

## **BOARD of DIRECTORS 2017-2019**

### **RESUME**

#### **Therezinha Franca Kennedy**

Therezinha was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. As a writer, she has written many Distance Education courses. She taught Philosophy, Sociology and History for many years at different schools and universities. She has lived in Edmonton for the past 28 years and worked as a writer collaborator for “The Arauto of Edmonton,” a Portuguese newspaper. She is also a tutor for the Portuguese language at home and at the University of Alberta. A legal interpreter and translator, she has translated several books and documents. In addition to her passion for writing, she also loves to travel, dance, and laugh with friends.

#### **Noemi Pinto**

Noemi is from Bogota, Colombia and came to Canada in 2002. She has a son and a daughter and two granddaughters. She finished Commerce, major in Accounting in Bogota, and a Master’s degree as a Senior Financial Manager in Colombia. She has 30 years experience in payroll, audit process, operating budgets, and finance-related activities. She volunteered and worked with Changing Together for many years in accounting. In the past two years she worked for Mine Cable Services Corporation as an Accountant assistant, but now focuses on sales in the Latino American market.

#### **Abigail Mendoza**

Abigail is from the Philippines and came to Alberta in May 2016 with her hubby and three sons. She is an educator with a Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education and a Master of Arts in Education specializing in Reading. In addition to holding a Head Teacher position while in the Philippines, she also worked as a manager/supervisor in the City Treasurer’s Office and gained experience in the areas of taxation, audits and investigation. She has been volunteering at Changing Together as a receptionist, teacher assistant, and substitute teacher.

#### **Solany Lay**

Solany was born in Cambodia and came as a very young person to Canada in 2005. She was a volunteer with Changing Together as a Human Resource Administrator and Volunteer Coordinator for four years, and graduated from MacEwan University with a Business Management Diploma in 2015. She has been attending Concordia University of Edmonton, hoping to graduate with a Bachelor’s Degree in Human Resource Management in 2018. She is currently doing her internship with Changing Together as part of the requirement of her studies.

#### **Iris Manzano**

Iris is from Chile and studied Forensic Science and Investigation at the Universidad del Mar in Quillota, Chile before coming to Canada. She has served as a volunteer receptionist and Intake Worker for Changing Together and as a Job Search Support Worker with the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, obtaining her Community Support Worker Certificate from Norquest College in 2015. She is currently working as a Multicultural Health Broker with Multicultural Health Brokers Cooperative, and continues to volunteer as an interpreter for Changing Together clients.

### **Linda Ozromano**

Linda was born and raised in the city of Istanbul, Turkey and moved to Canada to continue her studies when she was eighteen. She studied Political Science and Philosophy at Concordia University in Montreal while being largely involved in different community organizations such as Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East, Journalists for Human Rights, Oxfam Quebec and was the Vice President at Concordia Turkish Student Association for a number of years. She also lived in Toronto and worked at Canadian Red Cross as part of the Humanitarian Issues Promotion department. She travelled to East Africa as a Volunteer and later on as a Program Coordinator while working at a non-profit organization based in Toronto and spent 7 months initiating projects with local community partners in Uganda and Kenya. She also had the opportunity to get work experience in the non-profit sector in Turkey while completing two internships with a humanitarian aid and public advocacy organization. She moved to Edmonton about three years ago and currently working at the Government of Alberta as Mission and Visits Coordinator in the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade. She is a big advocate on volunteerism, humanitarianism, community development, and sustainable living. In her spare time, she follows her passion of travel and photography and is currently finishing a certificate at Grant McEwan University. She is aiming to further develop her skills in social documentary photography and photojournalism to make a better impact in the world.