

## CLRA Ontario Chapter Biographies

### Executive



**President - Adam Cecchetto** is a Principal, Environmental Services with FROSKAR. He received his B.Sc. in Environmental Earth Science from Laurentian University and is a registered Environmental Professional (EP). Adam's 15 plus years in the environmental field has provided him with a broad range of experience across the mining industry and throughout the entire mining project cycle, specializing in permitting and closure planning.

He has served as a member of the Ontario Mining Association's (OMA) Environment Committee for more than 6 years and is currently President of the Laurentian University Alumni Association (LUAA), having served on the LUAA Board for the last 3 + years. Adam serves as the OMA representative to the Board.



**Vice President - Bryan Tisch** obtained his B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in Biology from Laurentian University. He has been with the CanmetMINING of Natural Resources Canada for more than 15 years, where he is a Senior Environmental Scientist within the Mine Waste Management and Footprint Reduction Program. He specializes in the

reclamation of mine tailings through the use of waste organic residuals and the establishment of biofuel crops, and has also worked on international environmental capacity development projects in Zambia, Guyana and Brazil. Previously, he worked at Laurentian University's Elliot Lake Research Field Station on projects related to closure of the uranium mines there. Bryan has been a member of the CLRA for over 20 years, serving as President or Co-President of the Ontario Chapter for approximately 18 of those years. He has also been National President for a period of two years and is a past winner of the CLRA's W.E. Coates, Edward Watkin and Noranda awards.



**Treasurer - Dr. Sarah J. Barabash** is an environmental scientist with EcoMetrix and has nearly a decade of combined experience in research and consulting and is currently responsible for managing a geochemistry laboratory for specially designed testing and evaluation of mining wastes and materials.

Dr. Barabash has been involved in a number of geochemical, site assessment, risk assessment and closure planning projects for industrial clients throughout Canada. Her expertise includes all phases of contaminant release studies from the design of laboratory and field programs to data analysis and assessment and the development of source terms and geochemical models. Her experience includes investigations at base metal mines, gold and uranium operations. Dr. Barabash is currently involved in the detailed closure planning for gold mining facilities that include the completion of laboratory programs for mine waste assessments, the quantification of source terms and the determination of transport and mobility of metals and other constituents. She has been involved in the development of environmental assessments, including the ecological risk and effects assessments, for proposed uranium mine projects through the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) process, including the Key Lake Mill extension and the Millennium Project. She has also developed modelling tools for the environmental assessments for base metal mines, including the Sudbury Area Risk Assessment and the Port Colborne Soil Investigation and Human Health Risk Assessment.



**Secretary - Lesley Hymers** is the Manager of Education and Outreach at Mining Matters, a national, informal Earth science education organization. She is an Earth Sciences and mineral resources specialist with professional experience in the Natural Resources Sector, and in Higher and Informal Education. She has worked in the stone, sand and gravel industry where she was introduced to pit and quarry rehabilitation by celebrated pioneer Sarah Lowe; in government relations and mining and environmental policy analysis; in post-secondary education in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Instructional Development, Course Design and as a Sessional Lecturer; and in Informal Education, providing Earth Science and mineral resources education to students and the public and professional learning programs to Educators.

Lesley has been a member of the CLRA since 2007 and is a former member of the Ontario Biodiversity Council (2010-2016). Lesley has Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees in Earth Sciences, from the University of Guelph.



**Past President - Jennifer Hargreaves** is currently the Quality Assurance Coordinator for the Geoscience Laboratories of the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry. She completed a B.Sc. in Environmental Toxicology and M.Sc. in Environmental Toxicology and Land Resource Science at the University of Guelph and received her Ph.D. in Biology, with a specialization in soil science, from Dalhousie University. Her post doctorate fellowship was completed with MIRARCO, a mining innovation company located at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario where she also worked as Manager of the Environmental Monitoring and Rehabilitation division. Jennifer helped investigate the sustainability of mine tailings and other brownfield reclamation strategies, recorded and monitored land and plant contamination in the surrounding region, and worked with local farm groups to expand agricultural success in the region.

### Board of Directors



**Bill Mackasey's** career spans over 40 years working for government agencies and mining companies, that started with exploration and mining geology, and progressed from site-specific earth science projects, to broader studies of land-use issues at the regional, provincial and national level. Close to 30 years were spent with the Ontario government in the field of mining geology, abandoned mines, mine reclamation, land-use planning and policy development. He served as a mine environment advisor for the Assistant Deputy Minister of Mines, Ontario, and for the Brazilian Government. Bill also represented the Ontario Mining Association on the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Round Table of the Ontario government's Lands for Life land-use planning exercise. He has produced over 40 technical papers on geology, mineral potential, abandoned mines, mining policy and land-use planning. In 2011 he was the recipient of CLRA's Noranda Land Reclamation Award. Bill received a B.Sc. in Geology from St. Francis Xavier University and a M.Sc. from Carleton University. He is a Registered Professional Geoscientist for the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Mackasey established his own Sudbury-based company, WOM Geological Associates Inc. in 1996 and served as a consultant on mineral potential assessment, policy development, restoration of land values, and for solving land use problems in regions affected by mining. Bill retired to Lindsay, Ontario in 2015.



**Ashlee Zelek** currently serves as the Senior Environmental Planner at Coco Group of Companies. In previous roles, Ashlee was the Director of Environment and Education at the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (OSSGA) and worked as a consultant assisting resource industries achieve environmental compliance, and in the mining industry where her role as Environmental Coordinator was to coordinate environmental programs, and monitor and communicate environmental performance. Ashlee has a degree in Biology from McMaster University and a master's degree in Environmental and Resources Studies from the University of Waterloo.



**Peter Beckett** has a Ph.D. in wetland ecology from King's College, London. Now a Professor Emeritus, he was a Professor of restoration/reclamation ecologist and wetland specialist at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada for more than 30 years. Peter is Chair of VETAC, an Advisory Panel to The City of Greater Sudbury that oversees the local landscape restoration projects and the transformation of the image of the City. Peter is a Director of the Canadian Land Reclamation Association and holds a Noranda Award for "outstanding achievements in reclamation". He is Co-Chair of the Sudbury International Mining and Environment Conferences He has taught courses in plant ecology, restoration ecology, reclamation, wetland ecology as well as leading many field trips to local wetlands, forests and restored/reclaimed sites.



**Quentin Smith** has been Project Engineer with Vale Canada Limited's Environment department since 2004. In this role, Quentin is responsible for 17 closure plans held by Vale in Ontario, managing Vale's Biosolids Revegetation Program, overseeing operations of decommissioned sites as well as playing an important role on major projects related to environmental restoration, decommissioning and land rehabilitation. Quentin earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from the University of Guelph in 2003. He has recently

accepted a position on the Board of Directors for the Canadian Land Reclamation Association (CLRA) and has been a member of the City of Greater Sudbury's Vegetation Enhancement Technical Advisory Committee (VETAC) for several years. Quentin also instructs several post graduate courses at Cambrian College and is a member of Program Advisory Committee for this program. Quentin was born and raised in Sudbury where he lives with his wife and three children.



**Samantha McGarry** is currently a Site Rehabilitation Specialist, with multidisciplinary experience in mining and the environment. She completed a B.Sc. and M.Sc. at Laurentian University, and has been a member of CLRA since 2009. She is experienced in environmental management for all phases of the mining life cycle, and promotes the importance of

strong environmental planning and performance throughout. She develops and implements Closure Plans for active and legacy sites; from permit acquisitions to execution of the associated projects and studies.

Sam is passionate about research and innovation, collaboration, and connecting with community. As a VETAC Member supporting the Greater City of Sudbury Regreening Program, she enjoys contributing to the ecological enhancement of our local landscapes. She continues to partner with academia and government across Canada on a variety of research programs, while promoting student success and broadening the understanding of mining and the environment.



**Chris Hey** is a mining and environmental engineer who is a passionate advocate for ecological conservation and sustainable development. Chris has worked in the mining industry in a variety of capacities including operations, in research examining the incorporation of municipal biosolids in engineered soil covers for mine waste management, and as a consultant working with clients across the

mining sector.