

in the City and County of Peterborough

We are a Canadian registered charity with a volunteer-based Board of Directors that is legally responsible for the governance of our organization. Within that mandate, our board develops, implements, and monitors policies that allow our organization to carry out its work.

Board members are also the fiduciaries who steer an organization towards a sustainable future by adopting sound, ethical, legal governance, and financial management policies, as well as by making sure their nonprofit has adequate resources to advance its mission.

We are fortunate to have so many skilled and caring individuals who serve as our Board Members. This month we will feature Board Member, Michael VanDerHerberg.

Michael VanDerHerberg is an important member of the Peterborough community. He is a



Fleming College graduate with a diploma in Geographic Information Systems and has been on the Community Care Peterborough Board for over 2 years. He currently works with One City Peterborough as the Housing Director. One City Peterborough helps connect people with housing in a safe and inclusive way. They respond to the immediate needs of the community and its people, while breaking down barriers and advocating for systemic change. Michael's role in the agency is to help people that are hard to house. He strives to treat people with dignity and respect while coming up with unique solutions to housing. Peterborough has a housing crisis that unfairly affects people that are lower income. Between the shortage of housing, the increasingly high amount of rent, and the seller's

market for houses that results in renters being pushed out of their homes, One City Peterborough is an agency that is instrumental in helping the people of Peterborough find housing and flourish in a county and city where no one is disposable.

Michael VanDerHerberg also co-owns the Silver Bean Café with his wife, Andrea. The Silver Bean Café not only helps feed the people of Peterborough in a gorgeous on the water location it also partners with other agencies and people in the community to help advocate for change. Michael and Andrea have helped raise money for many agencies such as the New Canadian Centre and YWCA Peterborough Haliburton. They also held a memorial event on International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st, 2021 to honour those that we have lost to overdoses, while advocating for harm reduction techniques. In the past, Michael VanDerHerberg worked at the New Canadian Centre as an Employment Services Coordinator helping new Canadians find good jobs in the Peterborough area. He also worked as the Refugee Resettlement Coordinator at the New Canadian Centre where he helped privately sponsored and government sponsored refugees settle in the Peterborough area. Through this role he was able to support 43 families, 206 people in total, in finding and maintaining housing.

So why is a community figure head in the fight for equal rights and dignity for all community members a Board Member of Community Care Peterborough?

"My work with the vulnerable seniors in the housing sector makes me want to be a Board Member," said Michael Vanderherberg. "Peterborough city and county's seniors make up 22.3% of the total population, compared to Ontario at 17.6% of the population. As the cost of living and life expectancy both continue to rise, more and more seniors are faced with housing insecurity and, I believe that Community Care Peterborough's programs are important to help combat this, keep people happily and healthily in their own home."

Michael's work with One City Peterborough, the Silver Bean Café, and the New Canadian Centre has all been with the hope to help vulnerable sectors of people find support so that they can live happily and healthily on their own.

When Michael is not advocating for human rights, running a long-time successful business, or connecting people with agencies, he enjoys strategic board games, back-country camping, spending time with his family and friends, and making people laugh.

For more information about the governance of Community Care Peterborough please visit <u>https://www.commcareptbo.org/about%20us/Board%20Members</u>