Jim Burbee

The set of questions below can be, but are not required to be, addressed in your biography.

- What background and experiences would you bring to the board?
  Ski facility design & construction, competitions experience, level III cross country official, level III cross country coach (retired).
  Bachelor of Science in Forestry, 25 years forest industry operations, policy and law.
  Forestry Consultant 25 years. Forest tenure, forest & landscape level planning, forest policy analysis, woodlot management, road engineering.
- Have you served on the CNSC board or other boards before (describe)?

  CNSC board multiple years, Cross Country BC board multiple years, Engage Sport board multiple years, various small business company boards, seed orchard company board.

  What are your reasons for offering to serve on the board?

  To continue working on facility improvements, land tenure management, CNSC sponsored competitions, club plans & governance.
- What would you hope to accomplish as a board member?

  Meaningful contributions to the above.
- In your view, what is the responsibility of a board member? **Provide guidance in areas of expertise, promote opportunities to enhance the club and its services.**
- In light of club purposes as outlined in the Constitution (link below), what opportunities and challenges do you see facing the club and think the club should address? **Secure land tenure and development options for programs, casual/recreational facility users, and competitions at multiple levels.**

  The club's purposes are established in the Constitution available at this link:https://caledonianordic.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2017-2018-cnsc-constitution.pdf

Completing a biography indicates your agreement to have this information publicly posted on the CNSC website.

Candidate Profile – President

Kevin Charlston

As a Professional Forester and Prince George resident for 19 years, I have a strong connection to the outdoors and our local community. I have been a member of the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club (CNSC) for 17 years and remain an active year-round user of the Otway trails. The Club has also been an important part of my family's life, giving me a personal appreciation for the value it brings to our community.

Since joining the CNSC Board of Directors in October 2024, I have been committed to helping the Club build on its strengths and prepare for the future. Serving as President over the past year has provided an opportunity to work closely with our Board, General Manager, staff, volunteers, and community partners to strengthen governance, support effective operations, and advance key strategic priorities.

I believe CNSC plays an essential role in promoting healthy lifestyles, outdoor recreation, and community connection. Its programs and facilities provide opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to participate in sport, develop new skills, and enjoy the outdoors. Maintaining and growing these opportunities is central to my commitment to the Club.

Looking ahead, my priorities include:

- Strengthening financial stability and operational effectiveness to support the Club's future.
- Investing in responsible facility management and making Otway more accessible and welcoming to everyone.
- Building stronger connections with members and supporting the volunteers who are fundamental to the Club's success.
- Working with community organizations, government, and other Nordic clubs to create opportunities and advance shared objectives.
- Supporting programs that encourage participation, develop athletes, and foster a lifelong connection to sport.

CNSC has a strong foundation, but continued success will require thoughtful planning, sound governance, and a willingness to adapt. Changing environmental conditions, growing facility demands, and evolving member expectations present both challenges and opportunities. I believe the Board must balance long-term strategic direction with practical decisions that serve our members while supporting our staff and volunteers.

I would welcome the opportunity to continue serving as President, working collaboratively with the Board and membership to strengthen the Club and ensure Otway remains a valued recreational and sporting resource for our community for years to come.

Logan Cox - Candidate Biography, Director at Large

I grew up in Kimberley, where I started skiing in the Jackrabbits program, but Otway has been part of my life for as long as I can remember. With family in Prince George and plenty of races here over the years, it has always felt like my home trails, and for the past few years living in PG it's been where I ski every week!

I spent about five years on the national para ski team, competing mainly in cross-country as a standing para athlete, with some biathlon as well. Highlights include winning three national championships and racing at the Canada Games in PEI. Facilities like Otway, and the people who run them, are a big reason why athletes get to that level and I am forever grateful.

These days I'm studying civil engineering at UNBC and working, so my racing is limited to the odd loppet and a few races with the UNBC team last year. I still get out on the trails every chance I get, because I love the sport.

I served as Director at Large last season and would like to continue. I like bringing a younger perspective to the board, and I'm especially interested in two things: making Otway more accessible for adaptive skiers, and getting more UNBC students and young people out on the trails and involved in the club. Board experience is also something I value as I work toward a career in engineering.

Thanks for considering me. See you out there on the trails!

Biography

Che Elkin

I grew up in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan and taught myself how to ski on the prairie river behind our house. I have never competed in cross-country skiing but have enjoyed it as a recreational activity throughout my life. I have had the opportunity to ski at a wide range of areas throughout Canada (in Saskatchewan, Ontario and Alberta) and in central Europe, and have had the pleasure of experiencing a range of facilities and ski-community cultures. In 2015 I and my family moved to Prince George for work at UNBC. We quickly realized that CNSC was a world class facility and a great place to take young children for outdoor fun.

I have never served on the CNSC board, but have served on the board of directors for both professional and non-profit organizations (e.g. John Prince Research Forest). I and my family greatly enjoy skiing and biking at Otway, and I'd like to contribute to maintaining and advancing the CNSC so that it continues to be an exceptional facility. Based on my experience, the role of a board member is to help organize and direct the large number of activities that are essential for the continued operation of a club such as CNSC. This involves helping facilitate larger events and large fund-raising activities, but also making sure that smaller and everyday tasks are manage in a way that promotes the club's objectives and build a sense of club community.

CNSC caters to a diverse community, which is one of its strengths. As a board member I would like to see a continuation of outreach activities that are aimed at broadening the diversity of people using and enjoying the facility. An ongoing, and inherent, challenge for CNSC is dealing with seasonal snow uncertainty and variable climate conditions. This is also a challenge for the CNSC board as they will need to decide how to advance facility development and maintenance that will be impacted by environmental changes.

To the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club Members

Vonda Hofferd

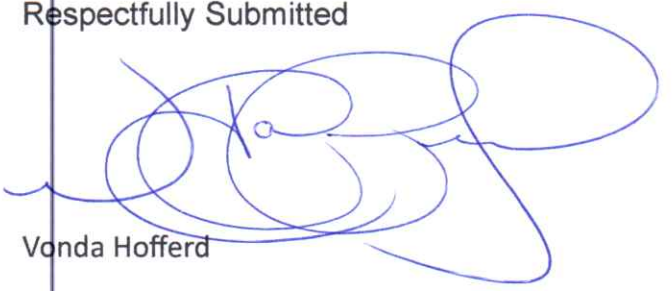
RE: Seeking re-election to the Board of Directors in the position of Vice-President.

After serving for the past year as Vice-President I have reached two very important conclusions. There is a very steep learning curve for new members and we as a Board still have much to accomplish.

My first concern is listening to the members needs and adjusting to what the club as a whole will need. Working with management and staff to stay current with the day-to-day demands, expanding programs to become a year-round revenue generating club, and updating the necessary guidelines as to how our club functions and meets its' mission has been your boards diligent focus. The level of dedication, knowledge, and determination of this board is one of the reasons I have put my name forward to the membership for re-election.

The 30 years of knowledge I have gained being co-owner of a manufacturing company in conjunction with the experience of sitting on the board over the last year gives me the drive and enthusiasm to do more. Together we can do so much more.

Respectfully Submitted



Vonda Hofferd

Colburn Pearce

Colburn Pearce has been connected to the club's trails since the age of six, with his whole family making use of them for skiing in the winter and biking in the summer. A lifelong athlete, Colburn competed, including representing Team BC and playing basketball at the University of Northern British Columbia. Now he continues to utilize the trails for skiing in the winter and using the club's trails for biking and disc golf in the summer months.

Beginning in 2025 Colburn has been a member of the CNSC board as a director at large. Within his role on the board Colburn has been involved in the club's facilities. Working along side John, Peter and his other board members to help ensure the organization's buildings and infrastructure were properly maintained, safe, and able to support current and future operational needs. His responsibilities included reviewing maintenance and capital improvement plans, monitoring facility-related budgets, assessing risk and safety considerations, and contributing to long-term planning for repairs, renovations, and asset management. Through this work, he helped ensure the organization's facilities remained functional, sustainable, and aligned with its strategic objectives.

Colburn is interested in continuing to support the long-term stewardship of the organization's facilities. He looks forward to contributing to capital planning, preventative maintenance initiatives, and facility improvement projects that help protect the organization's assets, provide safe and welcoming spaces for members, and ensure facilities continue to meet the needs of the community for years to come

Professionally, Colburn is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA). He looks forward to combining his professional expertise with his lifelong connection to the trails to support the club's growth and ensure it continues to provide opportunities for members of all ages and abilities.

Gretchen Prystawik

Candidate Biography, Secretary, 2026-2027 Caledonia Nordic Ski Club Board of Directors

“Otway is the reason I’m still in Prince George.”
This is something I hear often, and it makes me incredibly proud to be part of such an important cornerstone of our community. Like many others, I have chosen to make Prince George my home in part because of the exceptional facilities, programs, and sense of community that I have found at CNSC.

I am passionate about contributing to an organization that strengthens individuals, families, partnerships, and our broader community. It has been both an honour and a privilege to serve three previous terms as Secretary. During that time, I have been especially proud of the accomplishments achieved through the collective efforts of the Board, volunteers, and staff. These include enhancing member engagement through surveys and outreach, improving communication, updating bylaws and governance policies, and investing in critical facility maintenance, infrastructure upgrades, and new amenities.

If re-elected as Secretary, I look forward to continuing to support effective governance and policy development, contributing to strategic planning initiatives, and helping foster a strong, inclusive, and member-focused community at CNSC. I remain committed to ensuring the organization continues to thrive as a welcoming place for recreation, connection, and community building for years to come.

Paul Schuetz has been a resident of Prince George for over 30 years and a member of the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club since approximately 2007. He has been an active volunteer at Otway for many years, including working with the course crew during cross-country ski and biathlon events.

Paul is a familiar face at the club throughout both the winter and summer seasons, enjoying the cross-country skiing, mountain biking, and hiking opportunities that Otway provides to the Prince George community. He is passionate about the success of local athletes and recognizes that their achievements are supported by the quality of the facilities, trails, and people behind them.

Paul has served on the CNSC Board of Directors for the past three years as Trails Director. When he isn't skiing or volunteering at Otway, Paul is a Vice President with Industrial Forestry Service Ltd. (IFS) in Prince George.

SHANE SIENAERT

TREASURER

Shane was born and raised in Prince George and has spent his life in Northern BC. He believes that strong community organizations make a place worth living in, and he has given much of his volunteer time to helping them run well.

Shane is an Associate Portfolio Manager and Financial Advisor with more than 20 years of experience in financial services, serving individuals, families and business owners across the North. His expertise covers financial planning, investment management, tax and estate planning, insurance and risk management, and he understands how these areas work together over the long term. He holds an MBA from the University of Northern British Columbia, along with the CFP®, CIM®, CIWM® and FCSI® designations.

Shane also has extensive experience in nonprofit governance. He spent more than a decade on the board of a local charitable society, including several years as President, where he oversaw budgets, organizational risk and strategic planning. As Treasurer of the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club, he is responsible for the club's financial reporting, budgeting and fiscal health. He combines professional expertise with a practical sense of how volunteer-driven organizations work.

When he's not working or volunteering, you'll find Shane out on the trails. He's proud to support a club that keeps Nordic skiing accessible and brings the community together.

20+

years in financial services

10+

years in nonprofit board leadership, including as President

CREDENTIALS

MBA, University of Northern British Columbia

CFP® · CIM® · CIWM® · FCSI®

Biography for: Christopher Simons

For Position as: Director At Large

Background and Experience

- I have been a member since 2018 and have volunteered for numerous biathlon events held at CNSC
- I held the Director of Competitions position with CNSC last year (2025-2026)
- I held the position of Construction Manager working for CNSC on the Paved Trails project built in 2024.
- I am a registered Applied Science Technologists and have worked in the Civil Construction Industry for over 30 years in progressive positions starting in Estimating to Project Management to Senior Management.
- I have volunteered on my Condo board for the past 4 years.

Reason to Serve

- I enjoyed my first year on the board working towards improving budgeting and identifying revenue opportunities that will aide in maintaining our facilities.
- I want to serve on the board because I believe CNSC provides tremendous opportunities for the residents of Prince George and the region and I want to see that continue and grow.
- I enjoy the social and physical environment of CNSC and I want to see Caledonia continue to be a place where people new to skiing, biathlon, hiking and biking feel comfortable to use the trails and also where high level athletes feel challenged to train and compete.

Board Member Responsibility

- Board members work as a team to help guide the direction of CNSC. Board members listen to the membership's concerns/ideas, support the maintenance, development and growth of facilities and programs.

biography. David Snadden

- **What background and experiences would you bring to the board?**

I have been an academic for 30 years and have worked with many diverse groups and chaired many committees and meetings over that time. Recently in my work with the Rural Coordination Centre of BC I have been involved in their community engagement process which is founded on the principle of developing strong relationships and ensuring all perspectives on improving rural health care are heard in order to find an agreed path forward.

- **Have you served on the CNSC board or other boards before (describe)?**

I served on the Board as a member at large in 2025 and 2026 and was previously a board member in 2022 but had to leave due to personal circumstances. I was a member of the by law committee during 2024 and 2025. I have chaired many committees through my time in senior leadership roles at the Northern Medical Program and at UBC.

- **What are your reasons for offering to serve on the board?**

I have worked with the university since coming to Prince George in 2003 and the ski club was one of the facilities in PG that attracted me and my wife to feel we could move here. I have skied here every season and volunteered at lots of events. I am a recreational skier and ski every day during ski season when I am in town and ski all the trails at CNSC. I particularly enjoy the race maze and the upper trails like Hickory wing and birch bend etc. I have been very impressed at how the club has developed over the years into one of the best Nordic ski clubs in Canada and I would be happy to be on the board to support the club as a valuable community asset.

- **What would you hope to accomplish as a board member?**

If I was re-elected to the board I would want to see us continue to support and develop the club as a significant community asset, one which provides social connections and exercise opportunities for all age groups and is also a safe place for children and youth to learn new recreational skills and make long term friends, something lacking in many parts of current society. In addition to this the club is an important

recruitment and retention asset for lots of roles in the community and is also now a nationally recognised facility that athletes from across Canada want to come to for training camps and competitions in both summer and winter. I would see myself as a member at large whose role would be to support and help the other Board members to continue to develop the club for all members. Over the last two years I have developed a deep respect for their commitment to the board and for the very healthy discussions they have been having about how to develop projects, sustain the club, support our amazing volunteers and engage with members.

- **In your view, what is the responsibility of a board member?**

I see the responsibility of a board member to uphold the constitution and to look to the future in terms of developing the club so that it provides good recreational opportunities for all members. This means supporting recreational skiers, those who compete at all levels of competitions and also summer recreational activities. Member engagement and the development of policies that create a supportive, respectful and friendly club culture for all members and staff is also a responsibility. I also feel board members need to be very supportive of the Lhedli T'enneh first nation and engage with them. They also need to be aware of any conflicts of interest they have and be transparent about them and set them aside so that decisions are made from a neutral collaborative perspective. In that respect my daughter is one of the coaches, her husband volunteers a lot and all three of their daughters are competitive skiers.

- **In light of club purposes as outlined in the Constitution (link below), what opportunities and challenges do you see facing the club and think the club should address?**

I think we have a wonderful opportunity to continue to develop our valuable community asset and the board committees such as the policy committee are doing really good work on this as well as continuing to build our partnerships with other organisations.

Patrick Turner

Recently, I was running up and over Birch Bend with our dog Molly on a beautiful sunny fall afternoon. I stopped (huffing and puffing) to reflect on what was around me, 20 minutes from downtown and 15 minutes from our back door. I passed a massive Douglas fir, the deep grooves of time etched in its bark as it towered above me, evoked a poem by Wendell Berry 'The Sycamore'. As I breathed in the fresh air, peace and gratitude emanated. Grateful for the trail development and expansion. A silent acknowledgement to the Lheidli T'enneh people followed. Maybe this is what heaven looks like.

The forests of trees, shrubs, mosses and fungi; the trails, glades, rivulets, animals and birds have created a sanctuary in life. For those that spend time on these trails those connections are both fueling and healing.

Layered on top of this natural community is the community of human connections that we have experienced through Otway.

Caledonia Nordic Ski Center CNSC or Otway as we know it at our kitchen table has been a 'home' for our family for almost 25 years. CNSC is a significant reason why we have chosen to make Prince George (PG) our home. When we first arrived in PG we skied at Otway in the winter from the solitary log cabin/lodge. Rarely, we ran the trails in summer or fall and seldom outside of winter did we see another car in the parking lot. Dogs were discouraged. In the last 15 years Otway has really been 'discovered' by our local community. Guided by creative leadership whose vision through the years has been both thoughtful and progressive, Otway is now busy throughout the year and changes with all four seasons. An important part of this process of growth has been the open opportunity for members of the CNSC community to provide constructive feedback and commentary to proposed programs or projects. Today, we as members of CNSC are the fortunate recipients and the stewards of Otway which represents the land, the facilities, the people (managers, members, coaches, athletes, volunteers), the programs and the positive, healthy and inclusive culture that has been created. Mind. Body. Soul.

Otway has become much more than a recreation center. It is wonderful to see that Otway is the backdrop for the collaboration between the Lheidli T'enneh and SD 57 that has developed the Land Based Learning for kids to experience learning outdoors and the natural world that surrounds them.

I admire the strong leadership and work that continues with the Schools Ski Program. These groups fill the winter mornings at Otway with laughter, excitement, comradery, physical activity and images of coaches shepherding kids on skis to the wonders of Otway.

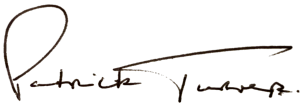
Our family's experience reflects that the success of the Ski Development Program (Bunnies and Jack Rabbits) is a key foundational experience for both skiers and parents in building the future of CNSC. It is essential that the SDP be supported to thrive and grow.

CNSC has the best competition and training facilities in Canada and continues to attract provincial, national and international events to PG. Athletes, coaches and parents love coming to train and compete in PG/Otway. This is a result of the vision and collective effort behind building snow making capacity, the high quality surface and terrain of the paved trails, the high quality of snow grooming for races and the volunteer event organization commitment that provide the best competitive experiences. I support the vision that CNSC become a National Nordic Training Centre that would attract elite level coaches and athletes who could combine education (post secondary CNC, UNBC) and superlative training conditions.

The CNSC membership continues to grow as one of the largest Nordic ski clubs in Canada. I would support free membership for our Indigenous communities, to encourage more open access to this amazing facility built within their ancestral lands.

Through my athletic and professional experiences I have enjoyed and thrived in the team environment. It would be my honour to contribute my skills, knowledge, energy and love of Otway as a valued member of the CNSC board.

Sincerely,



Patrick Turner

Jeni Wigelsworth

I am proud to have served as Program Director on the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club (CNSC) Board of Directors for the 2025/2026 season and am seeking the opportunity to continue this work in 2026/2027. My time on the Board has provided me with a strong understanding of CNSC's policies, processes, and programs, as well as the priorities and initiatives already underway. This experience would allow me to provide continuity while continuing to contribute thoughtfully to the work of the Board. As Program Director, I have also gained valuable insight into the strengths of CNSC's programs and opportunities for continued growth and improvement. I am keen to build on this experience and support the ongoing delivery of high-quality, accessible programs for CNSC members and the broader community.

I have been an active CNSC member since moving to Prince George in 2017. My family and I enjoy the club year-round through skiing and biking, I volunteer at club events, and my children have participated in the Skills Development Program since they've been old enough to participate. These experiences have given me a strong personal connection to the club and an appreciation for the important role it plays in our community.

Professionally, my background is in social work, and my current work includes policy development and interpretation. I bring a strategic approach to governance, decision-making, transparency, and accountability. I have also served on the Board of Directors of a women-serving organization as both a Member at Large and Board President, providing me with experience in nonprofit governance, leadership, and advocacy.

I am seeking another term because I believe strongly in CNSC's mission and its role in fostering recreation, community connection, and healthy, active lifestyles. I hope to contribute to the club's continued growth and sustainability through inclusive programming, sound governance, responsible stewardship, and meaningful community engagement.