



## Current Board of Governors

### ELECTED GOVERNORS

Ms. Shelly Berlin  
Mr. Kyman Chan '85 (*Treasurer*)  
Mr. Kevin Cuddihy  
\* Mr. Peter Finamore '73  
\* Ms. Ann Glazier Rothwell '85  
Dr. Shannon Hill '85  
Mr. David Longridge '88 (*Secretary*)  
Mr. Tim McGee (*Chair*)  
\* Mr. Dan Sheehan (*Vice-Chair*)  
Mr. Ron Solmer  
Mr. Anthony Souza '72  
Ms. Katherine Tweedie '84

### ADVISORY AND APPOINTED GOVERNORS

Mr. David Angus '62 (*Past Chair and Advisory Governor*)  
Ms. Samantha Stone '87 (*Alumni Association President*)  
Mr. Graeme Crothall  
Mr. Mathew Geddes '93 (*Faculty Representative*)  
Ms. Grainne McElroy (*Parents' Auxiliary President*)  
The Hon. Anthony Quainton '46  
Dr. Alexandra Richie '81  
Mr. Tom Rigos '61  
Mr. Mark Turner (*Head of School*)

\* *Terms expire at the December 2020 AGM*

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**Middle School** 3400 Richmond Road, Victoria, BC, Canada V8P 4P5 **Phone** 250-592-3549  
**Senior School** 3400 Richmond Road, Victoria, BC, Canada V8P 4P5 **Phone** 250-592-2411

**www.smus.ca**

# 2020 Election Materials

SMUS Board of  
Governors Election

## Mr. Peter Finamore '73



Peter attended SMUS from 1968-1973 during the period of amalgamation of University School & St. Michael's School. Peter was the Head of Winslow House, served as a Prefect for two years, was President of the XX Club, captained the 1st XI Cricket Team and was a member of the 1st XV Rugby & 1st XI Soccer Teams. Peter considers the friendships he has developed during his formative years with the SMUS community profound and lifelong.

Peter received his bachelor's degree in Commerce from Concordia University in Montreal. He then embarked on a career in the hospitality industry spanning four decades over multiple continents, working for some of the most successful companies in the world including: The Peninsula Group in Hong Kong, Manila, Beijing and Chicago; Hilton International Company in Montreal, Hawaii and London; Boyd Gaming Corporation in Atlantic City and Las Vegas; Rosewood Hotels & Resorts in Riyadh; the Regent Hotel Group in Taipei and MGM China in Macau SAR. He currently serves as the Senior Vice President of SJM's Grand Lisboa Palace in Macau which features the Grand Lisboa Palace Hotel, Palazzo Versace Macau, and The Karl Lagerfeld Macau. Peter is known in the industry as a quality-driven operator. It is with this focus and passion for excellence that Peter prides himself in serving the SMUS community as a member of its current Board of Governors.

Peter and his wife Wen Lu have two sons. Sean graduated from SMUS in 2018 and is currently a sophomore at

Harvard College. Mark graduated from SMUS in 2020 and will be attending University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a Morehead-Cain Scholar. Both Sean and Mark were boarding students and proud members of Barnacle House.

### **Why do you want to be a Governor of SMUS?**

My relationship with SMUS has spanned over 50 years, first as a student and an alumnus, then as a parent of two boys and a member of the Board of Governors. It is no exaggeration that SMUS is part of our family's DNA, shaping my life and the lives of our children during their important formative years and into young adulthood. We have a family motto, "always strive to be the best version of oneself" and by extension, I would like to see SMUS to be a community that strives to be its absolute best. My love for the school's rich history and desire to see it continue to flourish has served as the foundation of my involvement on the SMUS Board over the past three years.

I have been extremely fortunate in my career in the hospitality industry. At this stage of my life, I desire nothing more than to give back. If there is one thing that the service industry has taught me, it is that, "the devil lies in the details". We can all strive to be visionary, but to achieve long-lasting success requires hard work, tenacity, and a willingness to tackle the details along the way. Over the course of the past three years as a Governor, I served on the Facilities Committee, the Nominations



# 2020 Election Materials

SMUS Board of  
Governors Election

## Mr. Peter Finamore '73 continued

Committee, and the Governance Committee. In all these capacities, I continue to see a need to strengthen structure and process.

### **What support and expertise would you bring to the SMUS Board of Governors?**

SMUS's recently published strategic plan, Floreat, addresses our school's desire to attain "The Highest Standards in Governance". Dedication, diversity, representation of current and past parents and alumni, and support of strategic decision making are all but some of the key points highlighted as priorities for our school. These are the same qualities I believe I contribute to the Board of Governors.

My extensive experience in operating successful businesses in challenging and culturally diverse environments have allowed me to understand not only strategic thinking and planning, but also the importance of follow-through and adaptability. At the end of a day, a plan is only as good as the way it is executed. As a current Governor, I am committed to helping to safeguard the school's vision, to support the implementation process, and most importantly, to uphold an uncompromisingly high standard and quality in all initiatives to better our community. I may not always agree with the consensus, but I never compromise the importance of process, diligence, and detail in pursuit of the RIGHT path.

Dedication and experience aside, I also represent a perspective from outside of Victoria and a strong voice for our boarding community. Although boarders make-up only a quarter of our student population, they contribute to nearly 50% of the school's annual operating budget. With an already overwhelmingly large majority of our Board members currently living within the Victoria community, it becomes even more critical to preserve diverse representation, to bring more transparency, checks and balances, and an international perspective. My physical location in Asia will also help SMUS in its recruitment and advancement efforts in this vital region of the world.



# 2020 Election Materials

SMUS Board of  
Governors Election

## Ms. Ann Glazier Rothwell '85



Ann Glazier Rothwell '85 grew up in Victoria, graduating from SMUS in 1985, one of the first years of co-education. Ann and her husband Alex Rothwell moved back to Victoria in 2015 and are the proud parents of two alumni (Jackson '19 and Katherine '20) and three current students (Paige '22, Julia '25 and Harry '25) who have attended the Junior, Middle and Senior Schools.

Ann is a Partner and Portfolio Manager at RPIA, a fixed income asset management firm and has more than 30 years' experience in capital markets and alternative investment strategies in Toronto and New York. Prior to joining RPIA, she was the Founder & Chief Investment Officer of Alpha Scout, a fund of hedge funds and Vice President & Director of the Alternative Investment Strategy and Proprietary Trading Group at TD Newcrest. Ann began her career at RBC DS in Fixed Income Sales in Vancouver.

Ann is a Chartered Financial Analyst, a Leslie Wong Fellow of the UBC Portfolio Management Foundation and holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the Sauder School of Business at UBC. She currently sits on The University of Victoria Foundation Board and The Sauder School of Business Faculty Advisory Board. Ann has served two terms as a Governor of SMUS and one term as a Governor of The Vivat Foundation.

### **Why do you want to be a Governor of SMUS?**

I care deeply about SMUS and would like to give back to the school community by serving on the Board of Governors. As an alumna and as a current and past parent (Jackson '19, Katherine '20, Paige '22, Julia '25 and Harry '25), I bring a balanced perspective to the Board. I hope to continue working with this group of strong and dedicated volunteers alongside of our Head of School and Senior Leadership Team as they implement the Floreat strategic plan for the benefit of our students and the entire SMUS community.

### **What support and expertise would you bring to the SMUS Board of Governors?**

I have a background in finance and have served as co-Chair of the Investment Committee at SMUS, Chair of the Advancement Committee and as a board member of The Vivat Foundation. I also serve as a member of the SMUS Board of Governors Executive Committee and the Campus Master Planning Steering Committee. Should I continue to serve on the Board of Governors, I will continue to support the school in these ways and draw on experience that I have gained through my career in investment management and my board experience at two post-secondary institutions in Canada.



# 2020 Election Materials

SMUS Board of  
Governors Election

Ms. Gillian Hayden '05



Gillian Hayden is a corporate and securities lawyer, having practiced in both Australia and Canada. Since commencing practice in 2013, Gillian has advised public and private companies, as well as non-profit organizations, on a wide range of corporate and commercial issues, including corporate governance and compliance matters. Gillian also has a bachelor's degree in Commerce from the University of British Columbia.

Gillian is a SMUS alumna (2005), having started her experience at SMUS in Grade 10 as a boarder in Symons House, before becoming a day student. Gillian currently lives in Vancouver.

## **Why do you want to be a Governor of SMUS?**

As a SMUS alumna, I would like to further contribute to the SMUS community, and I believe my experience and skillset will be useful as a member of the Board. During my time at SMUS, I was both a boarder and a day student, providing me with a unique perspective on the school and its student body. I believe that the school needs to continue to grow its vibrant, diverse and inclusive community by developing appropriate processes and programs to identify and support children who deserve the opportunity to reap the benefits that SMUS has to offer, regardless of their background.

The Floreat strategic plan recognizes the importance of attaining and retaining the highest quality faculty, and I believe in the vital role of teachers in achieving the highest possible standard of education for SMUS students. With strong programs and processes in place, I believe that SMUS will be well-positioned to continue to provide an outstanding education to all of its students.

With a new head of school and the Floreat strategic plan in place, SMUS will no doubt be taking on new directions and new initiatives. I will be able to provide positive input into the many future strategic decisions that the SMUS Board will be required to make as the school moves forward with its strategic priorities.

## **What support and expertise would you bring to the Board of Governors of SMUS?**

I have been a corporate and securities lawyer for a number of years, currently working in Vancouver at a leading national law firm, after having lived and worked in Australia for a number of years for a leading international law firm. In addition, I have experience working with non-profit foundations and have first-hand experience governing an organization. As a member of the SMUS board, I will bring my extensive corporate governance experience and ability to approach any issue with practicality and reason.

Despite having lived outside of Canada for several years, I have remained in close contact with my fellow SMUS alumni. In addition, my two younger brothers also attended SMUS. I believe that it is extremely important for SMUS to maintain a positive connection with its more recent alumni, in order to develop a strong and lasting bond between the school and its former students. As a member of the SMUS Board, I will be able to represent the school's alumni, including the younger generation of alumni who are undoubtedly the school's future supporters.



# 2020 Election Materials

## SMUS Board of Governors Election

### Mr. Thomas Pressello



Thomas Pressello is married to alumnus Dr. Christina Kay '89 and is a current parent of four children enrolled at SMUS, Oliver '25, Clara '28, Evan '28 and Oscar '29. Within the year Thomas will have children at the Senior, Middle and Junior schools. Having a wife that is an alumnus and children at all three schools will allow Thomas to bring a unique voice to the Board of Governors.

Thomas is an entrepreneur and former investment banker. Thomas started his career in corporate finance with TD Bank after graduating from the Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario. At TD Bank, Thomas was responsible for the financial restructure and lending to several large national real estate companies. Following TD Bank, Thomas joined Samoth Capital, a Toronto Stock Exchange listed (TSX) merchant bank. Thomas focused on establishing and running a large mortgage investment portfolio, structuring several care home investments and making multiple U.S. investments. Upon leaving Samoth Capital, Mr. Pressello formed Active Hedge Capital a financial

consulting company. Within Active Hedge Capital, Thomas led several financial TSX takeovers, debt restructurings and private equity investment into various technology, health care, and real estate companies. Mr. Pressello has also served as a director of multiple TSX listed companies providing him with a strong governance background.

In 2003 Thomas Pressello formed a partnership with one of Canada's largest hedge fund companies Front Street Capital. Collectively Mr. Pressello and Front Street Capital were able to establish a multi billion dollar alternative investment company investing in various Canadian companies. Mr. Pressello worked with financial institutions and family offices around the world investing their capital.

#### **Why do you want to be a Governor of SMUS?**

Having extensive finance skills, board experience and capital raising skills I hope to assist SMUS continue to achieve great success. As SMUS enters an exciting time with Floreat – to achieve these goals SMUS will need to complete a successful capital campaign. Having developed capital raising programs and raised capital around the world, I believe my fundraising skills will be of great assistance.

My financial skills will assist the school in developing a sustainable financial model. Given we currently face many unknowns with a pandemic before us, it is essential that SMUS has a strong financial plan. A strong financial multi-year plan will also become the underpinning of Floreat.

Lastly having worked directly on various boards, I understand the need for board independence. No matter if one is an alumnus, parent, supporter of the school or a friend of the school, a Board Governor must represent all voices. I believe I am uniquely positioned to represent all voices on the Board of Governors.

#### **What support and expertise would you bring to the SMUS Board of Governors?**

I am deeply passionate about SMUS and feel a tremendous duty to SMUS. When our family arrived at SMUS it was under trying circumstances and the school went above and beyond to help our family. After volunteering the last three years on the Advancement committee of the school, I believe my business, finance and governance skills can assist the school at a higher level.

Outside of a personal desire to assist SMUS I believe the Board of the Governors needs to establish a more open and transparent process. With openness and transparency comes better decision making and a greater involvement of the community. SMUS has recently completed Floreat, a strategic plan which indicates the Board needs to review and modernize its own operation and processes.

For SMUS to continue to lead and become a world-class school we need to have the best people possible on the Board and the best practices. Having served as a director of multiple boards I believe I can assist with this strategic Board review.



# 2020 Election Materials

SMUS Board of  
Governors Election

## Mr. Dan Sheehan



Dan Sheehan has been a serial entrepreneur for over 30 years. A graduate of Water Resources Engineering at The University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada, Dan started his first company while studying for his graduate degree. He has spent his career creating and building companies in the consumer products industry.

Dan is the father of three current SMUS students (Meg in Grade 12, Sienna in Grade 9 and Parker in Grade 7). Dan and his wife Leslie Shewring moved to Victoria nine years ago for their children to attend SMUS. Sienna and Parker are both "Lifers" having started at SMUS in Kindergarten. Dan and his family have come to cherish the close friendships that they have built within the SMUS community and feel extremely blessed to have their three children enrolled at St. Michaels University School!

Dan has been a member of the SMUS Board of Governors for the past seven years and serves as its Vice-Chair. Dan also chairs the Facilities and Technology Committee of the Board.

In his spare time, he enjoys physically challenging experiences, and has completed an Ironman distance triathlon, numerous marathons, and recently summited Mt. Hood and Mt. Shasta.

### **Why do you want to be a Governor of SMUS?**

I have been a Governor for the past seven years and during that time I have made a positive contribution to the future success of the school. I love seeing the direct impact of the decisions that I am part of at the Board table being put into action by the school, especially when it comes to projects that directly influence the way that our children learn, engage and experience SMUS.

### **What support and expertise would you bring to the SMUS Board of Governors?**

As an existing Board member (serving as Vice-Chair), what I bring to the table is a broad base of knowledge of how the Board and school function as well as an established method for working collaboratively with the Board, the Head of School and his Senior Leadership Team to actually get things done and to impact change.

