

Irene Thompson

CHAIR

Irene Thompson has worked in post-secondary education sector for over 37 years and recently retired from the University of Guelph, where her last role was Vice-Provost, Student Affairs (Interim). Irene enjoys working with young adults and supporting their personal, academic, and social development. She oversaw a residence community of 4700 undergraduate students, two family housing complexes and 300 staff. Irene has served on many University related committees including those examining issues around substance use, mental health, and wellness.

Irene has held many leadership positions on campus, in the community and professionally. She is currently a member of the University of Guelph Board of Governors. She is active with the United Way of Guelph Wellington Dufferin Campaign Cabinet and has recently retired as a member of the Board of Directors. Irene is a Facilitator of the Mental Health First Aid course and regularly trains staff, faculty, and students from the University.

Irene sits on the Board Governance Committee, Finance, Audit & Human Resources Committee, External Relations Committee and Executive Committee.

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Deanne Metzloff

VICE-CHAIR

Deanne resides in Alma, and has over 20 years' experience working in Finance, as well as volunteering and fundraising for various charitable and non-profit organizations.

In her spare time, she enjoys reading, writing, spending time with family and friends, and being active outdoors.

Deanne is Chair of the Board Finance, Audit & Human Resources Committee and sits on the Executive Committee.

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Brooke Billings

TREASURER

Brooke is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA), who worked for over a decade in public accounting, working mainly with charities, not-for-profits and municipal governments. Through this role, she gained expertise in not only accounting and financial reporting, but other areas of concern to clients such as annual funder reporting, compliance issues, governance, and leadership. Brooke was also a practice inspector for CPA Ontario, inspecting accounting firms across Ontario, from 2020 to 2025.

Brooke is now the Manager of Budget Operations at the University of Guelph, where she can have a direct impact in an institution whose main purpose is to improve life in the Guelph area. She supports departments with forecasting, budget planning, financial management and strategic alignment.

Brooke has experience on local boards, such as the Donkey Sanctuary of Canada and Yorklands Green Hub, serving as a Treasurer, director and member of the Finance Committee. She values her years spent as a trusted advisor to many organizations in Guelph and the surrounding community, and was privileged to both assist them professionally, as well as support these organizations at fundraising and other events. She is passionate about the local community and is honoured to have worked with so many of the organizations making positive changes.

Brooke sits on the Board CMHA WW Finance, Audit & Human Resources Committee.

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K. Daniel Sirivar

BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE

K. Daniel Sirivar is a strategic systems thinker with a track record of successfully driving change and transformation in the public sector.

As an accomplished leader with over 15 years of healthcare experience, Daniel is passionate about leveraging Continuous Quality Improvement, Collective Impact and the IHI's Quintuple Aim framework in his work and collaborations. Through these experiences he has acquired skill and expertise in coaching, quality improvement, change management and business.

Daniel is a Project Management Professional (PMP) and Registered Social Worker (RSW) who holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Bishop's University and a Master's of Social Work from the University of Toronto. He has worked with and on various governing boards including the BC College of Social Work.

Daniel sits on the Board Governance Committee.

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Julia Borges

BOARD MEMBER

Julia holds an Honours Bachelor of Science from the University of Waterloo, a Master of Health Ethics from Memorial University of Newfoundland, and a Juris Doctor from Dalhousie University with Certificates in Health Law and Policy and in Aboriginal and Indigenous Law. She has worked across Ontario's health system in roles that integrate law, ethics, and public policy, including advisory work in the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Long Term Care.

Julia now serves as Legal Advisor at the Ontario Hospital Association, supporting Ontario's hospitals through strategic legal guidance on governance, risk, and system level policy issues. Prior to joining the OHA, she practiced as Crown Counsel in the Ministry of the Solicitor General, advising on complex civil matters and class actions involving correctional institutions. She has volunteered with several community and health serving organizations, including crisis support work and the Hospital Elder Life Program, and previously completed ASIST training and a Fellowship with the Canadian Frailty Network.

Raised in rural Wellington County, Julia is committed to strengthening local communities and contributes to CMHA Waterloo Wellington's governance through her role on the Board Performance, Quality, Risk & Ethics Committee.

Julia sits on the Board Performance, Quality, Risk & Ethics Committee.

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Sean Bradley

BOARD MEMBER

Sean grew up in Scarborough and holds a Diploma in Police Foundations from Seneca College, a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology from Carleton University, and a Juris Doctor from the University of Toronto. He was called to the Ontario Bar in 2012.

Since his call to the bar, Sean has served as an Assistant Crown Attorney in Halton, Deputy Crown Attorney in Brantford, and most recently as the Crown Attorney for Dufferin County.

Sean regularly appears before both the Ontario Court of Justice and the Superior Court of Justice, prosecuting matters ranging from minor theft offences to complex homicide trials. He played a significant role in the development and operation of Halton's Mental Health Court, working closely with CMHA court support staff and community partners to help individuals with mental health challenges navigate the justice system.

Sean and his wife have called the Kitchener-Waterloo region home for more than a decade.

Sean sits on the Board Governance Committee.

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Danielle Fearon

BOARD MEMBER

Danielle Fearon is an Assistant Professor at Western University, in the Faculty of Health Sciences. As a researcher, Danielle is passionate about the use of applied biostatistical approaches to large population health data. Her work spans several research areas, including mental health, health systems, and health equity. Through each of these interests, Danielle's research focuses on bridging gaps between health data and clinical practice. Her interdisciplinary approach, integrating public health and analytic expertise, strives to improve quality of care for diverse populations.

Danielle completed her PhD in 2023, where her thesis focused on traumatic life events among individuals in inpatient mental health in Ontario, Canada. Since then, her research continues to support improved mental health outcomes for individuals across Canada.

Danielle has volunteered with many organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, and frequently mentors students through the Canadian Society for Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and the Western B.L.U.E program.

Danielle sits on the Board Performance, Quality, Risk & Ethics Committee.

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Julia Goyal

BOARD MEMBER

Julia Goyal is a public servant, systems thinker, and experienced governor committed to improving the health and well-being of people and communities. Julia is a Team Lead with the Ontario Ministry of Finance, where she leads complex policy initiatives and provides strategic advice to senior government decision-makers.

Alongside her public service, Julia brings extensive governance experience. She currently serves on the boards of Cambridge Memorial Hospital, the Ontario Hospital Association, Canadian Mental Health Association Waterloo Wellington, and Federated Health Charities. At Cambridge Memorial Hospital, she chairs the Governance and Nominating Committee and serves on the Executive and Audit Committees, and at Federated Health Charities, she chairs the Governance Committee.

Julia was appointed by Order-in-Council on the recommendation of Ontario's Minister of Health to serve as a Public Member of the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. During her appointment, she also served on the Ontario Physicians and Surgeons Discipline Tribunal and Fitness to Practice Committee. Her previous governance service includes the University of Waterloo Senate and Board of Governors and Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony.

Julia is completing a Joint Interdisciplinary PhD in Public Health Sciences and Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering at the University of Waterloo. Her doctoral work bridges public health and engineering, using mixed methods and systems thinking to examine how occupational stress and working conditions shape the health and well-being of personal support workers and the delivery of home care in Ontario.

Julia has a particular interest in psychological health and safety, workplace well-being, reducing stigma, and fostering environments where people feel safe seeking support and speaking openly about mental health challenges.

Julia holds an Honours B.Sc. in Biology with a Minor in Economics from McMaster University and an M.Sc. in Public Health and Health Systems from the University of Waterloo. She also holds a Certificate in Enterprise Risk Management and has completed executive education in corporate and hospital governance.

Julia sits on the Board External Relations Committee.

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Rob Howe

BOARD MEMBER

Rob Howe is a technology leader with experience in complex public sector industries including healthcare and post-secondary education. He currently serves as the Associate Vice-President and Chief Information Officer at the University of Guelph, where he provides strategic leadership for information technology, cybersecurity, and digital transformation.

Throughout his career, Rob has held leadership roles across the healthcare sector and has contributed to improving the regional health system by collaborating with multiple Ontario Health Teams as well as groups focused on technology enablement and cybersecurity. Rob has also provided board-level reporting and governance support and served on multiple non-profit Board of Directors. He brings a deep appreciation for the role that strong governance, innovation, and partnership play in improving health outcomes and community well-being

Rob sits on the Board Performance, Quality, Risk & Ethics Committee.

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Somkene Igboanugo

BOARD MEMBER

Somkene Igboanugo is the Director of Person-Centered Care and Programs at the Lung Health Foundation. He holds a Medical degree from Lugansk State Medical University, Ukraine, a Master of Science in Health Studies and Gerontology, and a PhD (2022) in Public Health and Health Systems (Work and Health) from the University of Waterloo. His research focused on psychosocial stress and its effect on the health and well-being of first responders.

Somkene is very passionate about mental health and addiction issues, especially their effect on minority and marginalized communities. He aims to bring about mental health awareness and tackle stigmas and misconceptions within these communities.

Somkene is Chair of the Board Performance, Quality, Risk & Ethics Committee.

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Ashton Romany

BOARD MEMBER

Ashton Romany is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) and Certified Asset Management Professional (CAMP), currently serving as Director Of Corporate Services / Treasurer for the Municipality of North Perth. He has over a decade of progressive experience in municipal finance, governance, and strategic planning. Ashton leads budgeting, financial reporting, asset management, and risk oversight functions, supporting informed decision-making and long-term sustainability across the organization.

He currently serves on the Board of Governors at Renison University College (University of Waterloo), where he served a two-year term as Treasurer and remains an active member of the Finance and Audit Committee. Ashton is also the volunteer Finance Manager for Sustainable Waterloo Region, providing strategic oversight for the annual budget and financial reporting. He supports both staff and the board in advancing strategic priorities.

Ashton's community involvement includes ongoing roles with Renison University College and Sustainable Waterloo Region, both of which he has supported since 2020. He enjoys contributing his skills to organizations that make a meaningful impact in the community.

Ashton sits on the Board Finance, Audit & Human Resources Committee.

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Peggy Sweeney

BOARD MEMBER

Peggy Sweeney worked in the education sector for 25 years as the Director of Communications with a provincial association of school principals. Her work included internal and external communications, media relations, advocacy and government relations. Prior to education, Peggy spent 6 years at Queen's Park in Toronto on the political side and was a consultant at Canada's largest public relations company.

Peggy has volunteered her time as a board member of a daycare centre, several School Councils and with the local food bank. She has been a coach, manager and trainer in several schools and sports organizations. She likes to keep active and is an avid hiker, gym rat, swimmer and biker. Peggy is the mother of 2 adult children.

Peggy sits on the Board External Relations Committee.

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Pia Williams

BOARD MEMBER

With over 25 years of dedicated professional librarian experience spanning both the public and private sectors, Pia Williams is a seasoned leader in the field. Her diverse background encompasses roles that range from law librarian, academic librarian, and public librarian to fundraising prospect researcher, highlighting her multifaceted expertise and commitment to excellence in library management.

Pia is very passionate about mental health and addiction issues. Currently, Pia serves as the Executive Director of the Waterloo Region Law Association (WRLA), where she established the Mental Health Committee for the WRLA. This initiative aims to assist legal practitioners in the community by bringing awareness about mental health, tackling the stigmas and misconceptions within the legal community, and providing access to essential mental health resources.

Her commitment to the library profession extends beyond her professional roles. Pia has actively contributed to the community through her volunteer work and board memberships. She has served as chair on the boards of the Ontario Association of Courthouse Libraries, and Heritage Green Child Care, among other boards, and currently sits on the Appeal Tribunal for the City of Waterloo.

Pia currently resides in Waterloo with her husband, two children, and two dogs. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, running, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.

Pia is Chair of the Board Governance Committee.

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David Doxey

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEMBER

David Doxey is a member of the Guelph Police Service where he has been a police officer since 1999. During this time David has worked in Neighbourhood Services, Information Systems Services, Traffic and School Safety, Court Services, and Investigative Services. David currently leads the Neighbourhood Services division.

David was part of the Integrated Mobile Police and Crisis Team (IMPACT) partnership development team with CMHA where he continues in a liaison role.

David sits on the Board Performance, Quality, Risk and Ethics Committee.

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