

Vivien Carli – 2 yr term

Vivien has 10 + years of experience working for Indigenous, Canadian and international non-profit organizations, the United Nations, and governments around the world to secure millions in funding, set up new organizations and initiatives, restructure programs, develop policy, conduct research and evaluate projects. Vivien set up the Board of Director of the First People’s Justice Center of Montreal and acted as a member between 2014 and 2018. Vivien is a graduate of McGill University where she completed an honours Master’s degree in Sociology and an honours Bachelor of Arts in Economics and International Development Studies. She is currently the Director of the North Program at The Gordon Foundation where she supports the Foundation’s northern programming and develops partnerships and collaboration opportunities that maximize reach and impact of the Foundation.

Vivien’s interest in becoming a member of the National Board of Directors for the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association (CHHA) stems from several reasons. As someone who was diagnosed at the age of six with complete hearing loss in her right ear, she is looking for a community that she can connect with and where she can inspire and empower Canadians impacted by hearing loss to succeed in this complex world. Vivien is particularly interested in being part of maintaining CHHA as the national voice on hearing loss. She hopes to do this by sharing her ideas and experience on:

- Ensuring the governance model meets today’s varied demands on organizations
- Expanding reach and impact of programming at a national scale [this could be in part be done through an effective system to monitor & measure results/impact, and advancing outreach to/connections with Canadians and younger populations]
 - This will also help to improve sustainability
- Enhancing government relations
 - This will also help to improve sustainability
- Ensuring there is a robust technology plan, especially during these online times

Gilles Levasseur – 3yr term

I would like to apply for a position of Board-Member at Large or on the Executive Committee with the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association. I am very much aligned with the goals and focus of the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association and I would like to use the skills gained in my time on various boards of directors including as a President of the Institute of Public Administration and President of the Federal Court Challenge Program.

For more than six years, I was vice-president and public representation of the Francophone Hard of Hearing Association. During that period, I was responsible for the strategic planning, finance and fundraising and spoke person with governmental representatives.

Over the past 25 years, I have served on several health associations, chairing and serving on three health foundations. Being a Fellow with the American College of Health Executives and a Certified Health Executive with the Canadian College of Health Executives, I developed a vast level of experiences in the health field in various professional positions. Being previously, Director General for the Federal Government, responsible for the enforcement of all health matters, I acquired a complex knowledge of medical devices in Canada and providing legal advices. I was the legal counsel for the Government of Canada dealing with all the legal issues surrounding the Y2K issues and the application of electronic legislation to business operations. With my experience in teaching Internet Law and Electronic Commerce including Privacy Law as a University Professor, I have acquired a great knowledge and experience in the health field and usage of technology.

I served as a legal counsel for the ethical issues dealing with a hospital in Ottawa including all the research studies performed in the institution. Having served on several foundations, working fund raising events, this allowed me to develop a network of raising capital. I have organized and presided in November of 2020, the largest conference on Covid-19 and the management of the pandemic in Canada.

Being a business and law university professor, I have been teaching Insurance Law and Risk Management for several years. I am a financial planner recognized by the governmental regulatory authorities, providing complex financial analysis of financial reports.

Having served and chaired several boards, I have experience in strategic solutions including

- Providing strategic leadership to partners and stakeholders and establishing and monitoring adherence to governance and organization policies; Develop fundraising events and exercising Treasurer Positions for several organisations;
- Establishing strategic plans that sets out the organization's mission, vision, values, and strategic priorities and monitoring progress against measurable goals while establishing performance indicators and annually evaluating the performance of the board; Bring appropriate communications and media relations with all forms of medias especially the social medias;
- Establishing financial policies and approving the business plan, budget, financial controls, and financial statements and provide appropriate legal advices regarding the governance of the organization; and
- Ensuring effective oversight of organization management and amending the organization's by-laws and presenting them for ratification at a subsequent meeting of the members including a broad knowledge of programs, policies and implementation strategies.

For several years, I was a legal drafter for the Government of Canada drafting legislation and regulations in the health field going from hazardous products to all the elements of the Food and Drugs Act. This allowed me to have a comprehensive understanding of the standards of health matters and products in Canada. During that period of time, I was also drafting legislative amendments to the Income Tax Act and other financial instruments under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government.

Paul Proulx – 3 yr term

Hello fellow CHHA members.

I am married to my wife of 37 years and have two adult children. I live in Duntroon, Ontario, just outside of Collingwood.

Hearing loss has been an enduring theme in my life. A mining explosion destroyed most of my father's hearing. Lacking much of an education, my father sank through a succession of semi-skilled jobs that often left him embarrassed, embittered, and remote.

In May 2019, I retired from a senior role with an international mining company where I was accountable for Human Resources, Legal, and Communication.

It was a challenging and rewarding role in an organization that based its core values around an abiding respect for people. At the time, I convinced myself that I had worked long enough and had reached the age where it made sense to move on. Over the last two years, I realized that my hearing loss played a much more significant role in my decision to leave than I was initially willing to admit.

My operating assumption was that in retirement, the experiences I had assembled over three decades (serving on a variety of Not-For-Profit boards and working closely with our board for 12 years) would lead to me serving on a board of directors.

However, given the then prevailing culture of in-person meetings (mostly in crowded rooms producing simultaneous conversations around long oval tables), I reluctantly concluded that board work was no longer a realistic option. Instead, I focused on executive coaching, which was primarily phone-based. Along with my coaching work, I spend a day a week working with executives looking for new roles.

Fourteen months ago, Covid came axing and hacking its way through the established norms of how we typically work and meet. Digital meetings perfectly supported my hearing loss and allowed me to participate in discussions with renewed confidence.

Covid slaughtered the sacred cow of in-person work and violated the sanctity of the office. Culture change, fused with technology, has created powerful opportunities for those with disabilities or whose traditional roles or life in remote communities pull them away from the nexus of power and influence. I decided to serve in a capacity that would allow me to advocate for changes for those who reside on what I call the "periphery of consideration." A tremendous opportunity exists for organizations to reimagine their place in a post-Covid environment. CCHA has a critical role in this work, and it would be a privilege to play a part.