

# Skills Sought for HUB Cycling's 2015-2016 Board of Directors

# **Collective Board Skills Required:**

Finance, fundraising, operations management, business skills, strategic planning, non-profit/charity governance, organizational development, legal, knowledge of the cycling community, cycling advocacy, marketing, communications, member/stakeholder engagement, human resource management.

# **Priority Skills/Experience Needs for HUB's 2015 Board:**

- community/ government network & experience: a priority need in 2015
- fundraising experience or skills: a priority need in 2015
- business/ operations management: a priority need
- public/ media relations and strategic messaging
- local bicycle advocacy experience
- Information Technology experience/ website management
- volunteer and member engagement

# **Demographics:**

- A majority of our current Directors live within the city of Vancouver; we highly encourage candidates from other municipalities within Metro Vancouver for 2015, to balance our perspective within HUB's Metro-Vancouver reach.
- We strive to further **diversify** the Board through a wide range of ethnicities, ages, genders, and backgrounds, more accurately representing the population of Metro Vancouver.

# 2015 HUB Board Candidate Summaries

NAME: Kamilah Charters-Gabanek

**OCCUPATION: Community Engagement, Higher Education** 

Kamilah Charters-Gabanek moved to Vancouver in 2009 from the Upper Sunshine Coast. A graduate of Simon Fraser University's Political Science & Urban Studies programs with a focus on public policy and local government, she enjoys discussing, understanding, and advocating for the positive and holistic effects that well-designed public transportation policy has on neighbourhoods and urban landscapes. Kamilah currently works in community engagement for Simon Fraser University's Vancouver campus, where promoting a healthy and connected downtown campus community is central to her role.

**Vision for Cycling:** Cycling for transportation is so much more than just a healthy choice: it's a way to connect to your community and environment, to become an every day advocate for sustainable public transportation policy, and to better understand how you fit into and impact the world around you.

### **Brief Employment and Volunteer History**

Coordinator, Campus & Community Engagement, SFU Vancouver.

August 2014-Present

**CITY: Vancouver** 

- Facilitates, plans, and executes campus-wide programming and events at SFU's Vancouver campus
- Communicates with internal & external community, government, and business organizations to develop partnerships.

Communications & Public Relations Assistant, SFU Vancouver.

September 2013-March 2015

- Drafts media releases on behalf of the university's Public Affairs and Media Relations department.
- Communicates with media, community stakeholders, and academic programs for expert commentary.

Public Affairs Intern, United States Consulate General Vancouver.

January 2013 – April 2013

 Worked closely with U.S. diplomats & government officials to draft reports, prepare outreach programs, and promote cultural exchange and policy between various U.S. and Canadian communities. Assisted in the development of content for the U.S. State Department's social media platforms and websites. Planned and executed several public & private events, which included outreach to local dignitaries & organizations.

Union Secretary: Political Science Student Union (Volunteer)

Dec. 2011- Dec. 2012

#### Skills:

- Community/ government engagement: My position at SFU Vancouver puts me in the nexus of events and relationships.
- Sponsorship engagement: and developing/ producing legacy partnerships & grant proposals.
- Public & media relations: Having a background in university public relations has equipped me with skills in writing and communicating specific and strategic messaging, from a variety of university stakeholders and initiatives.
- Non-profit/ public administration operations: In my current position as a community engagement professional, I work with a variety of stakeholders, including student groups, community non-profits, and internal departments.

NAME: Anne Labelle OCCUPATION: Lawyer

Anne believes the best plans are built through collaboration. Whether a project is exploring the high arctic of Canada or developing sustainability practices in the remote mountains of Idaho, Anne always starts by listening. When she's not traveling to communities gathering input, Anne is tending to her organic garden, riding her bicycle on the greenbelt or riding her motorcycle along winding mountain roads.

**Vision for Cycling**: Cycling is integral to the Greater Vancouver transportation network along with buses, cars, motorcycles and pedestrians. We are all members of this network and cycling should be safe for cyclists and non-cyclists alike. Greater safety can be achieved by improving connectivity of cycling routes, predictability of cyclists and awareness of non-cyclists.

### **Brief Employment & Board/Volunteer History**

VP Legal & Sustainability: Midas Gold Corp.

2011-present

**CITY: West Vancouver** 

Responsible for legal & sustainability aspects of Vancouver-based public company with major development project in Idaho. Responsibilities
include setting strategic and public policy direction of the company, interacting with politicians at all levels, community relations, media and public
relations, website development, and managing legal matters related to the company.

Current Board Member: Idaho Mining Association; American Exploration & Mining Association; Idaho Association of Commerce &

Industry. (volunteer positions) 2011-present

District of West Vancouver: Parks & Rec Volunteer

Manager of Sustainability & Legal Affairs: Capstone Mining Corp.

Board Member: Mining Association of Canada (volunteer position)

Corporate Finance Lawyer: Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP

Feb 2015- present
2008-2011
2009-2011
2006-2008

Focused on financing of public companies, particularly mining and/or exploration companies.

Geologist: various mineral exploration companies and government

1995-200

Responsible for exploration activity at various remote locations across Nunavut and Northwest Territories and Northern Ontario: included
mapping, drilling, planning of exploration, database creation/ management; quality assurance & control, etc.

Interests: Motorcycle rider since 2011; Cyclist since childhood in 1960s; Organic gardening and worm composting.

- Public & media relations: US federal, state & local government and community relations & engagement, website, video development.
- Proficient at public speaking and interested in fundraising.
- A major initiative (not yet completed) has been to create a Foundation that will fund water quality improvement projects in the
  watershed in which my company operates.

NAME: Meredith Secton
OCCUPATION: Community Planner

Meredith is a community planner in the tri-cities, passionate about building inclusive sustainable communities. She has extensive local government experience, and is an active community member. She got hooked on cycling while living in places where cycling was the easy and most pleasant choice – first in Copenhagen, then in Vancouver. Having moved back home to the tri-cities, she has stayed on her two wheels, but become more aware of the need for cycling advocacy, education and change in the suburbs. She hopes to help bring the joy of cycling to a wider range of Metro Vancouver residents

**CITY: Port Coguitlam** 

**Vision for Cycling:** I envision a Metro Vancouver in which cycling is convenient, safe, and celebrated. Where even in the suburbs, the bicycle - rather than a driver's license - is the ultimate ticket to freedom. Cycling is gaining ground in the far corners of Metro Vancouver, but we need a continued shift in how we think about mobility.

### **Brief Employment & Board/Volunteer History**

Planner at the City of Port Coquitlam

September 2014 – present

• I work as a policy planner, focusing mostly on long-range projects such as a commercial and industrial land use review, an update to our agricultural zoning, implementation of our Housing Action Plan, and liaising with our economic development partners.

Resident Advisor for the Port Coquitlam Community Foundation (volunteer) 2015

I helped evaluate grant applications. This role helped me better understand the landscape of community groups in the area.

Community Planner for the District of Lantzville, near Nanaimo

April 2013 – September 2014

• In Lantzville I was responsible for all development applications, subdivisions, and long range planning, including the development of a Village Commercial Core Improvement Plan (which included recommendations around bike infrastructure!). I hosted several creative public engagement events in the development of that plan, including a pop-up plaza, walkabouts, and a design charrette.

Board Member: The Nanaimo Design Nerds (volunteer position)

2013, 2014

- We explored the opportunity to establish a co-working hub, and hosted a range of design jams to increase civic engagement in Nanaimo Board Member: Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House (volunteer position) 2012-2013
- I also participated on a committee evaluating Neighbourhood Small Grant applications (funded by the Vancouver Foundation).

  Planning roles with the Sunshine Coast Regional District, the City of Vancouver, and Metro Vancouver.

  2010-2013

### Skills:

- I am plugged in to the Tri-cities community: I know a range of community & stakeholder groups, and as a planner with the City of Port Coquitlam, I understand how local governments in the area function, and have a strong network.
- Strategic Messaging to the suburban cycling crowd. Canvassing in Coquitlam for the transit referendum was an eye-opening experience that helped me see how far we have to come to have sustainable transportation become mainstream. The type of person that currently cycles or might potentially cycle in the tri-cities is different than in Vancouver.

NAME: Stuart Smith CITY: Vancouver OCCUPATION: Consultant

Stuart grew up in the Yukon, just shy of the arctic circle, and rode a bike whenever he couldn't use a toboggan. A passionate advocate for bicycling and livable cities. He currently works part-time as a consultant and volunteers with organizations working on sustainability. After 10 years working in the technology industry - rarely riding a bike - it was time for a change. In 2014, he left his management position and sold the car, intending to rest and prepare for a new chapter. During the break, he discovered volunteering and reawakened a passion for safe streets and transportation cycling.

**Vision for Cycling:** I want to help people rediscover what streets can be. I believe they can be true public spaces once again, where people may move through on foot or on bicycle, with ease, with safety, and with respect.

## **Brief Employment & Volunteer History:**

Commuter Challenge Coordinator, BEST (paid)

2015

- · contact past participants and new leads. update social media, website. conduct email campaigns to encourage sign up
- database (MySQL) technical support during challenge

Paid Phone and GOTV (Get Out The Vote) Canvasser, Vision Vancouver

2014

• recognized for high call volumes. responsible for high density west end neighbourhood during election day GOTV Volunteer with BEST: Bicycle Valet Volunteer; I.T. Volunteer- Salesforce Configuration 2014

General Manager Western Canada, MICROS Systems

2010-2014

• Implementation of Pipeline Deals management system. Responsible for sales targets. Fostered culture that valued excellent customer service Implementation Manager, MICROS Systems 2006-2010

- · Created and evangelized "order status" Sharepoint site to improve coordination and reduce project communication overhead
- Schedule 20 to 40 concurrent projects for installation teams across Canada to serve customer needs while meeting revenue requirements Implementation Specialist, MICROS Systems 2005-2006
- Consult with customers to design restaurant point of sale systems. Train managers and staff; install and cutover; live day and ongoing support
   "Gadget Guv". YTV Spv Academy
  - Collaborate with producers to create technology driven story lines for reality TV. Secure cooperation of manufacturers for devices.

- Business and operations management: Strong interest in efficient and documented processes; data organization and analysis; General IT, CRM
- Volunteer and member engagement: membership renewal calling w/ HUB

NAME: Fiona Walsh
OCCUPATION: Retired Teacher

CITY: North Vancouver
Current HUB Board Member

Fiona started cycling in September 2009, after 40 years as a Metro Vancouver driver. Living on the North Shore, she felt she needed an electric-assist bicycle, to succeed in changing her mode of transportation. It worked; she let her car insurance expire 2 months later. In 2013, after retiring, she weaned herself off the electric-assist and started to ride a 'normal' urban bike. She now rides all over Metro Vancouver, sometimes using transit for part of the trip. She recently donated her car, which she had kept for occasional use and trips, to the Kidney Foundation. One Less Car, for good.

**Vision for Cycling:** My vision is to have cyclists on equal footing with motorists. That laws are re-written to reflect cyclists and motorists, equally, as road users, and motorists and law enforcement agents to be educated in the needs of cyclists, every 5 years. I'd like to encourage seniors to cycle and to speak up about their cycling needs.

# **Brief Employment and Board/ Volunteer History:**

Board Member: HUB Cycling (volunteer position)

2012 – present

Membership Committee, RAC Committee (North Vancouver, Burnaby + Tri-Cities Committees), Special Events
Board Member: BC Cycling Coalition & Canada Bikes (volunteer positions)

2012 – present
Volunteer, Community Policing Centres. West End Coal Harbour & City of North Vancouver (CNV)

Teacher: Burnaby School District

1987 – 2013

French Second Language, French Immersion, ESL

Chair: Grand Boulevard Ridgeway Residents Association (GBRRA)

Volunteer teacher overseas, BCTF and CTF ESL teacher, VCC (Evening & Summer School) Summers 2006, '08, '09, '12

1970 - 1990

Continuing Education (North Vancouver SD, Vancouver SD, Burnaby SD),

Studio Teacher/ Welfare Worker. (California Credentialed Tutor on film sets)

1989 – 2010

#### Skills:

- community/government networking
- local bicycle advocacy experience
- volunteer and membership engagement

NAME: Derik Wenman OCCUPATION: Accountant

CITY: Vancouver / Surrey

Derik was born and raised in the lower mainland and has lived and worked extensively throughout British Columbia.

A background in both Finance and IT has led him to work in various internet and technology based start-ups and companies. He currently owns and operates a specialized accounting firm based in Surrey and bikes from his home in Vancouver to work on a regular basis. This commute, covering 4 separate municipalities, combined with a desire to explore has given him an appreciation for the diversity and breadth of bicycling opportunities within Metro Vancouver.

**Vision for Cycling:** Bicycling is an incredibly healthy practice, not just for individuals, but for our environment and our communities. I believe HUB can work with residents, business and government to create safe and efficient cycling opportunities for all Metro Vancouver residents.

# **Brief Employment and Volunteer History:**

Consultant, Partner - Luckett Wenman & Associates

2002 - Present

 All aspects of managing a successful small business, working with clients, partners, employees to ensure customer satisfaction. Including public relations, employee management, records management, sales/ marketing, and conflict resolution.

Volunteer with Whistler Olympic. WOP services and rental Shop, on-trail ambassador
Neighborhood Small Grants Program Steering Committee (volunteer position)

2010

IT Manager, Partner – Columbus International Multimedia Inc. 1999 – 2001

 Primary duties included Customer Support, Troubleshooting, Account Setup and Administration, Coordinating with contractors and training employees

Design Consultant - ADM Media

1997-1999

- Duties included website design and maintenance, technical support and hardware/software troubleshooting
- Clients included BCTel, aided in the transition to new corporate identity of Telus

Independent Consultant

1997-2001

Designed websites, scripts, databases, set up domains, servers. Everything required to move companies to an online presence.

Active outdoors enthusiast, I hike, bicycle, paddle, ski (Nordic and downhill) and play tennis and racquetball.

- Having operated private businesses ~20 years, I have a range of experience that would assist HUB in management of its operations. I've both worked with and negotiated agreements with non profits, businesses and government agencies.
- I've resided in a number of municipalities throughout Metro Vancouver, all of which I have bicycled in. Now, as a regular commuter from my home to work through Vancouver, Burnaby, New Westminster and Surrey, I have firsthand experience across this area.

NAME: Valery Ross CITY: Vancouver

**OCCUPATION: Non-profit HR & Volunteer Engagement** 

Valery first discovered cycling for transportation when she moved to Vancouver from Ontario in 2011, and regularly expresses how it changed her life. Valery transitioned from an academic background in conservation biology and mathematics research into the non-profit sector several years ago, and has since worked with a variety of environmental and community engagement focused NGOs in British Columbia. She is passionate about enabling communities to build healthier habits, and envisions a Vancouver where everyone has access to a bicycle, understands its value, and is comfortable riding it for transportation.

**Vision for Cycling:** Bicycles are life-changing machines. Cycling is the healthiest, happiest, greenest, cheapest, (often) fastest, most freedom-inducing, empowering mode of transportation. I want a Vancouver where everyone has access to a bike, understands the diverse benefits, and is comfortable riding it for transportation. I see a Vancouver where cycling is the norm.

#### **Brief Employment and Board/ Volunteer Experience:**

Assistant, Human Resources & Volunteer Engagement: Canadian Cancer Society BC & Yukon Division Mar 2014 - Present

- Chair division-wide Wellness Committee: develop and implement focused programming and wellness initiatives, execute communications
- Manage Staff & Volunteer Awards process: development of processes, facilitation of volunteer committee meetings, liaising with National office.
   Board Secretary/Director: Young Naturalists' Club of BC Society. (Volunteer position)

  May 2014 present
  - o Participate as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee, Re-branding Committee, and Finance & Fundraising Committee

Development Assistant: David Suzuki Foundation (contract work)

ising Committee 2014

Receive and process donations, steward relationships with donors and stakeholders, manage development volunteer team

Marine Planning Research Volunteer, Living Oceans Society, Vancouver BC (Volunteer) 2013 – March 2014

o Provide research & data management support for a study of economic value of the recreation industry in local Marine Protected Areas Public Engagement Volunteer, David Suzuki Foundation (volunteer)

July – Dec 2013

Development Volunteer, David Suzuki Foundation, Vancouver BC (volunteer)

Nov 2012 - Feb 2014

• Steward the foundation's donor community by providing customized communications to ensure all donors are engaged

Research Assistant: Mathematical Modelling of the Human Papillomavirus, University of Ottawa 2009-2010

Student Researcher: Cetacean Conservation, Taiwan 2009

### Skills:

- Through community engagement experiences within Vancouver's non-profit sector, I've gained exposure to fundraising strategies and stakeholder engagement programs, and best practices in volunteer management & NGO governance.
- Through my work with the HR team at the Canadian Cancer Society I have developed strong HR management, strategic
  planning, communication and volunteer engagement skills.
- o I am a passionate learner and eager to commit my time, energy and enthusiasm to propelling HUB's mission forward.

NAME: Ryan Chynces
OCCUPATION: Education Manager

I am Education Manager for Hootsuite University - the educational arm of Hootsuite, a web-based social relationship platform. The bulk of my professional experience comes from higher education publishing, having spent ~10 years as Acquisitions Editor. I have extensive knowledge in a wide range of academic disciplines: politics, communications, education, social work, anthropology, history, philosophy. I keep a blog on deep history and human evolution. In addition to having a strong audio recording/ arranging background, I'm also into all things fitness and play a number of sports, competitively and recreationally. My proudest moment recently: climbing the CN Tower in 15:57 minutes.

**Vision for Cycling:** I am passionate about inspiring others to cycle. I often find minor logistical concerns keep people off their bikes, tethered to their automobiles. By helping people work through these issues, I want to work toward Metro Vancouver as a region where cycling is the dominant mode of travel, with a formidable network of bike routes to match.

### **Brief Employment and Board/ Volunteer History:**

Education Manager at Hootsuite Media Inc.

May 2014 - Present

**CITY: Vancouver** 

- Research and design educational content on Hootsuite products and the business applications of social media.
- O I also provide voice acting for Hootsuite educational videos my voice work has appeared on over 30 Hootsuite videos. See http://ow.ly/Rjp7u
- Lead, Hootsuite Educational Advisory Board (volunteer position)

Project Manager, Client Solutions Team at Fusion Learning

May 2013 - April 2014

- O Responsible for bringing sales training programs to fruition for corporate clients. This involved managing internal resources, budgets, timelines Acquisitions Editor, Social Sciences at Wilfrid Laurier University Press April 2010 May 2013
  - O Research, acquire, develop and edit scholarly and educational content. Collaborate on marketing/ sales efforts for all books & e-books produced.
  - o Wilfrid Laurier University Bookstore Advisory Committee (volunteer position)

Acquisitions Editor at Oxford University Press Canada

Nov 2007 - Aug 2009

 Responsible for management of, and acquisition of book projects in, the following disciplines: Philosophy, Education, Music, English, Film, and Communications. I also assisted with managing the sales team and worked closely with Marketing to develop materials for key books.

Philosophy Editor / Sales Representative at Broadview Press

Sept 2003 - Nov 2007

- My professional & volunteer skillset would best be utilized in the service of public/media relations & strategic messaging.
- My current work in the social media industry (Hootsuite), experience with project management, and 10 years as an Editor in the book publishing industry have provided me with formidable communications skills.
- o For more info, please see: about.me/ryan.chynces