

**Regent Theatre Foundation  
Board Members BIOGRAPHIES**

**Board Candidates for Election or Re-Election  
(in alphabetical order)**

**ISABEL GOMEZ-MORIANA | Nominee 2024**

Isabel has been working with producers, writers, directors, and editors for 20+ years, providing creative and strategic advice to help them articulate their creative visions and have their film and television projects realized.

She has been a part of the creative team at Entertainment One/Lionsgate (Canada's largest film & television studio with offices in Toronto, LA, and London) since June 2017. Previous to eOne, Isabel spent 9 years with the Canadian Film Centre, as the Executive in charge of Project Development & Packaging (2011 to 2016), and as Executive in Charge of Production & Post (2007 to 2011).

Isabel is a CFC producer alumna, who holds a BFA in Theatre and MFA in Acting. She was co-writer and co-host of the Gemini-nominated lifestyle series, *My Messy Bedroom*, and has produced 7 short films. Isabel co-designed the *Future of Film* initiative with Ted Hope, in partnership with Fandor and has participated on industry advisories and panels for the Toronto International Film Festival, Women in Film, Festival du Nouveau Cinema, ImagiNATIVE, and the Tribeca Film Institute to name a few.

In 2016 Isabel completed a global MBA at University of Toronto (Rotman School of Management) with a focus on strategy, innovation, and leadership. She grew up in a mixed cultural household outside of Montreal and proudly calls Prince Edward County, Ontario her home.

**PETER SAGE | Nominee 2024**

Peter has lived and worked in The County as a residential Designer and Builder for over 44 years. Having contributed to past and the most recent upgrades and renovations to the Regent and to recent fundraising events he has become very familiar to most of the operations and management of the Theatre.

Peter brings a wealth of knowledge and history with the community as well as an extensive background in business operations. He has served on a local church board for over 20 years and has been a patron of the Prince Edward County Jazz Festival for over 20 years.

He lives in Picton with his wife Celia (former Regent Theatre Foundation board member) as well as both his daughters and their families.



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**BENJAMIN THORNTON (Chair) |** Joined: 2019  
*Nominee for Re-election*

Ben has been the chair of the Regent board since 2020. He is an appointee to the County's Built and Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee, and volunteers with several County organizations. He was the president and chair of the board of the Mississauga Arts Council for many years and worked closely with the municipal government and partner agencies on arts and cultural policy and funding issues. He has done community and public relations for other not-for-profit organizations including TVOntario and the United Empire Loyalists' Association.

Ben has roots in the County generations deep. He lives in Picton with his wife and three children.

**KAREN VALIHORA | Nominee 2024**

Karen graduated from Yale University in 2000 with a PhD in English Literature and works as an English professor at York University in Toronto. She published a book on Jane Austen and moral philosophy called *Austen's Oughts* in 2010. Together with her partner, Chris Fanning, she has five kids and has been living in the County since 2017, moving here permanently in 2020. In May 2023, Chris and Karen were delighted to become the latest publishers of the *Picton Gazette*, Canada's oldest community newspaper.

One of the first things they did was launch a new "Books on Film" club in collaboration with the Regent.

**PETER WISMATH | Nominee 2024**

A graduate of Trinity College in the University of Toronto, Peter has a long background in publishing, sales, marketing and communications. For the past 8 years, he has been Chief Marketing Officer at Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, a top corporate law firm with offices in Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary.

Having visited the County for over 25 years solely as a tourist, Peter and his partner finally purchased a home in Picton in 2018 and have been splitting their time between there and Toronto ever since. They look forward (in the – hopefully - not too distant future) to retirement in the County.

Peter has remained close to Trinity College as an alumni, and has served on various boards and committees at the University for over 15 years. He is also an active supporter of the arts community, having been a performer, director and stage manager throughout both his undergraduate studies and as an alumni. Most recently, Peter held board positions at two indie theatre companies in Toronto: Shakespeare in the Ruff and Theatre Smash.



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**BOARD MEMBERS  
(not currently up for re-election)**

**Teri McNair** | Joined: 2021  
*Elected for 2 yr term in 2023.*

Teri is a retired HR Professional/Leader. She has 30+ years of Human Resources experience in all facets of Human Resources, across a variety of industries, with companies like Microsoft, AstraZeneca, and CIBC. She is a trained and experienced coach and has coached HR professionals and Leaders.

Teri and her husband purchased a home in Picton in 2015 and moved here full time after their retirement at the beginning of 2019. They feel fortunate to call Prince Edward County home given its vibrancy and beauty. Giving back to the PEC community is important to Teri. She has served on the Alternatives for Women Board and she has recently joined The County Foundation Board. She joined The Regent Theatre Board in 2020 and has been the Secretary for 2 years.

**Mark Rose** | Joined: 2023  
*Elected for 2 yr term in 2023.*

Born and raised in Prince Edward County, Mark is passionate about the community that helped raise him up and has been back living in Picton since 2011.

Ever-engaged locally, he ran for Council in 2018, finishing third in the six candidate field in Picton. Mark remains actively involved by volunteering his time throughout the County with programs such as Represent PEC, The Rose House Museum (the Rose family homestead), the Children's Foundation Christmas Angel Program and he is a former donating member of 100 People Who Care PEC. Mark also created The County Cast in 2020, a podcast focused on the coming and goings in Prince Edward County.

He is the current Executive Director of the Picton Business Improvement Association, following a decade of business to business sales in the industrial safety world with SafeStart where he managed relationships with a number of Fortune 500 companies.

Mark is thrilled and humbled to be part of The Regent team. Having grown up here when the theatre was sheltered and inactive, it's rebirth is a point of pride for the community he has seen grow so much over the last two decades.

**Robert (Bob) Schroën** | Joined 2021  
*Elected for 2 yr term.*

Emigrating from the Netherlands at the tender age of 9 with his parents and two older brothers spent his childhood and teenage years in Toronto but then discovered Prince Edward County in the late 60's, married and started a family while continuing to visit the County.

Being the son of a master carpenter and a family history of architecture, he loved to work with his hands and explore new possibilities as such he ventured into information and technology becoming



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instrumental in providing computerized solutions for many diverse businesses. After semi-retiring in the County, he started volunteering at the Regent Theatre.

In addition to providing technology support, projectionist, and then a board member. After the Board took over the management of the theatre in the late 2010 to early 2013, he became the manager and developed a team to grow the theatre entertainment value to the community.

He looks forward to working in a team format to ensure the theatre continues to be the hub of entertainment in Prince Edward County for the next 100 years.

**Rick Szabo (Vice-chair) |** Joined: 2016  
*Elected for 2 yr term in 2023.*

Rick loves being a part of the Prince Edward County community. You can usually find Rick volunteering at The Regent Theatre or at The Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory. Rick spent 24 years in the finance field and is an entrepreneur at heart, owning and operating many different PEC businesses in the past decade. Any spare time is spent with his wife and 3 children traveling the world.

