

Getting to Know Your 2025 Board of Directors

June 2025

Dawn Maziak – Board Chair

Dawn was born and raised in Windsor, Ontario and 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



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, Chiropodist; 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)

clinician providing support to various vulnerable population groups in the not-for-profit sector. For more than 25 years Dawn 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, and Ontario Health. And, if you look at the picture to the left, you will see Dawn in the front row working with us over 30 years ago as a Social Worker!



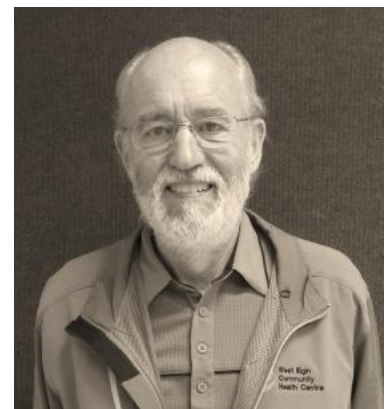
Dawn is passionate about rural life, and she enjoys landscaping and taking care of her koi ponds. She joined the Board as a Director in 2023 and moved to the Board Executive role as Chair in 2024.

David James – Vice-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 and 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 Centre's Board is to protect the excellent and vital work of the Community Health Centre. David was previously on the Centre's Board for six years and rejoined the Board in September 2020, currently holding the role of Board Executive role of Vice-Chair.



Richard Kissule – Secretary-Treasurer

Richard was born and raised in Uganda, East Africa. He is married with 4 children.

In 2001 Richard moved to England, UK to attend the University of Wales graduating with a bachelor's degree in accounting. In 2005 Richard completed the Chartered Accountants designation, ACCA. In 2010 Richard graduated with a master's degree in finance / accounting and in 2012 made a big move with his family to Ontario. In 2018 Richard completed his CPA designation and later completed an in-depth tax course. Currently, Richard is the managing partner of a local accounting firm.



Richard is very passionate about gospel. When he's not cracking numbers and taxes, he loves comedy and keeping people around him laughing! Richard loves connecting and networking with people. He has a deep desire to serve and support his community in any way his skills and knowledge will add value. He joined the Board in 2022 and is a member of the Finance Committee. In June 2025 Richard moves into the Board Executive role of Secretary-Treasurer.

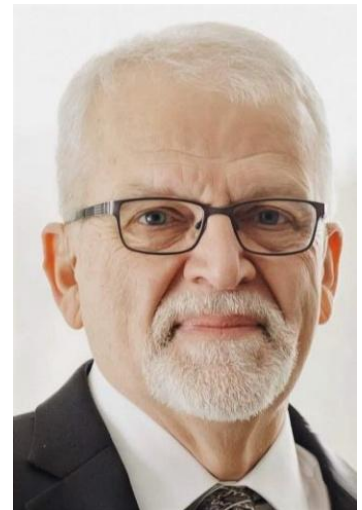
Larry Schneider – Board Director and Fundraising Committee Lead

Rev. Larry Schneider, of Rodney, is a retired teacher and secondary school principal. He was ordained with the United Church of Canada in 2015 and remains involved in ministry part-time. Larry is also a past Queen Elizabeth II 70th Jubilee volunteer award winner.

In addition to being very active in our rural communities, Larry has taken a lead role in "Telling Our Stories" through a series of interviews and written articles about the Centre.

Larry is an amazing fundraising committee lead drawing much needed attention and funding/donor support to the Centre's critical underfunding challenges notably over the past year. Larry also regularly writes general interest articles for the West Elgin Chronicle.

Larry and Gwen have three adult children and a rapidly increasing number of grandchildren. Larry joined the Board in 2022 and is currently a Board Chair and our Fundraising Committee Leader.



Linda Long – Board Director

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 over 30 years including currently serving as Executive Director. 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. Linda joined the Board as a Director in 2020. She has a keen interest in developing community partnerships and creating inclusive communities and is excited to continue as a Board Director in 2025.

**Jeff Knipfel – Board Director**

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 Jeff 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 also operated the charitable foundation Safe Have Children Centres providing shelter, medical care, and education to dozens of orphans and abandoned children in Kisii, Kenya.

Jeff has been volunteering with the Centre since 2020 and joined the Board as a Director in 2023.

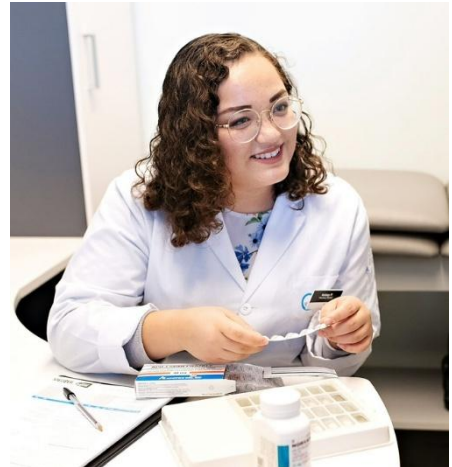
Kelsey-Ann Prior – Board Director

Kelsey-Ann graduated from the University of Waterloo in 2020 with a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree and started working at West Elgin Pharmacy during the pandemic. Shortly after she moved to West Lorne where she quickly fell in love with the community.

In late 2023 Kelsey-Ann purchased the pharmacy and began planning its relocation to a larger, more modern facility to better meet the needs of the community and provide exceptional patient care.

She is passionate about giving back to the community that has welcomed her so warmly, whether it's through sponsoring local events, sports, or fairs. Outside of work, Kelsey-Ann enjoys walking my dog and playing tennis.

Kelsey-Ann is excited to bring her experience as a community pharmacist to the Board of Directors. Having spent years working closely with patients, she can offer a unique perspective on the healthcare needs of our community. Kelsey-Ann is committed to helping improve the local healthcare system in any way she can as she joins the Board as a Director in June 2025.



Jim Patterson – Board Director

Serving as an ordained minister for 44 years, Jim is retired and living in West Lorne. He now works as a school bus driver supporting our local young people.

Jim has served congregations in Montreal, Ontario, Manitoba, and BC. With his wife Brenda, they served as missionaries in El Salvador for five years from 1999 to 2004.

Prior to entering the ministry, Jim worked in train operations with both CN and CP finishing his career as Motive Power Utilization supervisor with CP System Office in Montreal. Jim has a degree in Political Science, History and English from Western, in theology at McGill and has further studies in theology from Wilfred Laurier and McGill.

Jim and Brenda have been married for over 50 years and have four children, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild together.

Jim joins the Board as a Director in June 2025.

