

DIRECTOR AT LARGE NOMINATIONS



Lisa Yassein

RRP; CVRP; CCVE; ICVE; CVE

Lisa Yassein has worked in the field of Vocational Rehabilitation and Disability Management for 30 years, all of which have been with Agilec. This has included working directly with a range of referral sources and programs, as well as coordinating referrals and supporting Agilec's Vocational Rehabilitation Consultants.

Lisa holds the following credentials: Registered Rehabilitation Professional (RRP); Certified Vocational Rehabilitation Professional (CVRP); Canadian Certified Vocational Evaluator (CCVE); International Certified Vocational Evaluator (ICVE); and Certified Vocational Evaluator (CVE). Additionally, Lisa has completed Motivational Interviewing Levels I & II (Coaching and Coding) Certificates; Certified Life Skills Coach; True Colors®/Personality Dimensions Facilitator Certifications; COPSystem™ Certification; QuickNOC Pro – Transferable Skills Analysis Training; Valpar Pro3000 Training; and AODA Integrated Standards – Train-the-Trainer, as well as other related professional development.

Lisa also wears the hat of Accessibility Champion for Agilec and ensures that accessibility is a priority throughout the company, including creating AODA related policies and documents and training staff in this area.

Volunteer work is important to Lisa, as is involvement in her community with organizations that support persons with disabilities. She was a founding member and Board member for the Durham Region Employment Network (DREN) for over 20 years, until the organization closed in 2018. She has also sat on several other advisory committees and regularly speaks at events on related issues.

Why I would be a good VRA National Director:

There are several reasons why I would be a good VRA Canada National Director. I have had a long-term career in vocational rehabilitation and have actively participated in VRA Canada conferences and events for 20+ years. I follow and remain up to date with VRA Canada priorities, initiatives, and educational options. I support my professional organization and know the importance of membership for professional and personal growth.

Throughout my career, I have had the opportunity to be part of several vocational rehabilitation related service options and have remained passionate about this field of work, understanding the need for on-going professional development to provide services at the highest caliber. Currently I coordinate vocational rehabilitation services for Agilec. In this role I work with clients, a wide range of referral sources, and our team of vocational rehabilitation consultants. I ensure we are providing the highest quality of service and meeting the needs of our clients and customers, while following vocational rehabilitation practices and principles.

Although I have had a desire to be part of the VRA board throughout the years instead I dedicated my time to a local organization and the Board of Directors of the Durham Region Employment Network (DREN). I was a founding member and a Board member for 20 years, until the organization closed in 2017 due to lack of funding. While involved with DREN, I encouraged local organizations who supported persons with disabilities to become members of VRA and seek VRA credentialing options to support their organization's and personal growth.

I have a strong sense of duty and believe that part of our role as professionals is to give back and guide our profession. The key factors that make me a good candidate for a Director, Member at Large position include: my knowledge, experience, and credentials related to vocational rehabilitation; being a long-term active member of VRA Canada; passion and dedication to profession with a desire to help; and an employer who is supportive of the time and commitment.

It would be an honour at this time in my career to be part of the National Board of Directors for VRA.



Marcel Quenneville
RRP

My career has consisted of working with people for over 33 years. I have accumulated extensive varied experience from to role of front-line staff, program supervisor to business owner. I am a Registered Rehabilitation Professional and I am a certified Solution Focus Counselor and a certified Program and Community Developer who is fluently bilingual in both French and English.

I have worked in the Social Service field as a Child & Youth Worker and Program Manager in both Ontario and Alberta. In 1990, I opened the first office in Northern Ontario for the Huntington Society of Canada; educating professionals and the communities while providing group counseling and support to individuals and their families.

While living near Sudbury, I accepted a position as a Rehabilitation Case Manager, which quickly became my passion. I worked for various rehabilitation companies helping individuals injured in motor vehicle accident with their recovery and return to work or to their previous activities of daily living. As the industry changed and many rehabilitation companies folded, in 1998 I was asked by insurance adjusters to continue in the field and to open my own business, something I had never considered. I established a rehabilitation company and named it On Track Support Services, which continues to operate to this day. We had the great fortune to work with both the Auto and Life insurance companies and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

In 2010, I received a call from the Ontario March of Dimes in Kingston and accepted a position as a Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist where I worked helping individuals return to work under the programs of WSIB, ODSP, OW, CCP and Can Vet.

In April 2012, I accepted the position as a Manager of Program and Services for Community Living North Frontenac. The focus is on assisting individuals with needs to be part of an inclusive environment that fosters respect for individuals by having the opportunity to contribute, thrive and meet their full potential. Our goals for the individuals we serve include living independently with support and securing meaningful employment.

I have been a member of the VRA Board as the Ontario Society representative for the past two years and would love to continue my work with the Board.



Sylvie Desjardins
CCC, LCT, CVRP

Sylvie is a Certified Professional in Vocational Rehabilitation (CVRP) with the *College of Vocational Rehabilitation Professionals of Canada since 2018*, a Certified Canadian Counsellor (CCC) with the *Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association since 2011* and a Certified Member (LCT) of the *College of Licensed Counselling Therapists of New Brunswick since 2017*. She is also Registered Rehabilitation Professional with the *Vocational Rehabilitation Association of Canada since 2018*. Prior to my specific training in vocational rehabilitation and evaluation, she obtained a master's degree in Counselling from the *Université de Moncton*, with specific focus on facilitating personal and career development of diverse populations through effective interventions at both the individual and group levels. The primary academic knowledge-based domains are counselling and vocational interviewing, psychometric assessments, diversity, job development and placement, case management and ethical and professional conduct. Prior to that, she completed a Bachelor of Multidisciplinary arts degree with Psychology, Education and Business as my majors. Her professional certifications and training allow her to perform level A and level B psychometric testing to conduct vocational assessments/evaluations.

Throughout her career, Sylvie has worked as career counselor, an employment counselor, an inclusion advisor and has held various other roles with the government of New Brunswick. In 2015, she founded her own company, NxCareer, with the goal of helping as many people as possible to find their most suitable career option. Since then, she has coached and guided more than 1000 clients to recognize their skills and get a job that better meets their expectations and their ambition. In 2019, Sylvie was also invited as a speaker on more than 25 occasions across New Brunswick and the province of Quebec.

Sylvie is passionate about all the hidden secrets of job hunting. She developed her expertise by advising adults undergoing a career transition and by guiding organizations to find the best employees. As a business owner and career specialist, she has been invited to Radio-Canada / CBC

and Acadie Nouvelle on several occasions and has been nominated (Top 40) from 20 sous 40 by the Grand Chamber of Commerce Moncton in 2019.



Tara Beaton
RRP, RVP, CVRP, CDMP

Tara Beaton (Hreceniuk) entered the field of vocational rehabilitation over 17 years ago. A member of VRA Canada since 2003 and of CAVEWAS since 2005, she has held the roles of VR Specialist and Consultant, LMR Contract Manager, Work Reintegration Manager, and Learning & Development Specialist (Rehabilitation Case Management). She has been a VR professor and course developer for York University, Pacific Coast University for Work Health Sciences, Seneca College, Conestoga College, and St. Clair College. Tara co-developed the national CVRP certification exam, having sat on that committee for 6 years, and is a former member of VRA Canada’s educational advisory committee. In 2018 Tara contributed to the project framework development, module development, and peer review for the launch of the VRA Online learning academy.

Tara maintains the RRP, RVP, CVRP, RTWDM, and CDMP designations. She holds a disability management diploma from Dalhousie University, and a master’s degree in adult education, with a research focus on workplace learning and vocational training access.

“I am honoured to be nominated by my peers to serve on the VRA Board. If elected to serve, I would be committed to representing the entirety of VRA membership, having an appreciation of the diversity of the VR disciplines, systems, and programs across Canada in which our members practice. This commitment is supported by my years of experience in the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors, in not only local or provincial contexts but in national contexts. In addition, I offer VR experience in the WCB, Veterans Affairs, CPP-D, STD, LTD, Auto, and Legal spaces – in both consultant and management functions – and I have worked with stakeholders across the many disciplines that touch VR, including workers, employers, health care providers, therapists, insurers, and legal representatives. Finally, as a passionate supporter of our mission to serve clients with competence, develop our expertise to deliver results, and advocate for our profession, I would make it a priority to be a collaborative and responsive member. Thank you.”



Terena Delaney
BA, RRP, CCRC, CVE

Terena has been in the field of vocational rehabilitation for over 35 years. After working for both the Alberta Workers' Compensation Board and for a private practice firm, she started her own company in 1989 and successfully managed its growth and expansion throughout Alberta until 2015. Following this, she worked as an independent forensic vocational evaluator providing assessments to the legal community.

She has co-authored the last two versions of the Code of Ethics for the Canadian College of Vocational Professionals (CVRP) and has presented on various topics related to Ethics at numerous conferences and training seminars. Terena also developed three training modules for Vocational Rehabilitation Association of Canada (VRAC). She has previously served on the VRAC Board (then CARP) as the President of the Alberta Chapter (4 years) and as National Secretary (2 years). She is an advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities in her community and currently is the Chair of the Board for Canadian Mental Health – Edmonton Region.

Terena is a Registered Rehabilitation Professional (RRP) with the VRAC, and a Certified Vocational Evaluation Specialist (CVE), and Canadian Certified Rehabilitation Counsellor (CCRC) with the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselling Certification (CRCC) in the United States. Terena previously served on the Board of CVRP and met the criteria as a Certified Vocational Rehabilitation Professional - Fellow (CVRP- F); and a Canadian Certified Vocational Evaluator - Fellow (CCVE- F) and held these certifications until she retired from the College in 2020.