



Horticulture Centre of the Pacific Society 2025 Annual General Meeting

HCP Society Board Nominations

What does the Board do?

As a not-for-profit organization, the HCP is governed by a society led by a Board of Directors. The Board's function is to oversee HCP's strategic direction and financial performance, and upholds its operations, policies, and values.

The Board's mandate flows from the District of Saanich. Saanich owns the land that HCP resides on and charges the HCP Society for operating and stewarding these lands. The HCP Board undertakes this responsibility in accordance with the *BC Society Act*. From these leased premises, the HCP operates according to Board policies and the HCP Society Bylaws.

The HCP Board is actively seeking new Directors. We are particularly interested in people who have horticulture, finance, or HR experience. We are seeking a new Secretary and Treasurer. The time commitment is roughly 5 hours per month but could be higher depending on committee involvement.

Plans for 2025

Each year the HCP Society Board identifies its goals and priorities for the upcoming year. In addition to ongoing support to the management team, this year we are focused on identifying what steps are needed to address the current condition of HCP's buildings and infrastructure; on developing a long term vision and strategy for growth; and planning for HCP's 50th anniversary in 2029. This work may involve revisiting and updating the Strategic Plan and supporting Action Plan for delivery.

Renewing Directors

Four current Directors will be continuing for the second year of their current two-year terms: Britta Wagner (Secretary), Bryan Bonell, Joshua Craig, and Rani Wiedemann (see the HCP website for bios). Our current Chair, Brian White, will be starting his second two-year term.

In accordance with the HCP Society bylaws section 47(a) an elected Director's term of office is two consecutive years from the date of election. In accordance with section 48, an elected Director may serve for no more than six consecutive years. Each new Director is being elected for a two-year term.

New Director Nominees

Evan Gibson

Evan moved to Vancouver Island from Toronto in 2022 to pursue his CPA designation and has loved exploring the wonderful outdoors the Island has to offer. Evan is now a senior accountant who works with MNP in Victoria and helps prepare personal and corporate tax returns for a wide variety of clients, with a specialization in preparing corporate returns and tax planning for medical professional corporations.

This will be Evan's first time serving on a board, and he hopes to bring fresh perspectives and a strong commitment to the role. Evan has held numerous volunteer positions in the past, including serving on the planning committee for the Gutsy Walk 2017 in Toronto, participating in the Daily Bread Food Bank Purolator Red Bag Campaign, and tutoring ESL conversation circles at the Edmonton Public Library.

In his spare time, Evan enjoys drumming, spending time with his partner, Lori, and their two cats, and playing outdoor soccer and tennis year-round. Evan looks forward to becoming more actively involved in the community and deepening his connection with the beautiful land we live on.

Marian McCoy

Marian isn't technically new to the HCP Board, having served from 2021 to 2024, and acting as Secretary for the last several months of that term. She returned in February 2025 to help fill the loss of two Board members.

Marian is an ecologist and former Professional Agrologist with more than 18 years of experience working with all levels of government, First Nations, and eNGOs developing policy for biodiversity and species at risk, and delivering invasive plant management and ecosystem restoration. She also has horticulture experience, having worked at Russell Nursery. Marian volunteered at HCP on and off from 2005 to 2012, working primarily in the Conservation Area. She has been a sessional instructor with the Pacific Horticulture College and HCP's Community Ed program. She served as chair of the Viaduct Flats Committee, which oversees the conservation covenant on the wetland and riparian area in HCP's leased lands. Marian is standing for the position of Vice Chair.