

## **CALL Executive and Board Members**

**2023/24**

### **Barbara Decker Pierce, President**

Barbara is a retired university professor having been the Director of the School of Social Work at King's University College Western University. Being new to Calgary, she looked for ways to get involved in her new community. CALL was an obvious choice since she highly values lifelong learning. Barbara has always enjoyed working with non-profit Boards serving on the Program Committee of London's lifelong learning organization SLR (Society for Learning in Retirement). Being an avid hiker and walker, she enjoys the outdoor lifestyle that comes with living in Alberta and when not outside walking she can be found reading and learning new things about the world. She has served on the CALL Board as Chair of the Program Committee and Vice-President.

### **Adrienne Kertzer, Vice-President and Chair of the Program Committee**

After 39 years as an English professor at the University of Calgary and numerous administrative roles at the local, national, and international level, Adrienne retired in 2015. Joining CALL in 2019, since 2020 she has served as Coordinator, Current Issues; Chair, Special Programming; Chair, CALL Café Committee, and Acting Chair, Program Committee. A longtime member of Reading Non-Fiction, she has recently joined Tuesday City Walks and CPO Rehearsals. When she's not volunteering for CALL, she leads tours at Central Public Library, reads, watches films, and attends a wide variety of cultural events.

### **Andrea Hawkes, Treasurer**

Andrea spent over 25 years at the University of Calgary in several different faculties working on budgets, strategic planning and communications. Since retiring she has become an accredited yoga teacher working primarily with private students. She also spends time pursuing her interest in painting, both in watercolour and acrylics. When her hands are not covered in paint you will find her busy appliqueing and embellishing wool on wool quilts. Since joining CALL, she has joined the Hong Kong Mahjong group, loves to win and loses often.

### **Gail Kingwell, Secretary**

Gail is a former teacher and administrator with the Calgary Board of Education, university instructor of English as a Second Language teaching and learning, and consultant in educational projects and curriculum development. She has been active in CALL for a number of years, serving on the Board and working with the newsletter team to produce the CALL newsletters. Gail is serving the second year of her appointment as Board Secretary in 2023/24.

## **Shauna Romanzin, Chair, Information and Technology**

I spent 35 years working in various Information Technology development & management roles in the Calgary oilpatch. A highlight was a chance to work together with my husband Aldo on an 18-month project in Orange County, California with teams from around the world. When we retired, I went looking online to find learning activities in Calgary and found the CALL website. I joined a number of Interest Groups, and during a Tuesday Morning Walk with a Board Member I happened to mention our previous careers. Before I knew it we were part of the CALL WebTeam, and 7 years later I still enjoy the camaraderie of the team and the opportunity to learn new technologies. For the past two years I have been Chair of the Information and Technology Committee, serving on the Board.

## **Ron Foyer, Governance Coordinator**

Ron Foyer has been an enthusiastic member of CALL for over 10 years. He has participated in book clubs and happy aging groups as well as attending short-term education programs on geology. He is currently a co-Facilitator of two discussion groups: the Current Affairs discussion group and CALL's discussion group with the Montreal Lifelong Learners Community.

He has been retired for 17 years from a career mainly based on the use of Information technology (IT). He has had leadership positions in the non-profit Canadian Information Processing Society and Toastmasters International organizations. He has done much volunteering with the Mustard Seed and Westwood Minor Hockey.

Ron was the Chair of the Committee responsible for IT and Audio-Visual activities for nearly four years, and, as such, was on the CALL Board for that time. He then served as Vice President and became President in 2019/20.

He is proud to be able to help CALL grow and be successful since he thinks it is a truly wonderful organization.

## **Avalon Roberts, Operations**

Avalon was born in Newfoundland but moved to the mainland for grade one where she was taken out of class to improve her accent! Having survived that trauma, she went on to do a Nursing degree at McGill and, after a year to do required courses, a medical degree from the U of Ottawa. She finally settled in Psychiatry after Paediatrics and worked in Calgary for most of her thirty plus years of practice. She joined CALL in the early years and has continued to enjoy some of the many options it offers, most recently Call to the garden and ongoing bridge. She believes CALL provides an important service to the community both educationally and socially. She would enjoy working with the CALL board to ensure sufficient spaces for all our activities.

### **Mary Oxendale Spensley, Communications Chair**

Mary was born in Calgary and has lived here for all but nine years of her life. She became acquainted with CALL through a friend who insisted she should join and she did about six years ago. Constantly impressed with the people and groups, she's glad she did. For almost thirty years she taught high school English classes, mostly to adults but also taught in other areas in typical schools. She enjoys learning about new technologies and puts those skills to use as a Calgary Raging Granny, where she creates videos for the group.

### **Linda Flanagan, Past President (Ex Officio)**

Linda lived in five provinces from Newfoundland to BC before settling in Calgary where she earned a BA and B.Ed. at the University of Calgary. Following several years working at the U of C Library, Linda went on to enjoy a fulfilling career in public education as a teacher, district accountability specialist and Principal. Her interest in technology was enhanced by completing a Master's degree in Educational Technology. Since retiring Linda has been a consultant for the CBE in system improvement and program evaluation, and with Alberta Education as a member of the provincial Attendance Board. She is lucky enough to spend many happy times at the family cabin with her husband, children and four grandchildren, who are always a source of inspiration, energy and fun. She has loved participating in several CALL groups in areas of ongoing interest, including film, philosophy and literature. Serving on the IT committee has been another wonderful opportunity for learning in an area she loves! Linda served as CALL's Vice President and President between 2021-2023.