

## Meet our Board of Directors 2020-2021

	<p><b>Warren Kennedy – Vice Chair</b></p> <p>Warren worked for the Lambton Kent District School Board as teacher, secondary administrator and supervisory officer. After thirty years with the Lambton Kent District School Board, he moved to Windsor to become the Director of Education for the Greater Essex County District School Board. Warren just retired as the Executive Director for the Ontario Public Supervisory Officers' Association and he plans to travel and spend more time with his family.</p>
	<p><b>Dana Petko</b></p> <p>Dana's connection with Pathways goes back 40 years to when her sister first started utilizing their services. Since then, Dana has worked with Pathways professionally in various ways as both an Early Childhood Educator and a Professor in the ECE Program at Lambton College. She has also had experience with Pathways as a parent who has utilized their services for her own children. Volunteering as a member of the Board of Directors is her way of supporting an organization she holds in very high esteem.</p>
	<p><b>Gianni Spadafora – Treasurer</b></p> <p>Giovanni is a CPA, CA and Manager at Collins Barrow Sarnia. He has over ten years in public accounting with specialized experience working with public sector accounting audits, not-for-profit organizations as well as small to medium sized owner managed corporations. He received his Bachelor of Managerial and Organizational Studies with Honours Economics degree from Western University. Giovanni and his family reside in Point Edward. He joined Pathways' Board of Directors in 2017, and was appointed Treasurer in 2018.</p>
	<p><b>Jennifer Ellis – Secretary</b></p> <p>Jennifer Ellis is an associate lawyer at George, Murray, Shipley, Bell LLP. Her practice focuses on the areas of Real Estate, Corporate &amp; Commercial, Wills and Estates. She obtained her Juris Doctor at Lakehead University's Bora Laskin Faculty of Law in 2016 and completed her Honours Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and Public Policy from the University of Guelph in 2011.</p>



**Dean Edwardson – Past Chair**

Dean is currently General Manager of the Sarnia-Lambton Environmental Association representing 19 multi-national companies dealing with Environmental and Emergency Response matters. He has held senior management positions both at a staff and operational level. He has served on a number of Boards including the Sarnia-Lambton Chamber of Commerce and Lambton Health Study. Dean has extensive experience in the areas of Board governance, operational budgeting and financial reporting, government relations and public outreach. Dean holds a Bachelor of Environmental Studies from the University of Waterloo. Dean and his wife live in Sarnia and are the proud parents and grandparents of two daughters and four granddaughters.



**Allison Wray**

Allison is a Certified Human Resources Professional with 8 years of experience working with non-profit organizations that provide support to children and families. Allison has a passion for workplace wellness and is a Certified Psychological Health & Safety Advisor and uses this lens when reviewing policies and Board governance. Allison is also a Pathways parent who has accessed Speech-Language Pathology, C.A.C.H.É. Child Care, and swimming lessons with her own family.



**Brittany Jones**

Brittany brings over seven years of employment and volunteer experience in the non-profit sector, supporting fundraising campaigns for Heart and Stroke, YMCA, MADD Canada and Lambton College. In her current role as the Financial Development Officer with the YMCA of Southwestern Ontario, Brittany has built an active and diverse network of partners, staff and volunteers in the Sarnia, Goderich and Chatham regions, advancing program revenue and fundraising targets. She obtained her Bachelor's Business Administration Degree (2011) from the University of Guelph, as well her Diploma in Not-for-Profit Management (2011) from Humber College and is currently continuing her studies with a Certificate in Supply Chain Management from George Brown College. She is excited to expand upon her existing relationship with Pathways as a Rotarian and provide additional support as an engaged Board Member.



**Dan Edwards**

Dan Edwards is a motivational speaker, co-author, and mental health advocate from Sarnia, Ontario. Dan speaks of how his life was greatly impacted in 2006 after his accident where he suffered a spinal cord injury. 10 years after his community raised \$150,000 for his family following his injury - Dan founded the Do It For Sarnia campaign for the Bluewater Health Foundation, raising over \$150,000 as of 2019 for the Bluewater Health Hospital's Mental Health and Addiction Services.

He fills his message with inspiration, hope and encouragement. He also makes sure to focus on the foundations that were laid in his life prior to his accident that would ultimately help him battle through some of the toughest times of his life. As an active member in his community he believes that each and every person is put on this earth for each other. "We are here to help, and encourage each other to become the best versions of ourselves."

Dan went on to become a Lambton College graduate with a Business Marketing and Administration diploma.



**Tanya Anderson**

Tanya has been employed with The County of Lambton - Ontario Works Department since 2005, giving her the opportunity to be diverse in income support, employment support and eligibility review. She is currently a Crisis Caseworker. Tanya sits on 9 committees throughout the County of Lambton, which, many of them focus on Homelessness and Poverty Reduction. She prides herself on being an active team member and strong advocate for the clients she serves and those who are unable to do so for themselves. Her foundation of support consists of her husband, Brad and her two beautiful children, Jessica and Brett. Her connection with Pathways started when her son was diagnosed with Autism at a young age. Due to the wonderful programs and support that her son received from Pathways, it has inspired her to become involved with Pathways' Parent Support Group and their Board of Directors.



**Gord Currie**

Gord has an extensive background in corporate leadership and in the functional areas of finance and accounting. He has over 35 years of industry experience across multiple industries including building and industrial products (EMCO Limited), technology-semiconductor (Genum Corporation), automotive parts (Wescast Inc.), and petrochemicals (NOVA/Polysar). Since 2000, Gord has held the role of CFO at EMCO, Genum and Wescast. Since his retirement from full-time CFO work in 2010, he has held roles: as a member of the Loan Committee of the Southern Ontario Fund for Investment in Innovation (SOFII); as a member of the Advisory Board of Ionada Incorporated, a new Canadian-based inventor and manufacturer of environmental technology for the global marine industry; as the independent director of 1056782 Ontario Limited (holding company for Lakeside Process Controls, Arctic Combustion and the Valve Automation Centre) and as a member of the Bowman Center, a volunteer organization whose mission is to catalyze nation-building energy projects which drive Canada's energy strategy and generate sustainable wealth and jobs. Gord received his Masters Business Administration degree from the University of Toronto in 1976 and is also a professional accountant (CPA, CGA).



**Julia Oosterman**

Julia has more than 20 years' experience in the communications, marketing and public relations fields and has worked with some of the most iconic brands over her career, including the Olympics, Bell, Sony, Dell, and Telus to name a few. She's worked in various sectors including telecommunications, healthcare, consumer goods, electronics, corporate finance, pharmaceutical and insurance. Julia has won over 25 awards in the past 3 years for her work in communications, change management, media relations, CSR and leadership. She is a regular guest speaker and mentor with both the Canadian Public Relations Society and the International Association of Business Communicators and holds several national and international mandates within IABC. Julia and her family recently moved from the GTA to Sarnia.



**Mike Cullis**

Mike is local Real Estate Agent and part owner at Royal LePage Key Realty. He is involved in several local business ventures that include development and new home construction amongst others. Mike grew up working within his family business that spanned three generations. While working with J.V. Wiltshire Ltd., he managed several restaurants in the Sarnia Lambton area. He studied Business at Lambton College with emphasis in Accounting, Human Resource Management and Marketing. In his down time, he loves to fundraise to support local charities by embarking on travel expeditions to remote parts of the world.



**Dr. Michael Stoesser – Pathways Medical Advisor**

Not available at this time.



**Alison Morrison, Pathways Executive Director**

Alison grew up in Chatham, Ontario and realized a call to service with children early on. She studied Nursing at Western University and later worked in Pediatrics at the Children’s Hospital of Western Ontario. Alison returned to Western to complete a Masters of Science in Speech-Language Pathology. A relocation to Sarnia with her husband Pat in 1997 lead to an opportunity to work at Pathways. Care for children and youth has always been a priority for both Alison and Pat – and parenting two children has been their greatest joy. Alison is a competitive cheerleading coach at Bluewater Cheer Athletics and an active member of the Grace United Church community.

Alison’s work with the organization has included Speech-Language Pathologist, Accreditation Coordinator, Supervisor, and Manager of Clinical Services. She is deeply committed to Pathways. “I love the work of this place – the families, our staff, volunteers, Board, and our community. It is an honour to be called to the Executive Director role. I’m excited about days to come - and our strong work to ensure we remain responsive to emerging needs, allowing us to wrap around children and youth with physical, developmental and communication difficulties...to help them be their best!”