

The Vincentimes

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 2

May 2021

*Congratulations to the new incoming ONRC Board
who were elected in at the April 10 Annual General Meeting.*

The information in this newsletter will introduce you to the new Board members.



Omar Ellis lives in Brampton and was until recently the president of the Peel North Particular Council. He came to Canada in 2012 from Jamaica and has the distinction of being a Vincentian in two countries with a total of 30 years of service.

Omar has a passion for membership development because participation in the Society has made his life rich. He was a member of the ONRC rejuvenation committee. Many Vincentians are seniors who do excellent work but he would like to develop opportunities for younger employed people to participate in the Society perhaps by making home visits in the evenings or on weekends. Youth are an untapped resource who could participate in special activities that are appealing to them.

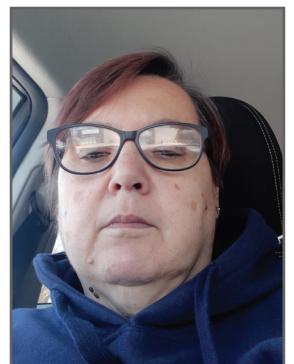
Omar believes that social justice will require commitment to redistributing the wealth of our country to benefit people living in deep poverty.

Shelley Gilbert lives in St. Catharines. She has been a Vincentian for 28 years and is the past president of the St. Catharines Central Council.

Shelley has been active in many aspects of Vincentian work such as raising funds to send children to camps and coordinating her community's participation in the North of 60 project which sends sea containers of food to our brothers and sisters in the north. Currently, she is on the board of the local soup kitchen and is helping in preparing a handbook to ensure that it operates according to legal requirements.

Shelley thinks that the main challenges for the Society are promotion of SSVP in social media and youth recruitment.

As a person with some mobility issues, Shelley can share her experiences and advocate on behalf of people with disabilities.

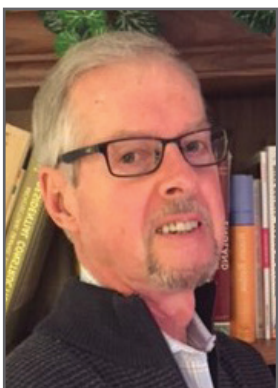


Rob Greenaway lives in Toronto where he has been a Vincentian for 17 years. Currently, he is chair of the Toronto Central Council's Particular Council president's committee which supports the work of 11 Particular Councils and 114 conferences across Toronto.

Rob has a strong commitment to Vincentian spirituality and the home visit as the preferred model of interacting with our neighbours in need. He chairs the membership development committee at TCC.

In 2017, as president of Toronto Central Council, Rob led the council in reforming the council's governance model so that it could deliver the TCC's vision statement better. In 2018/19 Rob was part of the committee that reformed and modernized the Ontario Regional Council's governance model.

Rob is interested in working on a strategic plan with achievable and measurable goals for the ONRC.





Sue Mazziotti-Armitage lives in Peterborough where she has been a Vincentian for 21 years. She is a past president of the Peterborough Particular Council and has served as the Stores chair on the ONRC since July 2016. As Stores chair, Sue has established and chaired regular meetings of store managers at semi-annual regional meetings. These meetings have resulted in information sharing and improved operations across Ontario.

As a Vincentian, Sue started as a food pantry volunteer and led the consolidation of several food cupboards into a central food pantry in Peterborough. She has excellent rapport with her neighbours in need because she strives to listen and understand.

As a continuing board member, Sue would continue to build on the work of the stores which are often the face of the Society and an important source of revenue for funding the work of conferences.

Terry Mizzen lives in London. Though not a Vincentian he has spent a lot of time (5 years plus) working for the Society. He has served as a member of the executive committee of the stores in London, as treasurer for the ONRC and as member of the finance committee of the National Board of the Society.

Terry is working on streamlining banking procedures to allow for payments via EFT (electronic funds transfer) while maintaining dual signatory approval of payment through digital services of the bank. Currently paper cheques are used with the obligatory two signatures.

Terry has 40 years of experience as a staff accountant in public accounting (12 years) and CFO in the private sector (28). He has managed staff of 8 to 12 in the private sector.

As ONRC treasurer, Terry enjoyed working with central and particular council presidents/treasurers to help them develop a better understanding of accounting principles in completing annual reporting. In the future he would like to lead workshops for conference and council treasurers.



Ann Massel lives in Mississauga and she has been a Vincentian for 28 years. She has served several terms as conference president and as secretary at Peel Particular Council.

Ann is committed to membership development. She helped to develop the five guiding principles leader led training for Vincentian service which strengthen the quality of service provided to neighbours in need and she promoted these guiding principles to the conferences. Ann believes that it is essential to engage members in activities to grow the conference and retain members.

Ann has developed connections with Children's Aid Societies, Catholic Family Services and Immigrant Services organizations to meet the diverse needs of families that the conference serves. Helping families access all the services that they need facilitates their road out of poverty.

Ann sees participation in the ONRC as a learning opportunity and a means to share her skills and experience with Ontario Vincentians.





Gary Williams lives in Pefferlaw and is currently president of Immaculate Conception Conference in Sutton. Gary has been a Vincentian for 3 years and has also served as youth leader at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Mississauga for 12 years. He relies on The Rule and experienced Vincentians when assessing a situation.

Gary has extensive experience managing complex projects and is well versed in employment and human resource law in Ontario. He is passionate about increasing youth membership in the Society as they are our future. He is currently recruiting a social justice representative for his conference so they can become more active in social housing and other important local issues.

Gary has a passion for mentorship and developing other's potential. He understands that in order to flourish, our Society needs to grow and he would like to be a part of that process.

Pegg Leroux lives in Waterloo where she is president of the particular council and she has been vice president of the ONRC since July 2016. Pegg's first contact with the Society was as a single mother going through a hard time and a Christmas hamper changed a potentially bleak Christmas into a joyous one. She knew she had to become part of such a caring organization.

Pegg is the chair of the North of 60 program which sends sea containers of food to northern communities. Pegg's greatest joy in this program is the cultural exchange that happens when northern communities share their culture with Vincentians in the south.

In Kitchener-Waterloo, Pegg has worked with Out of the Cold and Lutherwood, to alleviate the suffering of the homeless, providing them with basic needs and finding many permanent homes.

As a continuing member of the new ONRC board, Pegg will be committed to work hard and joyfully to help the ONRC grow in this new governance model.



Danyl Lohin lives in Stoney Creek and he is the past president of the Hamilton Particular Council. Danyl is a long-time member of the Knights of Columbus where he has had many leadership roles including Grand Knight/Ontario State Director.

As president of the Hamilton Particular Council, Danyl worked to develop better communication and understanding with neighbouring councils. He leads by example and is adept at building consensus.

Recently, Danyl took an active part in reorganizing the Saint Vincent de Paul stores in Hamilton and he has developed a better understanding of not-for-profit business.

Danyl is a team player and building relationships which make him a strong leader.

**SOCIETY OF
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL
ONTARIO REGIONAL
COUNCIL**



**Visit us on the web
www.ssvp.on.ca**

Email: info@ssvp.on.ca

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Mission:

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a lay Catholic organization whose mission is:

To live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy.

Values:

The Mission of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul implies that as Vincentians we:

- See Christ in anyone who suffers;
- Come together as a family;
- Have personal contact with the poor;
- Help in all possible ways.

Notice of Passings

We would like to recognize and remember the following Vincentians who have passed.
They blessed so many with their lives.

February 2, 2021
Mary Sutton,
Sacred Heart Conference
LaSalle, ON

March 5, 2021
Joseph Jean Bernard Dumas
Most Precious Blood Conference
Windsor, ON

Upcoming Date

Saturday, June 5 @ 10 am – **Webinar on Homelessness presented by Bill Graham** – a session that will address attitudes and perceptions towards people who are homeless and how we can help.

Register in advance for this meeting: [Register here](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Please contact linda@ssvp.on.ca if you do not receive a confirmation email.