

NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY

Name of Nominee: Shannon Erickson

Community: Yorkton, SK

Position Nominated For: Director

Visual & Performing Arts Involvement

Shannon Erickson has a longstanding passion for the arts that spans both visual and performing arts.

Music has been an important part of Shannon's life from a young age. She has grown to love live music, and her own experience as a worship leader. Her involvement in the visual arts has grown through her work with the Yorkton Arts Council, where she has had opportunities to support artistic endeavours in the community. She has also been developing her own artistic practice through macro photography, exploring the intricate details, textures, patterns, and unexpected beauty found in the natural world. Her photography reflects a growing interest in seeing familiar subjects differently and inviting viewers to pause and look more closely. Notable displays of her photography include - Community pARTners Gallery in Yorkton, SK, Artist Led Residency at the Godfrey Dean Art Gallery, work selected by jury for InFocus Photography international exhibition in Edmonton, AB, and participation in the CARFAC SK Rural Mentoring program.

Through both her personal artistic practice and her involvement in the broader arts community, Shannon is committed to contributing to a vibrant and accessible cultural landscape in Yorkton and beyond.

Board & Leadership Experience

Shannon Erickson brings over a decade of progressive volunteer board and community leadership experience, complemented by a career in management, marketing, communications, and organizational strategy. Her leadership experience spans arts and culture, environmental stewardship, cooperative governance, and civil rights and social action.

She has served on the Yorkton Arts Council Board for nearly nine years, currently as Vice President and previously as President and lead of the Visual Arts committee. In this capacity, she has contributed to organizational governance, strategic direction, community engagement, and the advancement of arts and culture in Yorkton.

For nearly eight years, Shannon has served on the City of Yorkton Environmental Committee and currently serves as Chair. In this role, she facilitates committee meetings using Robert's Rules of Order, supports

effective governance and discussion, and helps guide the committee's work on environmental priorities within the community.

Her board experience also includes serving as a Board Member of the Yorkton Nursery School Cooperative, providing insight into cooperative governance, community fundraising, and the needs of families and early childhood programming.

At the national industry level, Shannon served on the Retail Council of Canada's Environmental Committee, representing Staples Canada alongside environmental and sustainability representatives from major Canadian retailers. This experience provided exposure to cross-industry collaboration, environmental strategy, corporate sustainability, and the development of solutions involving large organizations and diverse stakeholders.

Shannon has also contributed to Ratanak International, a civil rights and social action organization that supports efforts in Cambodia to free and support women and men who have been trafficked and exploited, as part of its core leadership group in Toronto. This work broadened her leadership experience into advocacy, social justice, and community action.

Across these roles, Shannon has developed a strong understanding of board governance, committee leadership, meeting facilitation, strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, consensus-building, and community advocacy. Her volunteer leadership has been undertaken alongside professional management positions, giving her the ability to bring both governance-level perspective and practical organizational experience to the boards and committees she serves.

Additional Experience

Shannon Erickson brings together a unique combination of creative entrepreneurship, marketing expertise, communications. She currently runs her own business supporting authors throughout the book creation and publishing process. She works with authors on book cover design, interior formatting, self-publishing support, marketing strategy, social media, and publishing consulting, helping them move from a manuscript to bringing their books to the hands of readers.

Her professional background in graphic design, marketing and communications further strengthens her ability to contribute to OSAC from multiple perspectives—as a board and committee leader, arts volunteer, working creative, creative-business owner, marketer, and advocate for Saskatchewan's arts communities. She understands both the value of strong organizations and the importance of ensuring that artists and communities have the tools, opportunities, and support needed to develop and share their work.