



2016 Slate of Candidates:

Ann Marie Leijen, Chief Executive Officer, ValleyCare

With over 15 years of executive leadership experience in healthcare Ann Marie's vision and leadership skills have resulted in profitable company growth, an engaged and passionate leadership team and dedicated employees. Along with her team, she has achieved significant quality improvements by embracing innovative care and operational strategies. This has all been achieved in a fiscally sound manner.

Ann Marie is actively involved in health care quality and safety initiatives which includes work with the BC Patient Safety & Quality Council; the Physician Leadership Program at UBC; as Chair of the Chilliwack Elder Care Committee; and through volunteer work with Agassiz Harrison Community Services; which focuses on community mental health services for youth and adults, employment services and outreach programs for at-risk-youth.

Hendrik Van Ryk, Chief Operating Officer, H & H Total Services

Hendrik has 24 years of experience working in residential care. As the Chief Operating Officer, he enjoys solving problems and taking an active role in the evolution of policy and procedures so they remain current, and, most importantly, meaningful. As a health care provider, he recognizes that his employees are responsible for the most vulnerable people in our society.

Hendrik currently oversees the operational management of each of his care facilities, with a specific responsibility for the human relations and labour relations components at all the sites. Health and happiness are entrenched in the policies he manages today so his residents can live their lives to the fullest extent possible by supporting their health and well-being. As a faith-based company, he believes in creating a more supportive and home-like environment for the residents in our care.

Henry Lu, Chief Financial Officer, Retirement Concepts

As Retirement Concepts' Chief Financial Officer, Henry is responsible for all aspects of the company's accounting, financing, tax planning, and corporate administration. Henry is very proud to be part of Retirement Concepts' tradition of delivering outstanding services to seniors and their families. He is passionate about working with everyone at Retirement Concepts on creating comfortable environments that enrich the lives of seniors.

Henry has over a decade of financial management experience in Canada and the United States. He earned his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Simon Fraser University, and holds both the Canadian Chartered Accountant and the U.S. Certified Public Accountant designations. Henry is an active member of the Urban Development Institute, and has held several board positions within non-profit organizations in Canada.

Joe McQuaid, Executive Director, The Alberni-Clayoquot Continuing Care Society

Joe McQuaid is the Executive Director of Alberni-Clayoquot Continuing Care Society on Vancouver Island. Leading the human resources management for Echo Village and Fir Park Village, Joseph works with a 15-member Board of Directors including community stakeholders from the City of Port Alberni, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, Alberni Valley Senior Citizens Housing Society and the Alberni Valley Assisted Living Society.

Prior to this role, Joseph worked for a multi-national health company in Edmonton, Alberta as a health care administrator involved in collective bargaining negotiations. He served 10 years as the Community Care Facilities representative on the Community Care Facilities and Nursing Homes Licensing Board on Prince Edward Island where he played a key role in the province's review of the long-term care sector.

Hilary Manning, General Manager, Chartwell Malaspina Gardens Care Residence

Hilary Manning is the General Manager of Chartwell Malaspina Gardens, a 135 bed Long Term Care facility, where she has worked in various roles for the past 20 years. She has achieved three years' accreditation status through the Canadian Council of Health Services Accreditation.

Hilary has worked with development teams to design a new care home that is welcoming for residents and operationally efficient for employees. She has also managed and assisted in the development of operation budgets in excess of ten million dollars and capital budgets to maintain and upgrade the physical plant and equipment.

Elissa Gamble, National Director of Home Health Operations, Bayshore Health Care

Elissa Gamble is the National Director of Home Health Operations at Bayshore HealthCare, where she oversees the operations of more than 20 branches across western Canada. As a member of the senior management team, she ensures effective labour relations and human resource management for all locations. Prior to her role as a National Director of Home Health Operations, Elissa served as a Director of Regional Director and Area Director where she provided direct operational day-to-day leadership for Bayshore's BC Government services branch.

Before joining Bayshore, Elissa held positions in a wide range of health organizations in the community, acute and tertiary care sectors. She worked with the Provincial Renal Agency as Director of Operations and was awarded the Administration Fellowship with Providence Health Care. She has also worked in residential care providing direct care and service. Elissa holds an Honours degree in Economics from the University of Saskatchewan and a Master's degree in Health Administration from the University of British Columbia.

Chris Mitchell, Provincial Director at Revera Inc.

Chris Mitchell is the Provincial Director of 8 long term care homes in the greater Vancouver and Victoria Regions. His passion and strength is in leadership and the “people” side of business. Prior to his current position, he spent 11 years with the Canadian military, some of which he was involved in managing healthcare assets within the unique system.

Beyond the military, Chris’s experience in Alberta primary care sector further developed skills that proved invaluable to his role as the Executive Director of a large and complex long-term care home in West Vancouver. He quickly became an expert in Canadian healthcare operations. Chris is an active member of the Canadian College of Health Leaders (CCHL) and has acquired his Certified Health Executive designation through the CCHL.