

## Founding Barnraisers Council announced by UW President David Johnston

WATERLOO, ONTARIO, December 16, 2009 - The Prosperity Council of Waterloo Region's Task Force on Creative Enterprise announced today that it has made the appointments for the initial Waterloo Region Barnraisers Council.

The creation of the Barnraisers Council was one of two key recommendations contained in the Task Force on Creative Enterprise's report to the community released on September 24, 2009. As outlined in the report, the Barnraisers Council will:

- Develop consensus for how participants within the Waterloo Region define and implement our future
- Identify strategic issues and recommend possible responses that will continue the implementation of the Prosperity vision, including those related to continued enhancements to health care, education, and other sectors
- Be guided by the need to achieve balance in our overall objectives. A balance that recognizes that sustainability is dependent upon the four pillars of community sustainability: economic health, social equity, environmental responsibility, and cultural vitality
- Be representative of various interests, while remaining small enough to be effective
- Provide the high level, strategic consensus-building that is necessary for a large, multi-faceted community to adapt continually

"In selecting the founding membership, we have ensured broad representation from throughout the region and have selected individuals who collectively touch many of the constituencies that make up this community including, the private sector, post secondary institutions, students, the not-for-profit sector and the health care system," said President David Johnston who helped to coordinate the selection process and will also sit on the council. "In most cases the individuals selected have connections to more than one sector".

Tim Jackson has been asked to serve as the initial Chair of the Council.

The founding council consists of (in alphabetical order):

Cathy Brothers	David Johnston
John Doherty	Helen Jowett
Ginny Dybenko	Reemah Khalid
John English	Carol Leaman
Joseph Fung	Craig McFadyen
Bruce Gordon	Gerry Remers
Tim Jackson	

In addition, the Regional CAO's office will be providing administrative support to the Council and therefore Mike Murray CAO of the Region of Waterloo will sit ex-officio on the Council.

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Biographies of the founding members follow:

### **Cathy Brothers**

Cathy Brothers has been the Executive Director of Mosaic Counselling and Family Services since 1992. Over the past 17 years this professional family service agency has grown from helping 1,000 persons each year to helping 25,000 persons annually.

Born and raised in Toronto, after graduating from University of Toronto, Cathy came to Kitchener-Waterloo to study for the Master of Social Work degree at W.L.U. Cathy's 40 years of Social Work practice has included senior management roles at both Homewood and St. Mary's hospitals. As a sessional lecturer, Cathy taught Social Policy courses for over 20 years in the Department of Family Studies at the University of Guelph.

In addition to being a founding member for several social service organizations, Cathy's community service has included membership on many Boards; such as, the Rotary Club of Kitchener-Westmount, Family Service Ontario, Ontario Association of Credit Counselling Services, St. Mary's General Hospital, and, St. Jerome's University.

Cathy is a recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal and an Honorary Senior Fellow at Renison College.

### **John Doherty**

John Doherty is the Managing Partner of Gowlings' Waterloo Region and serves on the Firm's executive committee. He practices primarily in civil litigation, with a focus on commercial and municipal litigation.

In his commercial litigation practice, John is an advocate before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Divisional Court and Court of Appeal for Ontario. In addition, John's municipal litigation practice leads him to appear before municipal boards and councils, and a variety of administrative tribunals including the Ontario Municipal Board with a focus on municipal, planning and expropriation matters.

John's community affiliations include The Cambridge Volunteer Bureau (past President); the board of directors for the United Way of Cambridge and North Dumfries (Executive Committee); the Greater Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce (past Chair); past member of the board of directors for Cambridge and North Dumfries Hydro Inc.; Member and Chair of Citizen's Advisory Committee on Regional Council Compensation; co-chair of 2003 and 2005 Prosperity Forum; Chair of the board of directors for Canada's Technology Triangle; and Chair of the Prosperity council of Waterloo Region.

## **Ginny Dybenko**

Ginny Dybenko comes to the role of Dean of the Wilfrid Laurier School of Business & Economics with over 30 years of corporate experience and a strong academic background. Ginny's successful business career has been marked by the creation of innovative technological solutions for critical business problems primarily in the Telecommunications sector.

Appointed to a number of senior executive roles within Bell Canada, Ginny was responsible for helping drive innovation within a telecommunications industry adapting to a competitive environment. As President and CEO of Bell Advanced Communications, Ginny's accomplishments included the creation of Canada's Information Highway, CA\*net; the formation of a Professional Services business unit within Bell Canada and the pioneering of Bell's first successful Electronic Commerce service offering. Subsequently, as head of Marketing for a high tech start-up, Ginny was responsible for expanding the reach and influence of a uniquely successful software firm operating around the world.

Ginny has been a champion for the promotion of technical programs for youth, serving on the Youth in Motion Educational Foundation, notable for its Top 20 Under 20® scholarship competition. She is a member of The Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. And, she was former member on the Board of Governors for the University of Western Ontario.

## **John English**

John English is a Canadian academic who has also been very active in Canadian public life. He served as a Liberal Member of Parliament between 1993 and 1997. Subsequently, he served as a Special Ambassador for Landmines and as a Special Envoy for the election of Canada to the Security Council. He has also served as President of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs; Chair of the Board of the Canadian Museum of Civilization and the Canadian War Museum; and served as the Executive Director of CIGI, a think tank devoted exclusively to the study of international affairs.

He has written many books and articles and was the official biographer of former Canadian Prime Minister Lester Pearson. At the request of the Trudeau family, he has published two volumes of a biography of Pierre Trudeau.

He is a Member of the Order of Canada, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and a recipient of many literary awards.

## **Joseph Fung**

Joseph Fung is the Director of IT & Collaboration Strategies at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) where he focuses on the strategic use of technology to enhance research, collaboration, and communication activities.

Before working with CIGI, Joseph was President/CEO of Lewis Media, a web software company that build rebrandable solutions for marketing and design professionals. At Lewis Media, Joseph transformed the company from a service-based boutique development shop to a reputable independent software vendor with robust private label reseller and direct sales channels. Joseph steered the growth and eventual sale of Lewis Media's core technology and reseller networks. For his successes with Lewis Media, Joseph was honoured with the CIBC Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2005.

An entrepreneurial leader in the internet and software industries, Joseph is a recognized technology enthusiast and community evangelist with a commitment to corporate citizenship. Joseph has been involved in the early stages of a number of technology start-ups including Lewis Media ([www.lewismedia.com](http://www.lewismedia.com)), OnMyBlock.ca ([www.onmyblock.ca](http://www.onmyblock.ca)), Simple Machines Forum ([www.simplemachines.org](http://www.simplemachines.org)), Tribe ([www.tribehr.com](http://www.tribehr.com)), and TravelPod ([www.travelpod.com](http://www.travelpod.com)). In addition to his active involvement in Waterloo's technology start-up community, Joseph is a passionate member of Waterloo Region's not-for-profit sector. Joseph volunteers with several organizations, and sits on the Board of Directors for Habitat for Humanity Waterloo Region and the Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery.

Joseph holds a Bachelors of Applied Science from the University of Waterloo's Computer Engineering program and various certificates in Communications and Human Dynamics.

## **Bruce Gordon**

Bruce Gordon is Chair Manulife Canada and Manulife Bank. He is also a director of Elliott & Page Limited. Bruce graduated from Carleton University with a Bachelor of Commerce degree and qualified as a chartered accountant.

Mr. Gordon retired from Manulife Financial Corporation in March 2007, where he held the position of Senior Executive Vice President and General Manager, Canada and was a member of the Executive and Management Committee. During his 18 year career, he held various senior positions.

Mr. Gordon serves on the board of the C.D. Howe Institute. He is also involved in the Kitchener-Waterloo community, serving on the board of St. Mary's Hospital Foundation as well as chairing the hospital's Leadership Committee, and is a member of the University of Waterloo's Board of Governors, Executive Committee, Finance and Investment Committee, and Audit Committee.

## **Tim Jackson**

Tim Jackson is a founder and Partner of Tech Capital Partners where he focuses on investment opportunities in the wireless, communications, new media, and internet sectors.

Experienced in executive leadership roles, Tim has acted as CFO, CEO or board member for numerous companies

Tim supports the development of entrepreneurs through his roles as Chairperson of Communitech Technology Association (term ended Nov 2009), Vice-Chair of the UW Research + Technology Park Accelerator Centre, and Advisory Council Member for The Centre for Business, Entrepreneurship and Technology at the University of Waterloo. Tim also sits on the Board of Governors for the University of Waterloo, is a member of the Board's governance, executive and Pension and Benefits committees and chairs the University's Finance & Investment Committee.

Actively involved in the not-for-profit sector, Tim chairs the Waterloo Public Library Board and The board of Center in the Square. He is also President of the Food Bank of Waterloo Region and recently ended a term as chair of the Waterloo Regional Children's Museum Board.

## **David Johnston**

David Johnston completed his university studies with distinction in three countries: the United States (Harvard A.B. 1963), England (Cambridge LL.B. 1965) and Canada (Queen's LL.B. 1966). While at Harvard he was twice named to the All-American Hockey Team and is in Harvard's Athletic Hall of Fame. His academic specializations are securities regulation, corporation law and communications law.

David Johnston taught law at Queen's University (1966), and the University of Toronto (1968), and was the University of Western Ontario's Dean of Law from 1974-1979. In 1979 he was named Principal and Vice-Chancellor of McGill University and in July 1994, on stepping down as Principal, returned to McGill's Faculty of Law as a full-time Professor. Professor Johnston took office as the 5th President of UW on June 1, 1999, and was formally installed as President and Vice-Chancellor later that month. Among the many honours accorded Professor Johnston are honorary doctorates from 12 universities and status as a Companion of the Order of Canada. He is the author/co-author of two dozen books. The 5th edition of one of these, *Canadian Securities Regulation*, is currently in preparation.

He was President of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, the Conférence des Recteurs et des Principaux des Universités du Québec, the founding Chair of the National Roundtable on Environment and the Economy and the only non-US citizen to chair Harvard University's Board of Overseers. For the federal government, he has chaired the Information Highway Advisory Council, the Blue Ribbon Panel on Smart Communities, the Advisory Council on Online Learning, the Committee on Canadian Information Systems for the Environment, and the National Broadband Task Force. He has also chaired the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research and The Neuroscience National Centre of Excellence. Professor Johnston has served on many other provincial and federal task forces and committees and is on the boards of a number of companies including CGI Group, Masco Corp., Fairfax Financial Holdings, ARISE Technologies Inc., and is a founding trustee of the MasterCard Foundation.

## **Helen Jowett**

Helen Jowett is CEO of McDonald-Green, a Human Resource Consulting firm that she founded in 1994. The firm provides recruitment, assessment services, training, career transitioning and consulting to area companies. She completed her MBA at Royal Roads University.

Helen is the Chair of the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce and is a past Executive Board member of the Kitchener Chamber of Commerce. Currently she sits on the advisory board of Conestoga College assisting with Human Resources curriculum evaluation and update. She is on the Board of Directors for Canada's Technology Triangle, a member of the WRIEN Steering Committee, and a member of the Prosperity Forum, sitting as the Chair of the Health Care Task Force. Helen is Past Chair of the Cambridge Memorial Hospital Foundation

Helen is a past recipient of the K-W Woman of the Year Award. In April of 2003, the Mayor of Cambridge presented McDonald-Green with an Award of Recognition for Excellence in Workforce Training and Development. As Past-Chair for Junior Achievement of Waterloo Region, Helen taught the pilot project and trained business owners facilitating the Student Venture curriculum. She is also Past-President of the Sunrise Rotary and recipient of the Paul Harris Award for outstanding contribution. She has been honoured with the YWCA Women of Distinction Award in the Education, Training and Professional Development category, the Community Philanthropy Award in the category of Outstanding Corporate Philanthropist awarded by the Waterloo Wellington Fund-Raising Executives, and most recently was honoured with the Bell Personal Business Achievement Award.

## **Reemah Khalid**

Reemah Khalid is an undergraduate student in the Arts and Business Co-op program at The University of Waterloo.

Reemah's passions for student life, entrepreneurship and philanthropic initiatives have led her to make a positive impact in the local, national, and international community. She is a strong advocate for youth engagement and strives to empower those around her. Her work experience includes roles at Microsoft Canada, Deloitte, CIBC, and being an Ambassador for the University of Waterloo.

Her latest endeavours include leading the branding of a new venture while living at VeloCity, a mobile, media, web incubator. Reemah is a strong advocate for undergraduate students in her leadership capacities as Arts Senator and as Vice-President for the Arts Student Union. She is a recent participant in the CIBC Run for the Cure and is leading a student group to raise funds and awareness for the Bracelet of Hope campaign. In 2009, Reemah was recognized with a Federation of Students Leadership Award for her achievements within the community.

In her spare time, Reemah volunteers actively within the community, spends time with her family and enjoys playing intramural volleyball.

## **Carol Leaman**

Carol Leaman is the CEO of PostRank Inc., recently named one of Canada's top 20 most Innovative Technology Companies by the Canadian Innovation Exchange. Since joining the company in early 2008 Carol has overseen the evolution of PostRank from a free, consumer-based online content filtering and ranking service to a premier provider of social media engagement metrics and influence ranking for online publishers and those interested in them.

Prior to joining PostRank Carol spent almost 10 years running two other technology companies, RSS Solutions Inc. and Fakespace Inc. and provided mentoring and advisory services to early stage tech companies. A Chartered Accountant, Carol initially left public practice to join a Canadian public company where she was primarily involved in M&A activities and capital raising.

Carol lives in Waterloo and currently sits on the boards of seven local organizations.

## **Craig McFadyen**

After graduating in 1982 from the University of Calgary's school of medicine, Dr. Craig McFadyen spent a year in general practice before entering the Surgical Training Program at the University of Toronto, receiving his Fellowship in 1988. He subsequently trained for a year in vascular surgery at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto and shortly after started his practice in Kitchener-Waterloo in 1990. In addition to his active clinical practice, Dr. McFadyen has held a variety of leadership roles. He was appointed Medical Director of Surgical Oncology at the Grand River Regional Cancer Centre in 2005. In July 2008, he was appointed Vice President, Regional Cancer Services for the Waterloo Wellington Region and a Vice President of Grand River Hospital. Dr. McFadyen is currently the Medical Director of the Waterloo Wellington Breast Assessment Unit. He has led both the Surgical Oncology Wait Time Initiative and the establishment of Rapid Diagnostic Units in Waterloo Wellington. He is particularly interested in identifying and monitoring quality variables with respect to surgical and pathology performance in surgical oncology.

## **Gerry Remers**

Since 1999 Gerry Remers has been President and COO of Christie, a global digital media company. Under his leadership, Christie has quadrupled in size to half a billion in sales, and has transformed its manufacturing and engineering facility to world class standards. Gerry has led the development of innovative display technologies and business models, and he has elevated Christie's brand globally with leadership in digital cinema and high performance displays. He is also an active leader in the local community spearheading efforts to put Canada at the forefront of the digital economy. Previously, Gerry was President of Electrohome Projection Systems, where he negotiated the sale of the business unit to Christie, Inc. in 1999. He possesses over 20 years experience in finance, marketing, planning and product management through his various positions at Electrohome and, earlier, Nortel Canada.

A strong community leader, Gerry is passionate about advancing opportunities for higher education, innovation and the Arts. He is an active supporter of the local universities and community college, and was recently recognized as honorary senior fellow of Renison College. Gerry currently enjoys serving as Co-Chair of the board of Communitech and as Executive Chair of the United Way of Kitchener-Waterloo and Area. He is an advisory board member of the Canadian Digital Media Network and Leadership Waterloo Region. Previously, he served two years on the economic development advisory committee for the City of Kitchener and three years as Chairman of the Board for Shad International.