



## Candidates for the Board of Directors of Queer Yukon Society

*Note: This document includes candidates who completed the Expression of Interest form before Nov. 17th, and may not be a complete list of everyone interested in running for the Board.*

### LIST OF CANDIDATES BY POSITION

**President**

Mona Luxion\*

**Vice-President**

Allie Atfield\*

Roger Bower\*

Mona Luxion\*

Britt Olaney

Gwyneth Williams\*

**Secretary**

Allie Atfield\*

Mona Luxion\*

**Treasurer**

Mona Luxion\*

**Directors (up to 4 spots)**

Duane Gastant' Aucoin

Roger Bower\*

Mona Luxion\*

Gwyneth Williams\*

Sydney Wolf

*\* Running for more than one position. (Positions will be filled in the order above, and each person can only hold one position.)*

**Candidate Bios begin on the next page.**

**Nominations are still open!** Any member of Queer Yukon who want to join the Board can simply put their name forward during the AGM. Please consider preparing answers to the questions below to help voters get to know you better.

We particularly encourage folks from all sections of the LGBTQIA2S+ community, as well as those identifying as Black, Indigenous, & People of Colour, women, Two Spirit / Indigiqueer people, Trans/Non-binary people, people whose first language is not English, and people with disabilities. Additionally, we encourage folks living in Yukon communities other than Whitehorse to apply. Board members must be over 18 years of age, and you must attend the AGM to be eligible.

Contact [board@queeryukon.com](mailto:board@queeryukon.com) with any questions!

## CANDIDATE BIOS

### Allie Atfield

(Pronouns: She/Her)

**Tell us a bit about yourself and who you are! If you feel comfortable, you can share communities you identify with or feel a part of:**

I am a queer woman who moved to the Yukon 5 years ago from Australia. Originally I came for 6 months for the adventure of a lifetime and I fell in love with the wilderness, the community, the uniqueness that the Yukon has to offer. I identified as lesbian since the age of 15, but then became more fluid and now identify as queer.

**Are there any specific skills or experience that you're excited to bring to the Queer Yukon Board? Do you have any previous experience sitting on a Board or working with a similar organization?**

I have not worked on a board before but I've worked in health care since being in the Yukon, so I have a good rapport with the community. I'm a very opened minded and determined person who would like to be part of making a difference.

**Why are you interested in joining the Queer Yukon Board? Is there anything that you're specifically interested in working on if you join the Board?**

I would love to be a part of organizing more queer events in the Yukon and even a space where youth struggling with their sexuality can be comfortable.

**I'm interested in running for:** Vice-President, Secretary

**Duane Gastant' AuCoin**

(Pronouns: Any people feel comfortable using)

**Tell us a bit about yourself and who you are! If you feel comfortable, you can share communities you identify with or feel a part of:**

I'm a 2-Spirit individual from Teslin, Yukon. I'm a father & grandfather & am a learner/supporter of my Inland Tlingit language & culture. I've been on the TTC Executive Council since 2009. Before this I was involved supporting my LGBTQ2S+ family through my artistic work in Vancouver & the Yukon. I still try to do all I can to support my Queer family in the current work I do.

**Are there any specific skills or experience that you're excited to bring to the Queer Yukon Board?**

Helping establish new programs & structures as well as restructuring existing ones.

**Do you have any previous experience sitting on a Board or working with a similar organization?**

Many different Boards for many different organizations. Just completed my 1st term with QYS as a Director at large & as the Vice President

**Why are you interested in joining the Queer Yukon Board? Is there anything that you're specifically interested in working on if you join the Board?**

I've just completed my first term on the QYS Board as a Director at large & then as the Vice President. I believe in the work that QYS is doing to help make the Yukon once again a safe & supporting home for our community.

**I'm interested in running for:** Director (at large)

**Roger Bower**

(Pronouns: He/Him)

**Tell us a bit about yourself and who you are! If you feel comfortable, you can share communities you identify with or feel a part of:**

I'm a white settler originally from Montreal. I've been in the Yukon for just over 5 years now. Since moving here I've worked in recreation, emergency medical services, and with Yukon University. I have extensive experience in working and volunteering with non-profits across the country. This includes board experience. Most recently I was the Vice-President for the Recreation and Parks Association of the Yukon. I resigned from that position to take on a staff role with the organization and am now the training coordinator. I'm married and have one cat who has an opinion on everything, and am I'm trans and bi.

**Are there any specific skills or experience that you're excited to bring to the Queer Yukon Board? Do you have any previous experience sitting on a Board or working with a similar organization?**

I have extensive experience in the following: strategic plan creation, public consultation, policy/guidelines creation and review, HR matters, promotion, facilitation, training, grant writing/reporting, partnership building with other organizations, and various levels of government including municipal, First Nations, Territorial and Federal. I'm excited about bringing my networking and general knowledge around non-profits in the Yukon to the board. I have experience sitting on numerous boards (2110 Gender Advocacy Centre- Montreal, Trans Health Network- Montreal, Faro Arts and Recreation Association, Recreation and Parks Association of the Yukon). Aside from my board experience I have worked for many non-profits across the country including Ten Oaks Project, Projet 10, Action Sante Tranvesti(E) et Transexuel(LE) du Quebec, the 519, and most recently, RPAY.

**Why are you interested in joining the Queer Yukon Board? Is there anything that you're specifically interested in working on if you join the Board?**

I'm interested in joining the board as I have a lot of experience to offer. I'm excited to see how far this organization has come. I want to help work to create a stable base for this organization to continue for years to come. If selected, I would be interested in helping with policy review/development, strategic planning, Human Resources, meeting facilitation with other organizations, funders or Governments. I'll be honest in saying that my strengths are the "behind the scenes" work.

**I'm interested in running for:** Vice-President, Director (at large)

**Mona Luxion**

(Pronouns: They/Them/Theirs or E/Em/Eirs)

**Tell us a bit about yourself and who you are! If you feel comfortable, you can share communities you identify with or feel a part of:**

Hi! My name is Mona. I identify as queer, trans and non-binary (or, to get more specific, bisexual and genderqueer.) I grew up in Chicago, lived in Montreal for many years, and moved to Whitehorse in 2020 with my partner Robin, who grew up here and is very convincing about how great the Yukon is!

I want to recognize here that I am a white person and a settler, and express my gratitude to the peoples who have cared for this land for generations as well as my commitment to listening and centering the needs, vision and knowledge of Yukon First Nations people in decision-making.

I am also a first-language French speaker, and my experience of the world is somewhat shaped by my first- and second-generation experience of immigration. Oh, and I just turned 36, so I think I'm officially middle-aged.

**Are there any specific skills or experience that you're excited to bring to the Queer Yukon Board? Do you have any previous experience sitting on a Board or working with a similar organization?**

I've been on the board of Queer Yukon since November 2020, and served as President of the board since spring 2021. Previously, I spent about 5 years on the boards of community organizations in Montreal, supporting tenants' organizing and a range of student and community social and environmental justice projects.

I'm a bit of a policy nerd, and I also am comfortable working with budgets and finances and have been on the finance committee of other boards.

**Why are you interested in joining the Queer Yukon Board? Is there anything that you're specifically interested in working on if you join the Board?**

I first came out in ... 2005?, and have been involved with queer community organizing in one way or another even since. To be honest, I feel like queer and trans people showing up for each other is one of the most beautiful and transformative forces in the world, and I'm so excited about what Queer Yukon is doing and want to keep supporting our community in any way I can. I'm currently serving as President, but would be equally happy taking on a different role if someone wants to try out the President role.

**I'm interested in running for:** President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Director (at large)

**Britt Olaney**

(Pronouns: They/Them)

**Tell us a bit about yourself and who you are! If you feel comfortable, you can share communities you identify with or feel a part of:**

I'm a nonbinary settler that identifies as queer. I have ADHD and live with chronic illness. I believe in social justice and the healing potential that exists in community care and connection.

**Are there any specific skills or experience that you're excited to bring to the Queer Yukon Board? Do you have any previous experience sitting on a Board or working with a similar organization?**

I work within a nonprofit organization, and have previously worked in healthcare, therefore I have a unique perspective surrounding the gaps our current system has.

**Why are you interested in joining the Queer Yukon Board? Is there anything that you're specifically interested in working on if you join the Board?**

I'm interested in creating a safe space for people of all abilities and opportunities to share their stories to help create inclusive and innovative ways to meet the needs of our community.

**I'm interested in running for:** Vice-President

**Gwyneth Williams**

(Pronouns: She, They, Siya)

**Tell us a bit about yourself and who you are! If you feel comfortable, you can share communities you identify with or feel a part of:**

Hi, I am Welsh and Filipinx ancestry. I experience the Filipinx/Canadian immigrant experience deeply. I was born in Washington DC - USA and have lived in 7 different countries. For the past 5 + years I've worked for Yukon First Nations governments supporting Indigenous Youth, Children and Families. My partner and I are both bisexual. I am learning more about neuro diversity in my family and in my own mind. I am mama to an ever loving 3 year old.

**Are there any specific skills or experience that you're excited to bring to the Queer Yukon Board? Do you have any previous experience sitting on a Board or working with a similar organization?**

I currently sit on the Nakwaye Ku Daycare board. I am the co-creator of Transition Community Initiative Philippines. An NGO in the Philippines that supports farmers and communities to transition into natural farming methods. We facilitate many social, environmental and community initiatives in the Philippines.

**Why are you interested in joining the Queer Yukon Board? Is there anything that you're specifically interested in working on if you join the Board?**

I am interested in decolonizing orgs from a governance perspective. I am currently taking the Indigenous Governance certificate course at Yukon University. In my own life and in my work with queer youth I hope to advocate and be a positive voice

**I'm interested in running for:** Vice-President, Director (at large)

**Sydney Wolf**

(Pronouns: They/Them)

**Tell us a bit about yourself and who you are! If you feel comfortable, you can share communities you identify with or feel a part of:**

I am a pansexual, non binary, Queer, autistic, ex sex worker. I have been living in the Yukon for 2 years now.

**Are there any specific skills or experience that you're excited to bring to the Queer Yukon Board? Do you have any previous experience sitting on a Board or working with a similar organization?**

I think that I bring a unique perspective from communities that don't always get representation. I had not previously sat on a board, but now have 1 year experience with the QYS board.

**Why are you interested in joining the Queer Yukon Board? Is there anything that you're specifically interested in working on if you join the Board?**

I am excited to continue watching the organization grow. I love the programming and Pride events.

**I'm interested in running for:** Director (at large)