



Leadership Committee Biographies

Linda Hughes, Committee Chair

- Former Publisher, President and Editor-in-Chief, Edmonton Journal; General Manager, CanWest Media Works (Retired)
- Alberta Business Hall of Fame inductee, University of Alberta Honorary Doctor of Laws and Athabasca University Honorary Doctor of Letters
- BA in history and economics, University of Victoria
- Volunteer, Bhutan Observer, Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation, United Way of the Alberta Capital Region, and NorQuest College Foundation

Eric Newell, Vice Chair

Chancellor, University of Alberta

- Former Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President, Syncrude Canada (Retired)
- Bachelor of Applied Science in chemical engineering, University of British Columbia; Masters of Science in management studies, University of Birmingham
- Officer, Order of Canada and Alberta Order of Excellence member
- Chair, Careers: The Next Generation Foundation; Honorary Chair, Centre for Family Literacy
- Board member, Alberta Energy Research Institute, C.D. Howe Institute, Alberta Heart Institute, Lieutenant Governor Arts Award Foundation, and Nexen

Bruce Bentley

President and Chief Executive Officer, Maclab Enterprises

- Vice Chair, Banff Centre; director, Edmonton Eskimos Football Club; member, Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute – Edmonton Strategy Council
- Past President, University of Alberta Alumni Association; former member, University of Alberta Senate; past director, Edmonton Chamber of Commerce and Winspear Foundation
- Co-chair, Tourism and Entertainment Cluster of the Greater Edmonton Competitiveness Strategy Initiative; City of Edmonton representative, River Valley Alliance

Linda Cochrane

Community Services General Manager, City of Edmonton

- Public administration career with Royal Life Saving Society, Canadian Red Cross, Alberta Environment, and City of Spruce Grove
- 26-year career with City of Edmonton, including General Supervisor, Director and Branch Manager, with responsibility for all recreation, sport, attraction and heritage facilities in Edmonton
- Master's degrees in arts and business administration, University of Alberta

Hal Danchilla

Owner, Danchilla Strategies

- Offers strategic planning, issues management and government relations services
- Extensive experience in provincial politics, serving as Chief of Staff and Executive Assistant to various cabinet ministers
- Involved in Alberta election campaigns since 1982 with Progressive Conservative Party and integral role in several national political campaigns
- Frequent media political commentator and was named one of Alberta's 50 most influential people by Venture Magazine, 2005

Tony Franceschini

President and Chief Executive Officer, Stantec

- Educated in civil engineering, University of Waterloo
- Director, Stantec, Esterline Technologies, and CCI Thermal Technologies
- Member, University of Alberta Hospital Foundation Board and Alberta Heart Institute Strategy Council
- Named Top CEO by Canadian Business magazine, 2007; University of Alberta Canadian Business Leader

Peter Goldring

Member of Parliament, Edmonton East

- First elected to Parliament in 1997
- Active in raising awareness for affordable housing issues
- Author of *Housing Affordability: An Edmonton concern and a national challenge*
- Founded Systems by Sentron (Canada) Ltd. Sentron, an electrical systems supplier and manufacturer

Roger Guoin

Businessman

- President of family-owned North American Construction Group until 2003, when it became a public company listed on the New York and Toronto Stock Exchanges
- Remains an entrepreneur and active investor, and continues to develop real estate in Edmonton

Dave Hancock

Minister of Health and Wellness, Government of Alberta

- Third-term Member of the Alberta Legislative Assembly
- Appointed Minister of Health and Wellness and Government House Leader in 2006
- Former Minister of Advanced Education, Justice and Attorney General, and Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs
- University of Alberta law degree, 1979

Keith Harding

President, Edmonton Coalition on Housing and Homelessness

- Executive Director, Northern Alberta Co-operative Housing Association
- Regional manager for an international service company for 18 years before becoming involved in co-op housing

Hope Hunter

Executive Director, Boyle Street Community Services

- Brings over 30 years' experience as a community development practitioner in both rural and urban centers across Canada
- Previously worked in human rights, addictions prevention, social planning and aboriginal education

Karen Leibovici

City of Edmonton Councillor, Ward 1

- Councillor since 2001. Chair, Community Services Committee; former Chair, Transportation and Public Works Committee
- Leads council initiatives on affordable housing, Stony Plain Road revitalization and envisionEdmonton; member, Edmonton Police Commission
- Chair, Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Prairies and Territories Regional Committee and Green Municipal Fund
- Two-term Member of the Alberta Legislative Assembly for Edmonton-Meadowlark
- Master's degree in social work. Former City of Edmonton Labour Relations Officer and Equal Opportunity Officer

Karen MacKenzie

Director, MacKintosh Canada and Athapaska

- Chair, Edmonton Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee
- Co-Chair, Wicihitowin: Circle of Shared Responsibility (urban Aboriginal mechanism for community participation); Director, Women Building Futures Board
- BSc, Saint Mary's University; MBA, Dalhousie University
- Aboriginal advisor to NorQuest College

Susan McGee

Executive Director, Edmonton Joint Planning Committee on Housing

Executive Director, Edmonton Housing Trust Fund

- Former Executive Director, Edmonton Downtown Development Corporation; oversaw projects that contributed to the renaissance of downtown Edmonton
- Past volunteer, Boyle Street McCauley Plan Implementation Board, McCauley Community League, MacEwan College Rehabilitation Practitioners Program Advisory Committee, and Edmonton's Safer Cities Initiative committees
- Past nominee, Canada's Top 40-Under-40 and YWCA's Women of Distinction awards
- BSc in architecture, Ryerson University; MBA, Edinburgh Business School of Heriot-Watt University

Anne McLellan

Counsel, Bennett Jones

- First Distinguished Scholar in Residence, University of Alberta Institute for U.S. Policy Studies
- Member, various corporate and community boards
- Four-term Member of Parliament for Edmonton Centre; former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Health, Justice and Natural Resources
- Former professor, Associate Dean and Acting Dean, University of Alberta Faculty of Law

Tom Olenuk

President, Edmonton and District Labour Council

- Former Secretary-Treasurer, Edmonton and District Labour Council
- Former President, Treasurer and Grievance Officer, Canadian Union of Postal Workers
- Treasurer, Alberta Environmental Network and member, Leadership Council of Vibrant Communities Edmonton
- BA, Wilfrid Laurier University; Master's degree, University of Alberta

Audrey Poitras

President, Métis Nation of Alberta

- Champions Métis identity, rights and recognition in Alberta and across Canada
- Provincial spokesperson for the Métis Nation of Alberta; currently in 11th year of office

Fred Pheasey

Consultant, National Oilwell Varco

- Founder, Dreco Energy Services and Griffith Oil Tool, pioneer oil-drilling companies
- Upon merger with subsidiary companies into National Oilwell in 1997, became Executive Vice President until 2004 and director from 1977-2005
- University of Alberta mechanical engineering graduate, 1965
- Director, Century Oilfield Services and Precision Drilling Corporation; Chair, board of directors' compensation committee
- Honourary life member, Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors; Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame inductee

Larry Pollock

- President and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Western Bank and Trust
- 40 years' experience in the financial industry

Bruce Reith

Executive Director, Hope Mission

- Involvement with Hope Mission began in 1984 as a weekly volunteer. Joined board of directors, March 1985; became Executive Director, November 1985
- Steered Hope Mission over 20 years from being a single-service ministry to a comprehensive social-care agency with over 150 employees and 1,200 volunteers

Bruce Saville

President, Saville Interest Group

- Founder, President and Chief Executive Officer, Saville Systems until 1994
- Board member, Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation and Telus World of Science; Board of Governors member, University of Alberta, and chair, educational affairs committee
- Former director, Melcor Developments and National Foundation of Family Research and Education. Former board member, Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Noujaim Institute, Economic Development Edmonton, and Edmonton Investors Group.
- 1991 Entrepreneur of the Year, 2001 Edmonton Philanthropist of the Year, Alberta Business Hall of Fame inductee

Franco Savoia

President and Chief Executive Officer, Edmonton YMCA

- Former President and Chief Executive Officer, St. Catharines and Niagara Falls YMCA, and YMCA of Greater Toronto
- BA, Master's of Divinity and Master's in management, McGill University
- Volunteered on United Ways as campaigner and served on allocation review committees
- Member, Campaign Cabinet of the United Way Capital Region
- Vice Chair, Board of the Caritas Health Group; member, Edmonton Downtown Rotary Club

Elexis Schloss

Retired

- Interior designer and space planner, Maclab Developments
- Extensive volunteer record, including Art Gallery of Alberta, Northern Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation, Royal Alberta Museum, and an HIV project in Africa
- Involved in fundraising efforts for many of Edmonton's marquee events, including the Edmonton Grand Prix and Edmonton Fringe Theatre Festival
- Recipient of Rotary Integrity Award, Alberta Centennial Medal, Queen's Jubilee Medal, Global Woman of Vision, and 1989 Edmonton Journal Woman Entrepreneur of the Year

Janet Skinner

Chief Executive Officer, Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission

- Headed the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission since August 2007
- 27-year career with Alberta government
- Former Assistant Deputy Minister, Alberta Health and Wellness, where she developed collaborative relationships with health authorities, government jurisdictions and community stakeholders to facilitate service delivery and program information management

Richard Smith

Archbishop of Edmonton

- Studied at St. Mary's University and Atlantic School of Theology
- Ordained to the priesthood in 1987; pursued further studies in theology at the Pontifical Gregorian Institute in Rome; obtained a Licenciante in 1997 and doctorate in 1998
- Appointed Bishop of Pembroke in 2002 and ordained to the episcopate in 2002
- Appointed by Pope Benedict XVI to the Metropolitan See of Edmonton in 2007
- Formally installed as the eighth Archbishop of Edmonton on May 1, 2007, Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

Anne Smith

President and Chief Executive Officer, United Way of the Alberta Capital Region

- Joined the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region in 1984; appointed President and Chief Executive Officer in 1996
- Participant in Success By 6, Partners for Kids, Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations, Advisory Committee of the Learning Partnership, United Way of Canada-Centraide Canada Strategic Alignment Policy Group and Imagine Canada
- Muttart Fellowship and Woman of Vision award recipient, and winner of the United Way of Canada-Centraide Canada Excellence Award

Cliff Supernault

Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta

- Variety of government positions in Alberta and Saskatchewan
- Former senior official with Alberta government's Metis Settlements Branch, Alberta Native Services Unit, Aboriginal Self-Reliance Initiatives and Ministry of Resource Development

Sheila Weatherill

President and Chief Executive Officer, Capital Health

- Heads one of Canada's largest integrated, academic health systems, serving over one million residents in Edmonton and area
- Board member, EPCOR, Conference Board of Canada, and Association of Canadian Academic Healthcare Organizations
- Member of the Order of Canada and Prime Minister's Advisory Committee on the Public Service

Bob Westbury

Chair, TELUS Edmonton Community Board

- Also chairs Alberta Centre for Child Family and Community Research, Alberta Order of Excellence, and Enoch/Paragon Board
- Studied at St. Francis Xavier, University of Alberta, University of Oregon, and Florida State University
- Named Alberta Wild Rose Foundation's Star of the Millennium Volunteer and an Alberta 2005 Centennial Ambassador

Donald Wheaton

Businessman

- Bachelor of Commerce, University of Alberta
- Joined the family business, currently managing the integration of the third generation into the business

Shelley Williams

Executive Director, Bissell Centre

- 25-plus-year career with non-profit organizations
- Former Executive Director, YWCA of Edmonton and Edmonton Women's Shelter – WIN Houses
- Recipient of Muttart Fellowship, Global Woman of Vision Award and Canada 125th Anniversary Commemorative Medal

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