



2024 DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

BOB STRACHAN – RETURNING

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 lead fundraising as VP of Junior Rugby for VIRU. His teams of choice were UVIC and Castaways RFC. He recently served as VP Finance & Admin on the BC Rugby Board 2019-22.

Bob is a seasoned business professional with a distinguished career as a CPA, specializing in organizational governance and setting strategic direction. He's worked with clients across a wide range of organizations, including large federated national groups. He's served on several Boards including Camosun College & Royal Roads. He's active within the Canadian accounting profession including contributing to emerging standards for corporate governance oversight.

Bob volunteers to make a difference. He's motivated to collaborate with all stakeholders, develop and use best practices, and bring sustainable change to organizations. The objective always is to prudently plan today, to better deliver tomorrow and sustain long into the future





TONY PAYNE – RETURNING

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. 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 director, both from professional ICD.D designation as well as experience on governance and operational boards positions Tony 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 as a kid at the age of 7, continued to play school and club rugby, and then transitioned to seniors and master 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.





ANDREW MARGOLIS – 1ST TERM

Andrew Margolis is an accomplished business leader and former rugby player with a passion for the sport and its growth. Currently serving as the Chief Operating Officer at Vancouver International Airport (YVR), he is responsible for the end-to-end operations and maintenance, driving service excellence, and overseeing significant capital projects, including the airport's ambitious Net Zero by 2030 initiative.

He brings a wealth of experience in operational strategy and capacity management, having previously held senior roles at YVR, where he led initiatives to transform baggage operations and enhance passenger experience. His entrepreneurial spirit and robust business acumen have enabled him to challenge the status quo and deliver innovative solutions to complex business challenges.

Andrew's passion for Rugby extends beyond his playing days in the UK. He would like to give back to the Rugby community and join BC Rugby in promoting the sport's values of teamwork, resilience, and leadership.





JASON PENALUNA – 1ST TERM

Jason Penaluna is a former B.C. resident, now residing in Washington, who grew up as a grateful product of B.C. rugby. His rugby career began at St. Michaels University School and progressed through the Vancouver Island and BC youth representative ranks, The University of Victoria, James Bay RFC and, eventually, the Canadian Rugby Union system culminating in selection to the 1995 World Cup squad. His playing career took him overseas, in the mid to late 90s, where he played professionally in England and then to the United States where he played for and attended Life Chiropractic College.

He and his wife, Marisa, reside in Edmonds, Washington, where they have run a Functional Neurology and Brain Injury rehabilitation practice for the last 20 years, while working with local professional teams as a consultant and sports physician. Jason spends his off time coaching local, youth, high performance rugby in Washington, but has wanted to direct his rugby time resources back home for some time now to honour those who supported him. He intends to bring his practice experience to the board to help continue to grow ideas around player welfare, performance and injury support, player pathway clarity as well as to get more feet in boots.



NISHANT NEREYETH – 1ST TERM

Nishant Nereyeth brings over 10 years of rugby administration experience across India, USA, and Canada. He migrated to North America to study Sport Management at UMass Amherst and has since found himself completely at home in North Vancouver. He is currently the Director, Operations & Marketing at Major League Rugby (MLR) and has been the competition director for the past 6 seasons. His multipronged role also means that he leads various key strategic projects such as the MLR Championship. His previous rugby roles include starting the NY Ironworkers - New York's first professional rugby team, working in the events department at USA Rugby, and working as a Regional Development Officer for Rugby India.

Given the impact that it has had on his own life, Nishant has always been an advocate for sport's unique ability to educate, empower, and connect people - none more so than Rugby. He is most passionate about finding ways to spread the game beyond the existing, die-hard rugby fanbase by growing participation, engagement, and funding. When he isn't working on rugby, you can find him playing it as an active member of the Capilano Rugby Club. On the somewhat rare occasions that he isn't occupied with the game he enjoys spending time in the great outdoors of British Columbia - hiking, biking, paddleboarding, or skiing - with his wife, Mihira, and dog, Jinka





NADINE HEATH – 1ST TERM

Nadine Heath is an active club member with Chilliwack Crusaders, serving as Vice President and playing with the senior women's team. She has been a part of the executive for the last few years, and prior to VP, was Women's Representative, helping grow the women's team.

Nadine, outside of rugby, works as an HR Manager and Business Administrator, having over 14 years of senior leadership experience in human resources, retail and hospitality, developing solution-oriented strategies and streamlined organizational structures.

Coming to BC Rugby she brings experience and focus on setting obtainable long-term goals with cross functional collaboration, having a strong ability to successfully develop teams to a higher level. She is an active member of the HR Committee for Canada West Ski Association and has experience leading in meetings, board committees, as well as planning and delivering content, training, and speeches for large multi-province conferences. Bringing experience as an active member with BC Rugby, and years of leadership strength and development, she is excited for the opportunity to be involved in growing the community that creates a welcome space in which she has been a part of.



PATRICK FULLERTON – 1ST TERM

Patrick is a prosecutor for the provincial government and has over 18 years working with the criminal justice system as defense counsel and Crown prosecutor. He is involved with advocating in the courts to judges and juries, reviewing materials to determine whether police investigations meet the BC Prosecution Service charge assessment standard, communicating with a wide array of justice system stakeholders and organizing materials to take into court with an eye to persuasion.

He grew up in the Lower Mainland and was introduced to Rugby in high school which led to the BC Games and rep teams for North Fraser Valley. Now, Patrick is a committed fan of the local game with having a child who plays and another who intends to play and sees how Rugby is an important activity for communities.

Patrick looks to assist and support BC Rugby to grow the game in the province and promote the sport as safe and inclusive. "Rugby in BC has a long and storied history. I want to be a part of its next chapters".

