



To all Academy members:

On the pages following is a proposed slate of new officers whom the current Board has recommended to fill positions of responsibility and become directors on the 2021-2022 Board. The biographies of our members who have volunteered to serve on our Board are provided.

According to our bylaws nominations for all positions are welcomed from the floor at our Annual General Meeting. If you wish to volunteer for a leadership role, or if you wish to nominate another Academy member for a position, please contact me as soon as possible.

The vote for all volunteered and nominated future Board members will take place remotely at our upcoming AGM.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Doug Wilson  
Past President

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## **Proposed Slate of New Officers for 2021-2022**

### **Vice President**

**John Weatherburn** retired from IT in 2013, following a career with several software companies including managing staff and clients around the world who used the company's financial software. An excuse to travel. He joined the Academy after retiring and has been involved with several committees (Membership, Communications, Special Events/Walks, relocation from Knox). He has helped lead workshops on Photography and on Toronto neighbourhoods. Outside of the Academy, his main passion is photography, particularly with the Toronto Digital Photography Club, as past president and now an Honorary Life Member. Photography is also an excuse to get outdoors and explore the world.... or locally these days. Also the family keeps growing: the fourth grandchild is due later this year.

### **Treasurer**

**Peter Drumm** joined the Academy in 2020. He is a graduate of University College Dublin and worked as a Chartered Accountant early in his career in Dublin and Toronto. He retired in 2020 following a 35-year career with RBC that was primarily focused on the Capital Markets and Wealth Management businesses. Peter is an avid tennis player and serves on the Board of his local tennis club. Since retiring, Peter is learning French and enjoying taking other online courses. He is pleased to join the Board of the Academy as Assistant Treasurer and looks forward to becoming more involved with the group.

### **Assistant Treasurer**

**Bill Moore** has been an Academy member for many years and has previously served on the board as Treasurer and is currently on the Membership committee. His career was in finance and accounting. Before retiring he worked for a large commercial real estate company and finished his career with not-for-profit microcredit organization.

### **Secretary**

**Judith Kennedy** has been a member of the Academy for several years, taking workshops on literature and history. Soon after she joined the Academy, she became a member of the Special Events Committee, first as a committee member

and then as the Assistant Chair, Chair and Past Chair. She has enjoyed the Academy very much and believes that it is time to get involved again in the workings of the Academy. Her background includes teaching in the York-Seneca Rehabilitation Program and working in the field of Vocational Rehabilitation. Her interests include reading, walks, knitting, and rug hooking.

### **Assistant Secretary**

**Christopher (Chris) Marston** emigrated from England to Canada in 1950. He received his post-secondary education at St. Patrick's College and worked for MacLean Hunter, the University of Toronto Press and then, for the last twenty-five years of working life, at the Canadian Actors' Equity Association where he served as Executive Director for four years before retiring in 1996. He and his wife have three children, two of whom live in England, and six granddaughters.

During his life, he has spent as much time as he could in theatres, concert halls, bars, etc. feeding his appetite and affection for live performance and his admiration for those who do it for a living. Since retiring, he spent several years on the Board of PAL Canada Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to providing support for older members of the professional performing arts community across the country, including four as its National President.

Aside from the performing arts, he has a random range of interests from politics, NFL football, Victorian novels, film noir, poetry and recently, thanks to the Academy, a renewed interest in philosophy. Since joining the Academy last year and taking two workshops, he has been impressed with the quality of the organization and looks forward to serving on the Board.

### **Chair- Communications**

**Linda Tu** is a scientist by training and inclination. She obtained a B.Sc. from the University of Wales and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in Chemistry and allied subjects. She has taught at Ryerson and subsequently earned a living in computer software systems. Thoroughly enjoying her retirement years, continuing to learn the new science and sharing this knowledge with folks at the Academy. The Academy has enabled her to expand horizons to many new directions. Currently she also hosts the University lecture series: this is a course offered by the School of Continuing Studies.

### **Assistant Chair – Communications**

**Keith Walden**, born and raised in Montreal, emigrated to Ontario, as it turned out, when I went to university. For almost four decades, I was a member of the History Department at Trent University in Peterborough, where I specialized in Canadian social and cultural history. I have been a member of the Academy since 2019.

### **Assistant Chair – Curriculum**

**Ivan Lorant** got his engineering degree in Budapest, Hungary. After the Soviet troops crushed the Hungarian uprising in 1956, he escaped to England. He joined a major consulting engineering firm and worked on numerous overseas flood protection, irrigation, and hydro dam projects. In 1968 a large Toronto engineering consulting firm invited him to join the company as a principal. He worked across Canada on various projects and was appointed as an Inquiry Officer by the Premier of Ontario to advise the province on downtown Toronto flood protection. His last 15 years before his retirement, he was president of Lorant Consulting Ltd. He is very active in the Academy, where he is pursuing his interests in science and technology, arts and current affairs.

### **Assistant Chair – Membership**

**Huguette Blanco** graduated from the Institut National des Sciences Appliquées in Lyon (France) as a biochemical engineer and worked in research in the USA and France for a few years. She came to Canada in 1968 and obtained a Ph.D. in Accounting and Finance from Lancaster University in the U.K. and a CPA CGA designation. She retired in 2010 as Dean of the Faculty of Management at Laurentian University after a 25 year academic career. She has served on the Board of several organizations, including the Public Health Board and the Community Care Access Centre in Sudbury. She now lives in Toronto with her husband and Academy member José Blanco.

## **Assistant Chair – Special Events**

**Sandra Linton** has been an Academy member for the past eleven years and a facilitator for the last five years. Her career as a software training specialist and instructional designer in the corporate world has kept her busy for more than 25 years.

## **Chair – Talks**

**Adele Robertson** spent most of her career working with not-for-profit organizations. She was Director of Corporate Sponsorship for Toronto's Harbourfront Centre and the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Her concern about the vitality of community service organizations led to founding a start-up, THE V GENERATION. She has served on myriad volunteer boards; currently with Sheridan College's Centre for Elder Research. She is an avid history buff and has enjoyed being with the Academy since 2016.

## **Assistant Chair – Talks**

**Mandy Thomson** enjoyed a rewarding career as an education administrator, partnership coordinator, and curriculum and evaluation specialist for the North York Board of Education. In retirement, she attempts to balance her life between doing board and hands-on nonprofit volunteering, including as a Facilitator and past member of Academy committees and the Board. She cherishes being part of this Academy, particularly the interesting people, and looks forward to contribute again to this enriching organization.