

# **2021 ESAA Board Election**

## **Candidate Biographies**

### **Darren Cherniak**

President

North Shore Environmental Consultants

Darren Cherniak is the President and founder of North Shore Environmental Consultants which was established in 2002. Originally from Lacombe, AB he attended the University of Alberta and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Conservation Sciences in 1997. Darren has over 20 years of environmental experience in the oil and gas industry and is a Professional Agrologist with both the AIA and BCIA.

As President Darren sets the strategic direction for North Shore and provides senior mentorship and technical support for a variety of environmental programs. Darren's project experience includes detailed soil surveys, environmental site assessments, pipeline environmental inspections, construction supervision, waste management, remediation, bio-treatment of hydrocarbons, contaminant mapping, and reclamation.

Darren has been a member of the ESAA Board of Directors for 3 years and is also one of ESAA's representative on Alberta Energy's Industry Advisory Committee for the SRP.

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### **Adam Dunn**

Vice President Operations

Earthmaster Environmental Strategies

Adam Dunn is the Vice President – Operations at Earthmaster Environmental Strategies in Calgary, Alberta. He is a graduate of The University of New Brunswick in Fredericton and Memorial University in St. John's Newfoundland. Adam has a Masters in environmental science and has over 20 years of environmental consulting and management experience in the upstream and downstream oil and gas and commercial industries in Canada.

Adam has significant experience in spill response, hydrogeological assessment, hazardous materials surveys, regulatory compliance and liability management and evaluation.

Adam is a longtime supporter of ESAA and participant in the many ESAA events over his 16 years in Alberta.

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### **Darrell Haight**

President and CEO

Trace Associates

Darrell Haight is a professional agrologist and completed his Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Conservation Sciences from the University of Alberta. Mr. Haight is a Co-founder, President, and CEO of Trace Associates Inc. (Trace), an employee-owned environmental science and engineering advisory firm with over 100 professionals across Western Canada. Darrell is responsible for ensuring Trace fulfills their company purpose – helping people have a great life. As a Board Member, Darrell works to help ESAA continue to grow its profile as the leading environmental services association in Canada and North America, by building positive relationships throughout our industry. Darrell resides in St. Albert, Alberta and in his spare time, Darrell enjoys running his kids around to various activities, travelling, walking, biking, and playing/watching hockey.

Darrell has been a member of ESAA Board of Directors for 3 years and is a member of the Board Executive.

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## **Karen Schmidt**

Vice President  
Osprey Scientific

Karen Schmidt is the Vice President of Osprey Scientific Inc. She graduated with a B.Sc. in Environmental & Conservation Sciences from the University of Alberta and has over 19 years of experience in the environmental industry. Prior to joining Osprey Scientific, Karen gained the majority of her experience in the laboratory industry focusing mainly on client service, account management and business development. In her current role Karen is responsible for the overall operation of Osprey Scientific Inc. and ensuring its success.

Karen is an active member in various industry groups, including the organizing committee for the Capital Region Environmental Workers (CREW) networking group. She also volunteers regularly for her children's school programs and extra-curricular activities.

Karen has been a member of the ESAA Board of Directors for 3 years and is the Association's Treasurer and a member of the Board Executive.

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## **Cory Sommer**

Director of Marketing and Growth  
Millennium EMS Solutions

Cory Sommer has 20 years of experience in environmental consulting with Millennium EMS Solutions Ltd. Cory has worked within all aspects of assessment, remediation and reclamation primarily focused on supporting environmental operations and end of life scopes of work in the upstream oil and gas and midstream industries. His career started conducting field work all over the province and quickly grew into project management, account management, business development and is now the Director of Marketing and Growth. In his current position Cory is responsible to contribute to the strategic direction of the company, drive growth, expansion and diversification into new markets. Having been through the ups and downs of several commodity price cycles Cory is well versed in understanding the recent challenges faced by ESAA's membership.

Cory was selected to sit on the ESAA SRP sub committee in October 2020 and looks forward to contributing further to support ESAA's membership. Cory is an active member of the Association for Corporate Growth with his spare time devoted to his family, coaching hockey, golfing and skiing.

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## **Rob Traynor**

Managing Principal  
SLR Consulting

Rob Traynor is an accomplished Management Executive who has been practicing in the areas of Strategy, Business Development, Marketing and Operations for over 25 years. He started his career working in Account Management and after several successful years opted to pursue a career in the environmental field. In 1999 Rob joined Environmental Health Professionals Ltd. (EHP) which ultimately became Golder Associates. At Golder, Rob quickly progressed through the organization and became a senior partner with the firm and ultimately held the role of Global Director, Client Relations and Strategic Partnerships.

In 2015 Rob joined international environmental consulting firm SLR Consulting and is presently Managing Principal and National Director for Oil and Gas.

Throughout Rob's career he has continually been asked to take on challenging roles and projects and has done so in some very difficult structural, market and financial conditions. He cites his ability to see and make sense of the big picture, his ability to establish relationships at all levels, and the ability to attract, retain and empower quality people, as the primary reasons for his successful track record and for being able to effect change in organizations. He jokingly calls himself the 'renovator' or 'cleanup man', being the one brought in to fix problems or sort things out.

Rob has been a member of the ESAA Board of Directors for 3 years and is the Association's Vice-President and a member of the Board Executive.