

Challenge 2025 Taskforce

Co-Chairs:

Ron McKerlie



President, Mohawk College

Since 2014, Ron has served as President of Mohawk College and Mohawk College Foundation in Hamilton, Ontario. Previously Ron served 10 years in the Ontario Public Service as Deputy Minister Open Government, Interim President of Orange Air Ambulance, Deputy Minister, Government Services and, Corporate CIO and Chief Strategist for Ontario. Prior to joining the Ontario Public Service, Ron's career spanned 25 years in the private sector where he held senior executive positions with Rogers Communications and Bank of Montreal.

Ron holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Dalhousie University, an ICD.D designation from Rotman, is a Fellow of the Institute of Canadian Bankers and a graduate of Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program. Mr. McKerlie is a member of the Board of Directors for World Vision Canada, World Vision International and ORION.

Bill Young



President, Social Capital Partners

Bill Young is the founder of Social Capital Partners (SCP), an innovative non-profit, social finance company started in 2001. Throughout its history SCP has facilitated thousands of jobs for people who face employment barriers through social enterprise and the private sector by linking community hiring to attractive financing. Before founding SCP, Bill worked in the private sector, primarily as CEO of Hamilton Computers – later sold to GE Capital – and Optel Communications Corp. He began his career as a Chartered Accountant and holds an Honours BA from the University of Toronto and an MBA from Harvard. He sits on numerous boards and advisory boards involved in social finance and social innovation and is a Member of the Order of Canada.

Task Force Members:

Monique Biancucci



Vice President People and Culture, ArcelorMittal Dofasco

Monique Biancucci, Vice President People and Culture at ArcelorMittal Dofasco began her career 38 years ago in Human Resources. As a Generalist, she worked in all areas of HR, and led various initiatives including employee engagement and cultural foundation programs, creation of a Strategy and Planning Team and the modernization of the HR systems. In 2002, Monique joined the Automotive Sales Team, initially to lead the re-organization of the Department, then held various positions including Chrysler Corporate Account Manager, Manager Inside Sales, Technical Service and Business Processes, and General Manager, Automotive and Global Coordination. Monique was a member of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and is currently a member of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton and Hamilton Strategy Committee, and the CME Workforce of the Future Committee. Monique is happily married and has two children, a son and daughter, who are also both happily married.

Terry Cooke



President and CEO, Hamilton Community Foundation

Terry Cooke is President and CEO of Hamilton Community Foundation which has played a leading role in mobilizing the community to address issues like increasing access to post-secondary education, strengthening neighbourhoods and reducing poverty. Terry's career includes leadership positions in the private, public and non-profit sectors. He served as Chairman of the Region of Hamilton-Wentworth from 1994 to 2000. Terry is a past Chair of the Canadian Urban Institute and has served on the board of Community Foundations of Canada as well as a number of corporate organizations. In recognition of his community service, Terry has been a Paul Harris Fellow and a two-time recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal. Terry was inducted into the Hamilton Gallery of Distinction in 2016.

Winnie Doyle



Executive Vice President, Clinical Operations and Chief Nursing Executive, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton

Winnie Doyle has over 30 years of experience in healthcare as a midwife, registered nurse, educator, Senior Executive and Chief Nurse. Currently, she is the Interim President at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton.

Winnie has a strong commitment to driving improvement, quality and patient engagement at both the local and system level. She has contributed to many change initiatives, including building a robust culture of patient engagement and new models to ensure integration. Winnie has been the co-chair of the ARTIC Program since 2011, overseeing the program's growth, development and partnership between CAHO and HQO.

Howard Elliott



Managing Editor, The Hamilton Spectator

Howard Elliott has been a reporter, columnist, editor and executive in the newspaper business for more than 40 years. He has been with The Hamilton Spectator, where he currently works as managing editor, for 34 years. As well as his work in journalism he is an active volunteer in community development. He chairs the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, sits on the Hamilton Anchor Institutions Leadership group and is a past member of the Hamilton Immigration Partnership and a founding co-chair of the Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion. He was born and raised in the Stoney Creek-Hamilton area.

Manny Figueiredo



Director of Education, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board

Manny Figueiredo became Director of Education at Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada on August 1, 2015.

Manny has more than 20 years of teaching experience. He began his career as an Educational Assistant in a secondary school, then taught grades 4, 5, 7 and 8 in the Waterloo Region. He spent his time as a school administrator in Hamilton, where he became focused on building learning communities that used data to improve instruction, assessment and culture. Over the last two years as an Executive Superintendent, he had oversight of the implementation of HWDSB's Transforming Learning Everywhere vision.

Susan Giroux



Vice-Provost (Faculty), McMaster University

Susan Searls Giroux is Vice-Provost (Faculty) and Professor of English and Cultural Studies at McMaster University. Her administrative role entails, among other responsibilities, oversight of the undergraduate curriculum across McMaster's six faculties, community engagement, and faculty professional and leadership development with specific attention to issues of equity, diversity and inclusion. She has written dozens of articles and several books. Most recently, *Sites of Race: Conversations with David Theo Goldberg* came out in 2014 with Polity Press, UK. Her book, *Between Race and Reason: Violence, Intellectual Responsibility, and the University to Come* (Stanford University Press), won the prestigious Gary A. Olson Award for Best Book Published in Rhetoric and Cultural Studies in 2010. She has also coauthored, with Henry Giroux, *Take Back Higher Education* and, with Jeffrey Nealon, *The Theory Toolbox*, a revised and expanded second edition of which appeared in 2011. She will commence a new role as Acting Provost from July 2019 to June 2020.

David Hansen



Director of Education, Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board

Over the past 31 years, Mr. Hansen has held a variety of roles, including Elementary Teacher, Elementary Vice-Principal, Elementary Principal, Principal of Programs, Assistant Superintendent of Education, and Superintendent of Education with responsibility for a large administrative/academic portfolio and a family of schools. As the Board's first Catholic School Effectiveness Lead, he integrated Catholic faith elements and look-fors into the Ministry of Education's School Effectiveness Framework, ensuring that the effectiveness of any school was also dependent on how students and staff experience faith at school. As Superintendent, Mr. Hansen was instrumental in leading and supporting the integration and use of technology in schools and Board operations. Mr. Hansen was selected as the Director of Education effective November 24, 2014. Since that time, he has worked to ensure alignment of the Board's strategic priorities and actions to the Board's Mission & Vision and the motto of Believing, Achieving, Serving.

Mr. Hansen is a graduate of St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School, McMaster University (B.A.), and Brock University, where he earned a Bachelor of Education and Masters in Education in Administration & Leadership in Education. Mr. Hansen is married and has three daughters, all of whom are students in the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board school system.

Don Jaffray



Social Planner and Former Executive Director, Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton

Don Jaffray has recently retired as Executive Director of the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton. During his career he has specialized in policy matters concerned with social justice and equity, citizen participation in public policy decision-making, social indicators of community change and the integration of community service and planning systems. Don has extensive experience in social policy development and analysis. His expertise also includes management practice in the non-profit sector, qualitative and quantitative social research design and data analysis, community development techniques and program evaluation.

Don's academic credentials include a Master of Arts (Social Welfare Policy) degree from McMaster University, a Bachelor of Arts (Political Studies) degree from the University of Guelph, studies in Geographic Information Systems at Mohawk College and American Sign Language.

Don has also volunteered his time over many years in support of a number of community organizations and projects that support the health and well being of community members.

Paul Johnson



General Manager, Healthy & Safe Communities, City of Hamilton

Paul Johnson is the General Manager of the City's new Healthy and Safe Communities Department. This Department brings together key services that Hamiltonians rely on each day. It includes our Public Health Unit, human services such as Child Care and Early Learning, Recreation, Ontario Works and Housing, our Fire Department, Paramedic Services, two Long-Term Care Facilities, the City's work in neighbourhoods and leadership on various strategies.

Prior to taking on this new role, Paul was the Director of LRT for the City of Hamilton. In this role Paul led a project team responsible for working collaboratively with Metrolinx to ensure the completion of the Hamilton Light Rail Transit Project. During his two years with the LRT project Paul was instrumental in engaging the community and ensuring the pre-tender design and environmental assessment work on the project was completed on time.

Paul joined the City of Hamilton in 2010 to spearhead the development of the City's healthy neighbourhood initiative. Now called the Neighbourhood Action Strategy, the City of Hamilton is working with residents, business and other key institutions to build neighbourhoods across Hamilton that are great places to live, work, play and learn. Paul also spent time as the Director of Corporate Initiatives for the City of Hamilton and worked with the Senior Management Team to implement strategic priorities.

Born, raised and educated in Hamilton, Paul's background includes work in the non-profit sector as Executive Director of Wesley Urban Ministries and in the private sector with Compaq Computer Limited. Paul is starting his 29th season as a basketball referee and has officiated at the local, provincial and national level.

Amy Kelaidis



Director & Special Advisor, Indigenous Initiatives, Mohawk College

Amy brings a wealth of experience with the local Indigenous community and has served in various roles at Mohawk College for more than 12 years. In her most recent role as Director & Special Advisor, Indigenous Initiatives, Amy works closely with community organizations and our academic partner institutions as well as the Deans and Associate Deans to advance Indigenous Education. Amy is Eagle Clan from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. She holds a Combined Honours Bachelor of Fine Arts (McMaster University), a Bachelor of Education (Brock University) and a Master of Education specializing in Indigenous Education (Queen's University). She has used her academic background and teaching qualifications to support the design of Indigenous courses, programs and curricula and also continues to support the creation of arts and cultural spaces both within the college and with community. Amy has held numerous part-time teaching appointments with Continuing Education at Mohawk and Six Nations Polytechnic. Prior to joining Mohawk, Amy served as the Associate Producer for Native Women in the Arts.

Kirsten Krull



Vice President, Quality and Performance & Chief Nursing Executive, Hamilton Health Sciences

Kirsten is a nurse and executive with experience across multi-sited community, specialty-care, and academic research hospitals. She is involved in provincial, national, and international bodies impacting standards and policy changes, and is involved with both research and students. Kirsten has a baccalaureate degree in nursing, a master's degree of health sciences, and is a fellow from a Canadian program on evidence informed improvement. She is a life long learner and keen on quality improvement, adult learning, organization development, mindfulness, knowledge translation, and implementation science. Her portfolio improves professional and clinical practice, ethical decision making, quality, risk management, patient safety and experience.

Sevaun Palvetzian



Chief Executive Officer, CivicAction

One of Canada's leading experts on civic engagement, Sevaun Palvetzian has been CEO of CivicAction since January 2014. Under her leadership, CivicAction has focused on building inclusive cities and levelling the playing field of opportunity. Throughout her career, Sevaun has advocated for new voices at the tables of influence including championing the next generation of leaders in her roles with the Ontario Public Service, the University of Toronto, and Presidential Classroom in Washington, DC. Recently named one of Canada's 100 Most Powerful Women, Sevaun is a voice of influence and advocacy on many urban issues, and is frequently called on for media commentary. She has served as a member of the Toronto Police Service Board Transformational Task Force and as a member of Mayor John Tory's Advisory Panel for International Hosting Opportunities. She also sits on the Board of Directors for NPower Canada, Waterfront Toronto, and is a member of the Ivey Business School Leadership Council.

Staff Leads:

Hillary Dawson

Associate Vice President, Public Affairs, Marketing and Strategic Initiatives, Mohawk College

Jim Vanderveken

Dean, Centre for Community Partnerships & Experiential Learning, Mohawk College