

Our Place Society's Board Development Committee is privileged to present the following candidates for re-election and/or election to the Our Place Board of Directors. Our bylaws do not allow for elections from the floor.

The following two Board members are seeking re-election, having reached the end of their current two-year terms:

Susan Abells

Susan has been working alongside Victoria's housed and unhoused social justice advocates since moving to Victoria 12 years ago. A member of the Committee to End Homelessness Victoria, Susan has been listening and learning about the issues and concerns of people who are experiencing homelessness in Victoria. Susan also works with the Microhousing Steering Committee that is developing a new housing option in Victoria, and is a member of the City's Community Action Plan on Discrimination. Our Place provides life-sustaining services with care and compassion for people living without housing and in poverty. Susan joined the Board to support its efforts to both provide services and engage in important discussions around homelessness, mental health, poverty and inequality. Susan has a Master's degree in Political Science, and works as a management consultant and policy advisor.

Cairine Green

Cairine has a Master's degree in Counselling and an extensive background in criminal justice, dispute resolution/family mediation, social policy development, post-secondary education and human resources. Cairine also served for nine years in local and regional government as a Municipal Councillor in both North Saanich and Oak Bay. Cairine has strong leadership, community development and public engagement skills and experience, and is an advocate for effective social programs and services.

The following have been nominated for election to the Our Place Board of Directors:

Neal Berger

Neal Berger, Director Emeritus, is one of the founders of Cedars at Cobble Hill Addiction Treatment Center. A lecturer and author, Neal has produced films on the subjects of chemical dependency and treatment, and is the President of Chemical Dependency Services, Inc. Neal has over 25 years' experience in the areas of addiction treatment and employee assistance. He has provided consultation and staff development services for hospitals, treatment facilities, unions, business, industry and municipal organizations and universities. Neal currently continues to provide consultation and training to a wide variety of large and small organizations across Canada and the United States. regarding substance abuse issues and treatment needs.

Ernie Quantz

Ernie Quantz is a retired provincial court judge. Together with his wife Ardelle, he started Serenity Garden as a therapeutic garden on the grounds of Seven Oaks in 2011. Ernie has also served on Our Place's Therapeutic Recovery Community Advisory Board for the past 18 months. He believes the Our Place Therapeutic Recovery Community will provide a realistic alternative to incarceration and that enhancing the rehabilitative aspect of an offender's sentence will provide long-term benefits to society and the individual.

Ansley Tucker

Ansley Tucker is the current Rector of Christ Church Cathedral and Dean of Columbia. With over 35 years' experience as an Anglican parish priest, she has been engaged at every level of governance and management in the not-for-profit sector. While serving a downtown parish in Toronto, she oversaw the creation of a what became a full-service program for those living on the streets, including a major renovation of an historic church to accommodate and expand this work. It was in this environment that she first encountered what was there called "Homes First."

Ansley cares deeply about a society where no one is left out or behind. She is committed to big ideas, a can-do attitude, and the capacity of agencies like OPS to make a real difference in our social landscape. She holds degrees in Nursing, Divinity, and Theology. Consequently, she intuitively seeks connections between biology, the language of healing, and wisdom for life.