



Board Candidate Biographies

The Board of the Naramata Centre Society strives to maintain a well-balanced board with a diversity of skills, geographic representation, gender, and age. We are recommending the following two candidates seeking first-term election to the Board this year.

Candidates Seeking First-Term Election

Jes Beckerley (Airdire, AB)

Jes Beckerley has had a lifelong connection with Naramata Centre, a cherished place where her earliest memories include jumping off the dock, eating cherries from the old orchard, and racing her bike down Ellis Street as fast as possible. Over the years, Jes has returned time and again, attending summer, fall and winter programs, serving on summer staff, and participating in Winter Session and retreats. Through it all, she has found deep spiritual and personal grounding in the Centre's community and rhythm.

Jes holds a background in child protection social work and has worked as a researcher and social worker with the Department of Children and Family Development. Her passion for supporting individuals and communities has also led her to various ministry roles within the United Church of Canada. She has served congregations in multiple capacities and currently supports both the Chinook Winds and Pacific Mountain Regional Councils, where she provides pastoral relations and administrative support.

Wayne Marshall (Calgary, AB)

For 20 years, Naramata Centre has been a central and important part of Wayne Marshall's adult life, as well as that of his wife and four daughters. In return for the generous gifts that Naramata Centre has given his family, Wayne is keen to contribute to a clear and positive forward-looking strategy for Naramata Centre as it faces immediate, complex, and long-term challenges. He is committed to helping shape and guide the spiritual and sacred presence of the Centre for coming generations.

Wayne has been an active volunteer throughout his life, beginning with community development organizations like 4-H and Junior Farmers of Ontario. These groups set a foundation for his desire to contribute to improved societal outcomes. Since then, he has served on several boards, including an agricultural society, a Calgary community association, a local swim club, the Calgary Charter Girls School, and the St. Andrew's United Church (Calgary).

Raised on a farm in the Ottawa Valley, Wayne graduated from the University of Guelph with a B.Sc. in Agriculture, majoring in Resource Management. Beginning with his studies and stretching into his career in the energy sector, Wayne developed a deep appreciation for the wide range of views to be considered in making resource development decisions. Whether he was serving within industry or the federal government, he made a point of listening with an open mind to varied concerns and opinions. Wayne brings those skills to the boardroom table, as well as decades of operational experience, combined with financial management and human resource competencies.