



WESN Board Nominee Bios 2021

1. Dawid Cieloszczyk

Dawid joined Koskie Glavin Gordon as a civil litigator in August 2020. In his role there he advocates for unions and workers at arbitrations, tribunals, and in courtrooms on a wide array of matters.

After obtaining his Honours Specialization in Philosophy at Western University and J.D. from the University of British Columbia, Dawid has worked at civil and criminal litigation firms in Vancouver. Before joining Koskie Glavin Gordon, he spent much of his time on his feet representing clients before tribunals, and in Provincial and Supreme Court, at examinations for discovery, mediations, chambers, and at trial. Dawid has engaged in complex litigation, including cases involving experts.

Dawid provides clients with pro-bono summary legal advice through Access Pro Bono on a wide array of legal issues, including contracts, employment and human rights, insurance, disability, privacy, and consumer protection and fraud issues.

2. Jane Goodridge*

I was born in Brockville, Ontario and spent the first 15 years of my life moving between various military bases throughout Canada. Upon my father's retirement our family returned to the small picturesque town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. I lived there on and off throughout my adult life until my move to Vancouver 13 years ago.

For over thirty-five years I worked for the federal government as an Investigator with Employment and Immigration and as a Customs Inspector with Canada Border Services Agency in Ontario and British Columbia. During my time with Canada Border Services Agency I also worked as a trainer at our National Training Centre in Quebec. I have been retired since 2012.

I am putting my name forward for consideration as a member of the WESN's Board of Directors because I am at a time in my life when my grandchildren no longer require my time for after school care, and as a result I have more free time on my hands to do the things that are truly important to me. I toyed with the idea of becoming a volunteer, but there was nothing that I could think of that I would be comfortable doing. It was serendipity that I was approached by a member of the board to see if I had an interest in the position. I thought about it for about two minutes and said yes. The West End is a very special neighbourhood that goes far beyond the scenery and the weather. When I made the decision to move to Vancouver the choice was between Kitsilano and the



West End; the West End was vibrant, neighbourhood people were everywhere, doing errands, walking pets or just out for a stroll.

When I settled in I started doing the gardening for my building and something truly wonderful happened. Everyone stopped to chat, we talked about everything, the weather, politics, our neighbourhood, bike lanes, rents, condo prices, gardens, families and a myriad of other topics. I started to notice something else, the people who stopped to talk were from all economic backgrounds from the “recyclers” to multi-millionaires, from kids to seniors, all ethnicities and we all talked as equals.

From time to time someone would ask if I had seen a certain person lately, they might not know the person’s name but could describe them, if I had seen them I would let them know, or they would let me know when someone was no longer part of the neighbourhood because they had moved to a care home or hospital, to live with family or they had become ill or had died; people showed a real caring and concern for their neighbours. It occurred to me that I wasn’t really living in the middle of a city but in a small town. I would very much like to be able to give something back to this fabulous neighbourhood.

** Incumbent running for re-election for 1 year*

3. David Harvey, M.Ed., B.Comm., CPHR

An HR professional and educator with 30+ years of experience in post-secondary, hospitals, government, forestry and consulting including roles as the Chief HR officer of a hospital, a post-secondary institution and as the CEO of a 2800-member employee association. David has been teaching in the BBA-HR program in the School of Business at Kwantlen Polytechnic University since 2006 and carries a private consulting practice in addition. His master’s thesis explored how to improve customer service at B.C. post-secondary institutions.

David’s background includes extensive organizational development, labour relations and OH&S experience. He has presented arbitrations and cases at the LRB and the former Employment Standards Board; negotiated collective agreements for both management and union; and resolved hundreds of grievances.

David has been an active volunteer at CPHR: chairing it’s strategic planning task force in the late 90’s, a board member and later chair of the conference committee for 3 years. He has made presentations at CPHR conferences on outsourcing and investigation techniques; and presentations on pandemic preparedness in a variety of settings.



Areas of consulting practice include: labour relations, compensation, organizational strategy and its nexus to HR, customer service, training, OH&S, facilities use and development, and the interface between corporate culture and the physical facilities of organizations.

David is happily married to Thalia and they have 4 adult children plus 2 daughters-in-law. His interests include: travel, a variety of fitness activities, reading, motorcycling, sailing, family and friends time, craft beer and good food of just about any description.

4. Sara Johnson

Sara has over 12 years of experience working in the healthcare sector in Vancouver, and is currently working as a Community Network Manager at the Vancouver Division of Family Practice. Prior to this she worked on the People and Culture team in Employee Engagement at Vancouver Coastal Health where she helped to design and facilitate staff and physician recognition and engagement programs.

From 2014-2020 Sara served on WESN's Board of Directors, and during that time she was Chair of the Board Recruitment and Development Committee. She also currently volunteers with other non-profit organizations and is a Board Director with the Vancouver General Hospital Thrift Store, a Wish Grantor and Family Interviewer with Make a Wish BC/Yukon, and she is a patient care visitor in Vancouver General Hospital's Palliative Care Unit as part of Vancouver Coastal Health's Volunteer Resources. Sara also runs women's mindfulness and yoga retreats, West Coast Women's Retreats, at Camp Latona on Gambier Island.

5. Karsten Kaemling*

Karsten Kaemling is a retired civil servant, having completed his career with a federal government ombudsman's office. Post retirement Karsten first volunteered with Century House in New Westminster in the Peer Support Program, and then once settled in the West End he joined WESN at Kay's Place as an Information and Referral Desk Volunteer.

Later, as a staff member Karsten took on the challenges relating to the establishment of the WESN Housing Program, also developing and presenting seminars, along with the involvement of co-managing Kay's Place.

Since becoming a member of the WESN Board, Karsten was nominated as the Chair to the Space Planning Task Force which is mandated to review the future space needs of WESN.

** Incumbent running for re-election*



6. **Bonnie Quam**

Bonnie spent over 20 years working with elders as a community organizer after receiving a Traineeship in Aging from the University of Oregon. Her main work centered on working with different stakeholder groups and program development at a grassroots level.

Bonnie has extensive experience in promotion, public speaking and marketing from her work as a community activist, small business owner, and her former employer, Costco. Additionally, she has served on numerous boards. During her work as Co-chairperson of an environmental group in the Fraser Valley, she received a Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniversary of Canadian Confederation, from the Government of Canada.

She served on WESN's board from 2014 to 2020. During this time and as part of her former employment with Costco, Bonnie had the privilege of working together with WESN at Lord Roberts Elementary School (inner city school in the West End) on a 15-week tutoring program for struggling emerging readers.

With the support of trained dedicated WESN volunteers, the program will be moving into its 7th year of existence. Bonnie wants to acknowledge and recognize the wonderful past teams of WESN volunteers, who were so generous with their time, commitment and expertise!

As a potential board member, Bonnie is excited about continuing to work with staff and membership to build meaningful community relationships and continue to increase the visibility of the mandate of WESN.

7. **Omid Toub**

Omid has over 14 years of experience working in various leadership roles in the innovation, healthcare, biotechnology, and consulting sectors. In his current role, he serves as the Head of Corporate Development & Partnership at Creative Destruction Lab, a non-profit organization that delivers an objectives-based program for seed-stage, science- and technology-based companies. In previous roles at the Divisions of Family Practice, a healthcare related non-profit, Omid was intimately involved with planning and implementation of initiatives that helped to improve primary care in Vancouver and other areas of BC.

Omid holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) with a finance specialization and an M.Sc. in Medical Genetics from UBC. He has substantial training in financial and business modelling, analytical and research methodologies, negotiations, fundraising and report preparation. He has experience working with non-profit organizations and



appreciates the value WESN can provide to the community.