



BURNS BOG
CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting
Board of Directors
Candidate Nominees
April 3, 2021

Important Notice: Candidates who have completed nomination forms are listed under the category of the highest officer position for which they are seeking. Any unsuccessful Officer-level nominee may then run for a Director position, provided that they are nominated by a member from the floor. Members may also be nominated from the floor during the AGM for any of the following positions.

For the Officer-level positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary, one (1) candidate may be elected to fill each position. For the role of Director, up to seven (7) eligible candidates may be elected to fill these positions.

President (1 to be elected)

Eliza Olson

During my tenure as President the Society grew from a group of 20 to international recognition. This international recognition encouraged 4 levels of government to save 5000+ acres in 2004. In 2012, I have received several awards for my work for the Bog. These included:

- Delta Chamber of Commerce, Citizen of the Year
- Rotary's Paul Harris Award
- And others too numerous to list.

I am a member of the following organizations.

- North Delta Rotary
- Association of Fundraising Professionals
- BC Association for Charitable Gaming
- Delta Citizens' Association

I support the Society's:

- Core Values, Trust, Respect, Gratitude, Possibilities: ...approaching goals with an "How can I" mentality.
- Mission: Saving Burns Bog and other peatlands through education and research. They need to be saved for us, wildlife and the planet
- Vision: Keeping Burns Bog and other peatlands safe.

I look forward to working with the new board to speak for the Bog.

Eliza Olson, LL.D., B.Ed.

Derek Zeisman

Greetings! I'm Derek Zeisman. I'm a founding member, former Vice-President, and current Director of the Burns Bog Conservation Society. I'm seeking your support for the position of President.

I'm a passionate environmentalist who is devoted to the mission and mandate of the Society to defend and preserve Burns Bog for today and future generations to come. Over the past two years, I've dedicated hundreds of hours of volunteer time to the Society, to ensure its ongoing existence during a very challenging period in our history.

I'm a legal officer with Global Affairs Canada, where I specialize in international humanitarian law. I grew up in North Delta, graduating from Seaquam Secondary. I hold degrees in Journalism and History (Carleton), Public Administration and Industrial Relations (Queen's), and Common and Civil Law (McGill).

I have the energy, knowledge, and enthusiasm to bring a new generation of vision and leadership to the Society. If elected, my goals over the coming term will be:

- organizational renewal;
- improved Board-staff relations;
- modernized fundraising initiatives;
- bylaw review; and
- adapting our education and outreach initiatives to meet the challenges of the current pandemic, and beyond.

It would be an honour to serve as your President. I ask for your support to help build a better and stronger Society, in defence of the local and global treasure that is Burns Bog.

With thanks,
Derek Zeisman

Vice President (1 to be elected)

Richard Brousseau

Due to my personal distrust of the current Vice President and the majority group of directors and their handling of the society over the last 2 years, as well as their continued attempts at reducing the powers of the President Eliza Olson, locking out the group of Minority directors from the office, instructing the staff to only take direction from the Majority group of directors, and the legal battles which have taken place including a lawsuit against the Minority group of directors I feel that the current Vice President as well as the Majority group of directors are incapable of managing the Burns Bog Society. I believe that I may be in a better position to see the Burns Bog Conservation Society thrive and continue it's legacy in protecting the Society.

Sharon Elizabeth Walker

I'm standing for the position of Vice President of the BBCS Board. The Society has an important role in the conservation of Burns Bog and as the landscape changes our efforts must too. After leaving my job of Environmental Specialist I joined local environmental groups in efforts to save and protect agricultural lands and natural areas including Burns Bog and Surrey Bend.

For the past 20 years I've served on the White Rock and Surrey Naturalists Society as an educator and education committee chair and as their President for the past 11 years. For the past few years I've also served as a director with the Delta Farmland and Wildlife Trust while serving on the BBCS Board as Vice President.

I've had the good fortune to be able to work in the Bog and to assist in the many field trips the Society has offered to students over the years. I'm familiar with the pressures we face in protecting the Bog and the lands surrounding it as the Bog is part of a greater ecosystem. I know that we can work to restore and protect Burns Bog and I hope you'll help me with your vote.

Naturally yours,

Liz Walker (aka Sharon E. Walker)

Treasurer (1 to be elected)

Edward Brown

My name is Ed Brown and I am running for the position of Treasurer for the Burns Bog Conservation Society Board. I am a long-time resident of North Delta, a member of the Society since 2004 and a director and treasurer of the Society since 2010.

Previously, I was a management consultant with BC Hydro before retiring in 2018. I have also worked for BC Transmission Corporation, BC Hydro and three of Canada's banks in various capacities. I have a BA (Econ.) from UVIC and MBA (Finance) from UBC.

2020 was a very challenging year for the Society. Not only was our outdoor programming disrupted due to the pandemic our staff had to deal with a great deal of uncertainty resulting from the unlawful actions of some of the minority directors. Fortunately, our staff and majority directors were successful in keeping the Society operating in those difficult days.

2021 will be a pivotal year for the Society. Not only will the Society have to rebuild after being rocked by the pandemic and legal challenges it must also examine and re-assess the role it serves in the community for the years ahead. A successful not-for-profit must engage the community in meaningful and relevant ways; ways that make people proud to be part of. It must also build bridges with other groups in the community including local levels of government and other environmental organizations. I am looking forward to being part of that team. Thank you.

Secretary (1 to be elected)

Nancy McLeod

As a long-time area resident and a person who cares about our children's future I wish to protect and save Burns Bog. I have never understood why it is necessary to fight to protect Burns Bog, to me it is just common sense.

In my time as a Burns Bog Conservation Society volunteer I have sorted and catalogued books and reports, and assisted with stuffing and labelling envelopes for mail-out campaigns. I also have assisted with events at the Delta Nature Reserve section of the bog.

My interests and hobbies are; Environment, Sustainability, Gardening, Genealogy, and Sewing. I am a life-long learner. I recently completed a Master's degree in Scottish History, another of my interests.

I would like to continue as Board Secretary.

Thank you,

Nancy McLeod

Porsha Von Kish

I am a founding member of the Society, and I have always had a vested interest. I have been a director since Feb 2018. I donated many volunteer hours to the Society, including painting/creating the front and back covers of the Teacher's Guide (of which I retain ownership of).

I have brought many skills and talents to the Society, including determination, independence and free thinking.

Porsha Von Kish

Directors (up to 7 to be elected)

Beverley Bly

I'm Bev Bly. I'm running as a candidate for Director of the Burns Bog Conservation Society. I'm currently a Director of the Burns Bog Conservation Foundation and a former Society operations manager and fundraiser.

Volunteering delivers meaningful engagement that strengthens our communities and cultivates self-worth. I've served on not-for-profit and educational boards for over four decades, including the Credit Institute of Canada, Self-Employment Entrepreneur Development Society, and BC Golf, to name a few.

I continue as a community volunteer and lend my expertise in event planning, fundraising, securing sponsorships, and building relationships. I bring my own unique values and skills to my work, together with my passion, enthusiasm, dedication, motivation and ethics.

I've been the recipient of many awards, including Entrepreneur of the Year with SEEDS and a Delta Chamber of Commerce "employee extraordinaire" finalist. My personal memberships include Lions Club International, Fraser Valley Event Planning Association, Think Referrals Business Network, Connect Now Business Network, Whalley Community Improvement Association, and the Surrey Board of Trade. I hold certificates in Public Relations, Personnel Management, and Business Administration from McGill and Concordia universities.

I would appreciate your support, to help the Society preserve Burns Bog as "The Lungs of the Lower Mainland"!

Christopher Durrant

Hello! I'm Chris Durrant. I'm a lawyer with an employment law background and extensive human resources management and labour negotiation experience. I've worked for Legal Aid in Nunavut, and for the Office of the Ontario Ombudsman. My other relevant past experience includes working as an assistant to a Member of Parliament representing a Vancouver-area riding, and working for Easter Seals BC in Shawnigan Lake, on Vancouver Island. I was also a member of the board of directors of Fair Vote Canada from 2016 to 2020.

I believe the Burns Bog Conservation Society has an essential role to play in checking ill-advised and thoughtless development in the Lower Mainland. I want to see the Burns Bog preserved fully and forever, as an ideal example in BC and nationally for the protection of fragile ecosystems. I also want to see the Society remain a responsible steward of our donors' financial contributions and our volunteers' time and efforts. I'd be very grateful for your support!

Thank you,

Chris Durrant

Laurie Haliburton

I'm Laurie Haliburton and am asking you to consider me for the Board of the Burns Bog Conservation Society.

I have lived in Surrey for over forty years. I moved to Surrey because it was the City of Parks and there were areas where you could leave the "madding crowd". The tree canopy was refreshing. I loved it and still do.

Burns Bog should be preserved for future generations. I am passionate about preservation of the green spaces that are left. Preservation not just for the people, but for the birds, animals, wildlife, sea creatures, to mention a few. Burns Bog is home to migratory birds which I have observed with fascination.

Over the last twenty years I have walked, cycled and meditated in Burns Bog. It provides homage for birds and wildlife. I would like to be considered for a seat on the Board to preserve Burns Bog. I consider the area a gem that should be preserved for the future. I thank you for your consideration.

Laurie Haliburton

Pixie (Beverly) Hobby

Since her retirement in 2014, Pixie (Beverly) Hobby has practiced environmental law in South Surrey & White Rock, and advises law firms representing First Nations. Pixie has practiced environmental law since 1988. After joining the Department of Justice's Tax Litigation Section in 1981, she transferred to Environment Canada in 1988 to work on federal/provincial cooperation for implementing the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, and to work on developing an International Convention on Climate Change. In 1989 she prepared Canada's *amicus curiae* brief and assisted US Counsel in the Acid Rain Appeal before the US Court of Appeals.

In 1990 Pixie was assigned to the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office (now the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency) as Instructing Counsel for the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. Pixie joined the Indian Affairs Department in 1993 where she worked on self-government regimes for forestry and land management, which formed the basis for the *First Nations Land Management Act*.

In 1995 Pixie transferred to Environment Canada's Pacific & Yukon Regional Office where she was involved in litigation relating to environmental protection and assessment, worked on the negotiating guidelines for the BC Treaty Process and served as counsel in most major review panels established under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* for environmental oversight of major projects across Canada. In 2004 Pixie negotiated the terms of and prepared the legal documents for the federal government's financial and other contributions to the purchase of Burns Bog.

Dr. Stephanie Lynne Mackenzie

Hello, I'm Lynne Mackenzie. My association with the BBCS began in the early 1980's when my father, Steve Zablosky, went to a Delta Council Meeting to protest plans to develop a deep water port in Burns Bog. He met Eliza Olson, and what would become the BBCS was born. I was living in Australia but followed the progress of the Society through the years. In early 2010, having returned to BC, I briefly joined the BBCS as a director, working with the others to stop the South Fraser Perimeter Road, but was unable to continue for long.

I continued working with the BBCS as a volunteer, helping with events, and then joined the BBCF as a director, and later, advisor, compiling publicity brochures and helping with strategic planning. I returned as a director (secretary) to the BBCS in September 2018, until May 2019 when I left both boards.

I worked as a psychologist for 40 years (senior school psychologist, university lecturer), mainly in Australia. I have two daughters and am now happily retired. I believe that it is critically important in these difficult times, to preserve and protect the environment in general and Burns Bog in particular. I am pleased to return to the Society.

Angela Rebrec

My name is Angela Rebrec. I'm proudly running for Director. I joined the Burns Bog Committee in the days before it became a legal Society. I was instrumental in saving the Bog from the multi-million dollar residential and super-port proposal that threatened its existence in the late 1980s, by co-researching, writing and designing the Society's first pamphlet, distributed to thousands of homes and businesses across the Lower Mainland. It helped to garner support from so many.

As a founding member and founding Vice-President, I helped to develop the Society into an educational organization that raises public awareness of bogs and the importance of urban wildernesses.

A lifelong resident of Delta, I attended Sunshine Hills Elementary and Seaquam Secondary. I hold degrees from Douglas College and Kwantlen Polytechnic University. I work in Tsawwassen at Global Container Terminal, and am a freelance writer and graphic designer. I've volunteered thousands of hours with expressive writing workshops and the North Delta Amateur Hockey Association.

I'm creative, energetic, personable, and passionate in continuing our mission to save Burns Bog. I deeply love the Society I helped establish and build, and would be honoured to serve once again as a Director. Thank you for considering me!

Keep well,
Angela Rebrec

Robert Saito

My name is Bob Saito. I have lived in Surrey for over 60 years. Ellen and I celebrated our 35th anniversary last year. We have two daughters, their spouses and one grandson.

I retired from ICBC after a 35-year career starting as a claims adjuster and later a manager in Claims, Call centres and Customer Relations.

I believe it is importance to give back and support the community or organizations my family were part of. I have served as:

- President, Parent Advisor Council - Janice Churchill elementary
- President, Surrey White Rock Ringette Association
- Director of Coaching, Lower Mainland Ringette league
- Volunteer, Newton Community Thrift Store where all proceeds go the Surrey Firefighter's charity society and Surrey Hospice.

I have been involved with the Burns Bog Conservation Society and Foundation for about 15 years as a:

- Society Director,
- Foundation secretary,
- Foundation President for the past five years.

I believe that education and public awareness are critical to protecting Burns Bog and the air quality that we enjoy in the Lower Mainland. I also believe that change is critical to any organization's success, should I be re-elected I look forward to board members that bring fresh ideas and perspectives to our board.