



MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Jim Armstrong
President, Kawartha Works Community Cooperative



Jim Armstrong is President of Kawartha Works Community Co-operative which is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to initiatives to improve the community. The Grove Theatre is its latest and biggest project in its five years since incorporation. Jim is retired from a career in health care management and consulting, developing and reorganizing services in hospitals and community clinics. He has been a community volunteer for many years with healthcare, recreation, cultural and social services.

Lynne Manning
Chair, Grove Theatre Management Committee



Lynne Manning is the Chair of the Fenelon Falls Downtown Revitalization and a Member of the Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee. As the Chair of the Grove Theatre Management Committee, she feels that The Grove Theatre project aligns perfectly in energizing economic development, business collaboration and tourism, and provides a unique outdoor entertainment venue for the community.

Lynne is the former Managing Director of Kelly Services Canada, an International Employment Company, with 55 offices across Canada.

Lynne formerly served as a Board Member of the Public Policy Forum, is the former Chair, Sheridan Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, also serving as the Chair of the Fund Development Committee, and the former Chair of Fund Development for Women's Resources.



Tim Wisener
President, Fenelon Falls and District Chamber of Commerce and Co-founder



Co-founder. Tim Wisener is co-owner of Home by Tim + Chris, a full-service interior design firm located in Fenelon Falls, as well as proprietor of Colborne Street Gallery. He is a significant contributor to the vitality of the Fenelon Falls area, where he spent his summers growing up.

Tim has a rich history in the performing arts as Associate Producer of Canadian Stage, Manager of Development of Opera Lyra Ottawa, Director of Client and Patron Service for EPCOR Center for the Performing Arts, and Manager of Artistic Operations for the Alberta Ballet.

Gord Grunwell
Chair, Partnerships & Development



Gord grew up in Fenelon Falls, spent summer vacations here all his life and couldn't think of a better place to retire. In 2019, Gord and his wife, Diane, decided to make the family cottage on Sturgeon Lake their permanent home and are enjoying every minute of it!

Gord is a Marketing & Communications professional with over 25 years' experience in Leadership and Management in the Telecommunications and Information Technology Industries. Later in his career, he decided to shift gears from the corporate world to the non-profit sector specializing in Business Development, Operations & Resource Development.

He has extensive experience building relationships with Boards of Directors in a variety of business disciplines and within the charitable community and served on the Board for Durham Condominium Corporation.

Gord and Diane, have a passion for professional theatre having supported Mirvish Productions, Shaw, and Stratford Festival over the years, in addition to many theatres in the Kawartha Lakes and nearby communities.

Gord enjoys everything in the outdoors - downhill skiing, snowshoeing, boating, and golfing - and looks forward to enjoying many live events in the open air at The Grove Theatre.



Christy Yael and Sean Cox
Artistic Directors and Co-founders



Christy Yael and Sean Cox are the founders and Artistic Directors of the award-winning Intrepid Theatre Company, based in San Diego, California. Founded in 2009, Intrepid earned a reputation as one of the top theaters in San Diego. Among other honours, the company received the San Diego Critics Circle’s most prestigious award, “Best Dramatic Production,” three years in a row (an unprecedented achievement for the Critics Circle), and Christy was awarded “Best Director” three years in a row (another first in Critics Circle history).

Alongside their mainstage productions, Christy and Sean have also created a vibrant and robust education department, which includes summer camp and after-school classes for children ages 6-17 (attended by over 500 children per year); community outreach programs for youth in underrepresented communities (in recent years this included Exiled Voices, a program for teens who are recent refugees, and Perform Peace, a program working with Somali Muslim youth); and a Shakespeare school tour that has brought live performances of Shakespeare plays to more than 100,000 students across Southern California since its inception.

Christy is a Canadian, raised in Toronto and spent her summers growing up in Fenelon Falls. She moved to California in 2001 and is looking forward to bringing her family back to the community that she loves.

Nicole Myers-Mitchell
General Manager



Nicole Myers-Mitchell was born and raised in Wallaceburg, a small town between Windsor and London, Ontario. She has worked professionally in theatre for over 15 years, passionately advancing Canadian Theatre in roles such as Associate Producer and Interim Managing Director for Roseneath Theatre, General Manager of Shakespeare in the Ruff, Manager of Communication and Enrichment for Peggy Baker Dance Projects and Volcano Theatre, and Development Coordinator for Opera Atelier.

Nicole lives in Fenelon Falls with her fabulous husband Chris and very smart three year old son Max.

David Prosser

Leadership Committee



Born in Scotland, David came to Canada in 1975 to pursue a master's degree at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. It was there that he met his future wife, Barbara, and once they'd done a show together, there was no going back.

After a brief stint as an actor and publicist with Theatre 5 in Kingston, David was hired by Canada's oldest daily newspaper, *The Whig-Standard*. Over the next 14 years, he won five Nathan Cohen Awards for theatre criticism, three National Newspaper Awards for critical and editorial writing, and a Centre for Investigative Journalism Award for his secret mission to Soviet-occupied Afghanistan – a story recounted in full in his 1986 book *Out of Afghanistan*.

In 1991, he was awarded a Southam Fellowship to study at the University of Toronto's Massey College, and in 1994 he left journalism to join the staff of the Stratford Festival. As Literary and Editorial Director, he oversaw the festival's vast range of day-to-day communications, as well as its commemorative coffee-table books *Fifty Seasons at Stratford* (2002) and *Stratford Behind the Scenes* (2012). In 2007 he ghost-wrote former Artistic Director Richard Monette's book of memoirs, *This Rough Magic*.

David also appeared in and directed a handful of dramatic readings at the festival, including three scripts of his own devising. By the time he retired in 2020, he had also won a sizable following with his pre-show "Lobby Talks" and as a host and moderator of panels and other ancillary events.