

**Sheldon Bailey, CRGS (Alberta)**

**WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION?**

Over the course of my career, Sonography has become a lot more than 'just a job' for me. Though it is true that I happened upon this imaging discipline by accident, the decision to join the ranks of the associated professionals remains one of the best that I have ever made to date. It is very clear to me that all of my professional aspirations for the foreseeable future will revolve around my practice as a Sonographer.

Knowing this, I want to lend my energy to supporting the growth of the profession. Like many other health practice disciplines, Sonography is grappling with challenges that include increasing retirement rates, increased productivity demands from the health sector, and shortage of qualified professionals in less popular areas. Combine those issues with industry-specific high turnover rates and injury-induced departures, and the situational urgency becomes obvious. Though not the answer to all of these issues, I am of the opinion that an educational approach will impact these concerns positively. The proper education of would-be sonographers combined with educational campaigns geared towards other healthcare member groups and the public at large can do wonders for our profession.

With my ability to straddle both sides of the fence (as an Educational Administrator and a Sonographer), I would be excited to identify and seize such opportunities. Specifically though, I would most like to begin looking at ways that the Sonography profession can be further indigenized. My on-going doctoral work centers around the Indigenization of Allied Health Curricula at the college level and as I investigate the literature, in preparation for writing my dissertation, I recognize that there is a gap in our practice. Great things are already being done as we join the rest of Canada, seeking ways to embrace and encourage Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity in educational programs, but I believe there still remains a need for Industry-led sensitization of the professional space on this initiative. That is where the heart of my passion lies.

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

From a professional standpoint, I have extensive experience and training in adult education that encompasses Program development, instruction, and administration. I have also worked in image and educational program quality assurance capacities. All these opportunities allow me to be very much in touch with every step of a Sonographer's journey, from student to professional practice.

Outside of the professional realm, my personality further supports my suitability as a member of the Board of Directors. While personable and relatable, I believe that excellence is an achievable ideal. I commit to whatever I am involved in, very reliable, and strives to exemplify integrity and honor in all undertakings.

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

Presently, I serve as a member of the BORN Ontario Nuchal Translucency Quality Assurance Working Group (NTQA) and also as a Program Surveyor with EQual Canada. These keep me connected to the world of Sonography from an administrative standpoint, helping to influence the profession as a holistic way. I also look for opportunities to volunteer my time with Sonography Canada directly, adding my voice

to conversations when given an opportunity and volunteering to participate in conferences / educational sessions.

The last 5 years of my career have been dedicated to developing and promoting Sonographic education in under-served areas, fully reflecting Sonography Canada's Strategic Priorities and organizational identifiers. A founding member of the second publicly funded Sonography program in the province of British Columbia (BC), I was instrumental in developing the program, providing leadership towards attaining accredited status and producing well-needed graduates to serve Northern BC. A subsequent appointment to the role of Associate Dean gave me platform to broaden my reach and have developmental influence provincially. Most recently, I have transitioned to a similar role in Central Alberta where I am leading the exploration of establishing another Sonography training program.