

## **DIRECTOR AT LARGE- DIANE BJORNSON**

Thank you for your time and consideration in voting for me as Director-at-Large.

I am an accomplished professional with a proven track record of leadership, strategic planning, and organizational development. Passionate about community service and committed to continuing to contribute to the success and growth of OOAA as a non-parent, volunteer board member. I have been involved in minor hockey for over 25 years, both as a hockey mom and serving on various boards.

A dedicated individual with a proven track record in ensuring productivity, I possess a robust set of skills that are essential for any team or organization.

My expertise includes effective communication, conflict resolution, problem-solving, and decision-making.

I believe my commitment and contributions to OOAA over the years have had a meaning impact. In recognition of my contributions, I was honored to be awarded OOAA's Volunteer of the Year in 2024.

## **Volunteer Experience**

**Director-at-Large OOAA** 06-2024 to present

**Manager** – Raiders U18AA 09-2022 to present

**OOAA Equipment Director** 09-2021 to 04-2025

- Ordering and organization of OOAA issued equipment
- Maintain the inventory reports
- Main contact between teams and association for equipment needs/questions
- Implemented the Graduate Jersey Program
- Collaborated with the board of directors to establish priorities and set strategic direction

**Volunteer Coordinator – Okotoks Jr B Bisons** 09-2000 to 04-2024 • Responsible for the organization of game day volunteers • Liaison with the parent group • Organized and supported fundraising efforts through event planning

## **DIRECTOR AT LARGE- Ben Graham**

I am fortunate to still play the great game of hockey. I played AAA Midget for 2 years and then moved to a 3 year career in Olds for the Grizzlies in the AJHL where I served as captain for 2 years.

I have been involved with minor hockey in Okotoks for over 15 years. I have had 3 kids come through both OMHA and OOAA. I have committed time to both organizations as coach and board member. I have pushed for accountability at the coaching and board level. My involvement as a coach and parent on both the female and male side gives me a unique perspective.

On a personal note, I run Canada's largest agricultural focused marketing agency. I manage a group of employees in Canada, the US and Europe. I am the National Chair of the Canada 4H Foundation and am the Past Chair of the Canadian Country Music awards. Providing me with perspectives outside the hockey world.

I believe moving toward a more athlete focused program is important which will ensure our draw zone talent wants to be a part of our Raider's and Oiler's programs. We need to have a culture of continuous improvement to ensure we remain a competitive and desirable option for young men and women to participate in at a high level.

I have a strong passion for minor sports, coaching and mentoring youth and I am happy to stand for a director at large position. Thank you for your consideration.

## **DIRECTOR AT LARGE- Dan Parsons**

My name is Dan Parsons, and I'm proud to be an active member of the Okotoks Oilers Athletic Association (OOAA) Board, currently serving as the Equipment Director. I live in Okotoks with my family, and I'm excited that my son will be playing U17AAA this coming season. Being involved in minor hockey has been a meaningful part of my life, both as a parent and as a volunteer.

Over the years, I've taken on several roles within the hockey community. I spent a number of seasons as an assistant coach, helping guide my son Jack as well as my daughter Emma when she played Timbits. More recently, I've been behind the camera as the videographer for both the U15AA and AAA teams for the past two seasons—capturing game footage to support coaching and player development.

As Equipment Director, I've committed myself to ensuring our athletes are well-prepared and properly equipped. I attend all board meetings and work closely with the organization to coordinate team jerseys and equipment. I also take the lead in organizing jerseys for both spring and fall evaluations, as well as the Green and White games.

I'm now looking forward to continuing my involvement with the OOAA as a Director at Large giving me the opportunity to contribute more directly to the decisions that shape our programs and support the success of our athletes and teams.

## **DIRECTOR AT LARGE- Kari Meyer**

Since 2016, I have volunteered as a social media coordinator for local minor hockey associations, focusing on engaging families, promoting events, and celebrating player achievements. My dedication to clear and consistent communication has strengthened community involvement and increased visibility for local programs.

In 2023, I volunteered to serve as Website and Social Media Coordinator for the Okotoks Oilers Athletic Association. This position includes managing digital platforms, content creation, maintaining up-to-date information, and supporting operational communications. I've attended over 90% of monthly board meetings, ensuring I stay informed and aligned with organizational goals. In recognition of my commitment and impact, I was honoured with the 2024–25 OOAA Volunteer of the Year Award.

In 2023–24, I also served as a Director-at-Large. This experience has given me valuable insight into board governance, supporting various initiatives, organizational planning, and the collaborative nature of community-based sports leadership.

My goal is to ensure families and players receive clear, concise information in a timely and accessible way. I believe strong, transparent communication builds trust and engagement. I am committed to helping grow the Okotoks Oilers Athletic Association into the preferred choice for elite minor hockey in our region by strengthening our digital presence and community connection. Thank you for your consideration.

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE- Lee Morey**

My name is Lee Morey, and I have grown up playing hockey from my time with Cochrane minor hockey finishing at the USport Level . My wife and I decided I should get involved and give back through coaching our boys at the different levels in OMHA years ago. I met many great parents both in the stands and behind the bench. As the family got older, I decided to take a back seat to coaching and became a fan watching hockey and gymnastics with one of my boys playing in OOAA. Fast forward to today, my wife and I feel it is a good time to get back involved with the sport that provided me many great experiences and a network of coaches/managers at all levels of the game. Leaning on my professional experience growing an energy service company from ground floor requires a lot of hard work, communication, trust, and transparency with our team. I will bring that with me to OOAA.

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE- Grant Farion**

My name is Grant Farion, and I am honored to have the opportunity to run for a role of director at large. I have called Okotoks home since 2014 and am happy to raise a family here. Athletics has been a part of my life and I enjoy watching my kids grow as athletes and individuals. As a parent I have had the opportunity to see how different sports organizations and clubs run, providing positive experience for athletes and families; lessons that can be applied to the hockey world. Outside of hockey I am a board member on a non-profit volleyball club. Professionally, I manage a Technical Division of a large service company and have worked on expansion, mergers, and downsizing. I value person-to-person interaction, teamwork, bureaucratic processes and most importantly accountability (Co-Workers and shareholders); all skills that have been useful as a board member.

As a director at large, I have worked on topics and policies that benefit all members of our

association. In my 3 years I have actively been involved with travel policies, apparel policies and recently set up the skills RFP. I feel that every person has a voice within the association and should be heard. Being a member at large affords me the opportunity to work on specific projects with teams, managers and other board members in accomplishing tasks. If given the opportunity, I promise to provide these same traits to the membership.

Thank You

Grant

#### **DIRECTOR AT LARGE- Scott Harding**

My name is Scott Harding and this will be my 6th year being part of the OOAA Board as a Director at Large. I have been part of the Okotoks community since 1999 when I first moved here. I have played highly competitive sports my whole life. I began my coaching career way back in 2008 while my first of three children started playing sports. All three have played and graduated from the Okotoks hockey association. I have been a head coach or an assistant in a multitude of sports from soccer to baseball to hockey while my children were growing up. I currently live in Okotoks and I have been an elementary teacher in the community for the past 26 yrs. All of my children have aged out of community sports, but my love for the game keeps me giving back to it in some way. This will make me an impartial director to help serve our organization better. I have helped with the board being a liaison with the town during tryouts, and being part of a number of committees throughout my tenure on the board. My vision is to work together with the members to make our organization as strong as possible. One goal of mine is to work towards retention of our players throughout their hockey careers.

## **DIRECTOR AT LARGE- Kris Schultz**

My name is Kris Schultz, born and raised in a small Saskatchewan town just outside of Regina. I am the oldest of 3 boys, fortunate enough to have our youngest brother carve out a 15 year NHL career who still works in the game for the Philadelphia Flyers in player development. Prior to moving our family to Okotoks 5 years ago I was the GM of minor hockey in Medicine Hat for 5 of the 7 seasons we lived there. During that time we took registration numbers from under 800 to just under 1,000, we also integrated a female program into our minor hockey system all at the same time I was working full time as a salesman for an oilfield service company, coaching all 3 of my kids and trying to be a great husband. Due to some of the fatigue from that position when we first moved to Okotoks I was not interested in getting back involved in minor hockey, I can now say that I feel refreshed and fully focused on offering my expertise and am confident my commitment to giving back to the game that has given me and my family so much over the years has never been stronger. OOAA has established a lot of good things over the years, and has had the luxury of having a lot of good people helping along the way, I am excited to be a part of that group so we can continue to move forward as a TEAM.