



BC RUGBY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

BOB STRACHAN - PRESIDENT

Bob Strachan brings a wealth of experience and passion for the sport, having served as BC Rugby Vice President (Finance & Administration) since 2019. As a respected leader and advocate for the development of Rugby in BC, Bob is poised to guide BC Rugby into a promising future. He takes over from Mark Lewis, who will now serve as a Past President.

Bob has been passionate about sports and community since his youth. After excelling in several sports, Rugby became his passion. He played, coached, volunteered and ultimately led fundraising as VP of Junior Rugby for the Vancouver Island Rugby Union. His teams of choice were UVIC and Castaway Wanderers RFC.

Bob is a seasoned business professional with a distinguished career as a CPA and Chartered Director, specializing in organizational governance and setting strategic direction. His work has extended across a wide range of organizations, from large professional national groups to provincial Not-for-Profit organizations. He's served on several Boards including Chair, CPA Canada and at Camosun College & Royal Roads. He's active within the Canadian accounting profession including recent unification of the profession and contributing to emerging standards for corporate governance.

MATT GORDON - VICE PRESIDENT

Matt Gordon is the Principal of Varig Strategies and a Senior Associate at Edelman Canada. He provides public affairs, advocacy and crisis advice and support to C-suite executives in the private and not-for-profit sectors.

Matt is a former Assistant Deputy Minister with the Government of British Columbia, having served under three different administrations and two political parties. During Matt's time as the Assistant Deputy Minister of Corporate Priorities and Communications Operations with the Government of British Columbia, he also managed a multi-million-dollar budget, with a record of accomplishment of prudent fiscal management and budget balancing. He was

2015 Main Street
Vancouver, British Columbia V5T 0J8
T: 604.737.3065 E: info@bcrugby.com

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accountable for almost 200 communications professionals across government in more than 20 ministry offices.

Matt's playing career included junior regional representative and provincial level Rugby in his home province, Ontario. After post-secondary, Matt also played three seasons overseas in Yorkshire, England. Later in life, Matt joined the Castaway Wanderers as a Mini Rugby Coach and then quickly got the bug to play again, playing still to this day. He joined the Club's Executive Committee as the Mini Director in 2012, then taking on the Junior Director and Vice-President roles before becoming Club President in 2017. Matt has also coached Monterey Middle School, Oak Bay High School Girls team, U14 Junior Tides Sevens; Thunder Women's Rugby and was the Head Coach of the U14 BC Rugby Boys 15s Team from 2017-2019.

TONY PAYNE - VICE PRESIDENT

Tony is a seasoned executive with over 20+ years of experience in Information Technology, Audit, Finance, and Business Operations in the private and public sectors. Tony brings an innovative, well-aligned perspective, and leadership style that ensures successful stakeholder relationships and enables the digital transformation of organizations.

In addition, he currently serves on the BC Rugby Finance Committee. As a Board of Director, both from professional ICD.D designation as well as experience on governance and operational boards positions, Tony hopes to contribute to the future continued success of BC Rugby.

"Rugby is not just a sport. It is in my blood." Tony brings passion and experience across multiple countries, Clubs, and provinces to contribute to BC Rugby. Tony started playing Rugby at the age of 7, and continued to play school and Club Rugby, and then transitioned to Seniors and Masters level. In addition, he played Rugby in South Africa, Edmonton, Alberta and now in Victoria, BC. This allowed him to bring multi-country levels of knowledge and perspective to the organization. As an active player and member of Ebb Tide, Tony can represent both Club rugby and BC Rugby to the fullest.





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CONNIE MCGINLEY

Connie is a Licensed Realtor working throughout Greater Vancouver, with an extensive background in marketing, events and administration. As a BC Rugby Board member, she has been involved on the Safe Sport Committee and currently is the Chair of the Hall of Fame Committee since 2016.

She is married to a former Rugby player and a mother to two Rugby sons and has played an integral role in their Rugby experiences, at Magee Secondary, Meraloma Rugby Club, New Zealand, University of Victoria, Castaway Wanderers and the Vancouver Rugby Union. That introduced her to numerous volunteer positions, and since 1999 she has held board and team manager positions with Meraloma Rugby Club, Vancouver Rugby Union and BC Rugby.

From Registrar, the Director of Mini and Junior Rugby & President at Meraloma Rugby Club, the Director of VRU Representative Rugby and Manager of two BC Summer Games Teams to 5 years as a BC Rugby Manager of U16 and U18 teams at the National level to the Canada Summer Games. A highlight for Connie was during her four years as the top provincial Manager of the BC Bears and watching the team win the inaugural CRC competition in 2009.

Connie has already been recognized for her contribution at all levels during her involvement and was awarded Sport BC - President's Award for Rugby in 2009 and Rugby Canada's Volunteer of the Year Award in 2014. As a parent, Connie has seen firsthand the benefit of Rugby for young people and simply wants to get more kids playing Rugby, and that not one child should not play due to financial reasons. She loves giving back to the Sport that she loves.

ALAN SNOWDEN

Alan Snowden is an independent corporate director with a background in management and finance and has a lifelong passion for Rugby. He started playing Rugby at boarding school in Cape Town at the age of eight, continued playing through high school in England, and played for three years in the British Army.

When he came to Canada, he played with the Capilano Rugby Club, the Snowcaps, and eventually served as the Capilano Rugby Club President. Alan was Club representative at the Vancouver Rugby Union, served as Vice President of the Vancouver Rugby Union, and has served on BC Rugby's Adjudication and Governance Committees. Alan has extensive Board experience and training. He holds the Canadian Institute of Corporate Directors ICD.D

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designation having completed the Directors' Education Program, the Audit Committee Effectiveness Program, and the SME Board Effectiveness Program.

He is past Chair of the finance committee of two publicly traded companies; served on the Boards of private companies including BMO Nesbitt Burns, and Odlum Brown Ltd; is a Governor of BC Women's Hospital Foundation, having served on the Board of the Foundation for 10 years and Chaired the Board for two years, and is a past President of the Capilano Golf & Country Club.

MARVIN FOSS

Marvin has been involved in Rugby for over 50 years. He started playing for Langley Rugby Club in 1969. After playing Rugby for 20 years, he took coaching courses and was a volunteer community Coach in the Langley school district, coaching at Brookwood Secondary and Yorkson Middle School and led Langley Secondary to win 1994's BC High Schools (Boys) AA Championship.

Marvin then went on to Coach Rugby teams at the BC Summer Games and Provincial Regional Championships. Marvin has stood on the Langley Rugby Club Executive Board in various positions and has held his current position of Junior Director for the past five years.

Marvin became a member of the Fraser Valley Rugby Board in 2018 serving as President until 2022. His passion at the current moment is to continue building Rugby in the Fraser Valley by working with schools and Clubs to make it possible for everyone to participate in Rugby. Taking on an executive position with the BC Rugby Board of Directors, Marvin intends to bring to the table his understanding of grassroots Rugby and the desire to think outside the box.

BRENNAN BASTYOVANSZKY

Brennan Bastyovanszky joined the BC Rugby Safe Sport committee in 2021 as an advisor on Diversity and Inclusion and reignited the Vancouver Rogues, a gay and inclusive rugby team, as the President and Head Coach.

An advocate for inclusion in sports, he is a community organizer and works to create environments where people of diverse backgrounds and sexuality feel welcome and safe. Brennan played for the Sydney Convicts and Randwick while in Australia, growing up playing at Capilano RFC and the UVic Vikes, and more recently with the Meraloma Rugby Club. He served on other not-for-profit boards including the North Bondi Surf Club, Sydney Convicts and the Meraloma Rugby Club.

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In his professional career, Brennan has been a sales leader in technology for 18 years and completed his MBA Exec at AGSM in Sydney, Australia. He lives in Vancouver's West End where you can find him playing tennis and walking his dog.

ANDREW FERENCE

Andrew Ference is a proud Canadian with a portion of his heart in Boston, where he won a Stanley Cup with the Bruins in 2011. After over 1000 regular seasons and NHL playoff games, he now works for the League as Director of Social Impact and Growth Initiatives.

A winner of the NHL's King Clancy award for leadership and humanitarianism, a recipient of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal and graduate of Harvard Extension School, he takes immense pride in his passions and work off the ice. A member of the Strathcona Outlaws Rugby Club (now Strathcona Druids) as a teenager, he now joins Friday night touch at Shawnigan Lake School and Nooky Woods at Cowichan Rugby Club to keep up to his daughter, Ava, who will be playing Rugby at Harvard University next year and has aspirations of playing #9 in a World Cup for Canada.

DENIS JONES

Denis is the President and Chief Executive Officer for the Deveraux Group of Companies. Under Denis' leadership, the Deveraux Group has grown since its inception in 2008 to become an industry leader in the development and management of large-scale multi-family residential complexes across the Prairie Provinces. Through the Deveraux Group, Denis manages the Auctus Property Fund LP and serves as Chairman of the Board. In addition, Denis serves on the Advisory Board for the Auctus Development funds. Denis previously served on the Board of Directors for SaskEnergy, a Saskatchewan Crown Corporation, where he was a member of the Audit & Finance Committee and the Business Development Committee.

After completing high school at Kearsney College and medical school in South Africa, Denis started his professional career in 1991 as a physician, first practicing family medicine in Saskatchewan, before moving on to specialize in Internal Medicine in Miami, Florida. Denis then moved to the University of California, San Diego, where he sub-specialized in both Pulmonology and Critical Care. He returned to Regina, Saskatchewan in 2002 as the Head of the Department of Critical Care. In 2009, after starting the Deveraux Group, Denis stepped down as Department Head but continued to practice Critical Care until the end of 2020.





In 2021, with the growth of Deveraux, Denis retired from medicine and moved to Vancouver Island where he opened the fifth Deveraux Office, adding offices in Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, and Winnipeg. Denis has been actively involved in multiple charitable organizations over the years, helping to raise funds through various community events and by engaging staff, trade partners and residents in community giving. A few of the organizations include Ronald McDonald House - Saskatoon, Hopes Home, Leader Post Christmas Cheer Fund - Regina's women's shelters, Hospitals of Regina Foundation, Believe in the Gold, and Dog River Howlers Rugby Club. Denis currently lives in Mill Bay with his wife Lindsay and their 4 children.

THERESA WEEKS

Theresa Weeks brings years of leadership experience in the public health sector and a decade-long record of accomplishment in board governance for non-profit and athletic organizations.

Throughout her time serving on boards, she has gained valuable experience managing finances and building positive relationships with community partners and stakeholders. Her passion for Rugby and belief in its unique power to unite individuals and communities underscore her dedication to the sport.

The sport of Rugby provides young people and adults alike with life skills such as teamwork, reliance, and leadership. As a mom of two Rugby kids, she has seen up-close how grassroots support of Rugby at the school and Club levels is the lifeblood of our sport. With a commitment to inclusivity and diversity and a background in mental health, she is keen on expanding the reach of the game among communities and finding ways to best support our athletes.

