

Board

Candidate Summary

Information

(as of May 1, 2021)

CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

Rowena Materne

Rowena is a proud resident of Saskatchewan. She believes a position on SaskCulture's Board of Directors would be a great opportunity, and personal joy, to use her skills and abilities to contribute to the province and to share in celebrating the beauty of the cultures represented here. Rowena has a residence in both Saskatoon and in Buffalo Narrows (overlooking a stunning lake).

Rowena's story begins with her mother as she paved the way for her family to become residents of Saskatchewan. Rowena's mother came from one of the first waves of nurses who were recruited to the province from the Philippines in the 1960's. Rowena has two brothers and considers herself a 'northerner' because she grew up in La Ronge where her mother was a nurse, and her father initially served in economic development for northern Saskatchewan and with Sask Agriculture as the Provincial Wild Rice Specialist. Her family has a deep appreciation of the north and, because of this upbringing, also has a deep connection with First Nations and Métis people. After several years studying at universities in Canada and internationally, as well as working and volunteering with NGO initiatives internationally, Rowena returned to Canada with her "Aussie" husband in 2003. Rowena and her husband eventually settled in the north-west region of the province where she worked for many years in a senior management role with the regional health authority. In that capacity, Rowena participated on numerous committees across various agencies and organizations in the province and had the privilege of advocating for northern people. Rowena resigned from her position in 2014 to spend quality time with her family and to return to school and complete graduate studies.

Rowena returned to Saskatchewan with her family in 2019 after a few years away in Australia where she spent time with her husband's family and completed graduate school. Her studies in Australia particularly focused on Strategic Human Resource Management, Project/Risk Management, and Marketing (Consumer Behaviour and Tourism). She is a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society (the largest honour society in the world recognizing top academic achievements) having completed her MBA in the top 15%. After graduation, she was awarded a full scholarship to a doctorate program where her studies focus on exploring the use of design thinking in implementing business ethics programs for social enterprises – she is scheduled for confirmation of candidature this year. Rowena has been an Ethics Practitioner for many years, having leadership experience in organizational ethics, and participated on a provincial ethics committee for health services. She is also a long-standing member of the Ethics Practitioner's Association of Canada.

Rowena also has an undergraduate degree in Communications with special training in photography and video production. She worked in a variety of media which includes radio and television. She worked for the Missinipi Broadcasting Corporation as a radio announcer and as a productions assistant; interned with CBN Asia in Manila; served as editorial leader for an international media group during the Sydney 2000 Olympics; and has experience in corporate communications as well, which included participation on the committee for senior leaders in communications for health services in the province.

In the area of governance, her previous senior management portfolio included board development and quality improvement/accreditation, which meant working with the board to ensure that the governance criteria required in Health Services Accreditation/Accreditation Canada were met. She also recently completed the requirements for a Canadian-based Governance Consultant Certification program to build on her previous years of experience and expertise, and is a member of the Institute of Corporate Directors.

Rowena is committed to community involvement to contribute to society in a positive way and served in volunteer roles, in Canada and internationally, for many years. She is currently a volunteer member of the Board of Directors of Luther Care Communities where she was appointed to the Foundation Board; is a member of the Ethics Advisory Committee; and was appointed as the Ethicist earlier this year. Last March, Rowena accepted a six-month contract to serve as the Acting CEO of the Buffalo Narrows Economic Development Corporation (a Métis corporation).

HERITAGE

Yvonne Hotzak

Yvonne just completed a term as President on the board of her local museum - Fort Pelly-Livingstone Museum. She served in this position for six years after a fire totally destroyed the museum. There is now a building and functioning museum. Although COVID has been very destructive, the museum has carried on! Did you know that the Fort was the very first Capitol of the North West Territories! This is an unknown fact that the museum has been attempting to change. Yvonne was also involved in the ceremony, story-telling, dance, and food during Indigenous Days and Culture Days.

Yvonne is a retired Registered Nurse and proud First Nations member of the Cree Nation from Cowessess. She is an adoptee and a member of the Sixties Scoop. As an RN, Yvonne also worked in Saudi Arabia for almost nine years and learned a great deal about the Muslim culture and religion. She also went into the community to vaccinate the children, attend weddings and BBQs, and work very closely with the local people. While in Saudi Arabia, she worked with 51 other nationalities.

As an RN Yvonne also served on the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses on the Negotiations Committee for two terms to come to an agreement on the contract. This past year, up to March, she was also the Chair on the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour Indigenous Committee.

She was a member of the Museums Association of Saskatchewan for seven years, serving as President and Past President. She is familiar with policy governance and has learned much about the heritage of Saskatchewan.

In the past Yvonne has served on Hospital Policy and Admission and Waiting List Management Committees; OR Executive Committee; Laser Safety Committee; as well as attended or presented numerous in-services in the OR including Harassment and OH & S.

Yvonne and her partner, Brian, live on an acreage just between Norquay and Pelly with three dogs and a couple of horses. She enjoys quilting, cross stitch, painting and many other handicrafts, which keeps her busy during this life-changing time of COVID.

MÉTIS

Wilfred Burton

Wilfred is Michif originally from Midnight Lake, Saskatchewan (Nolin & Delorme families) and currently resides on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Round Prairie Métis (Saskatoon) after living in Regina for 37 years.

Wilfred is a retired educator (with teaching experience in elementary and post-secondary) who holds three degrees (B. Ed.- elementary education, B.A.- Indigenous studies major, M. Ed.-literacy focused

thesis). He currently does contract work for publishers, teaches and promotes culture in the community as well as writing children's books (Métis historical fiction).

For his whole life Wilfred has been involved in the cultural (not political) aspect of his Métis culture by being in dance troupes; being a member of Métis locals; volunteering at events; beading; and teaching many different aspects of the culture at conferences and gatherings locally and provincially. In his educational positions, Wilfred incorporated and supported cross-cultural teaching, diversity training, Treaties In The Classroom, as well as anti-racist educational practices.

Wilfred currently sit on several boards/councils, including: John Arcand Fiddle Fest; Gabriel Dumont Métis Local 11; Gabriel Dumont Institute Scholarship Fund; SAWCI; Reconciliation Saskatoon Learning Committee; Meewasin Steering Committee; City of Saskatoon New Library Steering Committee; and Aboriginal Children's Writing Group. He also volunteers in Conversation Circles for the Open Door Society with new Canadians (6 years). He has held various positions on these boards and organizations and on many other boards in the past 40+ years. He has also adjudicated for many local and provincial grants/scholarships.

Wilfred is highly supportive of the promotion of all cultural experiences in Saskatchewan. He believes through the celebration and sharing of culture we are able to embrace the common ground of our humanity while acknowledging our uniqueness. With the rise in racist acts in Saskatchewan and Canada it is imperative to keep this work up: to expose, to teach, to share, to discuss and to celebrate our diversity.

Wilfred believes his extensive experience and skills honed in cultural and educational settings would be an asset on the SaskCulture Board.

MEMBER AT LARGE

Robert Friedrich

Robert is a retired federal public servant who worked for the Dept. of Canadian Heritage. He worked in a number of cultural areas from multiculturalism to Indigenous programming. He also worked on national teams that won a number of awards for the work in the above areas.

Robert works from time to time helping groups develop project proposals for funding support. (If he was selected to serve on the SaskCulture Board he would not work with groups seeking SaskCulture funding.) Occasionally Robert teaches proposal development for various agencies from community groups, to public libraries to post-secondary institutes. He has a keen understanding of processes that engage community action in the areas of race relations and social change.

In his current capacity Robert has worked with groups that are seeking to develop alternative strategies to serve their community during the C-19 environment. In the past, he was a SaskCulture Board member and is familiar with the rigors of the SaskCulture Board.

Finally, Robert sees the lottery support system as extremely valuable in Saskatchewan and critical in the provinces future development. It needs to be protected and understood by all Saskatchewan residents as to the treasure it is.

Robert lives in Regina and has an alternative residence at Buena Vista Beach where he served on the Last Mountain Lake Cultural Center Board. He has also served on the boards of the Saskatchewan

Writers' Guild; Saskatchewan Organization of Heritage Language; Multilingual Association of Regina; Albert Park Community Association; University of Regina Alumni Association; and is currently the Saskatchewan Public Rep for the Respiratory Therapists College. Robert is also on the volunteer committee for the Wascana Winter Festival. He is a member of CARFAC and SIMPIA and past member of Saskatchewan Book Publishers Association.

Robert has a small film company called Pooch Productions and book publishing site called Last Mountain Publishers. He holds awards from MCOS and other agencies for his work.

Jan Seibel

Jan believes that Saskatchewan's strength and potential are reflected in its vibrant cultural community. Over the years, Jan has tried to find ways to contribute to this cultural community as an artist, cultural worker, and most often as a volunteer. By sharing her time and experiences through volunteer work, Jan hopes to create cultural opportunities for others like those that she has benefited from over the years.

Jan has been involved in Saskatchewan's cultural community since finishing a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree in the mid 1990's. She has held employment and volunteer positions with a variety of local cultural organizations including Neutral Ground Art Gallery and Artist Run Centre, the Art Gallery of Prince Albert (now the Mann Gallery), the Dunlop Art Gallery, the Saskatchewan Library Association, the Writers' Guild, CARFAC, the Saskatchewan Arts Alliance and SaskCulture.

Jan's involvement with SaskCulture began in 2002 when she was first elected to the Board of Directors. Jan served three terms with the Board, including terms as President and Past President. Jan continues to be involved with SaskCulture as a volunteer for numerous committees, including the steering committee that lead to the creation of Creative Kids. Jan served as a member of the Creative Kids Provincial Advisory Committee until 2016. Jan's experiences with SaskCulture and Creative Kids gave her an exposure to, and interest in, all of the different sectors that make up Saskatchewan's vibrant cultural community, as well as an interest in good governance and responsible stewardship of public funds.

Currently, Jan lives in Regina where she is the Executive Director of the Insurance and Real Estate Division of the Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan's financial and consumer marketplace regulator. In addition to her BFA from the University of Regina, Jan also has an LL.B. from the University of Saskatchewan and was in private practice as a lawyer prior to joining the public service.