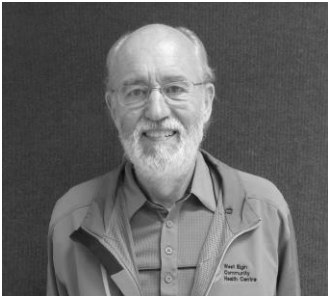


## **Board of Directors 2023-2024**

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### **David James – Board Chair**



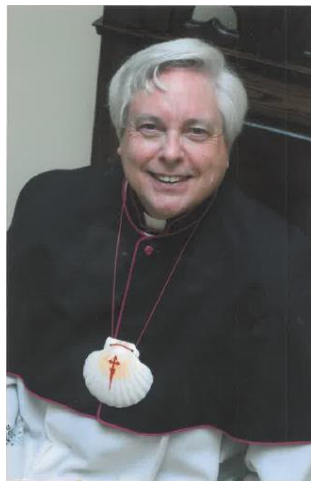
David James was born and raised in England completing his education with a degree in civil engineering at Manchester University. He volunteered in Africa for one year after graduating and then immigrated to Canada in 1968. He worked for 42 years as a civil engineer in both the private and public sectors before retiring in 2008 and moving to West Lorne.

David is active in his church serving locally in West Lorne and on diocesan committees. He was a Boy Scout leader for 25 years. David also served for six years on the board of the Border Cities branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada including a term as president. David's focus on the Health Centre Board is to protect the excellent and vital work of the Community Health Centre.

David was previously on the Health Centre's Board for six years and rejoined the Board in September 2020 currently holding the role of Board Chair.

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### **(George) Nick Wells – Alliance Liaison**



Born George Nicholson Idenden in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Nick is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario with a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Divinity from Huron University College. He is currently Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of Tyrconnell and the chaplain of the Old St. Thomas Church in St. Thomas. A member of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul's Chapter of Canons. Chaplain of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 41, President of the Elgin County Developmental Services, Treasurer of the Ontario Visual Heritage Project, and spiritual care provider with the Elgin County Palliative Care Outreach Team.

Nick is a founding member of The King's Company of Historical Re-enactors and History Matters Association. He participates in many roles depicting the history of Southwestern Ontario. Nick joined the Health Centre's Board in September 2019 is the Board's Alliance Liaison and a member of the Finance Committee.

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## Linda Long



Linda Long is a lifelong West Elgin resident. She grew up on a tobacco farm outside of Rodney and settled in Rodney after marrying her husband Brian where they raised their 2 children. She completed her Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Psychology, at the University of Western Ontario.

Linda has worked in a variety of roles for Quad County Support Services for 33 years including serving as Executive Director for the last 8 years. She is passionate about supporting and advocating for individuals who have developmental disabilities.

Over the years Linda has been involved in various community activities and events with her family. She has a keen interest in developing community partnerships and creating inclusive communities and is excited to continue as a Board Director. Linda joined the Board in September 2020.

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## Merle Massé Ciparis

Merle moved to Rodney in 1990 when she and Don married. She has provided “support services” for their farm business while raising two sons and pursuing her career as a physiotherapist.



She was born and raised in St. Paul, a small town in North Eastern Alberta, and graduated from the University of Alberta with a degree in physiotherapy. Merle has enjoyed a 40-year career in rehabilitation retiring from full-time work at St. Joseph’s Health Care London (Parkwood) in December 2018 but returning to casual work at Parkwood in March of 2019.

Merle and Don have been supporters of the West Elgin Community Health Centre since its inception in 1994.

Through serving as a Board Director, she hopes to continue contributing to the health care system in Ontario and to her community. Merle joined the Board in November 2019 and is a member of the Governance Committee.

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## Richard Kissule

Richard was born and raised in Uganda, East Africa. He is married with 4 children and currently lives in Aylmer, ON. In 2001 Richard moved to England, UK to join the University of Wales. He graduated with a bachelor’s degree in accounting.

In 2005, Richard completed the Chartered Accountants designation, ACCA. In 2010 he graduated with a master’s degree in accounting with Finance. 2012 was a big move for Richard and his family that saw them on the other side of the planet, Aylmer, ON. In 2018 Richard completed his CPA designation and later completed an In-Depth Tax course.

Richard is very passionate about gospel and actively involved in sharing God’s word. When he’s not cracking numbers and taxes, he loves comedy and to keep people around him laughing! He joined the Board in 2022 and is a member of the Finance Committee.

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## **Kathy Haehnel – Secretary - Treasurer**

Kathy Haehnel was born in London, Ontario. As a little girl, she went to grades 1 through 3 in Montreal before returning to London. Kathy attended high school in North Bay, Ontario before completing her Bachelor of Arts at the University of Western Ontario in London. When she met and married her husband Walter, together they made their permanent home in Dutton where they raised a family.

Shortly after graduation Kathy joined the Ontario Public Service where she began her career in the Ontario Health Insurance Program. She earned a management position with responsibility for Health Claim Payment and Health Card Eligibility. After 22 years working in health administration, Kathy was promoted to a Regional Manager position in the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. In that role she managed staff and programs related to rural economic development for all southwestern Ontario. Kathy retired in 2017 from the Public Service after a 34-year career.

A lifelong learner, Kathy has continued her studies in many areas - adult education and economic development. She brings her education, experience, and passion for rural communities to her roles in the finance committee and as a member of the Board. Kathy joined the Board in June 2021 and is currently the Secretary / Treasurer.



## **Larry Schneider – Vice-Chair**

Rev. Larry Schneider, of Rodney, is a retired teacher and secondary school principal. He was ordained with the United Church of Canada in 2015, but has been on LTD for five years, returning this fall to part-time ministry.

He is active in our community, as President of the Kiwanis Club of Rodney, writing weekly articles on local affairs for the local paper and is a recent recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II 70th Jubilee volunteer award.

Larry and Gwen have three adult children and a rapidly increasing number of grandchildren.

Larry joined the Board in 2022 and is currently the Vice-Chair.

## Jeff Knipfel

Jeff was born and raised in the Waterloo Region, where he met and married his lovely wife Sonya in 1995. He worked for several years at an automotive parts distributor before retraining as a web developer in 2001. In 2017 he moved to West Lorne and has enjoyed being a part of the community ever since. He currently operates a woodlot and does renovation work in the area. Jeff has held several board positions for condo corporations over the years. He and his wife have operated the charitable foundation Safe Have Children Centres for the last 10 years. This organization has provided shelter, medical care and education to dozens of orphans and abandoned children in Kisii, Kenya.



Jeff has been volunteering with the Community Centre since 2020 and is looking forward to being of service to the community as part of the board.

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## Dawn Maziak

Dawn was born and raised in Windsor, Ontario, and she moved to West Elgin in 1993. She pursued her professional education and obtained a master's degree in social work, where she focused on research, planning, and administration.

At the start of her career, Dawn worked as a clinician, providing support to various, vulnerable population groups in the not-for-profit sector. Over the past twenty-seven years, she has held several positions with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Primary Care Branch, the Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network, serving as the Mental Health and Addiction Lead.



Recently, she has been working as the Health Equity Lead with Ontario Health East. Dawn is passionate about rural life, and she enjoys landscaping and taking care of her koi ponds.

And most importantly, if you look at this newspaper article from 1994, you will see Dawn in the front row representing our Centre nearly 30 years ago. Welcome back Dawn!



The West Elgin Community Health Centre is scheduled to open for business on August 2, 1994. Staff members include, front row, left to right: Dawn Maziak, Social Worker; Heather Anne Campbell, Executive Director; and Donna Lunn, Health Promotion Coordinator. Middle row, left to right: Paula Alves, Receptionist/Records Clerk; Rob Taylor, Chiroprapist (Foot Specialist); Joy Scafe, Registered Practical Nurse; and Anita Hazelwood, Administrative Assistant. Back row, left to right: Bob Logan, Reception/Records Clerk; Shirley Kosky, Dietician; Joanne Opsteen, Nurse Practitioner; and Stephen Jones, Family Physician. Rob Taylor works at Parkwood Hospital in London and will be at the Health Centre on a part time basis. Shirley Kosky works with the Elgin-St. Thomas Health Unit and will also be at the Health Centre on a part time basis. (Mercury-Sun photo)