

# 2024 NOMINEES TO THE ALUMNI UBC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## **WARREN BEACH, BA'89, FCPA, FCA (1st term ending 2027)**

Warren graduated from UBC in 1989 (BA - Political Science) and was a member of the Men's Varsity Rowing Team throughout his time at UBC.

After graduating from UBC, Warren went on to earn his CA designation with Ernst and Young in Vancouver. His career has spanned a number of industries and he has served as CFO of Sierra Systems Group, TimberWest and at Aritzia. He then went on to serve as CEO of Hold It All Inc., the holding company of Chip Wilson (founder of Lululemon) and as the President & CEO of Augusta Capital Corporation. He is currently the Chief Strategy and Business Development Officer at Odium Brown.

Warren has completed executive education at Harvard University and has obtained the ICD.D designation for Corporate Board Governance at the University of Toronto Rotman School of Management.

Warren serves on the board of the BC Parks Foundation (Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee), he is a member of the *alumni UBC* Advisory Council and serves on both the Finance & Audit and Alumni Achievement Awards Selection Committee of *alumni UBC*. He is a member of the UBC Gold For Life Committee, supporting rowing at UBC, is a member of the Cabinet of the Business Laureates of BC Hall of Fame, and is a mentor/coach with the Forum for Women Entrepreneurs.

Previously, Warren served for six years as Vice-Chair of the Board of the BC Women's Health Foundation, served as a Foundation Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs Foundation of South Coast BC for over 10 years, and served seven years on the Cabinet of the United Way, including acting as Cabinet Co-Chair in 2011/12.

In 2022, Warren was awarded the Fellow Chartered Accountant (FCPA, FCA) designation by his peers in recognition of his professional and community contributions. In 2024, he was inducted into the UBC Sports Hall of Fame in the "Builder" category along with his peers on the UBC Gold For Life Committee.

An avid cyclist, Warren is a member of the Lotus Cycling Team based in Vancouver.



## **CONNIE FAIR, BCom'84, MBA'88 (2nd term ending 2027)**

Connie Fair has a BCom and MBA from UBC. She also obtained the designation of CPA, CMA and was named a Fellow of the BC CPA. Connie is a member of the Real Estate Institute of British Columbia and was awarded an honorary designation with the Appraisal Institute of Canada to recognize her work within the professional appraisal community. In 2012, she earned her designation as an Institute-Certified Director through the Institute of Corporate Directors. Connie was named one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women by the WXN, awarded Top CEO in the Public Services category by Business in Vancouver and a Woman of Distinction in Business and Professions by the YWCA.

At the end of 2020, Connie Fair retired after working almost 40 years in various executive roles in real estate and the public sector. Her most recent position was five years as the President and CEO of the Land Title and Survey Authority of BC (LTSA), a world leader in land-related registries offering online services. Prior to the LTSA, Connie spent eight years as the President and CEO of BC Assessment, where she helped that organization earn a reputation as one of the world's leaders in property assessment. Earlier in her career, Connie worked as a real estate consultant, and was the Associate Director of the Real Estate Division within the UBC's Sauder School of Business Administration.

An accomplished author and speaker, Connie is recognized internationally as an expert in leadership and the innovative application of technology in property valuation, registries and customer service.



**ROBIN GILL, BA'93 (1st term ending 2027)**

Robin Gill has spent nearly three decades as a journalist at both the national and local level. In her role as Global National correspondent and anchor, she served Canadians across the country in delivering major stories including the pandemic, the BC floods and fires, countless federal elections, and the aftermath of the tsunami and earthquake in Japan.

Her journalism career has taken her to reporting stints in Ontario, Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. In 2022, Robin switched careers and took on a role as Vice President of Talk Shop Media where she consulted and media trained executives at major Canadian companies and non-profits. Robin now spends her time as a communications consultant and freelance radio talk show host.

Robin serves on the board of the Jack Webster Foundation and has served as a Gala Committee Volunteer with the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation, Canuck Place Children's Hospice, Ronald McDonald House Charities, Children's Wish Foundation of Canada, and the Forum for Women Entrepreneurs BC.

Robin has a BA in International Relations from UBC and a diploma in Broadcast Journalism from BCIT.



**CHRISTIAN HANSEN, BCom'91 (1st term ending 2027)**

Christian Hansen is the Regional Director General (Pacific Region) with Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada. Prior to this position, he was a Canadian Foreign Service officer for 24 years, working in Japan, Norway, Belgium, Ottawa and Vancouver. His most recent assignment was as Regional Director and Senior Trade Commissioner for Global Affairs Canada. He also serves as a Board Observer of Genome BC.

Christian has remained actively connected to UBC, speaking at Sauder School of Business events and mentoring students. He served on the External Advisory Council of the Sauder International Business Conference and has been involved with the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs (SPPGA) since its inception, mentoring successive classes of MPPGA students and advising on Corporate Social Responsibility. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Finance) from UBC and a Master of Public Policy (International Relations) from Princeton.



**MAURO MANZI, BCom'95 (2nd term ending 2027)**

Mauro Manzi is Coast Capital's Chief Commercial, Retail and Wealth Officer who provides strategic leadership to mobilize member-facing teams to deliver upon the credit union's purpose of building better futures for its members and communities.

He has over 29 years of experience in financial services holding a number of senior leadership roles throughout his career. As the former Senior Vice President at TD Bank, Mauro developed and mobilized over 3,000 employees across BC and Yukon. He was also TD Bank's Vice President for the Greater Toronto Area Region; District Vice President for their commercial banking division in BC and Yukon; Assistant Vice President for TD's business banking sales and service teams and District Vice President for TD Canada Trust.

Mauro actively contributes to a number of charity and non-profit organizations through community board positions. He recently served as secretary and treasurer for the United Way of the Lower Mainland having led the Campaign Cabinet, a group of influential executive leaders from a diversity of industries and sectors, who lend their expertise and knowledge to help the United Way reach their annual fundraising goals.

He currently serves as a director of the Famiglia Bagnolese Society, an organization that promotes Italian culture and develops strong relationships in the Bagnolese community through education, social activity, youth engagement, sports and fine arts. Mauro has also been a board member for the Merrymount Children's Centre, the Surrey Board of Trade, and the Vancouver Society of Children's Centres.

Mauro holds a District Soccer Referee License and serves as referee for the Fraser Valley Men's Soccer league. He resides in Surrey, BC, with his wife Luisa, and their two children aged 20 and 18 years.



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**DR. AMIN SHIVJI, BSc'88, DMD'93 (2nd term ending 2027)**

Dr. Amin Shivji graduated from UBC in 1988 with a BSc in Biology and entered the Faculty of Dentistry at UBC, graduating in 1993. Upon graduation, he opened his first dental clinic with two partners in Vancouver, BC. In July 2017, Dr. Shivji co-founded the 123Dentist national platform, creating Canada's oldest and largest majority-dentist owned network of over 450 dental practices and 9,000 team members. As the CEO of 123Dentist, he believes putting patients above all else is the most essential component to any successful dental practice.

Dr. Shivji is an advocate for the industry and generously contributes his time and resources to dental institutions and other worthy causes. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Vancouver Police Foundation. He's an experienced operator, an active mentor, a respected clinician, and still enjoys practicing dentistry today.



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**HOWARD SOON, BSc'74, DSc'20 (2nd term ending 2027)**

Howard Soon has spent most of his career as a winemaker and is well known for sharing his expertise as a collaborator, mentor, and wine educator.

A graduate of the Faculty of Science in biochemistry, Howard spent five years in the brewing industry before steering his creativity in a new direction. For the next 37 years - from 1980 to 2017 - he was involved in winemaking at Calona Vineyards of Kelowna, including as the founding winemaker of the award-winning Sandhill Wines.

His commitment to the industry is highlighted by his volunteer work on various industry and government boards including the Scientific Advisory Board for Grape and Wine Genomics, a research project involving Genome BC and Genome Canada. He is a recipient of numerous wine industry awards and was honoured as a Member of the Order of Canada in 2019.

He is an industry advisor at the UBC Wine Research Centre and is a former Faculty of Land & Food Systems Advisory Board member. Howard is a regular speaker and a panelist at UBC events on both UBC campuses and also leads local and international wine tours through the *alumni UBC* Travel Club program.

In 2020, UBC awarded Howard with an honorary Doctor of Science degree.