

## CBSS CATALYSTS: COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL – PANDEMIC RESPONSE

**KAREN MCDONALD - Executive Director  
Sage Seniors Association**

Karen McDonald's career has focused primarily the field of gerontology, including a decade in seniors' supportive housing and a decade with the Sage Seniors Association, most recently as Executive Director. Sage is a community-based seniors serving organization that provides social services, primary health care, community development, and life enrichment programming. Prior to her time at Sage, Karen worked in the field of seniors' supportive housing.

In 2015, Karen co-founded MatchWork, an interactive employment training and assessment tool used by employment support organizations to more effectively guide and support those who face barriers to employment. Karen completed both her MBA and BA at the University of Alberta.

**ROB MIYASHIRO - Executive Director  
Lethbridge Senior Citizens Organization**

Rob Miyashiro is the Executive Director of Lethbridge Senior Citizens Organization (LSCO) and an elected member of Lethbridge City Council since 2013. Since 1989, Rob has been in management positions with organizations including nonprofit groups, Blood Tribe First Nation, and the Government of Alberta. Rob was instrumental in the creation of Lethbridge Elder Abuse Response Network (LEARN), which is housed out of LSCO.

Rob is the chair of Age Friendly Lethbridge and is a Founding Board Member of the Alberta Association of Seniors Centres. He represents Lethbridge on Alberta Age Friendly Communities of Practice and is one of three Alberta representatives on the Pan-Canadian Age Friendly Reference Group.

In his role as city councillor, Rob sits on several committees which have a direct impact on seniors including the Board of the Green Acres Foundation (Seniors Managed Housing Body) and Community Design Committee.

**SIAN JONES - Issue Strategist  
Age-Friendly Calgary**

Sian Jones is currently an Issue Strategist supporting Age-Friendly Calgary at the City of Calgary. She works with community service providers, health care providers, Calgary citizens and other stakeholders to implement the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy. Before starting as an Issue Strategist at the end of 2019 she worked as a Research Social Planner at the City of Calgary to support the research and evaluation needs of Calgary Neighbourhoods, which included implementing the evaluation of the Seniors Age-Friendly Strategy.

Sian previously worked in social research and evaluation in the UK and Canada for 11 years focusing on adult social care, youth justice, and international security issues. She has Masters degrees from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth and from the University of Calgary.



## **LISA STEBBINS - Director, Multigenerational Wellness in Community carya**

Lisa is currently a Director with carya Society of Calgary. Since beginning her work with carya (formerly Calgary Family Services) in 2000, Lisa has held the positions of Human Resources Manager and Director of Homecare Operations. From 2013 – 2015, Lisa worked as an independent consultant providing expertise in human resource management, policy development and organizational effectiveness to diverse clients ranging from start-up oil and gas service companies to First Nations communities. In 2015, Lisa returned to carya to provide operational leadership in the growing area of older adult programs/services and community development.

With a keen interest in policy development, community initiatives and non-profit leadership, Lisa is passionate about older adults and ensuring that the sector can adapt to the growing and emerging needs of Alberta's aging population. For this reason, Lisa serves on many steering committees and projects related to older adults. Lisa is a Reviewer for the Canadian Centre for Accreditation and has also been appointed as a Public Member to the Council of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta since 2017.



## **SHEILA HALLETT - Executive Director Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council**

Sheila Hallett began working as the Executive Director of the Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council (ESCC) in 2006 after several years as director of a local senior centre. She works to support collective community action that engages older adults and supports their well-being. Collaborative approaches have resulted in initiatives such as Age Friendly Edmonton (partnering with the City of Edmonton since 2013), Seniors Home Supports Program and the Pan-Edmonton Group Addressing the Social Isolation of Seniors (PEGASIS).

Sheila grew up in Stettler, Alberta and moved to Edmonton after graduating high school to complete a diploma in civil engineering at NAIT. She attended the U of A and moved to Regina to complete her BA in Communication. She started her career as a newspaper reporter at the Camrose Canadian in 1988. She returned to Edmonton in 1991 to start a family and begin working with not-for-profits. She volunteers for the local community league and supports Abundant Community Edmonton by being a block connector to encourage neighborliness in her community.



## **MONICA MORRISON - Executive Director Golden Circle Seniors Resource Centre**

Monica Morrison has been working with seniors for 30 years. Her career started in downtown Toronto with the Second Mile Club of Toronto, and has most recently been the Executive Director of the Golden Circle Seniors Resource Centre, since July 2011. She began serving as the President of the Alberta Association of Seniors Centres in January 2019. Monica's other roles include: Treasurer of the Board for the Alberta Elder Abuse Awareness Council, member of the Central Alberta Falls Coalition, on the operations team of the Central Alberta Poverty Reduction Alliance and a Continuing Education instructor with Red Deer College ASCHA certificate program in the area of aging and older adult fitness.

Her experience covers a diverse client group including people with physical disabilities, dementia, and multicultural and LGBTQ communities. Her mission is to ensure all seniors have fun and have a good quality of life for their entire lives.