

October 20, 2017

## Call for Nominations to the WUSC Board of Directors

### **Background on the WUSC Board of Directors**

WUSC is governed by a volunteer board of directors, which typically meets three times per year. The board of directors provides overall strategic direction to WUSC's management, through its executive director. Board directors are elected for three-year terms at WUSC's annual assembly. Board directors normally serve a maximum of two terms. Board directors may not participate in WUSC's programs, except with the approval of the board chair. They may not be employees of WUSC or apply for employment with WUSC while serving on the board. WUSC covers all expenses related to serving on the board.

### **Vacancies**

At the 71st Annual Assembly on Friday, January 19th, 2018 in Ottawa, there will be elections for the following board positions:

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Treasurer
- 4 members-at-large
- Regional Member, Manitoba/Saskatchewan/Nunavut

Candidates have been identified for all of these positions. If you are interested in WUSC's Board of Directors or in submitting a nomination, please contact Chris Eaton ([ceaton@wusc.ca](mailto:ceaton@wusc.ca) or 613-761-3640). For the member-at-large positions, candidates with the following experience and skills are particularly encouraged:

- Senior university and college experience
- Senior government or private sector experience
- Foundation, institutional donor or Corporate Social Responsibility experience
- Marketing and fundraising as profession

Additionally, at the Annual Assembly the membership will be asked to elect one member to sit on the Nominating Committee for a one-year term.

### **Eligibility to Stand for Election**

Eligible candidates must be at least 18 years of age and not currently employed or retained by WUSC as a staff member, consultant, contractor, advisor, attorney, agent, or representative. Additionally, the following categories of people can be nominated to the board:

- Any delegate to the annual assembly
- Any representative of an institutional member

- Any representative of a local committee
- Any current member of the board of directors
- Any general member
- Any other person who declares that she or he will adhere to the mission and values of the organization

Any person who is elected to the board who is not already a member of WUSC will, upon election, become a member of WUSC for the duration of her or his board tenure.

### **Nominating Procedures**

Each valid nomination requires the following:

- A nominator and seconder, who must themselves be eligible for nomination,
- Evidence satisfactory to the nominating committee that the person nominated would be prepared to serve if elected,
- A completed nomination form, and
- A current CV

**All nominations must be submitted to Chris Eaton (ceaton@wusc.ca), by midnight December 22, 2017.**

The nominating committee may make recommendations for individuals to fill vacant positions on the board and may post such recommendations on the WUSC website. The nominating committee will meet after the nominating period has ended and prior to the annual assembly to review all nominations. The nominating committee will prepare a report that is presented to the membership at the annual assembly, detailing the nominating process, the eligibility of nominees, and the committee's recommendations for election to the board. This report will be made available to the membership at least 7 calendar days prior to the annual assembly. All eligible nominees are able to stand for election to the board, regardless of whether they are recommended by the nominating committee or not.

### **Recommendation of the Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee is proposing the following three (3) people for the board:

Margaret Biggs for the position of Chair of the board, and she has accepted the nomination. Ms. Biggs is the former President of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), a Skelton-Clark Fellow at Queen's University, and previously was Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet and Assistant Secretary, Priorities and Planning in the Privy Council Office. Her depth of experience in international development will continue to strengthen the board's oversight on WUSC programming.

Chris Whitaker as Vice-Chair of the board; He has accepted the nomination. Mr. Whitaker is the President and CEO of Humber College Institute of Technology & Advanced Learning. Prior to Humber, he was President and CEO of St. Lawrence College. Mr. Whitaker brings with him over 25 years of experience in the post-secondary sector, and his passion for providing access and pathways to post-secondary education aligns strongly with WUSC's mission and vision.

Dr. Colin Dodds as Treasurer, and he has accepted this nomination. Dr. Dodds is the President and Vice-Chancellor of Saint Mary's University, a director of the Bank of Canada, and a past and current member

on multiple boards of directors. His vast experiences and expertise in organizational leadership, financial markets, and international finance will prove to be valuable in his role as Treasurer.

### **Election Procedures**

A member of the board not standing for election will act as Speaker for the nominating committee and will preside over the elections to the board at the annual assembly. The Speaker will begin the process by delivering the nominating committee's annual report.

If there is only one nominated candidate for each vacant position, s/he will be acclaimed.

If there are more candidates than vacant positions, the Speaker will invite each candidate to speak briefly, or ask a WUSC member to speak on behalf of a candidate who is not present at the annual assembly. An election by secret ballot will then be held for the contested position(s). The candidate(s) with the most votes is elected to the board of directors.

### **Eligibility to vote at the Annual Assembly and Elections**

The following are eligible to participate and vote in any annual or special general assemblies:

- One delegate appointed by each institutional member
- One delegate appointed by each local committee
- All general members
- Any member of the Board of Directors who is not otherwise a delegate

All delegates, general members and board directors must be in good standing to be eligible to vote.