



## **Nominations for Board Positions**

### **2019 AGM**

#### **President**

#### **Peter Klinkow**

I am seeking another term as President of the Burnaby Lake Rowing Club.

Much has changed at Burnaby Lake during the past two years. In December 2017, our most significant issue was weeds in the lake, which made rowing in the warm months difficult and regattas almost impossible. As you know, the good news is that starting in 2018, the City of Burnaby stepped up and hired a contractor to harvest the weeds. The City redoubled its efforts in 2019 and as a result the lake was rowable all summer, the Canadian National Rowing Team returned to the lake in preparation for the World Rowing Championships and the National Rowing Champs were held on a weed-free lake in September.

As a result of efforts by BLRC and our friends, notably Tourism Burnaby, Rowing Canada and Rowing BC, the City has at long last recognized that Burnaby Lake is a unique venue and that additional infrastructure investments will deliver long-term benefits as a sports attraction and venue for local, regional, national and international competitions. This bodes well for the repair/rebuilding of the grandstand area and eventually, storage and launching facilities at the northwest end of the lake.

After controlling the weeds, our next most important initiative has been to spread the word that Burnaby Lake is "open for business." This means expanding the use of the lake via the Burnaby high school learn-to-row and novice programs, bringing in new events like the Metro Vancouver regatta in April, bringing back previous regattas, notably Cascadia, and expanding our membership rolls.

Although I had been BLRC member since 2004 and a director since 2010, becoming president has added many bits of knowledge about the operations of the club and its relationships with the rowing and civic communities. In the next two years I hope, on behalf of the club, to harvest the benefits of that knowledge to expand membership, upgrade our fleet and develop the infrastructure at the lake.

## **Secretary**

### **Bruce Ford**

I have served as Secretary for the past 2 years. Prior to that I was President of the club for 28 years. Stepping back from the role of President has allowed me to take on more duties related to organizing and running regattas as well as fulfilling the duties of Secretary and supporting Peter with some of the communication with members of the sport and rowing community. If elected I intend to keep working at regattas and supporting Peter with my experience working with the City, Rowing BC and Rowing Canada Aviron. Over the last two years our main challenges have been to find a coach that understands the club's vision and can help us to achieve it through offering and developing on water programs that meet the needs of the current membership and expand our reach into the City such as through development of a high school program. The other challenge has been to resolve the weed issue and it appears that we may have found a resolution with the City stepping in to buy and probably operate a weed harvester. If that works out, the next challenge we need to turn to is redevelopment of the boathouse and Pavilion to accommodate increased rowing activity at the lake – supporting the success of expanded on-water programs. The other challenge we now need to address is the management of the lake and associated infrastructure. The Club, under contract to the City, has been tasked with the role of caretaker and manager of the rowing course. This takes a lot of the board's time, some of that time would be better focused on developing the club. We need to find ways of involving more members of the rowing and canoe/kayak community into these tasks. I look forward to participating in solving both those challenges over the next 2 years as the club secretary and member of the board.

## **Captain**

### **Larry Crowley**

I would like to submit my candidacy for club "Captain" of BLRC at the upcoming 2019 Annual General Meeting. In doing so, I believe my rowing and club experience would be of assistance to BLRC.

I have been rowing for 10 years, nearly all of it at Vancouver Rowing Club and BLRC. During that time, I was Vice Captain of operations for four years at Vancouver Rowing Club.

During the last number of years, I have been involved in the petitioning for a weed harvester for BLRC. In the absence of a weed harvester, I helped design and build two harvesters mounted on BLRC pontoon boats that proved to be very useful in keeping our lake open. During that time, I worked closely with other like-minded BLRC volunteers.

I was a member of the NRC Committee and have worked in the background at BLRC for our club regattas and other events to ensure that our fleet of coach boats and rowing equipment are available and in working order as needed. I helped with the Learn to Row program and subsequent novice program and am on site for most of the times when the Lake is made available to other clubs and schools for training camps and special sessions.

Burnaby Lake has enormous potential, both for our members and the community. I would like to be involved in realizing that potential and assisting in the improvement on our current facilities. I would be pleased to work with other members wherever assistance is needed.

## **At-Large Director**

### **Dimas Craveiro**

I would like to submit my candidacy for At-Large director of BLRC at the upcoming 2019 Annual General Meeting. In doing so, I believe my rowing and club experience would be of assistance to BLRC.

I have been rowing for 25 years, nearly all of it at Vancouver Rowing Club and BLRC. During that time, I have been equipment manager for approximately 8 years, captain for 3 years and president of the club for 2 years. In addition, I have been the head of the House Committee for approximately 20 years.

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## **At-large Director**

### **Michael Rascher**

I have been rowing on and off at Burnaby Lake since the '80s when UBC had their program based there and Dick McClure would actually coach from his single. The club and his attention to athletes is a large part of the reason I didn't retire from rowing after failing to make the 88 Olympic team and why I've kept rowing (though not regularly) since then. The last year has been a great experience. Though a lot quieter than those early days the club has a really positive vibe and the attitude and number of volunteers at events is amazing. I have done some volunteering, but asked Mike Bagshawe about how to do that and ended up contributing mostly as an umpire.

I'd like to contribute more to the club directly and as a board member. It would be nice to develop some better boat storage to avoid having storms ravaging the equipment stored out in the parking lot as

we've seen in the last season. The junior program is encouraging and getting more young people on the water would be great. Anyhow I have the time and am excited about where the club is going.

(Editors note: Mike is characteristically modest about his accomplishments. In fact, he made the 1992 Olympic 8, which won the gold medal in an Olympic record time of 5:29:53. The record stood until 2004.)