

BOARD POSITION ELECTIONS

Current Federation Board of Directors

PRESIDENT	<i>2-Year Term</i>	<i>2020–2022</i>
Current President	Tanya Behardien	
INTERIOR REGION DIRECTOR	<i>2-Year Term</i>	<i>2020–2022</i>
Current Interior Director	Kelly Kelland	
NORTH REGION DIRECTOR	<i>2-Year Term</i>	<i>2020–2022</i>
Current North Director	Tyrell Arnold	
VANCOUVER COASTAL REGION DIRECTOR	<i>2-Year Term</i>	<i>2020–2022</i>
Current Van Coastal Director	Judy Valsonis	
VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION DIRECTOR	<i>2-Year Term</i>	<i>2020–2022</i>
Current Van Island Director	Michelle Bell	
FRASER REGION DIRECTOR	<i>2-Year Term</i>	<i>2020–2022</i>
Current Fraser Director	Vicki Kipps	

Please note, the current Federation Bylaws state:

- 21.4 One Director from each of the five geographical regions corresponding to the current regional service delivery areas.
- 22 All of the Directors, other than the immediate Past President and Regional Directors shall be elected by the full membership of The Federation. Elections shall take place at the Annual General Meeting and the Directors so elected shall hold office for 2 years.
- 22.3 Regional Directors shall be elected by the members of their region at the Annual General Meeting and ratified by the membership at large.
- 23 No person shall hold a specific position on the Board of Directors for more than two full consecutive terms.
- 35 Regional Directors shall be responsible for providing a focus for Federation activity at a regional level and providing a communications conduit for The Federation and regional members.



BOARD POSITION ELECTIONS

Nominees for The Federation Board of Directors

POSITION	NOMINEE
President	Tanya Behardien
Fraser Region Director	Vicki Kipps
Interior Region Director	Kelly Kelland
North Region Director	Tyrell Arnold
Vancouver Island Region Director	Sophia Palmer
Vancouver Coastal Region Director	Marnie Goldenberg
Vancouver Coastal Region Director	Ann Kutcher

POSITION: **PRESIDENT**

NOMINEE: **TANYA BEHARDIEN**

BIO: Tanya Behardien is the Executive Director of OneSky Community Resources, an accredited multi-service organization with over 200 staff serving communities in the South Okanagan Similkameen region. From early on in life, Tanya knew she wanted to help people and she has spent over 30 years dedicated to working in BC's Community Social Services Sector in various roles from front-line service delivery to senior management. Since 2011, she has served on the Federation Board as Interior Regional Director, Vice-President and President.

Tanya's greatest joy is being a mom for her two daughters, aged four and seven. She loves spending time with her family in the Okanagan sunshine (or sunshine anywhere), kayaking, stand up paddle boarding and camping.

REASON: Tanya is seeking re-election for her second term as President of the Federation of Community Social Services of BC to further support the organization to be a catalyst for social change. Tanya's leadership style is informed by a complex system thinking lens, a commitment to collaboration, and respectful conversations with government and within the sector.

As President, she is committed to continue to seek the input and insight from colleagues who are informed of the reality of running social service agencies in local communities in the midst of a global pandemic, with increasing service demands and funding challenges. Tanya works to remain up-to-date with service and funding trends, both at local and provincial levels, and keeping government informed of the on-the-ground implications of provincial policy and legislative changes. She would be honoured to serve a second term in the role of President to support the advancement of the Federation's strategic directions.

POSITION: FRASER REGION DIRECTOR

NOMINEE: VICKI KIPPS

BIO: Vicki Kipps is an accomplished non-profit executive with a passion for helping people and strengthening communities. She started her career in city recreation then quickly grew to love the people, the challenges and supportive environment of the non-profit sector. Vicki is the Executive Director with Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Community Services, a University of Victoria alumnus, and she has a graduate degree in Organizational Leadership from Royal Roads University. When she is not out playing with her golden-doodle named Maggie-Ray you'll most likely find Vicki at a hot yoga class or in a Starbucks line-up.

REASON: I love being around and learning from intelligent and passionate people. As a shy introverted leader, I find that I do this best when I give myself direct opportunities to actively participate. Although being on the Federation Board has been a very positive experience for me I would love the chance to continue as the Fraser Regional representative as I feel that I have just begun and I have more to learn and more to offer.

POSITION: INTERIOR REGION DIRECTOR

NOMINEE: KELLY KELLAND

BIO: Kelly Kelland has been a member of the senior management team at Interior Community Services for the past 18 years and the CEO for the past 11 years. During this time, she has had the benefit of working with several other organizations in the province. Her leadership style encompasses enriching the lives of those served through the delivery of high quality services, enriching the lives of ICS employees with a rich vibrant culture and enriching the lives of individuals in our community. Outside of work Kelly enjoys golfing, travelling and spending time with her Basset Hound "RJ".

REASON: I am very interested in staying on the Board of the Federation of Community Social Service for another two (2) year term. I am a dynamic and visionary leader who is outcome oriented with a strong track record of high performance in a variety of diverse settings and circumstances. I have personally enjoyed my time on the Board over the past 2 years getting to know my colleagues across the province and I am committed to the Vision, Mission and Strategic Focus of the Federation of Community Social Services.

POSITION: NORTH REGION DIRECTOR

NOMINEE: TYRELL ARNOLD

BIO: Tyrell has been the Executive Director for Connexus in central BC for over 9 years. He feels very fortunate for the firsthand experience he has had in this role and in his professional role as a trained therapist. Tyrell has been able to use these experiences to influence his own work as leader in his own community and with Connexus. Moreover, as a leader of a multiservice organization, Tyrell has worked closely with MCFD, CLBC, BC Housing, the Solicitor General and PHAC. Tyrell has now been on The Federation's board for three years and for the last two years as the North Regional Director. Tyrell feels that being involved in the great work the Federation is doing is exciting and that being involved at the board level has given him the opportunity to learn and contribute to the great work that is being done. As a representative of a Northern agency, Tyrell strives to add to the dynamics of the board by providing a rural Northern perspective.

REASON: Serving on the Federation board has been an honor and a great privilege. The work the Federation is engaged in is critical to the future success of our sector. As a board member I strive to add my voice and unique perspective as a leader in a northern rural and remote organization. My goal as a federation board member is to help support our member organizations flourish in supporting individuals throughout BC.

POSITION: VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION DIRECTOR

NOMINEE: SOPHIA PALMER

BIO: Sophia received her BSW from UBC, in Vancouver, then continued on to complete a Master's in Social Work and a Master's in Marriage and Family Therapy from Syracuse University, in Syracuse, New York. She has a Certificate of Advanced Study in Trauma-Informed Practice, and is a Registered Clinical Counsellor with the BC Association of Clinical Counselors. Sophia recently completed her EMDR Basic Training. Sophia's background is in harm reduction, trauma-informed care, and gender and sexuality. She specializes in Trauma, youth, and LGBTQ2SIA+ affirming therapy. Her passions are social justice, working with youth and creating safer spaces. Her work is centered around decolonizing systems, and amplifying the narratives and experiences of the folks she has the honor of sharing space with.

REASON: My ED, Michelle Bell of Cowichan Valley Youth Services is currently the Vancouver Island Region Director for The Federation of Community Social Services of BC, and through her sharing I have been able to witness and learn about the powerful impact The Federation has on informing and guiding best practices within Social Services around BC. Working in silos is not an option, particularly in rural and semi-rural communities where resources are even more limited. Far too often social service organizations find themselves working in isolation instead of striving for more collaborative, wrap-around services.

If given the opportunity to be the Vancouver Island Region Director I would strive to continue to strengthen and gain new connections with other Social Service Providers, and take part in important dialogues regarding the strengths and obstacles encountered in this complex and rewarding field.


Vancouver Island is made up of richly diverse communities with differing needs, experiences, and access (or lack of access) to supports and resources. These communities deserve representation, and in my previous experience as well as my current roles as a youth and family counsellor and Team Lead of community outreach I feel I can advocate and represent the successes, frustrations, and hopes of the youth and families that access many different social services. Their voices are powerful, they are the experts of their lived experiences and hold valuable information and feedback regarding how social services are thriving and where they need some work.

As a non-profit youth and family agency located in the Central Island we bring a unique youth-centered lens, it would be such an opportunity to continue to have a place at the table, and to keep the Cowichan Valley on the map of these important conversations. Systemic change and social justice are near and dear to my heart, and being part of The Federation would be such a wonderful opportunity. Along with the systems change piece, I would be honored for the opportunity to connect with, and learn from, other social service organizations. On a micro, mezzo and macro level the individuals, communities, and the world are ready and fighting for systemic change, and I want to be a part of that. Thank you for this opportunity to be considered for this position.

POSITION: VANCOUVER COASTAL REGION DIRECTOR

NOMINEE: MARNIE GOLDBERG

BIO: Marnie Goldenberg brought over 20 years of not-for-profit experience when she joined Family Services of Greater Vancouver 3 years go. Previously Marnie held senior roles in human resources, organizational development, and program management, and served as an interim executive director. As a consultant to the sector, Marnie supported many organizations in the areas of governance, program development and evaluation. Marnie's early professional efforts were focused on vulnerable youthworking in outdoor education, as a legal advocate for young people within the criminal justice system and as an educator at Planned Parenthood in Toronto.



First as Director of Youth Services and now as VP, Programs, Marnie's efforts at FSGV are focused on developing and sustaining strong teams that build trust and resiliency among clients. She is also invested in addressing systemic barriers for clients with partners, funders and the community.

REASON: Family Services of Greater Vancouver is a long-standing member of the Federation of Community Social Services of BC. Members of our leadership team have historically participated on the board and we have long appreciated the opportunity and privilege of collaboration within the social services sector.

FSGV is a large social service organization dedicated to ensuring that its services meet the diverse needs of the Greater Vancouver community. Representation on the board will allow us to be a part of something even larger. Through efforts to better understand the interests of our sector, and to advocate of issues we hold in common, FSGV can better meet its own mission and mandate.

My interests are to help make the sector stronger. COVID-19 has reinforced the critical need of the social service sector. In times of calm, we help those impacted by poverty, trauma and crisis and assist those who need a hand up. In times of universal crisis, we are part of the backbone of civil society - identifying emerging needs and responding to those falling further through the cracks in our imperfect systems of support.

Areas of strategic focus for the board - on reconciliation, sector compensation, financial sustainability and social policy are particularly top of mind for me at this time. As a Regional Director for Vancouver Coastal, I would be mindful of issues impacting workers in one of the most expensive cities in the world, urban indigeneity and the Downtown Eastside. If given the opportunity, I know my perspective will be informed by others and believe that members across the province will influence and deepen my understanding of the social services sector in BC.

POSITION: VANCOUVER COASTAL REGION DIRECTOR

NOMINEE: ANN KUTCHER

BIO: Ann has been working in the social services field since January 1974. She has a strong background in the social services: in program delivery, program evaluation, partnerships, development and management, and decades of experience, combined with demonstrated and certified leadership and management skills, and a commitment to strengthening families and communities with measureable results.

Ann holds a certificate in Human Resources Management from the Sauder School of Business and understands the union and non-union environments. Ann served as Chair of Council On Accreditation Canada for 8 years and was part of the thrust to create Canadian COA standards.

Her philosophy in overseeing an organization is to assume that families have a desire and commitment to care well for their children, and that everyone does the best they can, given the resources available to them and the environmental stressors they face. Ann has a commitment to strengthening families in all communities and has focus on improving and maintaining excellence in service delivery.

Ann currently sits on the CSSEA panel and she has been an active board member for The Federation of Community Social Services of BC. She is running for the Vancouver Coastal Regional Director position.

REASON: I would like to run for this position as I feel that my decades of experience and leadership in the social service sector will continue to be an asset for the work of The Federation, for our clients, our communities, and our services. Historically I was instrumental in changing regional meetings to be more meaningful, informative and inclusive.