

## **Sharon Anderson**

Sharon is a member of the Gift Lake Métis Settlement where she serves as Programs and Services Director. Previously she was a caseworker for KTC Child and Family Services and a Community Engagement Coordinator. Sharon has a bachelor of social work from the University of Calgary.

She has volunteered as a member of the Community Education Committee for Northern Lakes College, co-chair for the Métis Settlements Child and Family Services Authority Board, chair of the Provincial Aboriginal Advisory Committee for Children Services, and with the Community Engagement Committee for Children's Services, Northern Alberta Development Council. Sharon was recently appointed to the Athabasca University Board of Governors.

## **Brenda Blyan**

Brenda is from the Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement and serves as a Settlement Administrator. Her interest in the economic security of Métis women spans several decades. Brenda has earned an Indigenous Leadership, Governance, and Management Excellence Course certification from the Peter Lougheed Leadership Institute, as well as studying law and political science at the University of Alberta. She is currently undertaking a master's of business administration program through Athabasca University, as she believes that education is key to economic security for women. She is also a former Vice-President of the Métis Nation of Alberta, and is a returning member of Métis Women's Council on Economic Security. Brenda is returning to the council.

## **Candice Calliou**

Candice is a member of Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement. She is a graduate of the Early Learning and Childcare Diploma program at Northern Lakes College and has worked as a Headstart Program Coordinator for the past 23 years. Education is her passion and she currently serves on the Paddle Prairie Local School Board Committee. She also served as the Chairperson for the CEC Northern Lakes College, and worked as the Community Coordinator for Athabasca University. She enjoys working with a team and bringing new ideas forward. She has been blessed to live and practice her Métis culture and pass her knowledge to the youth of the community. She is a returning member of the Métis Women's Council on Economic Security.

## **Angela Carifelle**

Angela is from the Peavine Métis Settlement and works as an operations manager for Teck Era Engineering Consulting. Prior to this, she was an Aboriginal business facilitator with Business Link. She has a bachelor of administration and has worked in the area of community development on grant and service agreement management, policy development, HR management, budgeting and relationship building. She uses her natural communication skills to build bridges between corporate, community and government while never losing sight of the importance of family and community. Angela is returning to the council.

## **Lisa Higgerty**

Fifteen years ago, Lisa Higgerty turned her back on a potentially lucrative career in sales to advocate for the victims of sexual abuse. The result is the Mamowichihitowin, an innovative holistic program in rural Alberta that treats the entire family under one roof. Located in Hinton, it is unique to Canada and has garnered interest in other countries as well. She has expanded the mandate of the program to cover all types of domestic violence for both Indigenous people and non-Indigenous people. She is a returning member of the Métis Women's Council on Economic Security, and she has a bachelor of arts degree from MacEwan University. Lisa is returning to the council.

## **Valerie Kaufman**

Valerie was a Senior Manager of the Department of Canadian Heritage, where she retired in 2007. After she retired, Val served for five years on the provincial Region 6 Child & Family Services Authority. Her work and volunteer experience has focused on advocacy and community engagement. She is committed to finding opportunities for Indigenous artists and craftspeople to market their products. Her mother, who was a well-respected Métis (Dene descent) Elder from the Sahtu region of the Northwest Territories, taught her the art of many traditional crafts. She is the recipient of multiple awards including an Esquao Award for community leadership, a City of Edmonton Salute To Excellence Award for volunteerism, a Queen's Jubilee Medal for service to the Métis community, and a Federal Public Service Award for outstanding engagement of a community (Aboriginal). Valerie is returning to the council.

## **Angela Ladouceur**

Angela is a member of the Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement. She is currently the General Manager for Settlement Investment Corporation. In her 15 years of service to the organization, she has demonstrated a high level of competence while supporting Métis Settlement entrepreneurs in their economic endeavours. Angela ensures clients are successful by implementing sound business development and training. Angela has four children and one grandchild. She enjoys spending time with her family, camping, hunting, and fishing. She is also an artisan who enjoys beading and sewing in her down time.

## **Alberta Malcolm**

Alberta chose a non-traditional career as a power engineer, working in a highly technical and male-dominated environment for 25 years with Syncrude Canada. She earned a 4th Class PE Certificate from Keyano College in Fort McMurray. Alberta is retired and an active advocate for education for Indigenous women. Her career as a power engineer, trainer and liaison for industry and Keyano College made her aware of the issues of education, health care and child care that Indigenous women face when trying to obtain an education or work while raising children. Alberta worked with Keyano College as a Teaching Assistant in a GED Adult Education outreach program for residents of Fort McKay. She was raised by an Indigenous woman who survived the era of residential schools. Alberta lived a traditional Métis lifestyle living off the land for many years - hunting, fishing and trapping. Alberta is returning to the council.

## **Rachelle Venne**

Rachelle is the Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women. She has held a variety of positions to prepare her for her current role, including Contract Analyst for Alberta Children's Services, Project Officer for the Urban Aboriginal Strategy in Edmonton, and small business owner. In 2014, she was appointed to the Aboriginal Roundtable for the Mayor's Task Force on Poverty in the City of Edmonton. In 2016, Rachelle was also appointed to the Alberta Order of Excellence Council, the St. Albert Community Advisory Board, and was selected as one of six Canadian NGO delegates to attend the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York in March 2017. Rachelle is a returning member of the Métis Women's Council on Economic Security.

## **Sandra Sutter**

Sandra is the Aboriginal Partnerships Manager for Tarpon Energy Services and CGT Industrial, and has 15 years of work experience as a small business and Indigenous relations consultant. She serves on several committees including the Aboriginal Advisory Committee for Careers: the Next Generation and the Board of Directors for Impact Society. Sandra is active in promoting the well-being and understanding of the urban Indigenous community in Alberta and volunteers with several organizations. She is currently on the Senate of the Aboriginal Friendship Centre of Calgary and is a member of the National Association of Friendship Centres. She is also an adviser with Careers: the Next Generation, Impact Society and Vibrant Communities Calgary. Sandra is returning to the council.

## **Shirley Steenberg**

Shirley was born in Inuvik, Northwest Territories. She was the first to graduate from high school amongst eight students in Tuktoyaktuk. Shirley earned a bachelor of administration from Athabasca University and a bachelor of administration degree from the University of Athabasca. She currently works with Akita Drilling in Calgary as an executive assistant, Pension & Benefits Administrator. She also worked in Nunavut for 5 years as a Senior Finance Officer with the Department of Public Works and Services. She still has family ties in Tuktoyaktuk and visits her family to share traditional foods, stories and laughter. Shirley is returning to the council.

## **Chantal Sirois-Clegg**

Chantal is a program coordinator for the Grande Cache Community Learning Centre. She is also a member of the Grande Yellowhead Public School Division Education Council and is a substitute teacher with Northlands School Division No. 61 Susa Creek School. She is member of the Victor Lake Cooperative, Aseniwuche Winewak Nation (AWN), and the Mountain Métis Nation Association, Chantal has volunteered and has worked to support her community as a youth program coordinator for the Métis Nation of Alberta; and as a client service advisor for AWN. She also worked in human resources and administration with the Aseniwuche Development Corporation. Chantal is certified in management (C.I.M.) by the Canadian Institute of Management and she has a diploma in Management from MacEwan University. She has 8 children and 10 grandchildren