PCLS Board of Directors

Class A Director Candidates to be elected by eligible Class A members at the AGM

Ian McKellar*

Ian is a labour and civil law lawyer at Dewart Gleason LLP. While in law school, Ian served for a term in the Workers' Rights division of PCLS. He then articled at the clinic, and served as a staff representative to the clinic's Board of Directors. He also worked as a law clerk at the Supreme Court of Canada. Ian lives in Parkdale. He regularly works with clinic lawyers and students on cases involving defamation issues.

Shari Robbins*

Shari grew up in Parkdale and has lots of experience with the injustices that many people in the community face daily, including as a former client of the clinic. Through peer support work with various organizations and through founding ASOS (Advocacy, Support and Outreach Services), Shari serves the community in encampments and respites where people are living in poverty. She brings her own lived experience with the legal system and deep understanding of issues facing poor people in Parkdale and Toronto.

Andrea Vitopoulos*

Andrea is a lawyer at Dewart Gleason LLP. Her practice focuses on labour law, employment law and civil litigation. In law school, Andrea worked as a caseworker in the immigration division at Parkdale Community Legal Services. She participated in a successful unionizing drive at the clinic and was one of three students who negotiated a first collective agreement for student caseworkers. While at Osgoode, Andrea also participated in a year-long feminist advocacy intensive program at the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic and was a research assistant to multiple professors. On her days off Andrea can be found hunting for vinyl, haunting your local movie theatre or perusing any political anthropology text she can get her hands on. She speaks French.

Newsha Zargaran*

Newsha is a lawyer at Cavalluzzo LLP practicing in the areas of union-side labour, employment, and professional regulation. Newsha received her JD from Osgoode Hall Law School, and in

2021 she was a student in the Workers' Rights division at PCLS. Prior to pursuing her legal education, Newsha earned a Bachelor of Commerce in 2015 from the Smith School of Business at Queen's University and worked in professional services. Newsha's commitment to social justice is informed by her experiences as an immigrant and first-generation lawyer. In her spare time she keeps her many monstera plants mostly alive and probably underwatered.

* Standing for re-election

Class B Director elected by Class B members, students in the Poverty Law Intensive Program.

Suliya Mazou - Elected for a one-year term

Suliya Mazou is a final-year law student at Osgoode Hall Law School and a caseworker at Parkdale Community Legal Services. A first-generation Nigerian-Canadian from Jane and Finch, she brings a background in global health, experience in legal advocacy and, community service.. Her work reflects a commitment to access to justice, human rights, and supporting underserved communities. She is also interested in international arbitration and the role of law in addressing global inequalities.

Class C Directors elected by the Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School as the sole Class C member

Lorraine Chuen

Lorraine is a workers' rights lawyer practicing union-side labour law. During her time at Osgoode Hall Law School, Lorraine was a law student case worker at Parkdale Community Legal Services, assisting low-wage workers on various employment matters. Lorraine views legal work as one of many tools — alongside grassroots community organizing — for advancing justice for migrants, tenants, and poor and working-class people. She has been involved in groups such as Friends of Chinatown Toronto, Butterfly (Asian and Migrant Sex Worker Support Network), and Workers' Action Centre. Parkdale was the first neighbourhood Lorraine lived in when she first moved to Toronto in 2015. Today Lorraine continues to live nearby in the Parkdale-High Park neighbourhood.

Austen Metcalf (re-elected)

Austen Metcalfe is a Partner of Unified LLP and practices in the areas of labour law, human rights law, and professional regulation. Austen obtained his Juris Doctor from the Schulich

School of Law at Dalhousie University in 2018. Prior to studying law, Austen earned an Honours Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Classical Studies from Bishop's University, and a Master of Arts in Religion from Queen's University. Austen spent his first years of practice providing access to justice to vulnerable populations at community legal clinics in Brantford and the Halton Region. He then moved to a progressive union-side labour boutique in Hamilton where he continued to champion human rights and fight for the rights of workers. Austen has represented clients at a variety of administrative tribunals including the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario, the Social Benefits Tribunal, and the Landlord and Tenant Board. Austen has worked on grievance and interest arbitrations and has appeared at Divisional Court. Outside of work, Austen volunteers with the 519 Legal Clinic and acts as a mentor with Pro Bono Students Canada.