

September 22, 2020

It is the recommendation of the Sid Williams Theatre Society Nominating Committee to the members that all five prospective candidates be added to the board of directors (after ratifying the bylaw amendments)

NOMINEES



Frank Assu

Frank has lived in the Comox Valley since 2000. He and his family reside in the town of Comox. His professional background includes service with the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary, Comox Fire Rescue, Canada Border Services Agency, as an elementary school teacher and as a senior advisor/project manager for Service Canada, and the Canada School of Public Service. His cultural interests include participating as a dancer/singer with the K'omoks First Nation's Kumugwe Cultural Society, and as a published author. His volunteer interests include Aboriginal, LGBTQ+, and Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Committees. Frank is a member of the We Wai Kai First Nation on Quadra Island.

"I want to join the Sid Williams Theatre board of directors to bring a different perspective to the board, bring my experiences in cultural activities from across the country, and my passion for learning to the board in order to provide the community of the Comox Valley the best experience possible."



Richard Clarke

Richard has been a resident of the Comox Valley for over 10 years, currently calling the town of Comox home. He has been a volunteer with the Filberg Arts Festival, the Georgia Strait Jazz Society and the Have a Heart annual fundraising musical theatre show. Richard has had considerable non-profit and non-governmental organization (NGO) board experience, including the Rotary Foundation of Canada, Dawn to Dawn Action on Homelessness Society, Transform International – Canada, and the Comox Valley Airport Commission. His professional career included serving as the leader of the Arts and Culture Division of the Department of Youth, Culture and Recreation for the province of Saskatchewan.

"I am of the view, that live performing arts are an essential contributor to the well-being of any and all communities. The Sid Williams Theatre Society as an active cultural catalyst and service provider is, as noted in the recent City of Courtenay Culture Report, a key player in the cultural vitality of the Comox Valley."

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Bruce Curtis

Bruce is likely best known to valley residents as the Chief Administrator of the Comox Valley Community Justice Centre for many years. His extensive experience on a variety of boards (50 years!) covers many sectors: arts and culture, recreation, social justice, faith, and health at the local, regional, provincial, and national levels. He has also been a board governance consultant and trainer, and is an experienced grant writer. Bruce's educational background is equally extensive, including science, philosophy, political science, theology, international humanitarian law and designations in employee benefits, civil celebrancy and Indigenous Cultural Competency. In his role with community justice, Bruce has co-presented numerous events with the Sid Williams Theatre Society. He has also performed with many Comox Valley organizations such as CYMC, Celebration Singers, Coval Choristers, Rainbow Youth Theatre, and others. His recent voluntary service includes the board of the Comox Valley Art Gallery (6 years), and Kumugwe Cultural Society ("Walking with Our Sisters" Memorial Exhibition).

"Given my current work in the areas of Restorative Justice, countering racism, homophobia and hate, and on-going engagement with the Kumugwe Cultural Society and the K'ómoks First Nation, I bring a strongly developed awareness and sensitivity to diversity and inclusion, social justice, and conflict resolution. It would be an honour and privilege to serve the cultural community through a seat on the Board of the Sid Williams Theatre Society."



Ashutosh Shekhawat

Currently working as a Client Account Manager for Open Connection in Courtenay and residing in the city of Courtenay, Ash emigrated to Canada in 2016, and has been enjoying life on the island ever since. A hospitality/business administration/economics graduate from North Island College (NIC), he also led NIC's Student Ambassador program during his time there. His passions range from polo (horse, not water!) to performances to people. Meeting people, entertaining people, working and learning with people. His first visit to the stage of the Sid unfortunately did not happen due to the cancellation of Three Legged Dog's production of Mamma Mia due to the pandemic. But Ash is highly motivated to bring his skill, talent, and enthusiasm to the board and be part of helping the Sid move forward and thrive.

"Canada has been kind to me from day 1 and I would be utterly happy to contribute back to this wonderful community, and what better way than to be part of a community theatre known for putting smiles on people's faces. There is no substitute for the performing arts!"

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Amanda Woloshyn

A valley resident since 2005, Amanda is the Business and Project Manager at Medium Rare Interactive. Her expertise includes digital projects, website development, eco-commerce, web apps, and business management. Previously Amanda led the marketing and communications department for a destination spa with 4 locations including retail stores and restaurant (with over 500 employees and \$50 million in annual revenue). Her customer experience responsibilities included call center scripts and human resources training manuals, wayfinding program, and branded product line. Amanda's professional experience includes art direction, photoshoots, focus groups, client and vendor management, quality control and budget planning. Her community volunteerism includes the BC Shellfish Festival, Chimo Gymnastics, and supporting the Comox Valley's growing tech community and downtown business sector. Her theatre experience as a digital service provider with international clients is extremely relevant in the industry of today, including websites, social platforms, ticketing integrations, and marketing.

"I am looking for a place to be involved and share some of my skills and experiences and gain new ones. I enjoy and appreciate community service and the chance to be part of something that makes the Comox Valley richer."

MOTION

To elect by acclamation the following individuals onto the board of directors of the Sid Williams Theatre Society: Richard Clarke, Frank Assu, Bruce Curtis, Ashutosh Shekhawat, and Amanda Woloshyn.