
2009 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S SLATE OF CANDIDATES NOMINEES PROFILES



RICK BAKER

Founder, President & CEO
Spirited Investors Corp.

Rick Baker is Founder, President and CEO of Spirited Investors Corporation. Spirited Investors is a private equity investment firm comprising skilled-in-business investors who, guided by a commitment to business excellence, pool their resources to find, buy, fix, grow and sell businesses at a significant profit.

Rick has served as a Director on the Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce Board, since 2007. Prior to his appointment to the Board, Rick was Chair for the Chamber Energy & Environment Forum Committee, and a member of the Chamber Networking Breakfast Series Committee. He has played an active role in business development for over 20 years as Founder and President of Baker Investment Group Inc. (BIG Inc), BEST Co. Inc. (now, VIP Energy Services Inc.), The Baker Energy Service & Trading Company Inc. (The BEST Co), Gazbec Inc., and Gas Ontario Inc., all based at Waterloo. Rick also was a Founder and owner of Cibola Canada Energy Marketing Company (Kitchener) and the Founding Chairman of the Ontario Energy Marketers Association (Toronto). Rick has served as Chair on industry self-regulating associations, managed major energy industry rule changes, and is well known and respected both in the energy industry and the business community. Rick also served as a Director of the Brantford Chamber of Commerce in 1989-1990.

In His Own Words:

"We think Waterloo Region can be the Business-Excellence Capital of Canada. To achieve this status, much work must be done. A strong business community needs a strong and unified voice for business/commerce. That strong voice must not only be an advocate, an educator, and a feeder for business/commercial interest, but also a voice that is in tune with the social needs of the community. Our Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce provides a very strong, in-tune, commercial voice. We are pleased to be able to serve our business community through our Chamber of Commerce."



BRIAN BENNETT

Brian Bennett Consulting

Brian Bennett has been on the Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors since 2005.

Brian has over 28 years of extensive financial services experience in retail and commercial banking, and is currently a self employed professional consultant. Brian has lived in a number of communities in Southwestern Ontario during his career, and has been an active participant in local activities. He lived in the community from 1996-1998 and relocated here again in 2004.

He is a graduate from the University of Windsor with a Bachelor of Commerce degree, and is a Fellow of the Institute of Canadian Bankers.

In His Own Words:

"As our Community is on the leading edge of many new and exciting initiatives, our Chamber of Commerce is an active partner playing an essential role in representing all local businesses and residents. A distinguishing advantage of our Chamber is the strong emphasis and success around advocacy at all levels of government. The Chamber appreciates the strong environment of the enthusiastic volunteerism of its members, and we should all be proud of this community focus."



MARY D'ALTON

President & Managing Director
Waterloo Inn Conference Hotel

Mary D'Alton is currently the President & Managing Director of The Waterloo Inn Conference Hotel. She is a graduate of St. Michael's College, University of Toronto and an honorary alumnus of Wilfrid Laurier University.

Mary is chair elect of the Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber Board of Directors this year. Mary is vice chair of the Wilfrid Laurier University Board of Governors. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the KW YMCA Foundation, the Waterloo Economic Development Committee, and WWLHIN.

She is past chair of the board of directors of the Ontario Safety Service Alliance and of the Ontario Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Association. Her past involvements at board and committee levels have been with Conestoga College, the University of Waterloo, St. Mary's Hospital, the KW Art Gallery, and the Kitchener & Waterloo Community Foundation. Mary is also past local chair of SKAL, an International Association of Travel and Tourism Professionals.

Mary is an active member of Meeting Professionals International and the International Hotel and Restaurant Association. She was the KW Citizen of the Year for 1998 and a recipient of the Governor General's Medal for Community Service in 1992.

In Her Own Words:

"I am delighted to have my name stand as a candidate for consideration by the membership. Managing a small private business, I am acutely aware that the health of our community impacts our success now and into the future. I have been, and continue to be, a strong supporter of health, education and safety in our communities and province."



GINNY DYBENKO

Dean,
School of Business & Economics
Wilfrid Laurier University

Ginny Dybenko assumed the role of Dean of the Wilfrid Laurier School of Business and Economics with 30 years of corporate experience and a strong academic background. Ginny's successful business career has been marked by the creation of innovative technological solutions for critical business problems primarily in the Telecommunications sector.

Appointed to a number of senior executive roles within Bell Canada, Ginny was responsible for helping drive innovation within a telecommunications industry adapting to a competitive environment. As President and CEO of Bell Advanced Communications, Ginny's accomplishments included the creation of Canada's Information Highway, CA*net; the formation of a Professional Services business unit within Bell Canada and the pioneering of Bell's first successful Electronic Commerce service offering.

Ginny is currently a member of the Waterloo North Hydro board and the Waterloo Economic Development Committee and is a regular speaker for academic and economic reform.

Ginny has been a champion for the promotion of technical programs for youth. Previously the chair, she is now a member of the Youth in Motion Educational Foundation notable for its Top 20 Under 20™ scholarship competition. Ginny has served on a number of boards throughout her career including United Way (Toronto), University of Western Ontario, Bishop Strachan and Centennial College Boards of Governors.

Ginny holds degrees in Mathematics from the University of Western Ontario (BA) and the University of Waterloo (M. Mathematics), a diploma in Operations Research from the University of Toronto and Executive Business from Queen's University.

In Her Own Words:

"As a member of the Kitchener/Waterloo area and as the Dean of the School of Business and Economics at Laurier, I see an opportunity to contribute to the Greater Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce in finding opportunities for enhanced collaboration between important academic, municipal and local business interests. At the university, we have developed a vision which would connect "Town and Gown" in a very real way. It is important to challenge our students to consider community perspectives in their development as leaders of tomorrow. The Chamber will play a major role in this vision by sharing of their knowledge and expertise with the Laurier students."



PAUL EICHINGER

Vice President, Development Services
Coldwell Banker
Peter Benninger Realty

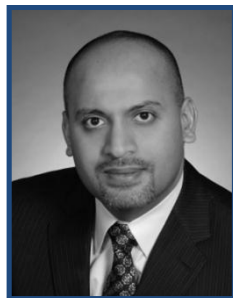
Paul has been with Coldwell Banker Peter Benninger Realty since September of 2004 as Vice President of Development Services. Paul provides direction and support (in a non-licensed capacity) to CBPBR for a variety of development related projects and activities. Paul came to CBPBR from the City of Waterloo, where he served in several roles, including Director of Economic Development.

Paul's engineering training and background, and his experience in land development, building construction, real estate and economic development are skills that are beneficial to both the staff and clients at CBPBR.

Paul is a member of the Professional Engineers of Ontario, serves as Chairman of the Board of Advisors for the Waterloo Region Small Business Centre, is on the Board of OpenWorks School of Building, has been a member of the K-W and Area Chamber of Commerce Regional and Municipal Affairs Committee for approximately 9 years, and provides mentorship and advisory services for the UW E-Co-op program.

In His Own words:

"Our Chamber of Commerce plays a tremendous role in advocating on behalf of one of the strongest and most diversified business communities in North America. The Board of Directors has the responsibility and privilege of leading the Chamber and ensuring its health and continued prosperity".



RAHIM HIRJI

SVP & CFO Canadian Division
Manulife Financial

Rahim is responsible for all the Division's financial matters, including Actuarial, Controllership and Taxation functions. During his 13 year tenure with Manulife, Rahim has held a variety of roles, and was appointed to his current role in April 2007. Prior to that, he headed Manulife's Asset Liability Management (ALM) team, ensuring that Manulife has effective risk management strategies for its global businesses.

Prior to his work in ALM, Rahim was involved in various financial modeling initiatives in the Business Development unit, an area that works on acquisitions, divestiture, and new strategic initiatives. He has also previously held various financial and actuarial roles in the U.S. Division and the Canadian Division.

Rahim is a Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries and the Society of Actuaries, a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries, and holds a Bachelor of Mathematics from the University of Waterloo.

In His Own Words:

"As a new member of the Kitchener/Waterloo area, I was struck by how well the Chamber represents the views of the area's many constituents; advocating for continued development of our community and addressing issues that allow business to flourish in Waterloo Region. Chamber members can derive significant value from various programs that provide networking opportunities, general education as well as obtain general guidance on business matters."



DAVE JAWORSKY

Sr. Director, Corporate Relations
Research In Motion

In his role at RIM, the designer and manufacturer of the BlackBerry®, Dave and his team manage Government Relations within Canada, global Community Relations, as well as RIM's Corporate Responsibility initiatives.

Dave serves on the board of the Ottawa Centre for Research and Innovation (OCRI), and is a strong advocate of the Region of Waterloo International Airport through his membership in the Airport Business Advisory Council. He is an active volunteer in his community, having served with the Kitchener-Waterloo Community Foundation, the Chamber's Health Care Council, as well as volunteering with minor sports in Waterloo.

Dave has been working in the Canadian high-tech sector for 25 years, in roles ranging from software development to sales to corporate relations. Prior to RIM, Dave was employed by Software AG of Canada, and by IBM Canada. He holds a Bachelor of Mathematics degree in Computer Science from the University of Waterloo. Dave lives in Waterloo, Ontario, with his wife and two sons.

In His Own Words:

"The Greater KW Chamber of Commerce excels as our community's voice, taking the lead on long-term issues like health care, employment, taxation, roads and transportation. Significant progress on such issues delivers tangible benefits to the owners and staff of KW businesses, and to our community at large. The well-run Chamber events bring speakers with new ideas to our Region, and allow Members to network and learn from each other directly. Exceptional opportunities for networking and mentoring exist thanks to the Chamber Young Professionals group, a forum specific to those people new to the business world. Our Chamber's staff delivers important results to local businesses. They are knowledgeable and understanding, energetic and friendly, and make me proud to be a Chamber Member."



SCOTT MURPHY

VP, Business Development
Data Perceptions Inc

Scott is the VP, Business Development at Data Perceptions for the past ten years and is a shareholder of the firm. He has been able to grow Data Perceptions through the advancement of relationships with customers and business partners. Scott is also an active IT & Management Consultant with Data Perceptions and has significantly contributed to his clients' success by assisting them with their strategic goals and improving their businesses through the use of technology.

Scott believes strongly in giving back and being connected with the community. His community involvement has been recognized by being awarded Communitech's Tech Impact Award for Outstanding Contribution to Communitech and a nomination for the 2006 Greater KW Chamber of Commerce's Volunteer of the Year. He has been a member of the Board of the Greater KW Chamber of Commerce since 2007 and the Chair of the Greater KW Chamber of Commerce Networking and Breakfast Series from 2004 to 2006. Some of Scott's other volunteer activities over the last five years include Vice Chair of the Waterloo Region Comedy Festival, member of the Waterloo Grand River Kinsmen, volunteering with Junior Achievement, assistant-coach for Waterloo Minor Soccer, and captain of a Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life team.

Over the years, he has also donated his time as an active public speaker for organizations such as UW Innovate - Entrepreneurial Boot Camp, Greater KW Chamber of Commerce, Canadian Association of Management Consultants (CAMC), and The Greater Wellington District of the Purchasing Management Association of Canada.

In His Own Words:

"The Greater Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) is a highly recognized and critical agent to the growth and prosperity of Waterloo Region and the current and future members of the community. The visionary approach of the Chamber has been a strategic factor in the current prosperity we enjoy in Waterloo Region by advocating for and addressing the issues that allow business to flourish.

Chamber members derive significant business value from programs that provide opportunities to network, learn, and improve business operations as well as providing important guidance to business leaders. Volunteers are given the opportunity to give back to the community in a way that makes a significant contribution to the success of the Region. From my perspective, the Chamber's role is to continue leading Waterloo Region on a path to become an economic and thought leader in Canada."



TIM SOTHERN

Partner
BDO Dunwoody LLP

Tim Sothern is a Partner with BDO Dunwoody LLP Chartered Accountants and Advisors. He is a Chartered Accountant and received his BBA from Wilfrid Laurier University and his MBA from the University of British Columbia. Tim is also a Certified Human Resources Professional (CHRP)

An active Chamber member, Tim's volunteer commitment spans more than 15 years and this has included commitments to the United Way and to ROOF as its Board Chair. Tim has been a member of the Volunteer and Member Services Committee at the Chamber since 2003 including the last two years as its Chair. Tim has also chaired the Committee Leadership Group meetings for the Chamber and in 2007 was the winner of the "Volunteer of the Year" Award at the annual Chamber Business Excellence Awards. Tim was appointed to the Chamber's Board of Directors as treasurer in March 2008.

In His Own Words:

"The Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce has been an important part of my professional and volunteer life. The Chamber provides me with an avenue to not only network with many types of businesses and professionals but it also allows me to help contribute to the future prosperity of the Region."



SANDRA STONE

*General Manager
Conestoga Mall
(Ivanhoe Cambridge)*

A resident of Waterloo, Sandra Stone has been the General Manager of Conestoga Mall for the last 11 years. She has worked with Ivanhoe Cambridge Inc.* (owner of Conestoga Mall) for 22 years, serving in various marketing and management positions at Market Square, Kitchener, Burlington Mall, Waterloo Town Square and Lynden Park Mall, Brantford, as well as the Regional Customer Service Manager overseeing customer service functions of 16 regional shopping centres in Ontario, Manitoba and Nova Scotia. Prior to joining the commercial real estate industry, Sandra was the national marketing manager of a Kitchener-based chain of jewellery stores, which saw growth from 12 to 32 stores in 6 years. Originally from Northern Ontario, Sandra was attracted to the Kitchener-Waterloo area when recruited to work in the Record's advertising department.

Sandra is committed to the commercial real estate industry and has achieved two professional designations: CMD (certified shopping centre marketing director) and CSM (certified shopping centre manager) with both designations elevated to "senior" status in 2009 by the International Council of Shopping Centres. She is the Canadian representative on an ICSC committee focused on education and professional development. Sandra is also a member of K-W Oktoberfest Advisory Committee and the City of Waterloo's Economic Development Committee. She previously served on the joint Kitchener Waterloo Storm Water Management Advisory Committee, City of Waterloo 150th Anniversary Committee, Waterloo Region District School Board Fast Forward Advisory Council as well as several fundraising events.

For the past four years, Sandra's professional focus has been on the expansion and redevelopment of Conestoga Mall.

In Her Own Words:

"In uncertain times, it is important that decision makers understand the concerns of business. The Kitchener-Waterloo and Area Chamber of Commerce plays a vital role as that voice."



TREVOR STRAUSS

*Director of Business Development
NextEnergy Geothermal*

Trevor Strauss returned to NextEnergy Inc. as Vice President and General Manager in April 2009. Trevor was originally with NextEnergy during an earlier phase of growth from 2002-2004 and was responsible for forming the marketing function and implementing the ERP system.

Prior to rejoining, Trevor served as Director Distribution of Rogers Communications Inc. from 2005 through 2008 where he was accountable for restructuring the Ontario dual brand distribution team; delivering an 18% increase in employee engagement (best in class) and driving annual revenues in excess of \$450mm from 240 retail points of presence.

Trevor also held Management roles in the United States with Research In Motion/BlackBerry where he devised and developed the state-of-the-art Blackberry Enterprise Server In A Box program propelling revenue to \$120mm (best in class region); launched nationally by the Operator.

Trevor earned his MBA from Queen's University and most recently completed Cornell University's Executive Leadership program. Trevor serves on the Cystinosis Awareness and Research Effort board, an organization he co-founded to find better treatments and a cure for Cystinosis.

In His Own Words:

"My interest in serving on the board stems from my view of the Chamber. I'm interested in serving on the board to bring a fresh perspective, ask constructive questions and provide guidance to the Management team in order to create value for the Chamber's membership. The Chamber's vast network provides tremendous opportunity for local business; key is for businesses to realize this potential."



TIM STROME

Chief Financial Officer
Reid's Heritage Homes

Tim Strome joined Reid's Heritage Homes following a successful career at Equitable Life. He is a chartered accountant and received his Bachelor of Business Administration from Wilfrid Laurier University.

An active long-standing Chamber member, Tim's volunteer commitment spans more than 15 years beginning with the former Kitchener and Waterloo Chambers of Commerce. Tim was elected to the GKWCC Board of Directors in 2005. He has twice chaired the Federal and Provincial Affairs Committee. Tim continues to contribute his knowledge and expertise in advising on federal and provincial policy recommendations at both the Ontario and Canadian Chamber level.

He has also chaired the Fundraising Committee of the Physician Recruitment Task Force since its inception in 1998.

In His Own Words:

"The Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce plays an active and important role in providing leadership and support to the vibrant and growing business community of this region. The Chamber advocates effectively on behalf of business with all levels of government, provides networking opportunities for its members and improves community life through its successful physician recruitment activities."



ROSS WELLS

Partner
Gowling Lafleur Henderson, LLP

Ross Wells is a partner of the Waterloo Region Office of Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP, practicing in the area of labour and employment law and commercial litigation. He was the Managing Partner of the Waterloo Region office from 1994 to 1998 and led the Labour and Employment Law National Practice Group, with representation in all of Gowlings' offices across Canada until 2002.

Ross practiced in the Toronto office of Gowlings until 1992 and then relocated to the K-W community with his family. Since that time he has been active both in the business and broader KW communities.

Ross served as Past Chair of the Greater Kitchener-Waterloo Board of Directors in 2008-2009.

In His Own Words:

"Gowlings is proud of its long-standing association with The Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber's Vision Statement identifies it as the voice of business, being a strong advocate for continued development of our community and a partner for prosperity. I see the interests of business in a strong and prosperous community as being aligned with the interests of the general community. Through initiatives such the Physicians Recruitment Task Force and WRIEN the efforts of the business community through the Chamber achieve results for the betterment of the entire community. This is what attracts me to the Chamber"



DIANE WOLFENDEN

Investment Advisor
RBC Dominion Securities

Diane was the 2008/09 Chair of the Chamber. She joined the Chamber's Board in 2005, has been a member of its executive committee since 2006, and an active member since 2000.

Diane's commitment to the community has grown every year since she and her husband moved to Waterloo Region in 2000. Her volunteer activities have included chair of the Chamber's Networking and Breakfast Series, vice-chair of the Finance Committee of United Way, chair of the Professional Advisors' Committee of the KW Community Foundation, and Chair of the Outstanding Women of Laurier event committee.

As an investment advisor with RBC Dominion Securities, Diane sees – first-hand – the direct relationship between global and local economies and the resulting impact on Waterloo Region businesses. She believes strongly that the Chamber should be an invaluable resource for its members, and a respected voice of business.

A graduate of Concordia and McGill universities in Montreal, Diane began her career in Montreal. She has also lived or worked in Mississauga, Toronto, London, Ontario and southern California.

In Her Own Words:

"During the past 10 years I've seen, first hand, how the Chamber can make a difference in this fast growing community. If we are going to make the most of this growth we need to realize the potential of the Chamber's three strategic priorities – prosperity, health care, and employment and immigrant skills – while working with our manufacturing sector to keep it vibrant. I believe in these initiatives and want to help push them forward. There's more to life than work and there's more to a community than business. But, without economic strength, we won't realize the potential of this wonderful community."