



## **Provincial Advisory Board 2012-2013**

### **Michael Buhr, Board Chair**

Born in Selkirk and a life-long resident of the R. M. of St. Andrews, Michael has been a Division Director and Certified Financial Planner with Investors Group Financial Services Inc. for the past 24 years.

He has held several leadership roles in the community, including President and several executive positions with the Kinsmen Club of Selkirk over a 14 year span. Michael was Vice-President of the Selkirk Recreation Foundation (1992-93) and Treasurer of the Selkirk Recreation Complex Grand Opening Committee in 1991. He also supported the Manitoba Lotteries 2003 Western Canada Summer Games as a member of the Organizing Committee and as Co-Chair of Communications. Recently he served as the Marketing Chair for the 2009 Telus Cup.

Michael has had previous volunteer experience with the Heart and Stroke Foundation in Manitoba, as the Event Coordinator/Team Captain for the Foundation's Big Bike event in Selkirk (1998-2011). He was the recipient of the Big Heart Award for Volunteerism in 2005 and was selected as one of the Heart and Stroke Foundation's Champions in honour of the 50th Anniversary of the Foundation in 2007. He was selected as the Citizen of the Year by the Selkirk and District Chamber of Commerce in 2007 and awarded the Herbert H. Carnegie Community Leadership Award by Investors Group in 2008.

Michael is currently the Chair of the Selkirk and District Community Foundation, and the Secretary of the Little Grindstone Harbour Authority.

Married to his wife Trish for 26 years, they are empty nesters with two adult children.

### **Dr. Mark Torchia, Vice-Chair**

Mark is an Associate Professor and the Director of Development in the Department of Surgery, University of Manitoba, where his research activities are focused on minimally invasive surgery and diagnosis.

After a 30 year career with St. Boniface General Hospital, and the Health Science Centre, most recently as the Director of Advanced Technologies, Mark was appointed the Director of University Teaching



Services, University of Manitoba. In education research, Mark is interested in the role of cognitive heuristics in the development of expertise and the role of technology in learning.

Dr. Torchia has been a board or council member of a number of local and national organizations including the Safe Drinking Water Foundation, Manitoba Conservatory of Music, and The Canadian Council of Animal Care.

Mark has founded two successful medical device companies. He is the author of numerous scientific papers, two medical textbooks, and holds many patents. Mark is married to Barbara; they have two children. He enjoys cycling and freshwater fishing.

#### **Marlene Baskerville**

Marlene works with Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) as the provincial Agriculture Curriculum & Awareness Specialist. In this capacity she works with individuals, schools and organizations in promoting awareness of agriculture in Manitoba. She also collaborates with numerous partners in coordinating, executing and participating in numerous events.

She has sat on numerous boards including:

#### ***Boissevain Health Board (9 years)***

The Health Board worked towards guiding the process in the community from the then community health board to the current Regional Health Authority system. This included bringing the community to the realization that the health care system in individual communities would change and services would be more centralized in the regions. She also sat on the regional health board for a number of years during this time.

#### ***Agriculture in the Classroom Manitoba – (15 years)***

This is a volunteer non-profit organization whose mandate is to heighten agriculture awareness in Manitoba schools. As the official liaison from MAFRI she has been on the Board of Directors and has been involved in the development of the organization over time. She is also involved with a number of the subcommittees and events including their Amazing Agriculture Adventure, Made in Manitoba Breakfast and Amazing Rangeland Adventure. This organization reaches over 20,000 students and teachers annually.



***Red River Exhibition Association (3 years)***

As a Board member of the largest agricultural society in Manitoba, she has been involved in developing and directing the policies and programs of the Association, including its flagship event, the Ex, which is held in June of each year with 200,000 or more in attendance.

Other organizations include:

***Manitoba Women's Institute Provincial Board of Directors (10 years)***

***Manitoba Association of Home Economists – Winnipeg Branch (6 years)***

***International Federation of Home Economists (4 years)***

Marlene has three grown children.

**Frank Fiorentino**

Frank Fiorentino was born in Amato, Italy and came to Canada at the young age of 13 and had to start school all over again in grade one. Six years later, after many trials and tribulations typically experienced by immigrants, his perseverance allowed him to graduate from Daniel McIntyre Collegiate with Grade 12 university entrance standing. He then attended university for six years, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts, a Bachelor of Education, and a Master of Education degree along with a Permanent Professional Teaching Certificate.

Frank is best known in Manitoba for his illustrious life-long career in the field of Education starting out as a Teacher in 1959, and making a notable impact in many aspects of the education system mainly with the Transcona-Springfield School Division No. 12. His roles included Teacher, Vice Principal, Principal (junior and senior high schools), Assistant Superintendent, Superintendent of Education, Staff Advisor with the Faculty of Education University of Manitoba, and Program Coordinator Continuing Education University of Manitoba. In 1992 he founded People Developers, a small Personal and Professional Development company, and has become well-known as an Education Consultant and Facilitator, school program evaluator in Native schools, and a Pre-employment Trainer. Areas serviced include to public schools, government departments, businesses, training institutions, and First Nation communities in Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec.



In 1998, Frank was appointed by the Italian Government as the Honorary Vice-Consul of Italy in Manitoba, and in this role for eight years, he provided an extensive list of services to members of the Italian community and others in Manitoba. In this role he processed applications for work and military service pensions, Italian citizenship issues, Italian passports, tourist, study, and working visas, academic and education exchanges and information, social assistance provisions, vital statistics matters, and various legal transactions.

As president of the Italian Canadian League of Manitoba, Frank initiated the process for the construction of the new Italian Cultural Centre, the Centro Caboto Centre on Wilkes Avenue. As well, he has been a member of the Board of Creative Retirement Manitoba, Centro Caboto Centre, and the Villa Cabrini Senior Citizens' Residence of Winnipeg. Frank has been the recipient of many awards including: the Transcona Jaycees' "Outstanding Young Man Award" (1970), and the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal (2002). In recognition of his remarkable career and his volunteer efforts, he received the "Eccellenza Award" the highest award of the Italian Community in Winnipeg. Finally, for his outstanding work and dedication, he was honoured with The Order of Italy, issued by the Italian President, and knighted November 18, 2005 by the Italian Ambassador to Canada, Marco Colombo at the Fort Garry Hotel.

Frank is married to Josie, and in 2010 they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They have one son, Anthony, and two daughters, Franca and Elisa.

#### **Amy Leung Hui**

Amy graduated from the University of Manitoba in 2002 with a Master degree in community nutrition.

Her work experience includes working in diabetes research and primary prevention areas at the Internal Medicine Department of University of Manitoba. She provides diabetes education and consultation to clients, and provides in-service teaching to medical students. She also owns her private nutrition consultation service at the Manitoba Clinic. Amy is the chair of the Canadian Diabetes Association Diabetes Educator Section, Winnipeg Chapter. She will complete her PhD degree soon and has won three graduate scholarships.



Amy is the only child of her family and lost both of her parents to heart disease in 2000 and 2007. This loss urged her to use her knowledge and skills to promote healthy living and prevent chronic diseases.

Amy and her husband Mike, enjoy spending time with their toddler Alex together. They love reading books together and travelling.

#### **Anil Jindal**

Anil moved to Canada in 1967 after completing his B.Sc. in engineering from India and M.Sc. in engineering from England. He continued his studies in Canada completing his MBA in Financial Management from York University in Toronto. After working in Canada for 2 years he returned to India in 1971 to start a manufacturing unit of his own.

In 1977, he returned to Nova Scotia, Canada with his wife and children. He worked for the Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) as a Senior Engineer in their heavy water refinery. In 1987 he moved to Pinawa, Manitoba and continued working for AECL as a Commercial Officer for their research facility. Since 1992, he has owned and operated various businesses including a chain of video stores, and a wholesale operation of bulk fuels in Estevan, Saskatchewan for Shell Canada.

Anil has been happily married for 37 years and is now enjoying retirement with his wife. He has four children, three daughters and a son. He is also blessed with five beautiful grandchildren.

Anil enjoys volunteering. For eight years he was an active member of the National Indo Canadian Council. He has also recently completed a two-year term as the President of the Hindu Society of Manitoba.

He has a special interest in the Heart and Stroke Foundation, as he lost his father and brother due to heart disease and has undergone bypass surgery himself ten years ago.

#### **Rob Johnston**

As Regional President, Manitoba, Saskatchewan & North Western Ontario since January 2009, Rob Johnston is responsible for the sales and service experience for all clients in business and personal banking – from the Alberta/Saskatchewan border to as far east as Sudbury Ontario.

Raised in a small town in eastern Ontario, Rob joined



RBC in 1981 as a management trainee and over the years has worked in Northern Ontario, Montreal, Vancouver and Toronto. Rob has held a variety of senior management and executive positions across RBC, including head of strategic planning and development for human resources, vice-president of service delivery & operations, and vice president diverse markets. Prior to assuming this role, Rob was the head of sales strategy and support for RBC's Canadian Banking platform.

With a strong sense of community commitment, Rob is a proud member of the Business Council of Manitoba; 2011 United Way Winnipeg cabinet; Yes! Winnipeg Investor Council, CentreVenture Development Corporation; and Versatech Board. Rob is an advocate for furthering Aboriginal business and community development. He co-chairs the Aboriginal Human Resource Council of Canada and within RBC helps to lead our work with the Assembly of First Nations on the implementation of our commitments in RBC's signed Memorandum of Understanding.

Rob is a business administration graduate, and certified by the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland in organization and systems development. He is married to Angela, and they have two adult children. Pleased to call Winnipeg home, Rob and Angela enjoy being involved in the community and travelling throughout the region.

### **B.J. Langdon, CA**

B.J. was born in Toronto, Ontario, and moved to Winnipeg in 1979 with his family. He graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Commerce (Honors) degree in 1988. After graduation he worked for a large International Accounting firm for six years while earning his Chartered Accounting designation. He left the firm in 1993 for a position as CFO with King Transportation Ltd. When the company was sold to First Student in 2008, BJ stayed on to run the operations in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Currently, BJ is the President of Langdon Holdings Ltd in Winnipeg.

B.J. is also a member of the Board of the Victoria General Hospital Foundation where he chairs the Audit Committee. B.J. also served for 12 years as the Vice Chair of The Manitoba Health Appeal Board. He has also served as treasurer on his local residents association Board and a local school daycare Board. B.J. volunteered as a Big Brother for five years and



has mentored Junior Achievement at Junior High and High Schools in Manitoba.

B.J. and his wife Karri have three wonderful children and enjoy much of their spare time at the family cottage.

**Jonathan J. Murray, CA**

Born and raised in Brandon, Jonathan graduated from Brandon University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in 2007. In 2009 Jonathan received his Chartered Accountants designation from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Manitoba. Working for BDO Canada LLP in Brandon, Jonathan focuses his time in the area of Tax.

When he is not found behind a desk Jonathan likes to spend time, hiking, camping, and biking with his wife Breena and dog Echo.

**Robert A. Simpson**

Rob was born and raised in Winnipeg, where he attended Kelvin High School before pursuing post-secondary education at the University of Manitoba. He received his Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Law degrees. After articling with D'Arcy and Deacon, Rob was called to the Bar of Manitoba in 1974. He has been with firm of Fillmore Riley LLP since 1979.

Rob has been involved in all facets of employment / labour law for over 30 years. As a partner at Fillmore Riley LLP he has been actively involved in the management of the firm. In addition to his counsel work, Rob is on the list of arbitrators maintained by the Manitoba Labour Board.

Rob has been married to Jane for 39 years, they have three children and three grandchildren.

**Allison Elizabeth Ready**

Dr. A. Elizabeth Ready is a Professor in the Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management at the University of Manitoba. She obtained her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in physical education at the University of Western Ontario, and her Ph.D. in exercise physiology at the University of Alberta.

Elizabeth has served on many health-related national and provincial associations. She has been a member of the Heart and Stroke Foundation in Manitoba's Health Promotion and Women's Heart Health Committees. She has been a Board member of the Manitoba Fitness Council (1998-2008), the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute (1997-2005), and a



member of the Resource Steering Committee of the Alliance for the Prevention of Chronic Disease. She is a member of the Winnipeg in motion Coordinating Committee, the Winnipeg and Manitoba in motion Research Committee, a Research Associate of the Centre on Aging, and of the Health, Leisure and Human Performance Research Institute, at the University of Manitoba.

Elizabeth has had a major influence on the health and physical activity of young Manitobans in her role as a university educator. In recognition of her contributions to the profession and to the community, she was awarded the University of Manitoba Outreach Award in 1999, and the Kinsmen Reh-Fit Centre Healthy Living Award in 2000.

In her leisure time, Elizabeth enjoys jogging, golfing, Japanese drumming (taiko), reading, cooking and spending time at the cottage.