

## 2023-2024 Unity Canada Board of Directors

**Rev. David Old**, Unity Windsor

**President** 

Rev. David Old has been involved and engaged in all aspects of Unity ministry for over thirty years.

The 2023-24 term marks his third year as a Unity Canada Board member where he contributes his skills in leadership, management and operations honed through 19 years in food services and real estate sales and development. He has previously served the Board as Member at Large and Vice President.

Since 2017 he has been the Minister of Unity Spiritual Centre Windsor where, supported by a strong core of volunteers, he has championed the spiritual community's strong online presence, SpiritGroups, community outreach and joint projects with other ministries and spiritual communities.

Community involvement and contribution is important to Rev. David. He has been a guest speaker, mentor to LUT students, and taught Enneagram classes. He has a particular interest in non-violence and human rights.

## Claude Pellerin, Unity Calgary

Vice President

Claude Pellerin has been a member of Unity of Calgary Spiritual Community for 11 years including two years as Board Secretary, one year as Vice President, and three years as Board President. After serving two three-year terms he stepped down from the Board for a year and has now returned to serve one year of a third term as Secretary.

As the founder of Constructive Progressive Learning (CPL) Seminars and Workshops, Claude designed and managed a safety initiation program for inexperienced construction workers. Claude has decades of experience in bringing out the best in people through program design, training and mentoring.

Claude's experience in building bridges in the concrete world provides him with solid metaphors for his Unity Canada Board work: for the past several years the Board has focused on building and strengthening bridges between our Canadian spiritual communities.

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#### Cheryl Rodgers, Unity Kitchener

#### **Treasurer**

Cheryl's Unity journey began in 2006, launching an inspiring time of ever-higher callings that has led her to her current position of Spiritual Leader/Ministerial Coordinator of Unity Kitchener. Here she has been instrumental in fostering an environment of spiritual growth and community connection. Notably, Cheryl launched the SpiritGroups program after completing the SpiritGroup leader trainer under the guidance of founder Mendhi Audlin.

The Covid-19 pandemic saw Cheryl use her adaptability and visionary leadership to rise to the challenge of transitioning Unity Kitchener's SpiritGroup program to a virtual platform. Collaborating with Unity Ottawa and Unity Spiritual Centre of Windsor, Cheryl played a key role in extending the program online, fostering connections across spiritual communities.

Beyond her local impact, Cheryl co-hosts the Spiritual Café Show on New Thought Media Network and also currently serves on the UWM SpiritGroup Advisory Team.

#### Debbie Long, LUT, Unity Halton Peel

#### Secretary

Debbie (she/her) has been a member of the Unity movement since 2002, receiving her Licensed Unity Teacher (LUT) status in 2021.

She currently serves as a Licensed Unity Teacher with Unity Halton Peel and serves on the Unity York Region Steering Committee.

Debbie's many talents and skills include being a Sound Healer and a Spiritual Life Coach. She supports and empowers her clients to move beyond their blocks and stand in their authentic truth. She's also a spiritual singer and songwriter which brings her great joy.

When Debbie is not writing and singing inspiring music for her own pleasure or for audiences, she shares what she has learned through Unity by speaking, teaching, and facilitating book studies. She is presently enrolled in the Spiritual Direction program with Unity Worldwide Ministries.

#### Janet Law, Unity Vancouver Member at Large

Janet was the administrative and program assistant in Unity of Vancouver for many years. Currently she works in the healthcare field as a practitioner and facilitator.

She is a lifelong Unity student and teacher, and has attended numerous SEE (Spiritual Education & Enrichment) classes through Unity Worldwide Ministries as part of the licensed teacher program. She builds practical, everyday curriculum for the many classes she offers.

Janet believes in conscious community: when we collectively work and serve, we are as one in harmony. As a consciousness teacher and leader, Janet embraces life with vitality and resonance.

She has a background in not only spiritual study and transformational models of education, but also in the creative arts. Her fun facts about herself include being in a rowboat with Jim Carrey and conversations with Robin Williams.

## **Rev. Thomas DeSchutter**, Unity Vancouver Island *Member at Large*

Rev. Thomas is the assistant minister at Unity Vancouver Island. He coaches and works closely with families, business owners, and individuals in the areas of financial abundance, spiritual development, and business conflict resolution.

He is a strong advocate for proper board governance and has served on numerous business and community focussed boards.

He is a family man, entrepreneur, and award-winning musician living on the west coast of Canada. "Everything we want for ourselves and for our lives comes from within.

# **Rev. Vicki Vanderhorst**, Freelance Minister *Member at Large*

Rev. Vicki first came to Unity in 1980 in Victoria, BC. She was inspired and supported by the Unity principles and after experiencing how they made a difference in her life, made a commitment to be part of the Unity movement in some way.

She was an active member of Unity Victoria for about 20 years, serving in a variety of roles including Spiritual Leader. She became a Licensed Unity Teacher in 2001. In 2009 Vicki moved to the Comox Valley and in 2015 was ordained.

Vicki served on the Unity Canada board for six years and is now a freelance minister serving the Unity movement in a variety of ways. She is committed to living the spiritual principles, being kind to herself when she falls short, and encouraging others to find ways to express their own unique divine expression.