










Toronto Club Board Biographies - 2023



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	<p>David Royle - President</p> <p>David's association with the Toronto Bruce Trail Club began in 1984, when he undertook a teacher exchange at the Island Natural Science school. David and his wife Brenda introduced their young family to all that the club has to offer – the sense of community, coupled with fun, exploration and exercise. David was formerly the Club's Hiking Director and Vice President. As President, David is keen that we continue to develop a culture in which everyone's view counts.</p>
	<p>Graham Allen – Past President</p> <p>Graham has been a BTC member for ten years and a TBTC board member for five years. He has served as Volunteer Coordinator, Vice President and as President from 2018-2021. Graham has extensive non profit and industry association board experience. He currently works for the Ontario Public Service and prior to that in the Canadian resource industry. Graham completed the Bruce Trail End to End in 2014 and may eventually complete his second E2E in 2022.</p>
	<p>Louise Kent – VP and Membership Director</p> <p>Louise Kent joined the Toronto Bruce Trail Club Board as the Membership Director in 2021. After completing a solo End to End of the Toronto section, she knew it was something special! Louise holds an MBA from the Ivey School of Business, as well as a degree in Environmental Studies and International Development from University of Guelph. She currently oversees Membership Experience for Girl Guides of Canada. Louise resides in Toronto with her two young children, partner and little dog, Rex, all of whom enjoy hiking the Bruce Trail!</p>

	<p>Margaret Corner - Treasurer</p> <p>Margaret joined the BTC in 2015 and the Toronto Bruce Trail Club Board of Directors as Treasurer in 2020. She is also a member of the Club's Nominating Committee, Chair of the Badge Committee and Club Archivist. Margaret holds a CPA, CA and recently retired from a 40-year career in Finance. Margaret has also served on the Board of Directors as the Treasurer for other not-for-profit organizations. Margaret is passionate about hiking and can be found hiking the Bruce Trail in her spare time.</p>
	<p>Rhea Rasquinha - Secretary</p> <p>Rhea joined the Toronto Bruce Trail Club Board as Secretary in 2021. She holds the CPA designation, and her work background includes roles at various public sector organizations to provide advisory and consulting services. She also manages Rhea's Events, an event planning venture, specializing in wedding coordination. Rhea enjoys spending time outdoors; hiking, cycling and escaping into nature. She is always on the lookout for new trails to explore around Ontario, and aims to complete her first End to End of the Bruce Trail.</p>
	<p>Karen Hanson – Volunteer Director</p> <p>Karen became a member of the BTC in 2017. She is passionate about volunteering and learning new things. She has joined the Board as the Volunteer Coordinator and is also serving on the BTC's new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee. With over 20 years of experience in not-for-profit roles, including serving on the Board and committees of the Junior League of Toronto, Karen is a seasoned veteran when it comes to community engagement. Her dedication to public service also extends to her professional life, where she is a committed public servant in the federal government. Being in the outdoors is important to her so Karen always finds time to explore by participating in our urban walks and bus hikes.</p>

	<p>Alina Lin – Membership Director</p> <p>Alina joined the BTC in 2014 and became a Hike Leader in 2015. Known as an “End to End” challenger, Alina has led and finished a series of End to End challenges of Bruce Trail, Oak Ridges Trail, Ganaraska Hiking Trail and Grand Valley Trail. She joined the Board of Directors as the Membership Director in 2016 and later as the Public Relations and Education Director in 2020. Alina has also volunteered on a few committees including Hike-A-Thon, Hike Leader Training, Hiker Initiation Program, Nominating Committee and Badge Committee. With a background of marketing and communications and an MBA, Alina has applied creativity, strategy and leadership in every capacity and made an impact in enhancing awareness, organizing events, membership engagement, and community outreach for the Club.</p>
	<p>Tom Swales – Hiking Director</p> <p>Tom joined the TBTC in 1983 after an urban hike in the Rosedale Ravines which was promoted to the public. He was intrigued by the opportunity to get out on the Bruce Trail, which he had experienced through Scouts Canada and a hiking club in High School ("The Bruce Trail Trekkies"), and also that the club offered organized hikes right in the City of Toronto. Attending both Bus Hikes and Urban Hikes every week led to his passion for hiking and and awareness of the value of preserving the Niagara Escarpment which he shares with everyone he encounters in his everyday life. After completing Hike Leader Training in 2016 he has led many Urban Hikes in communities throughout the GTA, all accessible by public transit as he believes those without a car should have the chance to explore a variety of natural areas and what other communities have to offer. There is often an optional stop at local brewery or pub for a chance to socialize which he believes is an important aspect of an organized hike. Tom has been involved in trail maintenance in the Peninsula Section, the TBTC Hiker Initiation Program, organizing hikes for the TBTC's Diversity Initiative and new Canadian students, and helping Hike Leaders with the transition to the BTC Unified Hike schedule. Tom is committed to diversity and making all feel welcome on the club's hikes.</p>

	<p>Juliet Williams – Special Events Director</p> <p>Juliet Williams is a Realtor and Educator who has a great love for the outdoors. She was introduced to the Bruce Trail Conservancy by a friend in 2016, and has been a member of the Toronto Club since then. Juliet later joined the board as a Special Events Coordinator to give back to a great organization. She enjoys working with a warm and welcoming community of hikers.</p>
	<p>Peter Pritchard – Landowner Relations Director</p> <p>Peter Pritchard grew up on a dairy/beef farm in the Ottawa Valley. His career in Project Management in the Telecom industry took him around the world enabling he and his family to live in nine different countries, work in 27 countries and visit 77 countries in total! After moving to Georgetown in 2010, he discovered the Bruce Trail, joining in 2012. He is Director of Land Owner Relations and Land Acquisition for the Toronto Section. He and his wife, Gail, maintain the section north of Limehouse. He is in his happy place as a sawyer on the trail!</p>
	<p>Laurent Thibault – Trail Maintenance Director</p> <p>Laurent received his 15-year BTC volunteer certificate in 2021. He is also a certified sawyer, and has been very active in trail maintenance work parties around Georgetown, where he lives. In April 2021, he took over from Marlis Butcher the role of Trail development and Maintenance Director for the Toronto section. An economist by profession, Laurent participates in many community organizations, and has extensive experience in governance, particularly for non-profit organizations.</p>

	<p>Neal Stein – Land Management Committee Director</p> <p>Neal has enjoyed hiking and volunteering for work on the Bruce trail for many years. He is a trail captain and for the last year has been chairman of the Land Management Committee (LMC) of the Toronto Bruce trail section. The LMC oversees many of the issues not involving organizing hiking trips that come up. He is looking forward to working with all to further the BTC mission of preserving and enhancing our ribbon of wilderness for all to enjoy for years to come.</p>
	<p>David Rowney – Communications Director</p> <p>David is responsible for the Club's monthly newsletter, web news and social media channels, aided with a skilled team of volunteers. He has been Communications Director and Trail Captain since 2020 and a member since 2012. Originally from Toronto, he is a long-time Georgetown resident who has hiked extensively along the Toronto BTC section with his family. David's work background includes 10 years as a reporter/editor and 30 years as a public relations executive.</p>
	<p>Rose-Mary Mitter – Land Stewardship Director</p> <p>Rose-Mary Mitter is the Club's Land Stewardship Director, a role she assumed in 2021. She has been a long-time volunteer for the Toronto Club and has dedicated her time to areas where there has been a need. She recently retired, having worked in school libraries and as office manager for private software company. Rose-Mary started hiking the Bruce Trail in the 90s and volunteering with the Flying Squad. She has been a Trail Captain since the late 90s. Additionally Rose-Mary was hike leader for a few years but became more involved in Trail Maintenance and was Trail Maintenance Director, continuing now as a Trail Captain coordinator.</p>