

## UPDATED

### Creative Enterprise Enabling Organization inaugural board of directors appointed

WATERLOO, ONTARIO, March 13, 2010 - The Prosperity Council of Waterloo Region's Task Force on Creative Enterprise announced today that it has made the appointments for the initial Board of Directors of the Creative Enterprise Enabling Organization.

The creation of the Enabling Organization 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 Enabling Organization will provide a wide range of services with the intention of enabling the arts, culture, and creative sectors (private, public, and not-for-profit) to achieve their potential. It will evolve considerably following its inception and will, among other initiatives, focus on and become:

- A collaborative body for shared services/resources for the arts, culture and creative community
- A coordinating body for festivals, promotion and marketing, digital presence, etc.
- Enabler of strategic financial services for the creative sector
- Advocate for the creative sector to provincial and federal governments and stakeholders
- Provide support to improve capacity of organizations

"Early investigations have taught us that the business sector and arts sector have some common opinions. These include audience engagement, marketing, and funding," said Roger Farwell, who has been asked to serve as the initial Chair of the Board. "We are excited about working with those in the creative sectors, building on collaborations and partnerships that already exist for mutual benefit of the community at large".

A call for applications for Board positions was made in December 2009, and drew a high volume of quality applications from community-minded individuals with impressive credentials.

"The selection process has been very intensive and thorough, and with such a limited number of positions to fill the decisions were difficult" states Farwell. "However, we are confident that those selected represent a wide spectrum of talented people with diverse backgrounds committed to transforming Waterloo Region's cultural landscape".

The initial responsibility of the Board will be recruitment of the CEO of the Enabling Organization.

The founding Board members are (in alphabetical order):

Hilary Abel	Cheryl Ewing	Dave Mansell
Tim Anderson	Roger Farwell	Mike Murray
Michele Baumgarten	Jamie Grant	Milena Protich
Jennifer Chivers-Wilson	Mark Jackson	Dave Schnarr
Michael Duschenes	Carla Ladd	Lynne Short
Tim Ellis	Phil LeConte	Reg Weber
Brett Emmerton	Judy Major-Girardin	

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Biographies of the inaugural board members follow:

## **Hilary Abel**

Hilary Abel is a local writer, and creator of the blog “RQ”, focused on the sharing of all aspects of KW creative culture. Hilary has over 10 years of experience within Marketing & Communications and has a keen interest in social networking, online marketing, a strong understanding of how communication is changing within our society.

Currently a Marketing Manager within the Small & Medium Business segment at Research in Motion, her work is focused on the dynamic entrepreneurs of North America. Hilary launched (qatalyst) magazine, an independently funded, local arts and culture magazine for Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge and Guelph, which showcased over 50 local artists to the community, provided prominent advertising space for more than 25 not-for-profit organizations, championed the involvement of local writers, photographers, illustrators and students in contributing to a magazine with high reproduction value, building their experience, reputation and portfolio, and promoted local arts and business events.

Hilary is involved in many ongoing grassroots initiatives, which aim to cultivate and support the talent that our cities offer the community and the world.

## **Tim Anderson**

Tim Anderson is the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Waterloo. A professional engineer with almost 20 years of experience with the City, he began as a maintenance management co-ordinator in 1990. Over the years he’s held a number of management positions, most recently as general manager of Public Works Services.

Tim’s accomplishments at the City include working on the funding and implementation of the UW Research and Technology Park, as well as on many infrastructure and environmental initiatives. He has also participated in employee contract negotiations and master plan preparations.

Tim – who began his new role on May 1, 2010 – is a lifelong resident of this community. In addition to his work at the City, Anderson has been involved in numerous organizations, including the Professional Engineers of Ontario, the International City/County Management Association and the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators.

## **Michele Baumgarten**

Michele Baumgarten possesses over 15 years of senior management experience in marketing and communications with organizations in the Region of Waterloo and Toronto including the Waterloo Regional Children’s Museum, Cambridge Tourism/Chamber of Commerce, and the Royal Ontario Museum. Currently, she works at SunLife Financial Canada in a newly created position of Media and Public Relations Planner. In this role Michele is responsible for working with the Canadian Executive Team to identify opportunities to help SunLife build their profile initially in Waterloo Region, then across Canada, and to identify activities they could be actively supporting.

Prior to this position Michele ran her own full-time business as a marketing & communications consultant, working with many clients in Waterloo Region. She currently chairs the Marketing Committee for the KW Arts Awards, was past vice-president of the Board of Directors for the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery, and participated on the steering committee of Inspiring Women, “The Experience”. She holds an Honours Degree in Fine Art from York University and is a graduate from the 2007 class of Leadership Waterloo Region.

## **Jennifer Chivers-Wilson**

For over 20 years, Jennifer Chivers-Wilson has been a tax specialist in public practice serving Canadian-controlled businesses with a focus on: business organization; strategy execution; wealth protection; and tax minimization. Currently a Senior Manager with Ernst & Young LLP in Kitchener, Jennifer's practice is restricted to tax, specializing in planning for owner managed enterprises, including estate and succession planning. A consultant to charitable and not-for-profit sectors, Jennifer has lectured at the University of Western Ontario, authored articles on estate planning and charitable giving and has spoken in various public forms.

Jennifer holds an Honours BBA from the University of Western Ontario and is a Chartered Accountant. Jennifer and her family have a strong connection and commitment to the arts community in Waterloo Region, particularly The New Quarterly. She participates regularly in various arts events, is a member of the K-W Art Gallery and the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery, and has volunteered in the community with organizations such as K-W Counselling Services and Friends of Joseph Schneider Haus.

## **Michael Duschenes**

Michael Duschenes has been Chief Operating Officer at Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics for over 5 years. Currently, he is overseeing a major period of growth at the Institute, and success will depend in large part on the ability to attract the world's leading scientists to a dynamic and creative community.

Prior to joining PI, Michael spent many years contributing to building healthier, more vibrant and creative communities as a senior executive and consultant in the not-for-profit sector, particularly in the arts. He has worked as a management consultant, providing expertise in: organizational and board development; strategic and business planning; revenue generation; and strategic partnership development to many not-for-profit organizations, both locally and nationally. His clients included the Canada Council for the Arts, the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Ontario Arts Council, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Centre In The Square, Opera Atelier, Orchestras Canada, Kitchener-Waterloo Philharmonic Choir, the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery, the Guelph Youth Music Centre, the Contemporary Art Forum Kitchener and Area and the Guelph Youth Singers, among others.

Michael's most hands-on experience in the local cultural community was as Executive Director of the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony in the late 1990's and early 2000's.

## **Tim Ellis**

As Chief Operating Officer for the Accelerator Centre, Tim Ellis provides daily guidance to AC clients on a range of business and operational issues, and oversees the Accelerator Centre's education, business development and mentoring programs, as well as the AC's financial and facility operations. The Accelerator Centre is firmly focused on accelerating the growth and success of fledgling start-ups from a variety of technology sectors. The Centre's team of advisors and mentors provide a unique range of support services and education programs, enabling AC Clients to move to market faster, create jobs and stimulate economic activity.

Prior to joining the Accelerator Centre, Tim held several positions within the for-profit sector, including Vice President, Operations and Sales at Handshake VR Inc., a software development company with technology serving the automotive, healthcare and education sectors.

## **Brett Emmerton**

Brett's career in Information Technology has been centered around Kitchener-Waterloo for the last 12 years where he has been involved with a wide range of businesses in both a consultative and leadership role. Since early 2005 Brett has been a member of the Senior Leadership team at Desire2Learn Inc. where he is responsible for the SaaS Infrastructure/Hosting, Business Applications, and IT Operations teams. His expertise in DataCentre Architecture & Operations has enabled Desire2Learn's dramatic growth from its early stages to several million students and hundreds of K-20 Education, Government, and Healthcare Institutions. He has an entrepreneurial spirit and has been responsible for the creation of several new products and services through multiple regional business from IT Services to SaaS based Business Intelligence Products.

Brett is a father of a young family and is passionate about shaping the community, it's economy and education systems.

## **Cheryl Ewing**

Cheryl Ewing has over 20 years experience in senior management in the arts. Having worked in the municipal, educational, for profit and not-for-profit sectors Cheryl brings a broad perspective to the work of artists and their impact on the community.

Cheryl has been integral to the design of the innovative young audience programmes – eye-GO to the Arts and River Run Centre's Linamar for the Performing Arts. She is the General Manager of ACE (a national Association of Cultural Executives), administers Open Ears Festival and is project manager for a provincial performing arts conference - Ontario Contact, as well as a cutting edge marketing research project - the Values & Benefits Study. She is the author of *Raising the Curtain*, a manual for young audience presenters and is an active volunteer on the boards of Dancetheatre David Earle and JM Drama/Registry Theatre.

Cheryl is a member of the Rotary Club of Kitchener and has received community recognition including Canada 125 Medal for Community Service (1992), K-W Arts Award (1998), and the 2009 Oktoberfest Women of the Year (Arts & Culture).

## **Roger Farwell**

Roger Farwell is a senior partner at The Walter Fedy Partnership and Director of the firm's Integrated Design Studio, a multidisciplinary team of architects and engineers. He has put his considerable knowledge of the design process to work throughout Waterloo Region, and has directed projects including the Chaplin Family YMCA of Cambridge, Conestoga College, KidsAbility, Manulife Financial, Sun Life Financial, The Record, University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University.

A lifelong resident of Kitchener-Waterloo and graduate of the UW School of Architecture, Roger's extensive volunteer activities include eye-GO to the Arts, Junior Achievement, Kitchener Murals Program, City of Waterloo Public Art Committee, and the Salvation Army Advisory Board. He is a Past President of the Greater KW Chamber of Commerce and since 1997 has been co-chairing the Prosperity Council of Waterloo Region's Task Force on Creative Enterprise. Roger is a member of the Ontario Association of Architects, the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, and the Grand Valley Society of Architects.

Roger was the recipient of Waterloo Region's 2009 Barnraiser Award, celebrating his collaborative skills and innovative approach with community groups while working to build a better community.

## **Jamie Grant**

Jamie Grant is the general manager of the Centre In The Square. Since his arrival in 1998 he has transformed the Centre and its programming from a place for an elite few to a venue with something for everybody.

Prior to his position at the Centre, Jamie spent 6 years in Saint John, New Brunswick as the first general manager of Imperial Theatre, one of the predominant performing arts centres in Atlantic Canada. A leader and innovator in the profession for many years, Jamie is a founding member of Canada's National Theatre Festival – Magnetic North. He helped found "eye-GO to the Arts", a program designed to encourage youth to attend performing arts, and is the founding and current Chair of the Alliance for a Grand Community, a unique and multi-disciplinary organization of CEO's of arts organizations in the Region of Waterloo.

Jamie received the 2009 Community Leader of the Year Award from the Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce. He is the 2007 Association of Cultural Executives National Cultural Executive of the Year and is a 2003 K-W Arts Award winner. Jamie currently serves on the Grand River Hospital Foundation Board of Directors, is active on the Civic District committees, and is a Governor of Canada's Technology Triangle Inc.

## **Mark Jackson**

Mark has been a resident of Waterloo Region since 1970. He attended the University of Waterloo and graduated with a degree in civil engineering. After a short time in Toronto, Mark returned to the area to work for the Region of Waterloo as Manager of Design and Construction. In 1979, Mark and three UW classmates founded Paragon Engineering Limited in Kitchener. In 1997 as part of a planned evolution of the firm, Paragon merged with Stanley Associates Engineering (now Stantec) and since then Mark has held a number of senior executive roles culminating in his appointment as COO in late 2006. Mark retired from Stantec at the end of 2009 as part of a personal plan to become more involved in the community.

An active member of the business community, Mark has participated on a number of Boards including Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc, Kitchener Energy Services Inc, and Deer Ridge Golf Club. In addition, Mark has been a member of many Advisory Boards, including Alberta Research Council and UW's Deans Advisory Council for Cooperative Education. Mark is also a former member of the Kitchener Rotary Club.

Prior to enrolling in UW's engineering program Mark gave serious consideration to a career in music, and had applied to the Royal Conservatory of Music at the University of Toronto.

## **Carla Ladd**

As the City of Kitchener's Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Carla Ladd is the conduit between City Council and the Corporation. Carla has worked for the City of Kitchener for more than 20 years, holding managerial roles in the Corporate Planning division and the former Strategic Services department before becoming CAO. She accepted the role of CAO in 2004 – making her the city's first woman to hold the position.

Through an international partnership program, Carla has taken her knowledge, skills and experience in planning and development to developing countries such as Namibia, the Philippines and Ghana, where she has provided advice on re-engineering the countries' planning policies, land development programs, community engagement practices and strategic planning.

In 1997, Ms. Ladd was seconded to direct the activities of the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Development, which led to a major restructuring of the Economic Development function within the city. She holds an Honours B.A. in Recreation from the University of Waterloo and a Masters of Science in Rural Planning and Development from the University of Guelph.

## **Phil LeConte**

Over the last 17 years Phil LeConte has been a professional performing artist based in Waterloo. His company, The Silly People, has a global reputation for producing high quality variety performances. With The Silly People, Phil has performed in over 20 countries, every Province in Canada, and at over 400 events and international festivals.

In 2002 Phil produced, directed, and performed an indoor variety show which led to the creation of a series that ran for 4 years, allowing him to build his reputation in Waterloo Region and to work with many local and international artists. The success of these indoor shows led to the creation of the Waterloo Arts Festival, of which Phil is the Executive Producer. The Festival includes different disciplines of the arts such as visual and performance, and provides an opportunity for local artists to showcase their work and talent, while bringing the entire community together in Waterloo Region. In March 2010, The Silly People will introduce another new Festival to Waterloo, The Uptown Waterloo Comedy Festival.

In 2007, Phil was awarded an official Certificate of Recognition by the Mayor and Council of the City of Waterloo for his contributions and enrichment to the City.

## **Judy Major-Girardin**

Judy Major-Girardin has taught in the Honours Art Program at McMaster University since 1983. She is a practicing artist who resides in Cambridge, Ontario and has a special interest in printmaking and painting. She has a BFA from the University of Windsor and an MFA from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

Judy has exhibited her paintings and graphic works in solo and group exhibitions throughout Canada and the U.S.A. including: Ariel Gallery, N.Y.C., the Kitchener-Waterloo Art gallery, the Mississauga Civic Centre, the Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant, the Cambridge Public Gallery and the Pauline McGibbon Centre in Toronto. Her graphic work has been included in juried exhibitions in locations such as Japan, New York, California, Ohio, Illinois, Vancouver and Toronto.

Judy's volunteer work includes Co-Chairing the Cambridge Sculpture Garden, located in downtown Cambridge on Grand Avenue. It is minutes away from the Cambridge Public Gallery, Design at Riverside Gallery, the School of Architecture and the historic McDougall Cottage. The garden is on the Canada Trail system and along the Grand River and features permanent work in addition to temporary exhibitions.

## **Dave Mansell**

Dave Mansell has been involved in the arts in Kitchener-Waterloo since before he can remember. He began his musical career at the age of 4, taking violin lessons from a member of the K-W Symphony, and continued studying music throughout his youth and adolescence.

After receiving a degree in music from the University of British Columbia, Dave moved to Toronto where he worked in the music industry in various capacities, as well as produced his own and other people's music through a company he founded called Baby Devil Productions. Since then, Dave has toured Canada, Europe and parts of the US.

Currently, Dave is the Vice-President of Operations and Programming Manager at Maxwell's Music House in Waterloo. With business partner Paul Maxwell, Dave has designed and implemented many marketing initiatives which have been integral to the success of Maxwell's Music House over the past few years. As well as a music venue, Maxwell's is most importantly a music school, providing educational opportunities to get young minds engaged at an early age. Through initiatives such as Rockstar Camp, Maxwell's encourages kids to participate as an active part of the arts community through music and performance.

## **Mike Murray**

Mike Murray is the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) with the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, and has overall responsibility for all of the Region's functions including Social Services, Public Health, Transportation and Environmental Services, Planning, Housing and Community Services and all related corporate support functions. Mike has been with the Region since 1992 in a variety of positions, including Director of Water Services and Commissioner of Transportation and Environmental Services. Before joining the Region, Mike worked as a consulting engineer, mainly in northern and western Canada where he was involved in the planning, design and construction of water and wastewater treatment facilities.

Throughout his career Mike has fostered collaborative working relationships with diverse stakeholder groups. He was a founding member of the Waterloo Region Immigrant Employment Network and the Waterloo Region Tourism Marketing Corporation. Mike has also served on the Boards of numerous industry associations and not-for-profit organizations including the Canadian Urban Institute, The Ontario Center for Environmental Technology Advancement and Canada's Technology Triangle Inc.

Mike has a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering from McMaster University and a Master's Degree in Civil/Environmental Engineering from the University of Toronto. He has also completed the Queen's University Program for Public Executives and leadership programs at the Banff Center for Management and the Niagara Institute.

## **Milena Protich**

Milena Protich is a partner at the law firm of Lee LLP. She obtained a Juris Doctor degree at Osgoode Hall Law School in 1983 and a Master of Laws degree at the London School of Economics in 1984. She was called to the bar in Ontario in 1986.

Milena's practice involves varied litigation before civil and criminal courts and administrative tribunals. She has extensive experience in municipal, planning and environmental law as well as the law of charities and non-profit organizations. She has published papers in the areas of municipal, administrative and charitable/non-profit law, and has acted for a wide variety of local, national and international charities and non-profit groups.

Milena has served on many boards including, Cambridge Memorial Hospital, Theatre Cambridge, Encore Musical Stage and Cambridge YMCA. She is currently on the Board of Directors of Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc., the Executive of the Charities Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association and is a member of the Central Church Council of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America.

Milena is a recipient of the Law Society of Upper Canada Bicentennial Award of Merit for her volunteer activities in the community and has been awarded a Woman of Distinction Award by the Cambridge YMCA.

## **Dave Schnarr**

Dave Schnarr is a Certified Human Resource Professional with over 25 years of successful Human Resource and Labour Relations practice. Through his consulting firm, Dave Schnarr Consulting Services, he specializes in providing Human Resource Services in the public and private sectors, and provides expertise in areas such as: recruitment and selection of staff; retaining key employees; leadership development; pro-active employee/employer relations practices; conflict resolution/alternative dispute resolution; providing expert advice for the day-to-day operation of H/R departments; strategic planning; and organizational development.

Dave is currently the Executive Director for the Centre for Family Business based in Waterloo Region. His community involvement includes serving on boards for organizations such as the Kitchener-Waterloo Hospice and the Kitchener-Waterloo and Area United Way. He has recently served a six year term on the Board of Directors for the Centre in the Square, including 2 years as Chair of the Board.

**Lynne Short**

As VP Marketing & Communications for Cowan Insurance Group, Lynne is responsible for the strategic planning, design and execution of all corporate marketing and communications initiatives for the Cowan group of companies. With over 20 years in a variety of marketing roles, she also has experience in brand management, media relations and market research.

Lynne has a B.Comm from Ottawa University and is a graduate of Wilfrid Laurier's MBA Program. She has volunteered for a variety of organizations throughout her career, and currently is a member of the United Way of Kitchener-Waterloo's Family and Youth Priority Action Team.

**Reg Weber**

Reg Weber is the Director of Community Recreation Programs & Partnership Development for the City of Cambridge.