

Board of Governors Queen Margaret's School



Mary DeLury, Chair

Mary is an entrepreneur and a Professional Forester who currently manages the Forest Operations with a First Nations Group from Northern BC. Mary has owned and operated a large logging business on Vancouver Island and had a successful Forestry Consulting business in the Interior. Mary attended Simon Fraser University where she obtained a Bachelor of Science degree and then after some time working in the forest industry, earned a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from the University of British Columbia. She has worked in the forest industry for over 25 years and attributes much of the foundation for her strong leadership and business understanding to the many years she spent as a tree-planter and a tree-planting supervisor. She started her first business in 1998 and has had successful businesses ever since.

Mary has a passion for learning and helping people. She loves the outdoors and is an avid photographer and hiker. She also enjoys fishing, hunting and exploring.

Mary has been on the Board at Queen Margaret's School since 2015 and has served as Chair since 2016. She brings energy, leadership and curiosity to the Board, and she is proud to have helped the School ready itself for its second century. Her two boys have been on the journey with her and are now in the Senior School.

Why QMS?

I have a passion for learning and I want to help allow children to express themselves authentically and effectively in the ever-changing and unknown world we live in today. I believe that QMS is an outstanding school that helps our youth do just that. I continue to enthusiastically support the school year after year because of the nurturing and academically exceptional experience that the children receive.



Bruce Munro, Treasurer

Bruce holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Alberta. Bruce was born and raised on Vancouver Island and now resides in the Cowichan Valley with his wife and their three children.

After his business education, Bruce returned to Vancouver Island and began his professional career in Nanaimo. For the past 20 years, he has helped structure, finance, build and manage senior and family rental housing.

Bruce is a strong supporter of the outdoors, Vancouver Island, and is a volunteer youth soccer coach in the Cowichan Valley.

Why QMS?

I am extremely happy and proud to lend my support and energy to QMS. I often refer to QMS as a "hidden jewel" because of the faculty's unparalleled care and attentiveness to student success, the QMS devotion to balanced academic rigor, and the sense of community within QMS. QMS is a fantastic option for parents who want a very special community-based educational experience for their children, and being part of this exceptional learning environment is a highlight for me. We are all learners, and QMS has given so much to our family.



Alison Taylor, Secretary

Alison is a partner at Taylor Pelton, a Cowichan Valley law firm. Alison holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of British Columbia and a Bachelor of Laws degree from Queen’s University. She has been practicing law since 2005.

While at UBC, Alison played varsity field hockey, winning two Canada West titles and three national championship titles. Always up for an adventure, Alison has completed several marathons, including Boston and New York, she has summited Mount Kilimanjaro, completed Ironman Canada and skied off piste in the Monashees and the Alps.

Alison served as the chair of the Cowichan District Hospital Foundation from 2014–2020. During this time, the Foundation raised over \$9 million to improve health care services at the Cowichan District Hospital.

Why QMS?

The QMS community has given so much to my children in a relatively short period of time. I am hopeful that I will be able to make a meaningful contribution to this community through service on the Board of Governors.



Sherra Collett, Governor

Sherra holds a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from UNBC and a Tech Diploma in Civil and Structural Engineering from BCIT. She was born and raised in the Cowichan Valley and after spending a decade going to school and working, returned to her strong ties with her family and community.

Sherra has spent the past 19 years working for her family’s RV dealership in finance and building a commercial real estate investment company. She has been able to use her work environment to engage her community and learn the value of connection.

Sherra served on the Cowichan District Hospital Foundation for 8 years prior to having twin daughters in 2010. Since then she has found joy in raising her family with her husband of 14 years and volunteering within many aspects of the QMS community.

Why QMS?

The QMS campus has become a familiar place for my family as my children have been there since they were 3 and I feel a strong tie to make the School a place of connection, growth and experience.



John Garrad-Cole, Governor

John is an entrepreneur and business owner, and holds a First Class Degree in Economics from the University of Bristol. John is originally from the UK, having immigrated to Canada in 2009 with his wife, Leah. His career in the UK was spent in finance in London, working for investment banks where he provided corporate finance advice to public companies.

Since his move to Canada, John has focused on creating and running multiple consumer packaged goods companies, including Love Child Organics, one of Canada's largest organic baby food brands.

He and his family moved to the Cowichan Valley in 2022, motivated by the desire to send their children, Poppy ('27) and Cameron ('30) to QMS.

John is a keen skier, runner and cyclist, and he and his family are enjoying exploring their new surroundings on Vancouver Island.

Why QMS?

My wife and I knew as soon as we visited QMS that it was the right school for our children. It offers a rigorous academic programme combined with an extensive extracurricular offering, in a warm and supportive environment. I'm delighted to have the opportunity to help support the continued growth and development of the school.



Ian Humphries, Governor

Ian is a partner at Thorsteinssons LLP, Canada's largest law firm practicing exclusively in taxation, where he primarily provides advice to private corporations and their shareholders on taxation matters and estate planning. Prior to law, Ian worked in finance in Toronto as an investment banker.

Ian holds a dual Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Arts degree from Queen's University as well as a J.D. degree from the University of British Columbia.

Outside his practice, Ian and his wife keep busy with their four boys who ensure they are never idle. While new to the area, they are proud residents and hope to give back to the exceptional Cowichan Valley and QMS community.

Why QMS?

QMS is a special place. I cannot think of many institutions that offer the unique combination of programming, personalized teaching, and a range of experiences that QMS provides its students and families.

As a parent, I take great comfort in knowing that my children and their peers are receiving both a world-class education and learning fundamental values through QMS and its educators.

We are fortunate to have QMS in our community.



Denise MacDonald, Governor

Denise is a Coordinator with Scheduling Services Duncan for Island Health. Denise holds a Recreational Leadership Certificate and an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice, however found her passion in the healthcare field.

Denise was born and raised in the Cowichan Valley and is an Alumni of QMS having attended from 1986 to graduation in 1992. Denise is looking to support the traditions and heritage that QMS has and the programs that make it strong.

Denise has one daughter attending QMS in the Senior School, Loryn R ('24), and another daughter who graduated in 2022, Charlie R, following in their mother and aunt's ('88) footsteps.

Denise leads a fairly active life with her family as they enjoy the outdoors through camping and fishing. When at home, Denise enjoys her garden and entertaining her friends.

Why QMS?

I am extremely proud of QMS and the individual that it has helped me become. QMS taught me to be respectful of all people, appreciate what they have to offer, and to be thankful for their friendship. QMS taught me to think for myself, respect myself, and stand-up for what you believe in. These are attributes that I have passed on to my daughters and was proud to have the opportunity to have them attend QMS so they themselves also receive these values. *Beyond All Dreams* notes that anything is possible if you look to the future.



Tyler Vanderputten, Governor

Tyler grew up in Calgary, Alberta. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry in 2001 from the University of Victoria and after trying on a few hats, he taught in the university's laboratory program and developed pharmaceutical drugs as a medicinal chemist in San Francisco. His love for conversation and people took him back to Alberta from the bench to the sales world. There he spent much of his career working with VWR International and Thermo Fisher Scientific. He also completed an MBA in 2009 in Calgary before moving to Vancouver Island in 2010 working most recently with GE Healthcare until 2012.

In 2012, Tyler decided to leave the workforce and has been a full-time stay-at-home Dad to his 3 children for the last 9 years. He has enjoyed supporting his wife's thriving surgical career. In all their busyness, the entire family loves exploring the great outdoors through swimming, skiing, hiking and travelling.

When Tyler's not with his children and his wife, you will often find him playing piano or pursuing his new hobby exploring the local mountains on his mountain bike. He also has a lifelong passion for basketball and coaching, which he gets to enjoy with QMS students.

Why QMS?

Tyler and his family moved to the Cowichan Valley in 2017, a move influenced by Queen Margaret's School's reputation. With small class sizes and quality teaching, Tyler was drawn to the school's familial atmosphere. An extreme extrovert, Tyler sought to support the school however he possibly could. QMS became a home and family not only for his 3 children, but for himself as well.