

Edmonton Folk Music Festival Society
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT 2025-26
Annual General Meeting:

Highlights

- **Strategic Governance Review:** Formal engagement of external experts to build a multi-year road map.
- **Organizational Continuity:** Establishing a long-range succession framework to protect the Festival's legacy.
- **Safe Spaces & Inclusion:** Deepening the partnership with the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee (DAIA).
- **Bylaw & Policy Maturity:** Moving from renewal to implementation of a modern governance framework.

Active Committees

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Committee (EXEC) • Finance Committee (FIN) • Member Services Committee (MSC) • By-law Renewal Committee (BRC) • Policy Review Committee - pending (PRC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don Snider “Go Wildly Forward” Scholarship Committee (SCHL) • Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee (DAIA) • Volunteer Dispute Committee - pending (VDC) |
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Member	Committees	Term Status
• Cam McCormick,	Ex Officio	Year 3 / 3
• Marilyn MacGillivray,	FIN, BRC	Year 3 / 3
• Bridgette Sterling,	DAIA, FIN	Year 2 / 3
• Larry Bejcar	MSC	Year 2 / 3
• Shamair Turner	DAIA	Year 1 / 3
• Blake Loates	SCHL	Year 1 / 3
• Jill Day	MSC	Year 2 / 3
• Meredith Shewchuk	DAIA	Year 3 / 3
• Matt Remley	BRC	Year 1 / 3

Chair’s Address

As we close out the 2025-2026 fiscal year, I am struck by the unique position our Society holds. We are at a threshold—celebrating nearly five decades of world-class music and community while simultaneously laying the groundwork for the next fifty years on the Hill.

Governance Foundations and Bylaw Success I am very pleased to report that following our collective work last year, our new **Bylaws have been formally filed and are now in effect**. This was a massive undertaking that brings our Society into modern alignment. With this foundation set, the Board is now shifting its focus toward **Policy Development**. In the coming months, we will begin building a practical,



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forward-looking policy framework that ensures our operations remain consistent, transparent, and resilient for generations to come.

This year, the Board made a deliberate decision to invest in the Society's "institutional health" by engaging YStation, a premier strategy and governance firm. Our objective is clear: we are conducting a comprehensive review of our operations to build a Long-Range Succession Roadmap. We recognize that the institutional knowledge held within our staff and leadership is our greatest asset. Our work with YStation is focused on capturing that "DNA" and codifying it into a professional framework. By planning for future leadership transitions now—long before they are immediate—we ensure that the Society is positioned for a seamless handover whenever the time comes. We are building the "bricks" today to ensure the path is solid for the future.

Our commitment to being a "Safe Space" remains a core pillar of our mandate. We have deepened our partnership with the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee (DAIA), moving beyond theory into integrated governance.

The "Hill" is more than just a venue; it is a shared legacy. The Board's focus is fixed firmly on the horizon. By tightening our governance, clarifying our roles, and planning for future continuity, we are ensuring that the Edmonton Folk Music Festival remains as vibrant and resilient for the next generation as it has been for us.

Thank you for your trust, your passion, and your unwavering commitment to this Society.

See you on the Hill!!

Cam McCormick

Chair - Board of Directors

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