

National Summit

for the Charitable and Nonprofit Sector

Strengthened connections.

Enhanced collaboration.

Collective Impact.

Co-leads for the four priority areas

Area of Priority: Improved conditions for the attraction and retention of paid staff



Marlene Deboisbriand
Board Chair, HR Council &
Vice-President, Member Services
Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada

Marlene is the Vice-President, Member Services at [Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada](#). Before joining Boys & Girls Clubs, Marlene was president of Volunteer Canada for nearly 5 years, and before that, Senior Vice-President of United Way/Centraide Canada for 15 years. Marlene received her Master's of Management (McGill University) through the McGill-McConnell Program in 2002. Marlene's understanding of the voluntary sector comes from more than 25 years of working with charities and nonprofit organizations. On December 5, 2001, as chair of the Senior Sector Steering Group for the Voluntary Sector Initiative, Marlene joined the Prime Minister of Canada to sign the *Voluntary Sector Accord*. Marlene holds two volunteer positions – she is Chair of the Board of the HR Council for the non-profit sector, and she chairs the allocations committee for Centraide (United Way) Outaouais.



Bob Wyatt
Executive Director
The Muttart Foundation

Bob Wyatt has been executive director of The Muttart Foundation since 1989. He has been involved in a number of national and regional initiatives to help improve capacity of the voluntary sector, including serving as co-chair of the Joint Regulatory Table during the Voluntary Sector Initiative. He is a Director of Imagine Canada, as well as a member of the editorial advisory board of The Philanthropist.

Miia Suokonautio, MSW, RSW is the Director of Programming at Phoenix Youth Programs, a non-profit agency working with homeless and priority youth in Halifax, Nova Scotia.



Miia Suokonautio, (Young Leader)
Director, Community Programs
Phoenix Youth

Miia has worked on issues of social justice and social services in a variety of contexts, including with men and women in prisons, Spanish speaking refugees to Toronto, migrant farm workers, people experiencing homelessness and youth and adolescents in several countries. Through her work, Miia has gained valuable experience in program development and design as well as policy formation and influence. Miia's commitment to excellent programming and social inclusion is informed by narrative practices and principles of social justice.

Over the last four years, Miia has been the co-chair of a nonprofit research project in Nova Scotia. This has seen Nova Scotia release first of its kind labour force data on the nonprofit sector. From January to June 2011, Miia was the project lead of a second stage of the research to map effective strategies for sector development.

Among her many passions are gardening, cycling, playing music and hanging with her family and extended Halifax community.

Area of Priority: More diversified and sustainable financing



Derek Gent
Executive Director
Vancity Community Foundation

Derek is currently Executive Director at Vancity Community Foundation, an arms-length public charity associated with Vancity Credit Union in Vancouver. The Foundation includes more than 110 different donor advised funds as well as a core endowment, modeling a progressive approach to investing the assets and making grants with a focus on longer term development rather than aid.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Derek grew and managed a portfolio of investments specifically focused on social enterprises, non-profit organizations and sustainability oriented businesses as part of the venture capital arm of Vancity. He has worked in a variety of roles in the financial services sector, including retail and commercial banking and he served as the first manager of Social Responsibility at Coast Capital Savings.

Derek has an MBA from Queen's University, and has worked for a management consulting firm, while also gaining international experience with a microcredit organization in Bangladesh, community development initiatives in Brazil, and cooperatives in northern Italy. In addition to his role at Vancity, Derek also currently serves as President of the Social Planning and Research Council of BC, teaches a sessional finance course at SFU and lives in East Vancouver with his wife and three young children.



Adam Spence Manager (Young Leader)
Manager, Special Projects, SiG@MaRS
Founder, Social Venture Exchange (SVX)

Adam Spence is the Founder of the Social Venture Exchange (SVX) and Manager, Special Projects at Social Innovation Generation (SiG) at MaRS. For over ten years in the nonprofit sector, Adam has focused his work on community development, education, social innovation, and public policy change. He was Executive Director of the Ontario Association of Food Banks (OAFB) for five years, a community animator for the skilled trades in Hamilton, and led the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA). In these positions, he successfully grew revenues, developed enterprise programs, and successfully advocated for public policy change including low-income grants for post-secondary students and Ontario's Poverty Reduction Strategy. Adam was born in Glasgow, Scotland, grew up on the Canadian prairies, and came of age in Hamilton, graduating from McMaster University with a degree in geography.



Hilary Pearson
President and CEO
Philanthropic Foundations Canada

Hilary Pearson has been President of Philanthropic Foundations Canada, a member association for Canada's independent and family foundations, since 2001. Her career has spanned the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. She spent over 12 years in the Canadian federal government as a policy analyst and senior manager in central agencies such as the Department of Finance and the Privy Council Office. In 1993, Ms. Pearson became Vice-President, Strategic Development, at Royal Bank of Canada. In 1996, she turned to management consulting with the Montreal firm Secor, and in 2000 launched a practice in the non-profit sector, with a wide range of clients, from national membership organizations and operating charities to local organizations in the health, cultural and social services field.

Ms. Pearson has been a director on several nonprofit boards, including Imagine Canada, the United Nations Association in Canada, the Stratford Shakespeare Festival of Canada and Miss Edgars and Miss Cramps School. Ms. Pearson holds a BA and an MA in Political Economy from the University of Toronto and an honorary doctorate from Carleton University.

Area of Priority: Better understanding of the sector and its impact



Marcel Lauzière
President and CEO
Imagine Canada

Marcel Lauzière is the President and CEO of Imagine Canada, a national umbrella for charities and nonprofits in Canada. He has worked in the charitable and nonprofit sector as well as in government here in Canada and abroad.

Prior to this appointment to Imagine Canada, he served as Deputy Chief Executive of the Ministry of Social Development in the New Zealand government. He has also served as President of the Canadian Council on Social Development, as Special Advisor to the President of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and as Founding Executive Director of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Throughout his career, Marcel has been a volunteer and has served on numerous boards and advisory committees in Canada and internationally including: the Statistics Canada Advisory Committee on Social Conditions; the Coalition of National Voluntary Organizations; the Canadian Center for Philanthropy; the International Council on Social Welfare; and the New Zealand Advisory Council on Official Statistics. He currently sits on the Editorial Board of *The Philanthropist* and on the Accounting Standards Oversight Council (AcSOC).



Caroline Riseboro
Vice President, Public Affairs
World Vision Canada

Caroline Riseboro began her career in the advertising industry working on major technology and telecom accounts. Motivated by her desire to marry her career with causes in which she believes, Caroline made the move to the charitable sector when she joined World Vision Canada in 2001. Caroline currently serves as the Vice-President of Public Affairs, overseeing World Vision's Advocacy, Public Relations, Education and Government Relations programs. Caroline is passionate about engaging Canadians around issues of poverty and injustice that affect the world's poorest children. Prior to her current role, Caroline spent the last 10 years as a fundraiser, working in various senior-level roles and raising over \$500 million. Caroline holds a Bachelor of Arts, Honours degree from McGill University in Linguistics and Communications, and she is fluent in English, French and Spanish.



Lee Rose (Young Leader)
President, Ten Oaks Project
& Communications Manager, HR Council

In his day job, Lee oversees communications and outreach activities at the [HR Council for the Nonprofit Sector](#). He's also president of the [Ten Oaks Project](#), a grassroots organization that connects and engages children and youth from LGBTQ communities through programs and activities rooted in play.

Lee holds an honours degree in English Literature from the University of Ottawa and self-identifies as both a CanLit and Québec cheese junkie. In his mind the perfect threesome includes a good book, a glass of red wine, and a hunk of stinky cheese from *la belle province*.

When he's not reading, writing or pushing big red buttons, Lee can usually be found spending time with his three, yes, three, amazing children: Jacob, Philippe-Alexandre, and Michaela; chasing after his runaway dog; cycling in Gatineau Park; or wishing he was paddling a canoe on Lake Temagami.

Area of Priority: Enhanced support for organizations to engage volunteers/external talent



Ilona Dougherty (Young Leader)
Executive Directory
Apathy is Boring

Passionate about fusing art and social change from an early age, Ilona's diverse experiences range from being a Canadian delegate to the United Nations at 17 years old to producing concerts across Canada. A life-long social entrepreneur, in January 2004 Ilona co-founded Apathy is Boring, (www.apathyisboring.com) a national non-partisan charitable organization that uses art and technology to educate Canadian youth about democracy. As Apathy is Boring's Executive Director she has been featured by the national media, worked with rock stars, and given thousands of youth the tools they need to get involved in their communities. Raised by socially engaged parents in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan and Whitehorse, Yukon, Ilona currently lives in Montreal, Quebec.



Wayne Helgason
Chair of the Board of the Canadian
Council on Social Development (CCSD)
and Board Member, Volunteer Canada

Wayne Helgason is the recently retired Chief Executive Officer of the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg and is currently the Chair of the Board of the Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD) and a board member of Volunteer Canada. He has been an active member of the Winnipeg Aboriginal community for more than three decades and is the current President of the Center for Aboriginal Human Resource Development (CAHRD). He is a winner of the Queen's Jubilee Award, the Millennium Social Justice Research Award in addition to lecturing on such varied topics as children at risk, poverty, employment and training, Aboriginal self-government, human rights and social security reform. Mr. Helgason has been a contract lecturer at the University of Toronto - Faculty of Preventative Medicine, Banff School of Management and the Canadian Centre for Management Development in Ottawa. Mr. Helgason is a band member of Sandy Bay First Nation, Manitoba and he and his family live in Winnipeg, Manitoba.



Ruth Mackenzie
President and CEO
Volunteer Canada

Ruth joined Volunteer Canada in 2001, bringing extensive experience in the field of volunteer engagement and development. She has worked in the voluntary sector for over 25 years, at the grassroots, provincial and national levels and has a life-long commitment to voluntary action. Ruth believes that volunteering is more than something we do; she believes it is intrinsic to who we are, as individuals and as caring Canadians. She has been involved in countless volunteer opportunities, from front-line service delivery to community-based activist work and at the leadership level through a variety of boards, committees and advisory groups.