

# **Board**

## **Candidate Summary**

### **Information**

**(as of May 1, 2019)**

## **CULTURAL INDUSTRIES**

### **Karen Henders**

Karen believes in the intrinsic value of culture. For her, a sense of belonging is fundamental to personal and community well-being in Saskatchewan. It is through cultural and creative expression and the sharing of our stories that we can connect with ourselves, and the world around us.

Karen has worked and volunteered in the cultural industries for over 25 years. Her background is film and television. She has a B.F.A. in Film and Video Production and worked for many years as an assistant director and nature documentary producer before moving into program management in arts and culture. Karen was the Program Officer at SaskFilm and then the Creative Industries Consultant at the Saskatchewan Arts Board. She has an M.B.A. and initiated and co-taught the Arts Entrepreneurship & Business Development Course. Karen is currently the Director of Community and Grant Stewardship at the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation.

Although she has worked in other provinces, Karen has always called Saskatchewan home. Over the years she has served as an advisor and a juror for funders and festivals, such as: the Regina Arts Commission, SaskFilm, Yorkton Film Festival, University of Regina Living Skies Student Film Festival and Cultural Human Resource Council; and is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Saskatchewan Filmpool Cooperative.

### **Manjula Nanjappa**

Manjula has worked in a diverse array of industries such as Telcom, railroad, utility, infrastructure, and oil & gas. She has served as a leader in most of these organizations. Her 20-year IT journey has taken her across the world, from Australia to North America, with stops in Europe, the UK, and the United States.

As her IT profession built solid footing, Manjula continued to pursue her artistic passions such as Indian classical dance, theatrical performances, TV serials or movies, and created her own share of footprints. Being on stage had become a part of her life; an inseparable part of herself.

Manjula has been in Canada for nine years and in Regina for four years. She has found a few avenues to showcase her dancing skills and performs on renowned stages in cities like Edmonton and Toronto. Coming from an intense art background in her home country, with a deep inclination to serve the community, charity and philanthropic activity, has been a common thread through all that she has done. While housed in different cities she was a committee member in various communities.

Having come from such a background, Manjula would like to contribute to the community and help harness the cultures that are being practiced within this province and across Canada. She would like to help promote the value of culture by bringing communities together, provide a stage for them to demonstrate their cultural practices, and help raise the required funds, or do whatever it takes, to keep the wheels in motion.

Manjula sees the SaskCulture Board as an opportunity to be part of a great vision that values bringing these moving parts together. Now that Saskatchewan is her final home, there is a deep connection to the people and culture and she would like the opportunity to bring her abilities and experiences to the table to build, harness, and promote cultural programs in diversified communities.

## **HERITAGE**

### **Lauren Stead**

Lauren is an archaeologist, and community engagement, and traditional knowledge facilitator with Stantec Consulting Ltd. in Saskatoon. Since completing her Master of Arts in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of Saskatchewan, she has worked on a variety of projects in archaeological impact assessment and mitigation in Saskatchewan and Manitoba; and community engagement and traditional knowledge studies from northern British Columbia to southern Ontario.

As an archaeologist, Lauren works to promote the preservation of archaeological sites and how we can learn from the past in order to provide insight for our shared present and future. Through her work as a traditional knowledge facilitator, Lauren has had the honour of working with First Nations and Métis communities across the prairies towards the preservation of living cultural heritage. Since completing the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Foundations course Lauren has been an active member of the IAP2 Canada Prairies Chapter and the national Community of Practice in Indigenous Engagement, and has been involved in community engagement at a variety of levels. Through her experience working on these projects, Lauren has learned to balance competing priorities and focus on building consensus through processes where community members can feel that their voices are heard.

Since she was a small child, Lauren has been fortunate to have had the opportunity to both live and travel abroad, which has provided her with an appreciation of diversity and a sense of the importance of place.

Lauren was first elected to the SaskCulture Board in 2015 for a one-year term, in 2016 for a one-year term, and in 2017 for a two-year term.

## **MÉTIS**

### **Calvin Racette**

Calvin Racette is a Cree/Métis from the Qu'Appelle Valley in Southern Saskatchewan. He recently retired after a 34 year career in education. During his education career, which was focused on Indigenous education, he had many diverse experiences.

His early career was spent as a researcher/curriculum writer for Gabriel Dumont Institute. He has several publications on Métis history and culture to his credit: a five part book series called *Métis Development and the Canadian West*; *Flags of the Métis*; *In Two Worlds-Métis Study Prints*; and *The Canadian Atlas of Aboriginal Settlement*. He also served as resource person for several video productions on the Métis: *My Partners my People* - four components of a 12 part series; *Metcom* - 2 components of a 12-part series; and, more recently, *La Sawndr akwa Mawtoowin (Ashes to Tears) the Green Lake story*.

His 34 year teaching career allowed him experiences as a classroom teacher, a vice principal, and the Aboriginal Education Coordinator in the public system. He also served as a curriculum officer, assistant director and executive director of Gabriel Dumont Institute. He developed courses and also served as an instructor on Métis history and culture. He assisted in photographing and documenting a large collection of Métis artifacts that are housed in European museums. He also was involved in the development of the Virtual Museum on Métis People for the Gabriel Dumont Institute.

Calvin has a long history with SaskCulture. He has served as a grant adjudicator several times on the Métis Cultural Development Fund, as well as with the City of Regina.

His most recent work has been in the area of Truth and Reconciliation and Treaty Education. He is involved with Nelson Education and assists them in making the Treaty and Truth and Reconciliation connections. His most recent is called *Under One Sun* for kindergarten to grade 8. He was also part of a team that is a recent recipient of the Lieutenant Governor Award on History for a project on Treaty Education.

Calvin is a proud parent and grandparent. His four children and nine grandchildren are his passion. He is determined to support them in their learning and being proud of all the cultural backgrounds they share in forming their Métis identity. He enjoys serving as a local historian, volunteer and is currently involved in helping design a local museum. Calvin was first elected to the SaskCulture Board in 2018 for a one-year term.

### **MEMBER AT LARGE**

#### **Sheryl Kimbley**

Sheryl Kimbley is a proud member of the Big River First Nation. Calling her home Prince Albert for most of her life, she promotes pride in where you live. Daughter of Lawrence & Priscilla Joseph, Sheryl surrounds herself with family and friends in the entertainment industry to help her do the projects she does.

Recipient of YWCA Women of Distinction Award in the Arts for Prince Albert, CTV hometown hero, 1st annual FSIN Strength of a Woman Awards in Arts and Entertainment, inducted into the Prince Albert Women's Hall of Fame, and most recently named as the 2016 Prince Albert Citizen of the Year, it has become her focal point to ensure the youth she works with see her working for them and with them.

As Producer of Voices of the North, music has always been Sheryl's passion and connects her to Northern Saskatchewan. When her good friend Bernice Sayese became ill, she reminded Sheryl that more work needed to be done to reach our northern youth. As a result of those words Northern Spirits was developed and it will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> year in February. Music and organization of a stage/show has been the model for giving youth confidence and encouragement to move forward with whatever their passions are.

Sheryl has sat on many boards, commissions and committees including the Juno Aboriginal Red Carpet event, Waniska Showcase in Prince Albert, Tourism Board, P.A. Arts Board, SaskCulture and Creative Kids, and the P.A. Indigenous Women's Advisory Committee. She has also participated in many panel discussions – most recently with SaskMusic at a women in music industry panel.

Giving of her time through the arts is something Sheryl has been doing since she was young under the guidance of her father and now through her job as Special Events Coordinator with the Prince Albert Grand Council (PAGC). The PAGC has given her the opportunity to coordinate opening ceremonies for the winter games, as well as work with veterans, the women's commission, and youth. She has also coordinated relief concerts for Cumberland House and Northern Saskatchewan, which included a cast of over 1,200 Aboriginal musicians, singers, dancers, and more from across Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba. She considers herself blessed through this network.

Sheryl was first elected to the SaskCulture Board in 2017 for a two-year term.

**Chanchal Sethi**

Chanchal is an independent Senior IT Consultant by profession. She works for public-sector clients, mainly in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, helping them streamline and strategize quality assurance and testing initiatives on the medium-to large-scale software projects. Chanchal has a Masters in Computer Applications degree and continues to upgrade her skills through various industry-based professional certifications.

Chanchal has served on several professional and cultural boards, including: Vice President and Treasurer for Saskatchewan Organization for Heritage Languages (SOHL), Secretary for IIBA South Saskatchewan Chapter, Committee Member for MB WRHA Ethics Council Group, Principal and Hindi Teacher for Hindi School run by India-Canada Association of Saskatchewan, Mini-Lessons Hindi Language Teacher (program run by SOHL), Vice President/Board Member of U of R Toastmasters Club, and more. Chanchal contributed to these national and provincial organizations' vision, mission, and strategic goals through her skill set while engaging with the community and contributing on various committees.

Chanchal firmly believes in giving back to the community and sharing and learning from others. By being on the SaskCulture Board she would learn from the diverse community and associated organizations, as well as share her knowledge and skills that could contribute towards SaskCulture's strategic goals, vision, and mission.

Chanchal moved from India eight years ago and made Saskatchewan her home. She lives in Regina with her spouse and stays close to her immediate family.