



Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself. Professionally, I am a lecturer in Global Politics at the University of Saskatchewan, the coordinator for the Global Studies Certificate, and the Faculty in Residence for students living on campus. Before taking on these roles, I worked as a researcher and MEP assistant at the European Parliament and as an event coordinator for a European Security and Defence consultancy while completing my PhD.

Personally, I live in Saskatoon with my wife, Deanna, and our two daughters, Sasha and Elise. Elise has been involved in club soccer since U9, first with Lakewood and then with Aurora, following the boundary shift. I have been actively involved in supporting her in both clubs, serving as a parent volunteer with Lakewood and as assistant coach, head coach, and manager with Aurora at the U9 and U11 levels. I have strived to keep sports in my own life, albeit much reduced due to some physical limitations. In my youth, I played soccer and rugby, and later played keeper for an inter-university soccer team in Grad School. Outside of school, I have enjoyed a diverse range of sports, from scuba diving and rock climbing to cycling, the last of which I am still trying to continue as my daily transport.

I am keen on becoming a board member with Aurora as I believe it is where I can best support the club and, by extension, my daughter. I deeply value the role that Aurora has played in allowing Elise to find her path and develop herself both in terms of athletics/soccer and her own sense of place in the world. Sport allows kids to develop their skills and confidence both on the field and off. Aurora has sought to build an inclusive, player-centric approach to personal development that resonates with me.

I have board experience, which I would bring to Aurora. I have been a board member with AIESEC, which focuses on developing leadership skills in university students through cross-cultural and international exchanges. I am an active member of the Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation, which undertakes training and network building for individuals between 18 and 34 years of age with the goal of leadership development. Finally, I have served on the board of the Saskatoon Branch of the Canadian International Council since 2014, holding the positions of President, Outreach Chair, and Member at Large. The CIC is a non-partisan organization that aims to engage Canadians in understanding and participating in global affairs.

Building on my experience, I hope to contribute to the growth and reinforcement of the Aurora Soccer Club's excellent reputation and practices. I would be very interested in working within the club and with other clubs to make soccer more accessible, enjoyable, and developmental. I would also be interested in exploring our social media presence and community building with families. Thank you for your time!

