

Richard Asselin

Richard has been a member of the Canadian Ski Patrol for 15 years. Besides providing service as a 'Joe Patroller,' Richard has held the positions of operations officer, zone president and, for the past 12 years, as an instructor in Red River Zone. In 2010, Richard took on the role of president, Manitoba Division and has been an instructor-trainer since 2013.

At the national level, Richard has been a member of number of working groups including the Voting Procedures Reform Project (2007); the Financial Task Force (2010); Division Presidents' Cost-Share Guidelines (2014) and the forthcoming Volunteer Sector Search Policy (2015).

Within his career, Richard has served for 35 years in the Manitoba public sector and has held positions as senior policy analyst in community services; Assistant Provincial Director of Child Day Care; Provincial Coordinator of Children's Disability Services; and the Social Services Business Lead on information management projects in Child Welfare and Integrated Case Management. Between 2000 and 2005, Richard was a provincial government lead on the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry – Child Welfare Initiative. For the past 10 years, Richard has been the manager and director of the Child and Family Services Information Management Application.

In addition, Richard has been an adult educator, teaching social science research methods in social work at the community college level.

Richard has held a number of volunteer roles in the community, including four years as a member of the board of directors of the Canadian Mental Health Association, Winnipeg Branch; as the founding and first president of the board of directors of the Open Access Resource Centre (a United Way member agency that provides augmentative communication devices to children and adults who are not able to communicate through speech, sign or symbols); and as a board member for over 15 years and, for ten years, as president of the board of directors of Community Financial Counselling Services (a United Way member agency that provides individual and systemic advocacy as well as financial counselling services). These professional, educator and volunteer experiences have established a range of skills and capacities in the governance and operation of community-based, volunteer and not-for-profit organizations.

The past few years have made it clear that the role, place and future of the Canadian Ski Patrol has started to change. As an organization, it must evolve in the ways it partners with and serves snow industry clients; and it must find new clients and adopt new means and corporate channels of engagement.

What is changeless is that the Canadian Ski Patrol is an organization founded on the values of volunteerism and the selfless dedication of members from coast to coast to coast.

With those deep roots anchoring the mission of the organization, the Canadian Ski Patrol is nurturing exciting new aspirations that are only just beginning to define its future. The best and strongest opportunity to continue to give vitality to those roots is to embrace that future and the changes it will bring.