



Returning Members for a One-Year Term on the Board of Directors, 2013-2014

(2012) Khadeeja Ahsan is a lawyer with the South Asian Legal Clinic. She received her B.Sc. from the University of Toronto and a J.D. from Bond University in Australia. Khadeeja is one of the founders of “Outburst! Young Muslim Women Project” coordinated through the Barbara Schlifer Commemorative Clinic. She is committed to educating the public on issues of social justice, including equality and access to services specifically in immigrant groups and marginalized women. Khadeeja has been a member of METRAC's Board of Directors since June 2012. She is actively involved on the Nominations and Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committees. She is a member of the Ontario (Canadian) Bar Association, the Women’s Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF) and the South Asian Bar Association (SABA). She lives in Toronto and enjoys cooking, photography and travelling the globe.

Returning Members for a Two-Years Term on the Board of Directors, 2013-2015

Member of the Executive 2012-2013

(2009) Nadine Sookermany is the Co-President of METRAC. She is a Community Literacy worker with Parkdale Project Read and a professor with the Assaulted Women's and Children's Counselor/Advocate and Social Service Worker programs at George Brown College. She works from a community-based holistic, critical and social perspective; an approach that fits with her work in the community on various Boards of Directors, and advisory committees relating to research, programming and equity/anti-oppression lens. Nadine has a specific interest in research and experiences that illustrate the impact of violence on learning. She has also worked along-side women and children in various countries including Taiwan, Turkey, Israel, France, Hungary and Italy; and as a front line worker in the violence against women sector. Her primary role, however, is as a mom to two boys; one that shapes her entire view of the world and her work every single day. She is pleased to be part of the great work METRAC does and is looking forward to another great year of advocacy and activism.

Returning Members for a Two-Years Term on the Board of Directors, 2013-2015

(2011) Kripa Sekhar is Past Co-President of METRAC. Kripa is also Chair of the Human Resources Committee. She is the current Executive Director of the South Asian Women’s Centre (SAWC). She has served on the Executive of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC-CCA), and been a Member at Large of the Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants

(OCASI). She worked as the Executive Coordinator of the Saskatchewan Action Committee on the Status of Women for several years before coming to Toronto. Kripa continues to work with a diversity of women, women's groups and other social justice organizations nationally and internationally on issues related to immigration and settlement, anti-violence, anti-racism, labour, education, poverty and public policy. Her reputation as a champion for the inclusion of diverse, marginalized and isolated women's voices is well established.

(2011) Martha Ocampo is Past Treasurer of METRAC. She was the former Co-director of Programs and Services and Manager of Education and Resources at Across Boundaries. She played a key role in developing the Centre's Holistic Model of Care within an Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression Framework. She integrates indigenous practices, art, politics, spirituality and community involvement in developing services and programs that enhance healing and recovery. She has a long history of providing educational and training workshops at mental health agencies, colleges, universities and the general public. She developed a Leadership and Advocacy Training for marginalized groups and she co-authored "Let's Talk" a guidebook on education about Violence against Women in the Filipino community. She is currently the Treasurer of the Assaulted Women's Helpline, and the Chair of the Advisory Board of Carlos Bulosan Theatre. She is a member of the Advisory Committee of the Caregiver Connections Education and Support Organization (CCESO). She now has a consulting firm – Martha Ocampo and Associates.

Nominees for a Two -Years Term on the Board of Directors, 2013 - 2015

(2013) Gisela Vanzaghi is Hub Manager at Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services and a part time student in the Advance Diploma in Social Services Administration at the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto. Prior to joining METRAC's board, Gisela has been a board member at Mujer, a Latin American Women's organization and a dedicated volunteer to Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic, St. Christopher House and United Way of Greater Toronto. She brings knowledge of health promotion and community development approaches and experience working with diverse immigrant and refugee communities from an anti-oppression framework. She holds a MA in Adult Education and Community Development from OISE/UT and a BA in Business Administration from University of Buenos Aires. Gisela is looking forward to joining METRAC's board and working together to prevent violence against women and youth.

(2013) Caitlin Maxwell is a lawyer practicing immigration and refugee law at Jackman, Nazami and Associates in Toronto. She has a law degree from the University of Ottawa, with a concentration in social justice. During her time at UOttawa, Caitlin was a caseworker in the Women's Division of the university's community legal clinic, where she represented women survivors of violence before the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board. She also served as co-chair and events coordinator of LEAF Ottawa, was a member of the Wilson Moot Team on Charter equality rights, and published an article on sexual assault and military culture in *Canadian Woman Studies*. Prior to law school, Caitlin completed her MA in political science and

international relations at the University of Toronto's Munk Centre. Her major research paper compared the US and UK's detention of terrorism suspects after September 11th. Caitlin has received numerous awards, including a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Canada Graduate Scholarship in support of her Master's research; the Shore, Davis & Hale prize for the highest standing in the course Feminist Legal Issues; and a grant from the Law Foundation of Ontario for graduates pursuing a career in public interest law. She is presently concluding a two-year term as an executive member of the Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers and is excited about the opportunity to get involved with METRAC's important work.

(2013) Amina Farah is an adult literacy and mental health educator. She works for The Opening Doors Project with the Canadian Mental Health Association – Toronto, where she educates and challenges public attitudes around mental health discrimination and migration. As a literacy instructor at Alexandra Park Neighborhood House she integrates social justice and community based learning principles into her class. Her lived experience as a racialized, queer, immigrant women who has experienced violence in her life time, in forms her passion to end violence against women and children.

(2013) Fathi Egal graduated from the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law in 2012 with a J.D. She has recently completed an articling term with a boutique Personal Injury firm in Toronto and intends to continue her legal work in the field of Civil Litigation. Fathi completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Toronto majoring in English and Political Science. She has worked with at-risk youth since 2006 and has volunteered with the Youth Justice Volunteer Program where she delivered various diversion program workshops to young offenders. She has a passion for women's rights and the fight for equality; she wants to use her legal training to improve access to justice and legal information. She has volunteered with Women's LEAF program and has participated in workshops geared towards increasing civic engagement of young minority women with Toronto Women's City Alliance. She worked with Tropicana Community Services for 3 summers, delivering a summer job for youth program for at-risk youth living in priority neighborhoods in Toronto.

Fathi would like to join METRAC as a board member, to further her interest and work around areas of violence against women and children

(2013) Leslie Gottlieb is founder and principal of Gottlieb & Associates a financial consulting firm in Toronto. Leslie and her associates provide independent, specialized advice on insurance, employee benefits, charitable giving, financial planning and succession planning strategies for businesses and individuals. After graduating from The University of Toronto in 1993, Leslie assisted her clients while working for three of Canada's leading investment firms; Investors Group, RBC Dominion Securities and BMO Nesbitt Burns for the next 17 years. During her early career, Leslie worked with a number of charities; including Sick Kids Hospital, Canadian Cancer Society, The Red Door Shelter and taught "at risk" grade 8's the "Junior Achievement Program".

Leslie and her family have recently moved back to Toronto after spending 8 years living in the countryside. There she was active by serving on the Board of the Northumberland Chamber of Commerce and became a distinguished “Paul Harris Fellow” and “Benefactor” to the Rotary International. She has also actively supported other local charities including; the Northumberland Hills Hospital, Northumberland Service for Women and the United Way.

Leslie has also been politically engaged at all three levels of government.

As a victim of stalking during her university days and as a young female working on Bay Street, Leslie has a firsthand understanding of the challenges that woman face while navigating their way through this city and culture.

“As a mother of twin school age girls, I am reminded daily of the challenges women and youth still face and how much work we still have to do.”