

Biographies of Speakers
A Critical Conversation - Working through the Economic Crisis:
The Future for Canada's Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector
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Susan Phillips, Carleton University

Dr. Susan Phillips is Professor and Director of the School of Public Policy and Administration, Carleton University where she has been a faculty member since 1988. She is also a Senior Researcher with the Centre for Voluntary Sector Research and Development (a joint research unit of Carleton and the University of Ottawa) and a Visiting Scholar with the Wellesley Institute. A political scientist by discipline, Susan did her undergraduate degree at the University of Victoria, a Masters at the University of Waterloo, and a doctorate at Carleton University.

Dr. Phillips has published extensively in the areas of public policy for the voluntary and nonprofit sector, citizen engagement, federalism and social policy, and urban governance. Her current research focuses on comparative analysis of the supporting architecture for models of shared governance and on the impact of accountability regimes associated with public funding of the voluntary sector. She has been an Associate Editor of *Canadian Public Policy*, an editor of *How Ottawa Spends*, and is a member of the editorial board of the *Philanthropist*. She has also been a Policy Advisor to national voluntary organizations, urban governments and a variety of federal departments and sits as a board member of Volunteer Canada. For full curriculum vitae please visit <http://www.carleton.ca/sppa/Faculty/phillips.htm>

Rick Blickstead, Wellesley Institute

Mr. Blickstead is a senior executive with North American private and public sector experience in organizational revitalization, strategy, and execution currently specializing in the urban health and healthcare reform. Rick focuses on entrepreneurial driven revitalization, change leadership, governance, and customer driven priority setting and collaboration.

Rick has been the President for Peoples Jewellers Canada, major Divisions of Wal-Mart U.S. and Dylex, and RONA Canada. He is currently the CEO of the Wellesley Institute, a leading research, public policy, community engagement and social innovation organization and is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto.

Rick serves on a number of Boards and Councils including the Toronto Central LHIN Research and Education Council, Toronto Board of Trade, Imperial Manufacturing, the Canadian Centre for Diversity and the Harvard Club of Toronto. He is the Chair of the World Presidents Organization (Ontario) and a past Chair of the Young Presidents Organization.

Rick holds a B.Comm (Hons) from the Sprott School of Management (Carleton Univ.), an MBA from the Rotman Business School (Univ. of Toronto) and is a graduate of the Not for Profit program offered by the Harvard Business School and Kennedy School of Government.

Sheila Niven, Bank of Canada

Sheila Niven was appointed Adviser to the Governor of the Bank of Canada in 2008, with assignments in the economic policy area, as well as a special focus on strategic issues and policies in corporate administration. She is a member of the Bank's Corporate Management Committee.

Born in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, Ms. Niven studied economics and psychology at the University of Natal, South Africa, receiving a bachelor of science honours degree in 1976. While on a Rhodes Scholarship at Oxford University, she graduated with a bachelor's degree in politics and economics in 1979, followed by an MA.

Ms. Niven joined the Bank of Canada in 1987, following three years as a Lecturer in Economics at the University of Natal, South Africa, and a period with Standard Merchant Bank in Johannesburg. In her 22-year career at the Bank of Canada, she has held a variety of positions of increasing seniority.

Lynn Eakin and Associates

Lynn Eakin has been providing consulting services to the nonprofit sector since 1989. Initially she provided services to sector organizations that included assistance with restructuring, mergers and service partnerships. She also provided rescue management services for organizations in difficulty. Her experiences with these types of assignments lead her, by the end of the 1990's, to shift the focus of her work to respond to what she saw as a growing crisis in the financing and regulation of nonprofit community organizations.

In recent years, Lynn has been instrumental in helping the non-profit sector and their funders better understand the problems of finance and regulation. Her studies documenting the systemic underfunding of the sector and the cumulative administrative burden imposed by multiple accountability regimes on sector organizations, have helped service organizations and their funders better understand and tackle the funding and accountability challenges. Currently, as a Metcalf Foundation Fellow, Lynn is involved in the establishment of the Ontario Nonprofit Network, (ONN) to better position the sector to address the cross cutting policy issues it faces.

Hillary Pearson, Philanthropic Foundations Canada

Hilary Pearson's career has spanned all three sectors, public, private and not-for-profit. She began her career with the Canadian federal government where she spent over 12 years as a policy analyst and senior manager. Moving to Montreal in 1993, Ms Pearson became Vice-President, Strategic Development, at Royal Bank of Canada. In 1996, she became a management consultant and began to work in the non-profit sector, with a wide range of clients, from national membership organizations and operating charities to local organizations in the health, cultural and social services field. In November 2001, she was named President of Philanthropic Foundations Canada, a member association for Canada's independent and family foundations. PFC is based in Montreal.

Ms. Pearson is a member of several nonprofit boards, including the nonprofit sector umbrella organization, Imagine Canada, as well as the United Nations Association in Canada and the Stratford Shakespeare Festival of Canada.

Ms. Pearson holds a BA and an MA in Political Economy from the University of Toronto.

Marion Wright, B.Sc., M.A., Canadian Mental Health Association Ottawa Branch

Marion is currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ottawa Branch. Her academic background is in pharmacy and physiological psychology (now cognitive neurosciences) at the master's degree level. For 18 years, she held the position of Managing Director of the Behavioural Medicine Unit, Department of Medicine, McMaster University, Hamilton Ontario.

For the past 13 years, she has provided leadership in the community mental health field in Ontario, as Executive Director of 3 branches of the Canadian Mental Health Association and on numerous provincial task forces.

At the present time, she is the Co-Chair of the Champlain Mental Health Network, an alliance of hospitals and community mental health agencies, consumers and family members within the Champlain LHIN district. She served on 2 Mental Health Implementation Task Forces and Co-Chaired the Provincial ED Network of CMHA for the past 3 years.

Marion is the Vice Chair of the Alliance to End Homelessness and the Chair of the Public Affairs Working group of the Alliance. She is a member of the Leadership Table to End Chronic Homelessness in Ottawa.

She is a member of the Integrated Drug and Addiction Strategy for Ottawa and on the treatment task force. Her volunteer work has included the United Way of Oakville, the United Way of Bruce and Grey and currently the United Way, Ottawa. She was the founding Board President of the Grey Bruce Community Legal Clinic and provided leadership to bring this clinic into a formerly underserved area.

Marion is a co-author of a national policy paper on Recovery (in the mental health field) and a Master trainer in Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) program. Specific interests are in integration of Mental Health and Addictions at all levels, treatment, research, services and systems. She is a frequent presenter at national and more recently international conferences.

Michelle Baldwin, Pillar Nonprofit Network

Michelle Baldwin is the Executive Director of Pillar Nonprofit Network, a community driven organization with over 165 member non profit organizations from London Ontario and Area. In her role, Michelle ensures that Pillar supports local nonprofits to fulfill their missions in the community by providing leadership, advocacy and support through professional development, networking opportunities, information-sharing and promoting volunteerism.

Michelle has extensive experience in volunteer management, communications, training and fundraising through previous positions including , Communications & Development Officer for Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada, Coordinator of Volunteer Services for Thames Valley Children's Centre, working on the Board for London and Area Association of Volunteer Administration, VIP Sponsorship Committee member for Canada 2001 Games, and committee member for the Ontario Network for the Canadian Volunteerism Initiative. Michelle has recently completed her Masters in Educational Psychology focused on the enablers and barriers of community for service for youth with disabilities.

Blair Dimock, The Ontario Trillium Foundation

Blair Dimock was appointed OTF's Director of Research, Evaluation and Knowledge Management in March 2006. Blair has also served as Director of Strategic Planning and Research at TVOntario, and as Research and Partnership Coordinator at the Premier's Council, an advisory body to the Premier of Ontario. Blair began his career as a lecturer in International Politics at the University of Toronto and at Trent University, where he was nominated for the Trent Award for Excellence in Teaching. He holds an Honours B.A. from Mount Allison University and an M.A. from the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University. An active volunteer, Blair is a member of the Learning Partnership's Advisory Committee on Research and Policy, and has served on the Education Committee of the Metro Toronto Zoo and the Steering Committee of the Centre for the Study of Education and Work at OISE/UT. Blair is also a certified coach with the Scarborough Coyotes Hockey Club and the East York Soccer Club. He lives in Toronto with his wife Verity and their twin sons Cameron and Malcolm, and in his spare time he enjoys playing hockey and golf, backcountry camping, cycling, cooking and reading.

Paul Adams, Carleton University

Paul Adams is a journalist, author, academic, pollster and frequent international election observer.

In his twenty years as a news correspondent, he worked for CBC-TV's "The National" and the Globe and Mail in Canada and abroad. His last posting was as the Globe and Mail's Middle East correspondent.

After leaving the Globe and Mail, he became resident director of the National Institute for International Affairs' (NDI) Palestinian program, based in Jerusalem. Since returning to Canada, he has continued to participate in and lead election observation missions to the Middle East and Africa through NDI. He also led Canada's observation mission to the 2006 Palestinian election.

Adams' book – *Summer of the Heart: Saving Alexandre* – the story of his son's struggle with congenital heart disease, was short-listed for the Writer's Trust biography prize in 2003. His most recent literary project was assisting the Rt. Hon. Paul Martin in researching and writing his memoir, *Hell or High Water*, published in November 2008.

Adams is a graduate of the University of Manitoba, Oxford University, and Columbia University. He taught political science at the University of Manitoba early in his career, and has been a member of the faculty journalism and communication at Carleton University since 2005.

He has had a life-long interest in public opinion research, participating in media polling with the CBC and the Globe and Mail and later conducting research in the Middle East, which he presented at the U.S. State Department, the Office of the Vice-President of the United States and the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs.

He is currently Executive Director of EKOS Research Associates, a leading Canadian public opinion research firm, where he manages the political and media polling.

Michael Sinkus, Marts and Lundy, Inc.

Michael Sinkus came to the firm in 1978 and during his tenure has worked with a wide variety of non-profits including educational institutions of all sizes, both public and private; arts and culture organizations; faith-based institutions; and a myriad of others. A firm believer in the value of analytics in helping organizations understand and quantify their full potential, his liberal arts background gives him a deep appreciation of the blending of art & science in our work as consultants to the world of philanthropy.

He has served the firm in a number of administrative capacities: member of the Board of Directors, treasurer, secretary, president, and as chair and CEO from 1999 to 2006. In 2006 he turned his full attention to client work, determined to help institutions of all kinds achieve their full philanthropic potential. Prior to joining the firm, Michael held positions at Yale University as associate director of The Campaign for Yale, and at his alma mater, Bucknell University as assistant to the director of university relations.

Jack Jamieson, T.E. Wealth

Jack Jamieson is Vice President Institutional Services at T.E. Investment Counsel Inc. Jack works extensively with the non-profit sector across Canada bringing with him over 30 years of experience within the investment and financial services industry. In his role as Vice President of Institutional Services, he provides expertise relating to the development and implementation of efficient and cost effective investment solutions. This includes education; governance; policy development; manager selection as well as the implementation of performance measurement processes.

In addition to working in a professional capacity with the non-profit sector, Jack has served on the Board of the Cambridge Hospital Foundation; the cabinet for the KW-Cambridge "One Voice-One Vision" Tri-Cities Hospital campaign and is a long standing and active member of the Canadian Association of Gift Planners. Prior to joining T.E., Jack held the position of Vice President with Ernst & Young's investment consulting practice, as well as working in various management capacities within the Royal Bank Financial Group.