



2021 - MC² BOARD BIOS

President: Elaine Capes

Secretary: Rita Reitsma

Treasurer: Bob Mitchell

Delfino Bernardi: Del was born in a small farm town in Northern Italy. He immigrated to Canada in 1971. He furthered his education at Confederation College of Applied Arts and Technology in Thunder Bay. He was hired in 1976 as a flight instructor at the Thunder Bay Flying Club. In 1978 he was promoted to chief flying instructor and general manager. His responsibilities included managing the college aviation program contract and various duties associated with running a flying school and an aircraft charter business. He served concurrently as the regional flight test examiner (DFTE pilot) for Transport Canada. He was hired by Air Canada in January 1980, based in Toronto. He bought his house in Mono where he currently lives with his family in 1982 to be closer to his workplace. He retired as a captain in 2012 after a 32 year career. At Air Canada he qualified to fly 11 different transport types of aircrafts from the largest Boeing 747-400 to the smaller McDonnell Douglas DC9-30. As a side business interest, he owned and operated a restaurant and an investment company. He served as a volunteer firefighter for the Town of Caledon serving the region including the southeast corner of Mono. He has served as a Board member of a children's charity (HYFC) for approximately ten years. At present he is actively involved in fundraising for a variety of children's charities. Since early 2000 he continues to serve as a volunteer driver for the Cancer society wheels of hope. He was a member of the HCIA Trail Working Group. He served on several committees including, MSAC, COA, PEAC and MRAC for the Town of Mono for the past 16 years. He also served as a member of the Community Safety Task Force in 2019 for Mono. Del and his wife Elizabeth have four children, three wonderful daughter's in law, a lovable son in law and six awesome grandchildren. He loves outdoor sports with sea kayaking, biking, hiking, golf and gardening being some of his most favourite activities.

Elaine Capes: Elaine previously worked in the finance industry, for more than 30 years, holding senior management positions in personal and corporate banking, systems and technology and global securities. She holds an Honours BA in Humanities, from the University of Toronto, an OISE U of T Adult Education Certificate, an Equine Science Certificate from the University of Guelph, and a Certificate in NFP Governance Essentials, from the Institute of Corporate Directors and The University of Toronto Rotman School of Management, Executive program. Elaine was a Councillor for the Town of Mono from 2010 to 2014 and member of the Mono Research Advisory Committee from 2015 to 2018. She is Past President of the Family Transition Place Board of Directors, Director and Secretary for the Headwaters Health Care Foundation Board and Vice Chair of the Headwaters Tourism Association. Elaine served on the MC² Board prior to and following her term as Councillor. She brings a focus on facilitating good governance practices and works across all her endeavors to advocate for

the preservation of the rural environment and a healthy rural community. Elaine runs her own Human Performance and Learning Consulting Company serving international and local corporate clients and NFP Organizations and is currently working as the DC MOVES Coordinator for HCIA and the County of Dufferin Community Services. She also manages Little Creek Ranch; a family owned and operated Agri-Tourism business in Mono.

Arnold De Graaff: Arnold was born in the Netherlands and came to Canada in 1951. He and his wife, Rita Reitsma, have lived in Mono for 32 years. They are both psychotherapists. Arnold is a member, and previous board member of the Dufferin Arts Council, through which he participated in the paint-ins of the Artists Against the Quarry. As he has become more and more concerned about the global degradation of the environment he began a study project which has turned into a book which was published in January 2017, titled *The Gods In Whom They Trusted: The Disintegrative Effects of Capitalism: A Foundation for Transitioning to a New Social World*. He was chair for several years of MC² Environment Committee in large part because he wants to do something very practical for our children and young people in this area with regard to the environment and how to become more resilient and self-sufficient. He loves to garden and paint.

Knut Holmsen:

Knut was born and raised on a multigenerational farm in Norway. He was educated in Norway and Scotland. He and his wife Jane has a daughter and a grandson. Knut worked for an international import and export company in London, England, and started and managed branches in UK, Australia, and Canada. In Canada he started and developed a national distribution network for Marvin Windows and Doors. In 2007 Jane and Knut bought a reclaimed gravel pit in Mono, where they built a retirement home. Knut has served on the board of Fenestration Canada, and as president of the Rotary Club of Orangeville, and the Probus club of Orangeville. His strong environmental consciousness was born and encouraged by his parents.

Bob Mitchell: After graduating from commerce at Carleton University, Bob began a very successful career in the construction equipment business. He is a retired senior executive with Toromont Cat, the Caterpillar dealership for eastern Canada. He spent 35 years mainly in operations and laterally as CFO of the Caterpillar dealership. He was a board member of the Ontario Road Builders Association for 6 years and active in other related organizations. After retiring in 2006, he became involved in the Town of Mono citizens' committees and was successful running for Town Council from 2011 to 2014. Bob has been Treasurer of the Dufferin Arts Council for the past 6 years. He and his partner Shirley Bennett are part of the management of Seconds Count, the Headwaters Hospital thrift store for the first six years of its existence. He is a proud Canadian and strong advocate for our environment, cultural heritage and human rights.

Felicite Morgan: Felicite (along with her three children, two dogs and wonderful husband Peter) moved to the Town of Mono back in the summer of 2012. Felicite got her professional start in advertising in the 90's with Cossette Advertising, working on the accounts of Bell Mobility and Scotiabank. She then moved to help a smaller agency grow their business before heading for the saner side of the industry, namely "client-side". At Scotia McLeod she managed the print production for their in-house graphics department for three years. Married life and some trans-Atlantic job opportunities took her and her husband Peter to the UK, where they discovered the joys of hiking through the lands of the South Downs. Back in Canada, Toronto seemed too urban, and they kept looking until they found their spot on the 4th Line in Mono. Raising the kids and managing a rural property has occupied most of her time, but she wanted to contribute to her community and has been putting

together the websites and newsletters for both MC² and the Dufferin Arts Council. Her first Lookout newsletter design for MC² was back in January of 2015. Aside from her graphic arts endeavors, Felicite is a keen reader, writer and competitive cook, she also spends time hiking, Nordic skiing and riding.

Rita Reitsma has lived in Mono for 32 years. Though initially reluctant to leave Toronto, she has loved it here and hopes to never leave. She continues to practice psychotherapy with people from a wide range of ages, challenges and backgrounds which is a richly fulfilling job. She has been involved in local arts events, social justice initiatives and now our citizens' coalition. Rita is currently chairperson for the Environment Committee and secretary for the Board. She loves to spend time with friends, grandchildren and make handmade books. She likes to read poetry and loves gardening.

Cheryl Russel and her husband, Hugh, discovered Mulmur in 1986, after spending a year in Europe with their two children. They found a field of daisies and transformed it into a house and sculpture studio. She retired from a long career in nursing, first as an RN, then as a nurse manager and director of care, and has since devoted herself as an active participant in Dufferin County community affairs. She spent many years on the Board of the Headwaters Art Festival, chairing the annual Art Show and Sale, and 7 years on the Board of CORE. Her passionate interest in municipal politics is exemplified by her attendance at a majority of Mulmur Township Council meetings throughout the years, helping to ensure the interests of the local community are heard. Cheryl brings to our Board a rock solid experience in municipal affairs, road safety, and particularly in land use issues.