

PROFILES OF CANDIDATES

NITYA HARRIS

(Langford)

Occupation: Executive Director, Solar BC

Skills, knowledge and/or experience: I have previous experience as a Board Member, and an ability to work with different groups to develop a vision and action plans. I am experienced at finding a solution-based approach to conflicts and problems, and have the ability to promote and present the organization in public meetings.

Interest and Vision for TLC: My main area of interest is the protection of natural areas throughout B.C. and finding the ways and means to enable TLC to establish the best greenspaces protection program in Canada.

Involvement with TLC: I have been a TLC member since its early days, in 1998. I work actively to promote TLC with colleagues and friends, and I am an advocate for the protection of green spaces as appropriate.

Other Organizations: Previous Board member of: City Green; Greater Victoria Savings Credit Union; B.C. Sustainable Energy Association; Capital Bike and Walk Society. Previously a member of: Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park Public Advisory Committee; Provincial Capital Commission Greenways Committee; CRD Round Table on the Environment; Capital Regional District (CRD) Task Group on Atmospheric Change.

GARY HOLMAN

(Salt Spring Island)

Occupation: Economist

Skills, knowledge and/or experience: I have an MA in Economics from Simon Fraser University, and over 25 years experience as a consulting economist, specializing in regional land use and resource planning. I have a background as a community activist, and was elected to represent Salt Spring on the Capital Regional District Board from 2002-2008.

Interest and Vision for TLC: My key focus is to ensure the financial sustainability of TLC. Some prudent risks are warranted to protect key properties, as long as they don't jeopardize TLC's viability. Communication to members and supporters about TLC's financial status is also important to promote confidence in the organization.

Involvement with TLC: I have been a member of TLC since 1999, and served on the Board of TLC for two years (2000-2001). I ran unsuccessfully as an independent in the last TLC election, but was appointed to the TLC Finance and Audit Committee in 2009. I was subsequently appointed to the Board to complete a one year term vacancy.

Other Organizations: President of the Salt Spring Abbeyfield Association; Board member of Gulf Islands Alliance; Member of SSI Conservancy.

MEL LEHAN

(Vancouver)

Occupation: Retired public school teacher

Skills, knowledge and/or experience: Thirty years working as a community builder. My strengths are bringing people together to work as a team, recruiting and supervising volunteers, and building organizations to grow, prosper and achieve their goals. I have had many successes in my community, environmental and preservation activities, and I have a large network of community and environmental groups and individuals I can work with.

Interest and Vision for TLC: I am interested in preserving in perpetuity agricultural land, heritage buildings and sites, ecologically crucial areas, important ethnic and cultural buildings and spaces, and any other key sites for our communities, our province, our country and our planet. I want to join the Board of TLC to be part of the team helping to ensure that the noble and worthwhile goals of TLC continue to move forward.

Involvement with TLC: A new member, but a longtime admirer of TLC's vision/achievements. I strongly & passionately believe in TLC's goals.

Other Organizations: Board member, Point Grey Foreshore Preservation and Waterfowl Protection Society; Chair of Board which has recently created the Downtown Eastside Centre for the Arts; Former Vice-Chair, Friends of Nat Bailey Stadium (we saved the historic baseball stadium); Led the successful campaign to stop demolition of and retain the character homes in Kitsilano in the 1990's; Initiated a project to daylight (open up) Tatlow Creek in Vancouver; Saved the building and founded St. James Community Square; Organized the community support for and brought the Farmer's Market to Kitsilano; Organizer for Kits Car Free Block Parties; Founded and organized Neighbour to Neighbour, a coalition of over fifty Vancouver neighbourhood associations; Activist and mentor to the Friends of UBC Farm group who are working to save the UBC Farm.

FRED NEWHOUSE

(Vernon)

Occupation: Consulting Forester

Skills, knowledge and/or experience: I have extensive experience with silviculture and woodlot management and issues relating to private woodlots licensing and organization. I also have a degree in Natural Resources Management and am currently active with the Board of the Sustainable Environmental Network Society.

Interest and Vision for TLC: Although I am a relatively new member

to TLC, since the beginning of the year, I have appreciated the work that TLC has done over the years and its relationship to the work I have been involved with in private woodlot management. As a member from the Interior of BC, I am particularly interested in furthering TLC's connections and involvement in this part of the province.

Involvement with TLC: A member of TLC since January of this year.

Other Organizations: Director, Sustainable Environmental Network Society; Exec. Director, BC Federation of Woodlots (2001-4); Director & VP Consulting Foresters of BC (1997-2000); Shuswap Okanagan Woodlot Assoc (various positions).

MARY SANSEVERINO

(Victoria)

Occupation: University professor; Director (Acting), Learning and Teaching Centre; Faculty member, Dept of Computer Science, UVic

Skills, knowledge and/or experience: Background in information technology and computer science. Web 2.0 skills. Administrative experience. Skilled in group facilitation. Organizational abilities. Writing, speaking, and promotional expertise. Photographic expertise. Social networking skills (e.g. Twitter, Facebook, blogging, Flickr, etc). Instructional expertise. Mapmaking abilities.

Interest and Vision for TLC: In the 1940's, forester and environmentalist, Aldo Leopold, wrote: "A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise". For over 35 years his words have resonated with me and inspired a life-long curiosity into the natural world. I have written, photographed, travelled, blogged, mapped and shared my interest with as many people as possible. I am keen to help TLC stand up for the protection and preservation of the many diverse biotic and heritage communities we find throughout BC. I'm sure if Aldo were alive today he'd stand up and cheer for TLC!

Involvement with TLC: I have been a member of TLC since 2005. I have helped with writing, photography and presentations in support of the Sooke Hills and Ross Bay Villa projects, and in opposition to the incursions of off-road vehicles in our park system.

Other Organizations: Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Island Section; Amnesty International.

FRANCES PUGH

(Brentwood Bay)

Occupation: Fruit and vegetable grower on the Saanich Peninsula

Skills, knowledge and/or experience: I bring a myriad of skills from my self employment: running a small business. As well, I have considerable non-profit organizational skills and knowledge from my role as Past Chair of the Saanich Inlet Protection Society, and from the experience of a very challenging past year on TLC's Board of Directors.

Interest and Vision for TLC: I want to work to help TLC's involvement in implementing the Greenspace Tax Levy passed by the CVRD. I also want to continue working for a more financially solvent TLC, to maintain and increase our membership, and to continue to support our staff and raise public profile. We need innovative campaigns to start to support past projects that need to, once again, be a focus of The Land Conservancy. Many properties need serious maintenance and upgrades. These issues need to be addressed before focusing on new acquisitions. We have to be more than just a "collector".

Involvement with TLC: I have been a member of TLC since 2002, and a member of the Board of Directors since 2009. I am a fundraiser/supporter for the Sea to Sea Greenbelt campaign, and a proponent of the greenspace tax levies in the CRD and CVRD.

Other Organizations: Saanich Inlet Protection Society; Resident and Ratepayers of Central Saanich; Sea Change Marine Conservation Society; World Wildlife Fund; SPCA (Wild Arc); Alaskan Malamute HELP League.

BEN WEST

(Vancouver)

Occupation: Communications Coordinator and Healthy Communities Campaigner - Wilderness Committee

Skills, knowledge and/or experience: Campaigner for the Wilderness Committee and actively involved in conservation efforts on a day to day basis. Previously an elected member of the board of Capilano University and the Aurora Institute. A filmmaker passionate about eco-literacy and green jobs.

Interest and Vision for TLC: I am madly in love with British Columbia. I have been lucky enough to travel all over this province and I want everyone to have the opportunity to experience and learn from this special place. As a director I will focus on finding the best ways I can support the board to sustainably continue this vital work.

Involvement with TLC: Although I am a new member, I have worked directly and indirectly (as a Wilderness Committee campaigner) with TLC directors and members on a variety of campaigns.

Other Organizations: Oxfam; Cooperative Auto Network; CCEC Credit Union; Amnesty International; Global Alliance for Incineration Alternatives; Canadian Ecological Economics Society; Climate Action Network Canada; Zero Waste BC.