

PRESS RELEASE – NEW BCGW BOARD MEMBERS – October 24, 2022

Business Centre brings on new board members

GUELPH: There are some new faces around the board table at the Business Centre Guelph-Wellington.

With a new strategic plan underway, the Business Centre Guelph-Wellington (BCGW) welcomes insightful and dedicated volunteers to join their team to take the organization forward into a bright future.

“We are fortunate to have a great existing board and these new members bring their enthusiasm to our community,” said Kristel Manes, Executive Director of the BCGW. “As we further develop our offerings and programs, these guiding minds will enhance how we assist our regional businesses.”

Coming on board are Bob Campagnolo and Heather J. MacDougall.

Bob Campagnolo offers his knowledge in corporate, start-up, academic and non-profit sectors. As an engaging mentor has helped and partnered with start-up companies. Previously with the Innovation Guelph board, Campagnolo also consults with the University of Guelph's Student Entrepreneurship Centre.

Heather J. MacDougall is a lawyer in Guelph with Nelson, Watson PC. She specializes in employment matters and general litigation. MacDougall helps both employees and employers navigate the complexities of employment law. She is excited to join the BCGW leadership team to support local entrepreneurs by providing them with the tools and support they need to succeed.

The new board volunteers join current members staying with the business centre: Sandra Lastovic, Christine Chapman, Gillian Cuthbert, Jennifer Seberras, Geoff Quan, Jeff Duncan, Alexander Di Lello and Carinta Mannarelli.

Sandra Lastovic brings her 20 years experience as an award-winning principal broker and owner of The Mortgage Centre. A dedicated volunteer, Lastovic has served on several non-for-profit boards such as the Guelph Community Health Centre and the Ontario Agricultural College Alumni Association. She's a passionate entrepreneur and loves helping people realize their full potential.

Christine Chapman is the representative on the board for the City of Guelph. She brings seventeen years of municipal experience in developing and executing award-winning economic development programs and strategies to the business centre.

Gillian Cuthbert's history with her entrepreneurial family has supported her career path in human resources, management, coaching, mentoring, and marketing. Co-Owner and Director of Operations of family owned Malamar Construction, Cuthbert has a background in finance and banking to support business owners of various size enterprises succeed. She also sits on several local boards and committees where she brings her passion in supporting local entrepreneurs.

Jennifer Seberras has logistical expertise from over 20 years in the industry. She currently owns Simplify Supply Chain Solutions where her focus is on growing businesses through assisting delivery of products to consumers.

Geoff Quan is an Account Manager at Agri-Neo, focusing on selling food safety pasteurization systems while providing best in class customer service. Previously, he has held various roles at the University of Guelph's Agriculture & Food Laboratory.

Jeff Duncan is a councillor with the County of Wellington and has served three terms as a Councillor with the Town of Erin. Currently sitting on the county's Economic Development Committee, Duncan has also sat on tourism boards and the Village of Erin BIA. Jeff has had a 25-year career in private sector land use planning where he worked for and helped establish a consulting company.

Alexander Di Lello is a Senior Manager at RLB Chartered Professional Accountants, where he utilizes his diverse skillset and expertise in tax to constantly develop and build relationships. He believes in working with new and established small business owners as a trusted advisor.

Carinta Mannarelli has been in the Money Service Business (MSB) space for over 20 years. Her passion for entrepreneurship intersects with the world of MSBs through her own business franchise. Mannarelli credits her success to involvement with the Youth Entrepreneurship program, where she learned firsthand how valuable coaching and mentorship is. For the past ten years, Carinta has volunteered with the BCGW in different capacities to give back to the community that helped her to get her start.

The BCGW is grateful for the hard work and efforts of previous board members Lynne Bard of Beyond Rewards Inc., Devin Gauthier of Sandbox Software Solutions Inc., and E.J. Stross of Smith Valeriotte Law Firm LLP. The work of these tireless volunteers helped get the business centre to where it is today.

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