



Dear CSIA Alberta Members,

It is with great pleasure that we present to you the Board of Directors and Nominees for the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM), scheduled for April 13th in Jasper. As stewards of our organisation's mission, vision, and values, the individuals of our Board play a pivotal role in guiding the Alberta chapter of the CSIA towards its goals and aspirations.

Get to know our Board members and their diverse backgrounds, expertise, and commitment to advancing the interests of our membership in this overview. We are also excited to introduce the nominees who have expressed their willingness to serve alongside our current directors, bringing fresh perspectives and invaluable contributions to our collective endeavours.

Thank you to each member of the Board and welcome to all our nominees!

We look forward to seeing you all in a few short weeks at the AGM and gathering your input that will help shape the future direction of the CSIA Alberta.

Thank you for your ongoing support and participation.

Warm regards,

Shannon Tauber  
Nominating Committee Member

### **Steffan Shaw - Chair**

Steffan Shaw, an active CSIA member since 2010, assumed the position of Chair of the Alberta board in October 2023.

Originally pursuing a career in the marine industry, Shaw's trajectory changed in 2014 when he was selected for the inaugural year of Project Y. This transformative experience shifted his focus to the Ski Instructor field. Following the course, he successfully achieved Level 3 and, after three years of dedicated training, attained Level 4 in 2017.

Motivated by gratitude for the CSIA, the organization that redirected his career path, Shaw seized an opportunity to give back. He ran for a position on the Alberta board and has since contributed as a member of the Project Y committee. With a unique perspective as a participant, course conductor, and project director, he takes immense pride in the opportunities the Alberta board provides to its members.

In his new role, Shaw eagerly anticipates contributing to the advancement of quality ski instruction in Alberta. His overarching goal is to extend this commitment beyond Alberta, furthering the CSIA's mission of excellence in ski instruction nationwide.

### **Roberta Parker - Vice Chair**

With nearly three decades of experience as a Registered Nurse in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, Roberta Parker's journey into skiing began at Lake Louise during the 1988 Winter Olympics. Transitioning from a successful nursing career, Parker took on the role of Health Workforce Planner with the Alberta Ministry from 2002 to 2009. In 2003, she ventured into volunteer instructor territory at Sunridge Ski Area, earning her CSIA Instructor Level 1 in 2006 and Level 2 in 2014.

Parker's ascent continued from Instructor to Snow School Director, a position she held for 10 years. In 2023, she took on the role of Director of Risk Management while maintaining her role as a part-time instructor at Marmot since 2011. A self-proclaimed "ski-for-enjoyment" type skier, Parker, driven by her passion for helping others, loves meeting skiers of all skill levels, tailoring her approach to meeting people where they're at.

Despite encountering injuries that tempered her enthusiasm for daring feats, Parker's dedication to the ski community remains unwavering. Whether guiding beginners on the magic carpet or encouraging beginner skiers to venture beyond, she thrives on planning journeys of success. As Vice Chair, Parker is poised to channel her wealth of experience and passion for skiing into serving the CSIA and its members, with a dedicated focus on Alberta.

### **John Krupa - Treasurer**

Family, education, and skiing have been the enduring themes in the life of John Krupa, currently serving as the CSIA Alberta Southern Zone representative and Treasurer of the Board. He brings a wealth of experience and dedication to his role, having served previously as VP and President of CSIA Alberta.

In addition to his involvement with the CSIA, Krupa is also a certified health and safety auditor, working as a safety manager at Mountainview Systems Ltd.

Since 1986, Krupa has been actively involved in teaching and coaching at WinSport (formerly Paskapoo/Canada Olympic Park). Over the past four seasons, he has contributed part-time to the Lake Louise Snow School, diligently working towards his Level 3 certification while embracing continuous professional development.

Adding a familial touch to his CSIA journey, two of Krupa's three daughters have also achieved CSIA certification. One of them currently teaches at Big White in Kelowna.

A proud University of Calgary alumnus, Krupa brings a wealth of educational experience to the table. His background includes working at the Calgary Board of Education in the planning department and serving on the boards of Foothills Academy and The Prep Program in Calgary—both not-for-profit organizations with a focus on education.

Skiing is a shared passion within the Krupa family, with his wife Cindy of 29 years and their daughters. The sense of community fostered by the CSIA has played a significant role in Krupa's life, inspiring him to give back to the organization through his dedicated roles on the Board.

### **Sophie Norton - Secretary**

Since 2021, Sophie Norton has been serving as the Secretary of the CSIA Alberta board. Her journey with the CSIA began in 2004 when she became a member, and she has been actively engaged in learning, training, teaching, and working in the industry ever since.

Currently holding the position of Assistant Director at the Marmot Basin Snow Sports School, Norton has assumed various roles in the industry. Her diverse experience includes serving as a Course Conductor, culminating in the attainment of her Level 4 certification in 2012.

Norton's career path led her to spend 15 years teaching at Sunshine Village and 15 summer seasons at Craigieburn Valley Ski Area NZ, where she took on diverse roles ranging from patroller to cook, and eventually Ski Area General Manager. Between 2015 and 2021, Norton dedicated herself to training in avalanche operations, first aid, and mechanized guiding. This led to a trail guide role at Mike Wiegele Heli Ski.

Inspired by the professional culture and the commitment to training observed in many lifelong ski industry employees, Norton is motivated to contribute to the success of other CSIA members, both new and experienced. During her tenure on the Board, she aims to assist members in reaching their potential and achieving their goals within the ski industry.

### **Kyle Arink**

Kyle Arink's skiing journey commenced at the tender age of 4 on the slopes behind his grandparents' house in Lansdowne, Edmonton. Enthralled by the sport, he joined the Snow Valley Ski Club in 1995. In 2006, Kyle achieved certification as a Level 1 ski coach and instructor with both the CSCF and CSIA, marking the beginning of his career at the Snow Valley Ski School.

Teaming up with lifelong friend Rob Hazen, Kyle co-founded a successful masters racing and learn-to-race program at Snow Valley, creating a vibrant community of over 200 members. He furthered his qualifications, obtaining his Level 2 CSIA and DL certification with the CSCF. For more than a decade, Kyle embarked on a teaching journey alongside Rachelle Simard, exploring destinations like Niseko, Perisher, and Lake Louise.

In 2016, Kyle reached the pinnacle of his ski instruction career with the achievement of his Level 4 CSIA, a symbolic full-circle moment. Fueled by a desire to give back, he took on leadership roles, including a directorship with the Alberta Board for the CSIA in 2019. Initiatives like Spring Fling, PDPs, AB clinics, Project Y, and Level 3 Academy underscore Kyle's commitment to fostering the development of ski professionals and uniting the Alberta ski community.

Kyle has been a dedicated member of the CSIA Alberta Board for 4 years and will be sitting a 5th year until the upcoming April 13th AGM. He has served as past secretary of the board.

### **Jennifer Collison - Member at Large**

Jennifer Collison, a member at Large of the Alberta Regional Board, Mountain Zone, began her ski teaching career at 16 years old. She started part-time at Snow Valley in Edmonton, AB, eventually transitioning to a full-time instructor role at the Sunshine Village Ski and Snowboard School in 1994. In 2017, she assumed the position of Head Trainer.

Jen's dedication to the art of teaching is evident in her active involvement with the CSIA. From 2016 to 2019, she volunteered for the CSIA Education Committee and currently collaborates with the CSIA TEC Committee on various projects. Since joining the Alberta Board, Jennifer has already made a significant impact by relaunching the Level 3 Academy Pilot program. This initiative aims to support Level 3 candidates across the region who require training and lack access to a Level 4 Instructor.

As a CSIA Level 4 certified instructor herself, Jen finds joy in teaching individuals of all abilities and ages. Her focus extends beyond the slopes, as she aspires to pursue programs and funding directly related to active instructors in the ski industry and communities across the province of Alberta.

### **Ben Atherton**

Ben Atherton, a dedicated Board member of the CSIA Alberta Regional Board, is committed to representing the diverse needs of Alberta's regions. Hailing from Scotland, Atherton has devoted 12 winter seasons to Sunshine Village, where his skiing journey began at the age of six. Starting as a ski instructor at 16, he attained BASI Level 1 and BASI Level 2. In 2018 he came to Canada and transferred to the CSIA gaining his Level 3 and progressing to CSIA Level 4 in 2021. Through this process, he also proudly gained the ISIA Stamp of international recognition.

In his current role as a Ski Instructor and Senior Supervisor at Banff Sunshine Village, Atherton manages multi-week programs and organizes training for new and returning Instructors. Drawing from his experiences at Perisher Resort in Australia and Glenshee Ski Centre in Scotland, along with his CSIA Snowpark certification and ACA Race Coach DL, Atherton brings a wealth of expertise to his position on the Board.

As an active Course Conductor, Atherton facilitates Level 1 and 2 Courses and Exams. Since joining the Board in November 2023, he has been eager to contribute to the Alberta Board's initiatives, particularly in enhancing social media and electronic communications and strengthening the ski community in Alberta.

### **Gerald Ancia - Nominee**

Gerald Ancia is a candidate for joining the CSIA Alberta board as the representative for the southern region. Residing between Calgary and the Columbia Valley with his wife Natasha and sons, Matthieu and Quentin, he enjoys pursuing his passion for outdoor activities.

After 30 years of working as a C-level executive, advisor, and board member in Europe, Asia, and Africa, Ancia retired in 2020 and later relocated to Canada. With a successful track record as a business entrepreneur, he draws from his experiences to guide organizations through complex restructurings, acquisitions, corporate development activities, and capital transactions. His experience spans from start-ups to private companies to publicly traded organizations. He now volunteers as a mentor for young entrepreneurs in Alberta and serves as a 'mountain friend' at the Panorama Mountain Resort. In recent years, he has also fully retrained as a furniture maker.

A member since 2023, Gerald brings a diverse perspective to the CSIA Alberta board, combining leadership, financial expertise, strategy, and governance. With his passion for the sport, Gerald aims to leverage his wide range of experiences to collaborate with CSIA members, influencing the direction of the ski instruction profession and enhancing engagement among current ski instructors in Alberta. He sincerely hopes for your support of his candidacy for the CSIA Alberta board member position in the upcoming election.

### **Nathan Gerein - Nominee**

Nathan Gerein is a candidate for the upcoming CSIA Alberta election. He is a long-time employee of the University of Alberta, holding a PhD in Chemistry, and resides in St. Albert with his spouse and children. A lifelong skier, Gerein has been a member of the CSIA since completing his Level 1 certification in 2018. Since the 2018-2019 ski season, he has worked part-time at Sunridge Ski Area in Edmonton. In the spring of 2023, he completed his Level 3 certification and is currently pursuing his Trainer certification.

The CSIA has greatly enriched Gerein's ski life, and he values the numerous opportunities membership in the organization has provided him. Gerein is committed to giving back and wishes to contribute his time and energy to the CSIA Alberta board by representing the Northern region.

Although Gerein began ski teaching later in life, his academic career has equipped him with decades of experience in teaching, training, and mentoring. He is accustomed to working in large organizations with many stakeholders and approaches issues with an open mind and a spirit of compromise. Gerein aims to enhance the profile of CSIA ski instruction at Alberta's numerous resorts, foster a stronger sense of community within the organization, and support every instructor in their goals and aspirations, regardless of level or location. He sincerely hopes you will consider supporting him in the upcoming CSIA Alberta election.