



Alumni for Board of Directors

2024 ELECTIONS



KAREN ROBERTS

I am a mother of four children and grandmother to four grandchildren. While I raised my children I volunteered at Scouts Canada, Riverside Minor Baseball and Riverside Optimist Club where I also served on the board of directors as secretary.

I worked at Canada Post Corp from the age of 17-55. I volunteered as a United Way rep. and Union steward. I also worked at Hollywood Bingo preparing and sending out charity dividends.

My post-secondary school education began at the University of Windsor where I was in my second year of the psychology program but motherhood and work became a priority. Later when my children left home I went back to school at St. Clair College where I received my Chemical Dependency Certificate as well as a new 60 hour course in Problem Gambling.

Throughout my life my affiliation with Brentwood was manifold. My children's father went through the Brentwood program in 1982, my father in 1985, and me in 1998 where I learned how to love and what I needed to do to live a fulfilling and happy life.

I volunteered on the Brentwood Social Committee for many years, in the duty office as inventory group facilitator, choir member and as director on the board from 2010 to 2017, as secretary for most of my terms.

I was asked to join the staff at Brentwood in 2017 as interim Youth Group Counsellor. Following that I was employed as an Adult Group Leader, Quarantine Officer, Duty Officer, and Intake Officer. I left Brentwood in 2023 to join HDGH at Problem Gambling and I am presently employed at Withdrawal Management Services.

I want to be a member of the board as I sincerely want this program to be there for others as it was, is, and will be, for me and my family and I would like to help to ensure that the legacy of the founders goes on.

What can I bring to the board? I am fortunate to be flexible, healthy and conscientious enough to attend meetings on a regular basis. I understand finances, I know where the funding comes from and I understand the expenses. I pride myself on being prepared for meetings and I educate myself on any ongoing issues. My expertise is in the field of addiction. I am a team player but will speak up when I feel it is necessary.



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RICK PILON

I have been in recovery for 43 years, entering Brentwood for the first time at 19 years old. I have created and successfully executed the Open Arms With Service Committee here at Brentwood for almost two years for our new graduates. I also support new persons coming into program during pre-admission. I have also spent two amazing years on the board already.

I truly feel like this world is coming into a whole new level of drugs and alcohol addiction and I want to be a part of helping Brentwood adapt to what is coming.

My strengths include enthusiasm, being very involved, compassionate and eager to serve our members of the corporation.



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MARCO ROY

My name is Marco Roy. On July 3, 2024 I celebrated 40 years in recovery at Brentwood Recovery Home. I had the opportunity to work at Brentwood for 25 years as a part of the Maintenance Department.

I have 3 beautiful boys, one who will celebrate 10 years as a Brentwood Alumni. I am the second oldest of four to my parents who have been married for 64 years. My father was a pastor and had a passion for caring for the elderly and my mother was a gentle loving soul who anchored and guided our family.

I volunteer at many recovery centers and programs whenever I have the opportunity, although my heart, recovery and my passion are here at Brentwood.

I am running for the Board of Directors because I want to make a difference in the lives of people who are struggling with the disease of addiction. I believe my ability to foster relationships will help to bridge gaps and continue to move Brentwood forward.

I had the honour of caring for Father Paul in his last days and I will be forever indebted to the love and service he so freely gave. It would be an honour to serve Brentwood and the fellowship as a member of the Board of Directors.



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GLORIA MOUSSEAU

I am Gloria Mousseau. I have been a part of Brentwood since the summer of 1986. I am an alumni of the program, and former employee of Brentwood as I was employed by Father Paul as a group leader. I am an alumni of McMaster University where I attended and graduated from the Addictions Studies program which consisted of courses in psychology, social work, pharmacology and addictions. and received two diplomas. I continued to educate by taking several continuing education courses all geared to working with substance use and mental health. I owned and operated my own private practice in Windsor and taught in the Addictions Studies Program at St. Clair College in Windsor as well as the Chatham campus. I am a mom and grandma. I live in Belle River with my spouse and my 2 dogs. My hobbies are hiking and mountain climbing. I am very interested in First Nations history and healing. I believe in Truth and Reconciliation efforts. I moved away for 10 years and I was able to work at 6 Nations and New Credit reservations in the field of addictions. To me, working in this field has been most rewarding.

I am interested in being a member of the Brentwood Board of Directors as I believe my life experiences, my time at Brentwood and my education and counselling experiences gives me the strength and conviction to be a part of the Board. It is time to be a part of something big, I bring my people skills and management skills and understanding of Brentwood to the table. I believe in teamwork and processes for improvement.



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RYAN MILLS

Hello, my name is Ryan Mills. I am a grateful recovering addict and a proud alumni of Brentwood Recovery Home. I was born and raised in Windsor, Ontario and currently working as a Foreman for Bridging North America. I am also a member of the Joint Health and Safety committee representing all labourers on the Gordie Howe International Bridge Project.

I am looking forward to becoming a member of the Board of Directors because I take pride in giving back to the place that has given me so much; my life back. I believe I can be an asset to the team not only because I was an addict myself for a large portion of my life, but because I am walking proof that this program works. I understand the importance of the alumni presence, the community support and being there for my fellow alcoholic. I believe my knowledge and experiences not only within Brentwood, but with my career in Liuna as a Foreman, as a member of the Joint Health and Safety Committee and as a representative for labourers on site requires me to be a leader on a daily basis, to solve problems as they arise and to be mindful of my workers safety, capabilities and needs. I deal with issues of all types, big or small on a daily basis and collaborate ideas to solve them.



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DAVE MACLEOD

I am a dedicated community volunteer and seasoned professional with over 25 years of experience in the funeral home industry. Originally from Kitchener, now residing in Windsor, I actively volunteer at the Brentwood Food Bank two days a week to support the Brentwood Community. Throughout my professional career, I held a license as a funeral director, where I spent the majority of my tenure in management. I also was a minority shareholder in a funeral home establishment where I acted as the managing funeral director as well as the President and CEO of the company.

Throughout my career, I developed a range of skills and insights into both the operational and emotional aspects of the funeral industry. Managing teams of funeral professionals, coordinating services, and working closely with families during their most vulnerable moments honed my abilities in leadership, empathy, and communication. These experiences will fundamentally shape my approach if I am elected to the Board of Directors.

I am eager to join the Board of Directors at Brentwood because I am passionate about contributing to the future success of the program, using both my personal and professional experience to help drive meaningful impact. Professionally, I bring a strong foundation in strategic planning, human resources, and team collaboration. Personally, my first-hand experience with the program has given me a deep understanding of the challenges and needs of those we serve, fostering a unique sense of empathy that will help guide my decision-making with compassion. By joining the Board, I aim to give back by helping to guide and grow the program, and Brentwood as a whole, combining my business acumen with a heartfelt dedication to its mission.



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RICH KAPANIEN

No biography submitted to date.



Non-Alumni for Board of Directors

2024 ELECTIONS



PATRICK KOLOWITZ

Hello, my name is Patrick Kolowicz and I'm passionate in providing leadership, expertise and knowledge as it relates to Addictions and Mental Health. I contribute more broadly at a "systems level" in a number of different ways. I'm currently a member of the Ontario Mental Health and Addictions Oversight Table led by the Mental Health and Addictions Centre of Excellence (MHA CoE). The goal of the MHA CoE is to establish provincial strategy, and by doing so recognize that mental health and addictions care is a core component of an integrated health care system. I was fortunate to co-author of the provincial Addiction Mental Health Ontario (AMHO) 2021 Withdrawal Management Standards. I've been involved in a number of other provincial consultation tables such as Provincial Substance Use COVID-19 Recovery Expert Group and the Provincial Steering Committee for AMHO's anti-racism, equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) frameworks that helped to inform the existing EDI framework from Ontario Health. My goal within this work is to bring a voice from within Windsor-Essex at provincial planning tables.

Here at the local level, I participate in a variety of leadership functions as it relates to Addictions. I'm currently the co-chair of the Windsor Essex County Opioid & Substance Strategy (WECOSS) Leadership Committee, our local public health strategy supported by the Windsor Essex County Health Unit (WECHU). I've been involved in many WECOSS projects and co-chaired the Treatment and Recovery Pillar for over 5 years. I supported the WECHU Stakeholder's Advisory Committee for the Consumption Treatment Services (CTS) and was responsible for providing temporary operational support for the CTS (SafePoint). I've been involved in a number of different research activities to help advance addictions knowledge. I was a collaborator in a research project and international conference called "Caring for the Caregiver" in 2021. I was a project lead for the community implementation of Breaking Free Online (BFO), a digital tool to support individuals with addiction. In my current role I've been blessed with the opportunity to lead our Patient and Family Advisory Council for over 7 years.

My philosophy around addiction is that as a community we both deserve and require a comprehensive menu or range of specialized services. This includes a specific focus on prevention and education, harm reduction, treatment, and law enforcement and justice. Brentwood provides both unique and specialized services within this larger menu. I've heard many stories of success and recovery from both individuals in families that would not have been achievable without Brentwood. It's both a pleasure and an honor to support the mission, vision and values of such a vital and trusted organization, with deep roots within the history of Windsor-Essex.