

The Leadership and Selections Committee is recommending the following slate of candidates be appointed to the WOHSS Board of Directors for a 3-year term beginning May 1, 2024:

1	Nicola McGovern	Etobicoke, ON	Director
2	Chelsea Laporte	Nisku, AB	Director
3	Clare Foladore	Sudbury, ON	Director
4	Laura Bezemer	Calgary, AB	Director

Nicola McGovern



Nicola McGovern is the Director of Environment, Health and Safety for Grainger Canada and WFS, subsidiaries of W.W. Grainger, Inc., a \$16.5 billion leading broad line distributor with operations primarily in North America, Japan and the United Kingdom. Nicola is responsible for the occupational health and safety program and environmental initiatives and leads a team of health and safety professionals across Canada.

With proven success in risk management and regulatory compliance, Nicola provides solutions and delivers programs that contribute to the safety culture and overall business strategy. In 2023, Grainger Canada was recognized by Canadian Occupational Safety as a 5-Star Safety Culture. Nicola is also on the corporate Emergency Preparedness and Response Council and the Business Continuity Management champion. She is a member of the corporate Disability Business Resource Group and Women's Business Resource Group. Prior to leading EHS, Nicola was the Manager of Legal Affairs and was also responsible for the Corporate Social Responsibility Program.

Nicola has been involved with Ontario based Workplace Safety & Prevention Services since 2017 as a member of the WSPS Retail, Wholesale & Office Advisory Committee and as a Board of Director since 2018.

Nicola holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Simon Fraser University, is a Canadian Registered Safety Professional (CRSP) and is a member of the Institute of Law Clerks of Ontario. Nicola is currently on the PGA of Canada Women's Golf Advisory Group and previously on their Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Taskforce. She is a certified national competition coach, volunteer head golf coach with Special Olympics, and the recipient of the Petro-Canada Coaching Excellence award.

Chelsea Laporte



Chelsea is an accomplished leader in Health and Safety and Emergency Management, recognized as one of OHS Canada's Top 25 Under 40 Safety Professionals in 2023 and honored on Canadian Occupational Safety's 'Young Achievers' list the same year. With over 5 years of experience in these fields, Chelsea brings a wealth of expertise to the Women in Occupational Health & Safety Society, coupled with a strong desire to learn from fellow professionals within the society.

Recognized for fostering robust workplace safety cultures rooted in proactive initiatives that include and challenge all organization levels, Chelsea has a proven track record of implementing effective safety programs and policies, resulting in significant reductions in incidents.

Having led numerous program developments, crisis management training efforts, and large-scale exercises, Chelsea is enthusiastic about leveraging her skills to contribute to the society's initiatives. As a passionate advocate for safety, Chelsea is committed to advancing all women in the safety profession.

Excited to join the Board of Directors, Chelsea eagerly anticipates contributing to the society's success by fostering collaboration and driving impactful initiatives forward.

Clare Foladore, B.Sc., CRSP



Clare is a Superintendent - Safety and Health, supporting major capital projects for an international mining company. With 20 year's experience in the mining industry, she has garnered a deep and personal understanding of the challenges faced by women working in a male-centric workplace.

Clare is passionate about mindful and felt leadership and has a proven record of empowering women and impacting change within her places of work. She believes the workplace should be somewhere everyone can thrive and trusts in walking the talk to create a workplace she is proud to be part of. Safety is a vocation and Clare recognizes it for the amazing careers and opportunities it affords.

After leaving geology for a career in HSE, Clare completed an OHS Certificate from Cambrian College, obtained CRSP designation in 2016 and most recently completed a certificate in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion from Cornell.



Laura Bezemer



Laura Bezemer is currently the Manager, Health, Safety and Environment at the Southern Alberta Institute for Technology. Laura holds a Master of Public Policy from Simon Fraser Institute, a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies from the University of Calgary and is a Canadian Registered Safety Professional. With a diverse professional background in both the private and public sector Laura has spearheaded a few initiatives aimed at promoting the well-being and reducing risks in the communities she is employed in.

Laura is deeply passionate about leadership and policy, as demonstrated by her active involvement in community initiatives. Serving as a mentor and board member for various organizations in both BC and Alberta, she advocates strongly for the inclusion of all individuals. She is particularly interested in challenges that women face balancing both professional and caregiving responsibilities. Laura is also a mom to two young children and considers it her most important role.