

Mary Beth Wighton

Board Member

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Executive Summary

Diagnosis: Probable Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD) 2012

Visionary international dementia leader bringing over 25 years of experience in establishing operational optimization. Recognized for talents in strategy development and providing vision. Converts strategic plans into tactical reality through the development of strategic partners.

- **Diversified background in operations and management** distinguished for an entrepreneurial mindset, creative problem solving, cross-functional teams and a bottom-line orientation.
- **Offers innovative solutions to operational challenges** and leverages decisiveness to implement solutions while minimizing risk and maximizing performance.
- **Expert in transforming strategic plans into tactical initiatives** for local, provincial and national projects.

Board Member Experiences

Founding Board Member

Sept 2014 - Present

Ontario Dementia Advisory Group (ODAG)

Key person in helping to establish the first Canadian dementia advisory board for people with dementia by people with dementia. ODAG has achieved international recognition and praise for its grassroots efforts to create and implement initiatives by and for people with dementia.

Key accomplishments include:

- Witness for the Canadian Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology for its study on dementia in Canadian society. ODAG used the United Nations on Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) accessibility article to obtain a number of accommodations from the government.
- Member of new Task Force submitting a Memorandum to the UN CRPD as it relates to "Concluding Observations" report from the UN to Canada.

About me:

- Assist in achieving its objectives by asking the right questions to translate strategic plans into tactical initiatives.
- Provide solutions to operational performance with particular focus on internet video technology and provincial infrastructure development.
- Made executive decisions in forming the structure of the internal organization, finances, public relations, etc.
- Enhances international awareness of dementia, advocate for services and support.
- Self-confident in driving forward new ideas and concepts.
- Created marketing collateral: Brochures, blogs, social media, and website content.
- Works effectively and efficiently with key partners in a collaborative approach to writing grant proposals.
- Seeks out and builds relationships with others who can provide information, intelligence, and other forms of help.
- Takes charge of a group when it is necessary to facilitate change, overcome an impasse, face issues, or ensure that decisions are made.
- Through negotiation secured free internet web conferencing services (Zoom).

Core Competencies

Project Management

Transition / Change Management

Strategic Partnership Relations

Business Process Reengineering

Team Building & Training

Providing Motivational Support

Fostering Teamwork

Persuasive communication

Leadership Team - Founding Member
Dementia Friendly Communities Ontario

Feb 2016 - Present

Alzheimer Society of Ontario is currently progressing through the Ontario Trillium Foundation's Collective Impact Model Funding Stream.

The proposal is that we would champion a multi-sector collaborative movement focused on improving quality of life for people living with dementia and their care partners, using a Dementia Friendly Communities model, funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

- Support the process from an idea through to implementation.
- Learning, with all Team Members, about the Collective Impact Model and applying it to the movement.
- Provided input to design of Steering Committee structure.
- Reviewed and contributed to the Build the Case Report - key document necessary for funding support.

Work Experience

Sr. IT Business Analyst
Symantec Corporation

1996 - 2006

- Lead of complex, high-profile projects.
- Negotiated with multiple stakeholders across several departments.
- Led international teams across multiple organizations to implement projects.
- Planned and scoped several inter-related initiatives and helped senior-level business stakeholders make informed decisions about which initiatives to tackle and how to tackle them.

Vice President / Owner
Human Resource Group

2006 - 2012

Worked closely with senior executives and leadership teams to develop and deliver on successful recruitment strategies. Lead a team of professionals focused on senior level, management and professional search. Provided direction in expanding markets and growing sales.

Education

Bachelors of Arts
McMaster University
Hamilton, ON, Canada

1986 - 1989

Computer Programmer Systems Analyst
Lambton College
Sarnia, ON, Canada

1990 - 1993

Committees

Canadian Dementia Working
Group - Task Force

Consortium of non-governmental
disability organizations in Canada

AGE-WELL SIP Advisory Group

Emmetros Ltd., MAREP, University of
Waterloo

Inclusion Task Force

Alzheimer Society of Ontario

Dementia Strategy Moderate
Stage Working Group

Ontario Ministry of Health & Long-Term
Care

Dementia Program Development
Advisory Committee

Schlegal Villages Long-term care and
retirement