STEPHANIE SWALES, CRGS

1. WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION?

I am interested in serving on the Board of Directors for Sonography Canada because I am a passionate sonographer who has a love for the profession and a desire to help the skill of sonography reach new potential in diagnostic services within health care. I am heavily involved in the education of new sonographers, as well as educating radiology resident physicians about the technical skill of ultrasound at the Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Center in Hamilton, Ontario. I am invested in the future of sonography through the learners which I teach. As a member of the Board of Directors, I hope to make a difference in the education system of technologists nationwide. I feel that Ontario carries the burden of training future sonographers, which has led to shortages across the country. I would like to be involved in creating a discussion with other provinces and territories in developing programs for student sonographers to rectify the national shortage.

2. WHAT PERSONAL STRENGTHS CAN YOU BRING TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

Having 10 years of clinical experience in a tertiary setting has allowed me to develop a wealth of knowledge in the hospital environment. I am familiar with the needs of ultrasound from clinicians as well as the needs of sonographers. I have well-rounded technical sonography skills with strengths in musculoskeletal scanning, contrast enhanced ultrasound, fusion ultrasound, prostate biopsies, and anal sphincter ultrasound. I have exceptional organizational skills as I manage a full case load in a tertiary hospital, as well as acting as rounds facilitator for radiology residents, as clinical education leader for sonography students, as well as the lead on the protocol and policies development pertaining to contrast ultrasound. My skills as clinical education leader have been strengthened with the acquisition of a Master of Education degree, with a focus on classroom specialist as well as critical evaluation.

3. WHAT PREVIOUS VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE DO YOU BRING TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

I have deep history of volunteering within an educational setting. I have served on local interview panels for sonography students, as well as taken leadership roles in a local inter-professional event to facilitate understanding and cooperation between a multitude of healthcare professionals. In 2018, I was the sole facilitator of city-wide rounds for sonography, for the city of Hamilton, Ontario, and surrounding area. One of my personal core values is aligned with the value Sonography Canada places in the pursuit of excellence. In my everyday practice and accomplishments, I strive for excellence and always put forth the effort to maintain integrity in my actions.