



## **Mayor's Task Force on Economic Development and Prosperity**

### **Member Bios and Photos**

## Dan Gunn

Dan is CEO of VIATeC, the industry association for Victoria, BC's technology sector and serves as its head cheerleader, therapist and personal party planner. He started out on a contract but he kept showing up and creating results, which turned his seven-month contract into an exciting 14-year journey. Since taking the reins at VIATeC, the organization has doubled its membership and grown its budget seven-fold, which enabled the purchase and development of Fort Tectoria, a 16,000 square-foot building in downtown Victoria that is now home to over 30 emerging tech companies.



Dan was elected to public office as a city councillor at the age of 23, but since then his inner entrepreneur and artist have choked out the politician – and he has no plans to see his name on a ballot again. He is a graduate of Leadership Victoria and the Entrepreneurial Management program at Royal Roads University, has been listed on both the Victoria and Vancouver Top 40 under 40 lists, and was named the BC's Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Builder of the Year (2014) by Startup Canada.

## Nicole Chaland



Nicole has worked as a researcher, entrepreneur, organizer and educator in the field of local economics for the past 15 years. Nicole is the Director of Simon Fraser University's Community Economic Development Program. Under Nicole's direction, the SFU Certificate Program for Community Economic Development has awarded \$85,000 in bursaries; 40% of its participants went on to spearhead new businesses or initiatives, and 100% of them have recommended the program to peers.

Nicole is a social entrepreneur. She most recently co-founded theDock: Centre for Social Impact, a co-work space for Victoria's change-makers and social entrepreneurs. In 2013, Nicole launched LEAP! Local Entrepreneurship Accelerator Program. LEAP! moves social entrepreneurs through the start-up process and is offered in rural communities with local partners. Prior to that, Nicole co-founded a co-op that purchases rental properties and converts them to green,

affordable housing in perpetuity.

## Paul Nursey

Paul Nursey joined Tourism Victoria in January 2014. He is an experienced and respected senior tourism leader and progressive tourism marketing, strategy and branding expert. Paul brings more than 18 years of tourism-related leadership and management experience to Tourism Victoria, including leadership positions with the Canadian Tourism Commission, Rocky Mountaineer Rail Tours, Mount Seymour Resorts, and Tourism Vancouver - the Greater Vancouver Convention and Visitors Bureau.

In his first year at Tourism Victoria, member satisfaction spiked by 9%, membership revenue grew 10%, confirmed meetings business grew by 4% and editorial coverage for Greater Victoria travel and lifestyle publications increased by 15%, whilst overhead was reduced by 5%. Paul holds a degree in Regional Planning from Simon Fraser University has completed the Executive Development in Tourism program from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and is currently tackling an online MBA program with the University of Massachusetts Amherst.





## Dallas Gislason

Dallas Gislason took over the Greater Victoria Development Agency in 2012 after more than 10 years as an award-winning economic development practitioner at the local, provincial and international level. Dallas has since taken the agency to a new level: 2014 set precedent as the agency's most successful year since inception – facilitating over 150 in-bound investment groups (bringing tens of millions of dollars to the local economy), advising dozens of entrepreneurs, engaging over 120 companies in export capacity building, designing and initiating the award-winning \$1.6 million Trade and Investment Program (the most significant economic development program in this region in over a decade), and many other initiatives that will carry momentum through 2015 and beyond.

Dallas will bring his experiences from other parts of world to the Mayor's Task Force, as well as the perspective that downtown serves as the nucleus of Canada's 15<sup>th</sup> largest metro-region.

## Darlene Hollstein

Darlene is the General Manager of The Bay Centre in downtown Victoria where she oversees the strategic direction of the centre. She has been employed in commercial property management for the past 22 years.

Darlene is passionate about Greater Victoria and has proven that by volunteering to create change. She has sat on numerous boards including Tourism Victoria since 2011 and is currently a Vice-Chair and Chair of Governance, HR and Risk Committee and previous Chair of Finance. Darlene is the current Chair of the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce Governors and board member of the Greater Victoria Economic Development Agency since 2009. She was the Chair of the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce in 2013 and board member for six years and was Chair of the Governance Committee during her tenure.

From 2007 to 2009, Darlene was Chair of the Downtown Victoria Business Association (DVBA) and a board member from inception in 2005 to 2013. She is the Past President of BOMA Victoria (2009/10) and board member since 2006. She has sat on numerous committees including the Mayor's Task Force on Breaking the Cycle of Mental Illness, Addictions and Homelessness and a past Board Member of the Leadership Council for the Greater Victoria Commission to End Homelessness.



## Ken Kelly

Ken Kelly is an urban planner and the General Manager of the Downtown Victoria Business Association (DVBA). For the past 35 years, he has worked in five of the six regions of Canada in the public, private, and university sectors and has focused on the revitalization of historic buildings, downtowns, and inner cities. He assumed his role with the DVBA in 2004 after serving as General Manager of Downtown Moncton Centre-ville Inc.

Ken is the Past President of the Business Improvement Areas of British Columbia (BIABC), Past President of Downtown New Brunswick, and an Honorary Citizen of Winnipeg, Manitoba. He is a graduate of UBC and Queen's University.



## Jill Doucette

Jill Doucette is the owner and founder of Synergy, a Victoria-based organization with a mission to catalyze the green economy. Her work with local businesses to reach zero waste and carbon neutrality has won numerous awards for innovation and commitment to environmental practice. Ms. Doucette holds a Bachelor degree in Biology and conducted research in Clean Technology for three years before founding Synergy. She is the author of two books: "Greening Your Office: Strategies that Work" and "Greening Your Community: A Guide for the Engaged Citizen".

Jill's strength is in helping organizations develop strategies and implementable plans for businesses to become leaders in sustainability, radiating change throughout their industries and building a stronger bottom line. In the community, Jill has worked to build the Vancouver Island Green Business Program, the Food Eco District Project, and is conducting research on the Business Case for Ultra-Efficient Buildings, such as Passive House. Outside of working for businesses on sustainability leadership, Jill participates on the BC Roundtable for Small Business, advising Minister Yamamoto on strategies for a strong BC economy, volunteers on non-profit boards and mentors students at the Gustavson School of Business.

## Robert Jawl

Robert is a director with Jawl Properties Ltd. a Victoria, BC based owner, manager and developer of commercial office and retail buildings. Recent projects include the development of the Atrium, 1112 Fort Street and 2950 Jutland Road, all of which are located in downtown Victoria. Prior to Jawl Properties, Robert was an associate with the Blackstone Group involved in the firm's real estate private equity investment initiatives including the acquisitions and operations of Equity Office Properties, CarrAmerica Realty and Trizec Properties.

Prior to Blackstone, Robert was an analyst in the Investment Banking Division of Goldman Sachs and Co. Robert holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania (summa cum laude) and a Masters of Science in Sustainable Urban Development from Oxford University.



## Scott Gurney

Scott is a Victoria area resident of 14 years and has been a member of the hospitality industry in Victoria for that same amount of time. He is passionate about the city, and the industry that allows him live a life here. After working on the front lines of the service industry for 15+ years, he started an event production company and began creating and producing food and beverage showcase events for six+ years. Communities in Victoria and Vancouver embrace Scott's events and have seen both Culinaire and Brewery & The Beast thrive. This is made possible through the support of great local partners and communities of people with a hunger for unique and engaging event experiences.

17 Black seeks to continue delivering premium events in Victoria and beyond, believing it can enhance local economies by promoting local businesses, sharing their message, and providing residents and visitors with tangible experiences through special event productions. Scott is invested in the community we all live in, and wishes to contribute to its viability through creative event activations that involve the dedication and commitment from stakeholders within the greater Victoria area.

## Suzanne Bradbury

Suzanne Bradbury owns and runs Fort Properties with her sister Jayne Bradbury. Fort is a third generation family business focused on property ownership, management, and development. Suzanne is passionate about community building and sustainable urban planning and design. She is committed to building a healthy and vibrant community and strives to reflect this commitment in all levels of work - whether it is cultivating a tenant mix, revitalizing aging neighbourhoods, or building a new project. Suzanne and Jayne choose to use a Triple Bottom Line Approach of People, Planet, and Prosperity to guide their business practices and decisions. This approach allows them to build strong relationships with local businesses, advance the green economy, make decisions that promote human health and well-being, and participate meaningfully in the Victoria community. Under their leadership,



Fort Properties recently won Douglas Magazine's Community Award, for the revitalization of the BeLove and La Taquisa building on Blanshard Street, as well as the 2014 Business Examiner Award for Green Company of the Year. Suzanne is the co-chair of the Fabulous Fort Business District and is the incoming Chair of the Downtown Victoria Business Association. As an advocate for local business, she actively pursues and supports business tenants whose vision and leadership enriches our community culture and urban experience. Suzanne is committed to creating "Space That Contributes", and believes that the built environment can positively influence the economy, a city's character, and individual lives for the better.



## Tony Joe

A third generation Victorian, Tony Joe has been a practicing REALTOR(r) since 1991. Elected for 3 terms as a Director on the Victoria Real Estate Board, Tony served as the association's President in 2008 and later represented the Region at the British Columbia Real Estate Association Government Relations Committee. He has chaired committees on Finance and Audit, Education, Arbitration, Community Outreach and Technology.

Tony's local community work includes the Victoria Dragonboat Festival Society, Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness, the Victoria Chinese Commerce Association, Victoria Chinatown Night Markets, the Anawim Companion's Society, the Victoria Cool Aid Society Capital Campaign Cabinet, Victoria Hospice Foundation and Society, and Canadian Blood Services.

He is an active Rotarian, Knight of Columbus and Odd Fellow, and represents Canada on-air during pledge drives at KCTS9 PBS in Seattle. Tony is a founder of the Victoria Business For Business Network, a thriving network of 40 business

people serving Greater Victoria.

## James Coccola

James Coccola grew up in Central Saanich and is proud to call Victoria home. He graduated from the University of Victoria in 2011 and is currently an employee with the Provincial government. He has been an active volunteer with community organizations including the Together Against Poverty Society and the Youth Empowerment Society.

James can often be found in downtown coffee shops meeting with other community members about projects, organizations and activities. He is committed to helping make Victoria a more vibrant, livable city and is looking forward to participating on the Economic Development Task force.



## John Wilson

John Wilson is the CEO and Principal of Wilson's Transportation Ltd and the Wilson's Group of Companies. Under John's leadership, sales have increased 140% and the fleet has expanded from 40 buses to more than 120. In addition to its core business offering of bus charters Tours and rentals, the company has added Gray Line Sightseeing and the YYJ Airport Shuttle to its group of companies. The company also operates an eight-bay mechanical and body shop facility where its contracts include retrofitting BC Transit buses. Through Wilson's Transportation, John has become well-known as an active community leader, sponsor and endorser of Vancouver Island sports teams and athletics.



Born and raised in Victoria, John graduated from the Business Administration program at the University of Victoria. He has been actively involved in the sports community for many years as a coach, player and fan. In 2006, he took that passion to a new level when he purchased the Peninsula Panthers Junior B Hockey Club turning it into a profitable entity. After a brief hiatus from ownership, he returned to the Panthers where he continues as co-owner of the team. In 2014, John also joined the ownership group of the Victoria Grizzlies Junior A Hockey Team and serves as President and Governor.

John currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce, Motor Coach Canada, the Marine Corridor Foundation, Tourism Victoria Transportation Committee, Greater Victoria Sports Hall of Fame, the Langford Economic Development Sport and Rec Committee and SportHost Victoria.

## Liam Scott-Moncrieff



Liam Scott-Moncrieff is a graduating student at Victoria's own Pacific School of Innovation and Inquiry. In addition to regular courses, Liam has taken a position as team lead for the school's innovative and award-winning engineering program. Working in close partnership with local engineering company Limbic Media, Liam's team has built products for several local businesses and events, including Mason Street Farms, Viatic and TEDx Victoria.

Next year, Liam will be joining Victoria's university population as a student at the University of Victoria's Faculty of Engineering, where he will pursue a degree in mechanical engineering and business administration.

While not at school, Liam also volunteers at local events and non-profits, most notably at SALTS, a sail training organization based out of the Inner Harbour. He is also a skilled musician and avid bicyclist, and is an active member of several unique communities within Victoria. Liam has an important connection to this beautiful city, both as a childhood home and a future workplace and community. He looks forward to contributing to the city's economic and cultural future, with special interest in Victoria's growing technology sector.

Liam represents the youth of today, the workers, business owners and neighbours of Victoria's tomorrow. With this in mind, he hopes to ensure that Victoria maintains a prosperous economy and healthy community, for his generation and those to follow.

## Peter Kuran

Peter Kuran is the President and Chief Executive Officer of UVic Properties. Since September 2013, he has led the restructured management of the university's non-academic real estate properties. Peter is committed to ensuring the management of the university's holdings are aligned with its core mission and that donors' wishes are followed.

At UVic Properties, he is responsible for the management of Heritage Realty Properties, which includes downtown residential and commercial units and the Swans Hotel and Brew Pub, bequeathed to the university by Michael Williams; the Vancouver Island Technology Park; the Marine Technology Park; and other off-campus holdings such as the university's Queenswood and Dunsmuir sites.

Peter has a diverse background of commercial real estate and hospitality management expertise, exceptional strategic planning, as well as successful engagement initiatives and partnerships to foster creative solutions with community, corporate and First Nations groups. In his previous role as Deputy General Manager of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, he was responsible for a significant commercial real estate portfolio. Prior to that, Peter was the Director of Commercial Services at Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Polytechnic in Calgary, and the Director of Commercial Services for the Hospital for Sick Kids in Toronto.

Since arriving at UVic Properties, Peter has created a new focused structure for the organization that brings expertise to the key areas of property management, food and beverage management, and finance. He has also led his Board through a strategic planning process that resulted in a new plan for the next five years. A significant part of this plan will focus on ensuring all properties in the portfolio are at their highest and best use, and maximizing the return and long-term value of the diverse portfolio of off-campus real estate holdings.

