a neighbourhood (one of 5 partners) in development of an education program at a reclamation site in Calgary (The Inglewood Wildlands Society has since merged into the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary – a City of Calgary park).

Now retired, I became active in the West End Senior's Network (WESN) by attending the 2020 town hall and joining the art studio group. Quickly I realized what a jewel WESN is; its dedicated suite of volunteers and staff, its variety of programs and services. One of my retirement goals is to serve and support seniors and community. Thus, I am seeking election to the Board, hoping to help keep the

40 plus year old society strong, so that seniors may continue to be active and involved in the community they live in.

On a personal front, I am married – we are in our 34<sup>th</sup> year of marriage. We love living in the West End and participate in supporting Stanley Park and West End community programs. I've seen many changes over our short time of being here. COVID-19 pandemic being perhaps the most challenging of all. I look forward to working with others to address change, challenge and find opportunity to maintain a healthy senior's profile within our community.

### **3. Ross McKinnon**

Ross McKinnon has been a resident of the West End for 16 years, a member of WESN for four years, and a resident of BC since 1990 living in Victoria for 14 years before moving to Vancouver in 2004. Prior to retiring he was a Manager of Pensions and Benefits for public sector organizations in Vancouver (education sector) and Victoria (municipal sector). As an avid traveller, after retiring he became a part-time Travel Agent helping others explore the world, most notably Europe, utilizing his history of personal travel experience.

### **4. Stephanie Thomas**

Stephanie Thomas is a healthcare consultant who is currently working with the Provincial Health Services Authority. Previously, Stephanie has worked in managerial roles with the Vancouver Division of Family Practice, Bayshore Home Health, and Saint Elizabeth Healthcare. She holds a degree in Health Sciences from Simon Fraser University and is passionate about making a positive impact in her community.