



President (2-year term)

Available positions: 1

Received nominations: 1

Name of Nominee: **Jessica Amadi** (she/her)

Candidate For: **President (2-year term)**

Residence: Regina

Jessica Amadi has been actively involved in multicultural activities and organizations for several years, contributing to cultural development at the local, regional, and provincial levels across Saskatchewan. As the Vice President of the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan (MCoS) for the past two years, Jessica has played a pivotal role in representing the organization, participating in various events, and delivering speeches to promote multiculturalism and anti-racism. One of her notable initiatives was organizing an announcement series for the entire Regina Catholic School Division during Black History Month. This initiative culminated in the creation of a school-wide mural inspired by Kente cloth, symbolizing unity and cultural diversity.

Jessica's passion for multicultural engagement extends to the arts, particularly musical theatre. This past May, she performed in Regina Lyric's production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* as "Fille de la Ville #2," showcasing her commitment to cultural expression through performance. In her professional capacity, Jessica serves as a French Immersion Learning Catalyst Teacher, specializing in early French Literacy and providing support in English Language Arts (ELA), French Language Arts (FLA), and Math. This role enables her to promote linguistic diversity and inclusion within the education system.

Academically, Jessica holds two bachelor's degrees in French and Education, demonstrating a strong foundation in both language and pedagogical studies. Her commitment to education and lifelong learning is further evidenced by her pursuit of a master's degree in Educational Technology from the University of British Columbia. This advanced degree not only enhances her expertise in integrating technology into educational settings but also underscores her dedication to staying at the forefront of educational innovation. By continually expanding her skills she is well-equipped to lead initiatives that embrace modern educational practices and foster a more inclusive learning environment.

Jessica's extensive experience in multicultural organizations, combined with her educational background and leadership skills, align perfectly with the vision and mission of MCoS. She brings a unique perspective and a deep commitment to fostering a culturally diverse and inclusive society, benefiting all residents of Saskatchewan. Through her active involvement and advocacy, Jessica continues to make significant strides in promoting multiculturalism and anti-racism, making her a valuable asset to any organization dedicated to these causes.

Vice President (2-year term)

Available positions: 1

Received nominations: 1

Name of Nominee: **Anthony Olusola** (he/him)

Candidate For: **Vice President (2-year term)**

Residence: Saskatoon

Anthony Olusola has been privileged to serve a 1-year Director At Large term on the MCoS Board, where he has shared and learned from amazing people committed to the mission, vision, and mandate of MCoS. The Board members he has served with over the past year have shaped his outlook and enhanced his knowledge of the critical work being done by the dedicated staff at MCoS under the leadership of Executive Director Rhonda Rosenberg. Having been actively involved in the governance and oversight duties of the MCoS Board, Anthony is propelled to recommit his multifaceted skills and over 15 years of experience working in the humanities and ethnocultural community spaces in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and nationally.

Anthony brings to the MCoS Board unparalleled skills in human resources, performance management and motivation, government-level relations, community leadership, and a deep knowledge of equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) aimed at achieving a socially cohesive Saskatchewan society.

In addition to his service on the MCoS Board this past year, Anthony has also been actively involved on other Boards and Working Groups, including the Nutrien WonderHub Children's Museum and Blooming Petals Multicultural Childcare Co-op.

Working in the social services and immigrant-serving sectors, Anthony possesses extensive inter-sectoral knowledge and continues to contribute actively to the advancement of individuals and families in various ways. His efforts include inter-heritage learning, Indigenous-Immigrant relationship building, Youth-Adult Partnership initiatives, Ethnocultural Seniors initiatives, and recognition of the historic and ongoing contributions of Blacks and other ethnic minorities to Saskatchewan and Canada in general.

Secretary (1-year term)

Available positions: 1

Received nominations: 1

Name of Nominee: **Tenisha Inengi** (she/her)

Candidate For: **Secretary (1-year term)**

Residence: Regina

Tenisha is interested and deeply dedicated to continuing as Secretary for the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan (MCoS). Her service to this vibrant, diverse community has been an honour, and her commitment to furthering their shared goals and vision is unwavering.

Tenisha has been actively involved in numerous community initiatives and events during her tenure, ensuring that MCoS' values are upheld, and the council is well-represented. From cultural festivals and educational workshops to community gatherings, she has played a pivotal role in fostering unity and mutual respect among different cultural groups.

Tenisha's proactive approach was evident when she stepped up without hesitation when the previous Secretary stepped down, recognizing the need for stability and continuity. During this interim period, she supported MCoS' strategic goals and chaired the Recognition Committee, witnessing the impactful contributions of individuals and events within the multicultural community. This proactive approach is a testament to her commitment to the council.

Looking ahead, Tenisha has a clear vision for MCoS. She envisions enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the council's operations, promoting inclusivity and diversity, and making MCoS initiatives and events reflect the community's rich diversity. Her priority is improving communication strategies and ensuring active engagement and awareness among members and the community.

Tenisha's educational background includes a Bachelor's in Economics, a Business Administration Diploma, and certifications in Project Management, Lean, Six Sigma (Green and Black Belt), written communication, and Structured Query Language (SQL). These qualifications have equipped her with a robust skill set directly applicable to the role of Secretary, honing her ability to manage complex tasks efficiently, maintain records, and communicate effectively with diverse stakeholders.

Her leadership in government projects highlights her skill in managing high-stakes endeavours with precision and foresight. This experience has honed her governance, communication, and strategic planning abilities, which are essential for the Secretary role at MCoS. Tenisha aims to enhance MCoS' efficiency and initiatives with these skills.

Tenisha is grateful for the opportunity to be considered for this position and is enthusiastic about advancing the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan's important work.

Director-at-Large (2-year term)

Available positions: 3

Received nominations: 6

Name of Nominee: **Dr Shela Hirani** (she/her)
Candidate For: **Director-at-Large (2-year term)**
Residence: Regina

Dr Shela Hirani is an Associate Professor at the University of Regina and an award-winning nursing professional who completed her PhD in Nursing from the University of Alberta. She is actively involved in endeavors that support MCoS' vision and values focusing on cultural continuity, the celebration of cultural diversity, the anti-racism movement, intercultural connections, and the integration of refugees and immigrants in Saskatchewan.

Dr Hirani is a world-renowned leader for the health of refugee/immigrant mothers and children, researcher, mentor, volunteer, and advocate of a pluralistic society. She received more than 50 honours recognizing her leadership, outstanding research outputs, community services, academic pursuits, and contributions to the health of marginalized and vulnerable populations of diverse groups of newcomers in Saskatchewan. In 2023, she received the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal Saskatchewan and was the recipient of the Saskatchewan Multicultural Leadership Award 2022 and YWCA Regina Nutrien Women of Distinction Award 2022. In 2020, she was recognized by the World Health Organization as one of the 100 outstanding women nurse and midwife leaders from around the world.

Since 2003, she has been actively involved in advocating for healthcare, education and social services that are culturally sensitive, accessible and affordable, address racism/discrimination, are respectful of people from diverse cultural backgrounds, and are non-judgmental. Her anti-racism efforts in healthcare settings, academia and public places have led to a change in practices and policies. Her research and work in improving access to breastfeeding supports, education and guidance help ensure the health and well-being of mothers, especially those who face barriers like immigrant, refugee, Indigenous, and homeless mothers affected by poverty, and gender-diverse parents.

Her media interviews advocate for a pluralistic society and EDI approach to healthcare in Saskatchewan and beyond. Using her expertise, she provides quality mentorship to undergraduate and graduate-level trainees in Saskatchewan, preparing the next generation of leaders who are preparing to bridge gaps and provide culturally sensitive services. She has more than 60 publications specific to culturally sensitive care for women belonging to diverse cultural groups and has been invited as a speaker at various conferences within and outside Canada.

Name of Nominee: **Edith Kadachuk** (she/her)
Candidate For: **Director-at-Large (2-year term)**
Residence: Prince Albert

Edith Kadachuk is from the Métis part of Cumberland House, Saskatchewan. She speaks and writes in Cree and English. Growing up on a farm provided her with many opportunities to engage with farm animals and rural life, including milking cows, riding horses, and feeding chickens and pigs.

Edith attended Charlebois School, where the Catholic Church played a significant role in after-school activities, particularly learning about the Bible with the nuns. As a young parent, she worked at Charlebois School as a home school liaison officer while attending counseling classes at Northlands College for two years. She spent five years as a paraprofessional, counseling and working with all the students at Charlebois School. This job was exceptionally difficult for her as she was related to most of the families, but she did her best to support all the children. Simultaneously, she volunteered with the church and community, often being asked to cook for community events.

Edith returned to university for her Degree in Education and graduated in 1997. She taught for seven years before returning to university for her Masters in Educational Psychology. She then worked for Prince Albert Grand Council, Northern Lights, Saskatoon Tribal Council, and Treaty Six Education Council for seven years, serving in 60 schools across Saskatchewan. As an Education Consultant, she worked with children with learning challenges, meeting with parents, principals, teachers, teacher assistants, guardians, and Elders of the community to develop support services for all children.

Edith later decided to return to teaching and worked at One Arrow as a student support worker, helping students with learning challenges. She then taught education students for four years until she became ill and needed a less strenuous job. She worked as a residential school support worker at Prince Albert Grand Council, counseling, mentoring, and coaching individuals who attended residential or day schools.

Currently, Edith works as the Prince Albert Grand Council partnership representative and manager at the Prince Albert Victoria Hospital project, focusing on the First Nations Métis Health and Multicultural Department at the Victoria Hospital. She is a passionate advocate for marginalized individuals who have been traumatized and are suffering from mental health issues.

Name of Nominee: **Ziyang Li** (he/him)
Candidate For: **Director-at-Large (2-year term)**
Residence: Regina

Ziyang Li's journey in Canada underscores a dedication to multicultural engagement and social justice advocacy since his arrival as a new settler in 2015. Commencing at the Regina Open Door Society, he swiftly transitioned from a newcomer client to a Community Connection Worker, fostering unity among diverse cultural groups. Inspired by these experiences, Ziyang co-founded the Saskatchewan Chinese Youth Association (SCYA), a pivotal platform dedicated to empowering Chinese youth and promoting cultural awareness. Through SCYA, Ziyang initiated a spectrum of programs, from youth leadership development to culture continuity, enriching the lives of Chinese youth and nurturing cross-cultural understanding within the Saskatchewan community.

During his tenure as Vice President of Student Affairs (2020-2022) at the University of Regina Students' Union, Ziyang's leadership was distinguished by impactful initiatives addressing pressing issues such as food insecurity and unaffordable education. His passion led to the establishment of community fridges on campus and advocacy campaigns for student stakeholders.

Ziyang's influence transcends university boundaries. His active engagement as a board member with Regina Food for Learning and the Regina Public Interest Research Group (RPIRG)

underscores his commitment to tackling societal challenges like hunger and community-based education. Additionally, as a former Project Officer for the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network - Youth, Ziyang contributed to global sustainability efforts, while locally founding the United Nations Association in Canada's Regina branch, advocating for social justice and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Name of Nominee: **Dina Lobo** (she/her)
Candidate For: **Director-at-Large (2-year term)**
Residence: Regina

Dina excels in integrating emotional intelligence and raising awareness of individual fears and limitations, perfectly aligning with MCoS's mission to help individuals and newcomers be seen and heard, regardless of their cultural backgrounds and strengthen the connection with the nationals in Saskatchewan.

Her focus on cultural continuity and anti-racism, two of the main pillars of MCoS, is complemented by her skills in facilitating workshops to foster awareness. Dina aims to expand this impact within local communities by initiating conversations and upholding strong ethics, respect, and morals. As a leader, corporate consultant, and evaluator, Dina's strengths include flexibility, adaptability, objective analysis, effective facilitation, and building deep connections with stakeholders. She is particularly excited about the ICARE project and deepening connections with the Indigenous community, committed to helping individuals feel safe and secure, leading by example for newcomers and immigrants.

Dina's recent media contributions, such as her Global News appearances, have been extraordinary, educating individuals on prioritizing their well-being and embracing unique identities. Her compelling CBC article highlights the impact of diversity on Saskatchewan's economic, cultural, and political life, sparking meaningful conversations and emphasizing resilience.

With international experience in India, Singapore, Dubai, and Canada, Dina understands the value of cultural diversity. As the founder of Transformational Spark Coaching, she prioritizes mental and emotional wellness. Dina's expertise in transformational coaching and trauma specialization equips her to address racism and discrimination, striving for equitable outcomes. What sets Dina apart is her remarkable ability to foster intercultural connections and cultivate understanding among communities that emphasizes MCoS' integration.

Recently, Dina participated in "The Ahmadiyya Muslim Association in breaking fast with Muslims," an evening of learning, diversity, and unity. She also enjoyed speaking and interacting at the Regina Immigrants Women's Center (RIWC) during International Women's Day and participating in the TEDx Regina event, highlighting creativity and innovation. In conclusion, Dina's vision for equality and inclusivity, combined with her expertise, positions her to drive positive change. With Dina as Director, MCoS will thrive in promoting a diverse and inclusive Saskatchewan. Dina looks forward to contributing to this amazing journey!

Name of Nominee: **Dr. Justina Ndubuka** (she/her)
Candidate For: **Director-at-Large (2-year term)**
Residence: Prince Albert

Dr. Justina Ndubuka was born and raised in Nigeria. Justina moved to Saskatchewan with her family in 2013. She holds a veterinary medical degree (DVM) from the University of Nigeria; however, her passion for public health and health policy motivated her to obtain a Master's degree in public health (MPH) from the University of Liverpool, United Kingdom, and a Master's degree in Health Administration (MHA) from the University of Regina.

Justina's goal is to support the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan (MCoS) Board in advancing multicultural conversations in Saskatchewan. With her extensive networking skills, experience working with Northern Saskatchewan Indigenous communities, and community engagement capabilities, she will be an asset to MCoS.

Over the past nine years, she has worked with northern remote and rural Indigenous communities through government-funded projects and programs to address social determinants of health and health inequities. Justina is well-versed in strategic planning, project management, resource mobilization, stakeholder relations, and community engagement.

Justina is a member of the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan and is passionate about community development and the promotion of cultural heritage. About 10 years ago, Justina was one of the key pioneers of the Association of Nigerians in North-East Saskatchewan. In 2023, she contributed to establishing the first Igbo Language school in Prince Albert, northern Saskatchewan, to promote and preserve the Igbo language among residents. As the Igbo Language School Administrator, Justina works with children of diverse backgrounds to facilitate learning and promote cultural awareness. She continues to support the settlement and integration of newcomers to Prince Albert through the Ndi Igbo Nile Cultural Association of Northern Saskatchewan newcomer program.

Justina lives in Prince Albert, SK where she works with the Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority. She is a mother of four children and enjoys reading in her spare time.

Name of Nominee: **Mahnaz Robertson** (she/her)
Candidate For: **Director-at-Large (2-year term)**
Residence: Saskatoon

Mahnaz was born in Iran, lived in Philippines from 1979 to 1982, then immigrated to Canada as a refugee. She built a successful intercultural marriage and family, and went to school, while farming near Rosetown and working as account manager in Swift Current. She is now retired and lives in Saskatoon.

Mahnaz served as treasurer, on the board of the Southwest Multicultural Association in Swift Current for over 25 years. SW Multicultural Association works in collaboration with MCoS, SaskCulture, SW Newcomer Welcome Centre. She has been involved with the International Immigrant Women group in Swift Current for many years, and served on the Board of Southwest Crisis Services, in 2011 and 2012, as treasurer.

While working as an account manager at Innovation Credit Union, she was influential in encouraging the lending department, to create a new program responding to the special needs

of the international workers, newly arrived to Swift Current, without credit history or traditional financial backing. This program has been assisting employed newcomers since the year 2000. Mahnaz has been diligently involved with planning programs and activities for promotion of International Day of Women and the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in Swift Current for many years.

Assets Mahnaz brings are: a passion for diversity from living in three countries and visiting over fifteen countries; fluency in Persian and English, experience working in a multicultural environment, understanding firsthand the social, economic and cultural challenges newcomers face; skills in financial goal setting, analyzing financial statements, budgeting, and decision making to positively impact an organization's goals and financial strategies. She works well under pressure and is goal oriented.

She believes that despite the destructive forces of prejudice, racism, war, and genocide around the world, we can be hopeful about the many individuals and institutions who are working hard to spread peace and justice to help reshape and transform human relations around the world. She wants to contribute to that hopeful and positive transformation by joining MCoS' board.

Director-at-Large (1-year term) position

Available positions: 1

Received nominations: 1

Name of Nominee: **Birpartap Singh** (he/him)

Candidate For: **Director-at-Large (1-year term)**

Residence: Regina

Birpartap Singh, hailing from Punjab and belonging to the Sikh religion, embodies a deep appreciation for cultural diversity rooted in his rich Punjabi heritage. His journey as an international student in Saskatchewan has been marked by an eagerness to immerse himself in various cultural activities and organizations, both locally and nationally. Birpartap's multicultural interests extend beyond his own background, as he actively seeks opportunities to explore and learn about other cultures, fostering cross-cultural understanding and harmony.

His involvement in multicultural organizations spans leadership roles at the local and regional levels, where he has contributed significantly to cultural development initiatives benefiting Saskatchewan residents. As a Senate Member at the University of Regina, Birpartap has championed academic governance while advocating for inclusivity and diversity within the institution. His tenure as Vice-President Operations & Finance/CFO at the University of Regina Students' Union reflects his commitment to fostering a supportive environment for students from diverse backgrounds.

Professionally, Birpartap has demonstrated versatility and leadership, from his role as a Security Guard at Executives Protection Services to his responsibilities as an Assistant Team Leader/Supervisor at Dollarama Inc. His strong interpersonal skills, coupled with a customer-focused approach, have enabled him to excel in diverse environments contributing to the creation of inclusive spaces where individuals from all walks of life feel valued and respected.

With a personal background steeped in the vibrant culture of Punjab and a genuine curiosity to explore and embrace the richness of other cultures, Birpartap brings a unique perspective and a wealth of experience to the multicultural landscape of Saskatchewan. His commitment to promoting cultural diversity and fostering cross-cultural dialogue aligns seamlessly with the vision and mission of the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan. Birpartap's dedication, leadership, and passion for multiculturalism position him as a valuable asset poised to make meaningful contributions to the cultural vibrancy and cohesion of Saskatchewan.