



Annual General Meeting

INTRODUCING THE CANDIDATES

On March 31, all members of the Roulant - volunteers, clients, donors and staff active within the last year - are invited to attend our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and cast their ballots.

The assembly will elect **three candidates** to the Board of Directors of Santropol Roulant, for a 2-year mandate. Electing Board members is a significant event for the Roulant.

We hope that this document will help you better understand the roles and responsibilities of our Board and provide you with helpful information as you vote!

There are **three positions** to fill on the Board this election.

In this document, you'll get to know:

- ✓ 6 current board members who have completed half of their 2-year term and are **not running** for re-election
- ✓ 1 outgoing board member who has completed his term and is **not running** for re-election
- ✓ 2 outgoing board members who have completed their term and **wish to run** for re-election
- ✓ 4 new candidates who **wish to run** for election on one of the 3 spots opened on the Board

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What Does the Board Do?

Charities in Canada are governed by a voluntary Board. This group of individuals is legally responsible for overall governance.

Generally speaking, staff members are responsible for day-to-day operations and decision making, while the Board provides leadership, direction and oversight through, for example, the development of long-term strategic plans and organizational policies.

They are also responsible for making some of the bigger decisions such as approving the budget and supervising the Executive Director. The Roulant has what is often called a “Collective Board” – this means that while the staff and Board have distinct roles, they work together as much as possible as a unified team.

Some of the key features of a strong Santropol Roulant Board are:

- ✓ **Alignment:** Board members are an important part of the team. As the holders of the mission, it is vital that directors understand our work, culture and aspirations.
- ✓ **Diversity:** We value having a Board that represents the diversity of perspectives of our whole community. We try to have a balance of people of different ages, races, genders, languages, cultures and life experiences.
- ✓ **Time Commitment:** Santropol Roulant Board members are very engaged, and are expected to attend one meeting per month, participate on committees and working groups outside of regular Board meetings, attend events, and have a visible presence amongst staff, clients and other volunteers. The estimated time commitment is 5-8 hours per month.
- ✓ **Stability:** It can take time for a Board (like any team) to come together and be productive. It is therefore important to have Board members who intend to fulfill their two-year term.
- ✓ **Key skills:** A strong Board has members with the range of skills and experiences that are needed to make informed decisions. In 2016, the following areas of expertise have been identified as most needed by the Board of Santropol Roulant:
 - Strategic planning & thinking
 - Budgeting, finance, financial management and financial auditing
 - Performance management/dashboards
 - Project management
 - Experience with non-profits, particularly as it relates to the concept of social impact
 - Program evaluation
 - Entrepreneurship/Social entrepreneurship

Current Board Members

Meet the **6 current board members** who were elected March 26, 2015.

! They have completed half of their 2-year term and are **not running** for re-election!

Together with the 3 elected candidates at the AGM, they will form the new Santropol Roulant Board of Directors.



Judith Colombo



Vani Jain



Wayne McIntyre



Marc Nisbet



Bernie Shalinsky



Sylvain Thériault

Outgoing Board Member

This outgoing board member has completed his 2-year term and is **not running** for re-election.

The Roulant has had the privilege these past years to have on its Board of Directors **Chris Kennedy**, who has contributed to the Roulant in immeasurable ways.



Chris Kennedy

We've been lucky to have a dynamic client of the Meals-on-Wheels **sitting on our board for 4 years**. He brought amazing insights to our work, especially with regards to accessibility.

We're confident that the same way he was involved at the Roulant before getting on the board, he will remain engaged, especially in the newly wheel chair accessible kitchen where he expressed interested in volunteering again!

Thank you Chris!

Outgoing Board Members Up for Re-Election

Meet the 2 outgoing board members who have completed their 2-year term, and **wish to run** for re-election.

Please read their profile carefully to learn more about their unique experience and skills, as well as how their previous or current activities can complement the objectives of the Board of directors.

NOTE: One outgoing board member, Suzanne Bourque, was recruited in January 2016 to fill a vacancy. When a spot on the board becomes liberated between elections at the Annual General Meeting, the Board of directors will recruit a new member to fill that spot through a call out process known as acclamation. The Board will often focus on recruiting a member to fill a current skill set, in this case financial management and financial auditing. The candidate recruited through this process is required to run for re-election at the next AGM.

- ! On the night of the AGM, you will cast your vote and select **3 candidates** from among the outgoing board members up for re-election and the new candidates up for election.

Suzanne Bourque



Please describe how you plan to contribute to the Board's activities.

I would like to participate as a member of the Board of Santropol Roulant - Financial. With my financial skills, budget, financial monitoring and internal control specialist, I could be shared with the team of Santropol in improving accounting processes, the development of performance indicators, annual financial statements and the development and monitoring of the budget.

I had the opportunity to join the Board in January 2016, and I really appreciated their commitment and concern for the community, and their assistance to the direction of Santropol team.

Volunteers, the team and the board members should be proud of their contribution to the well-being of citizens. Their achievements in the community show great concern for the environment, for the quality of life of seniors, and caring, all guidance which I am interested in contributing.

Please describe previous or current activities that relate to, or complement, the objectives of the Board of Directors of Santropol Roulant.

Past experiences as members of boards of directors and finance committee chair and checking with 2 entities; in charge of the budget and budget followed a major para-municipal in Montreal and head of internal audit the same company for several years.

Lindsay Wiginton



Please describe how you plan to contribute to the Board's activities.

A Board's responsibility is to provide strategic direction and to advise staff on matters of governance with a view to addressing long-term challenges and opportunities. In particular, the Santropol Board has identified the development and improvement of its tools for budgeting and for measuring impact (social and financial) as priorities for 2016/2017.

Should I receive a second mandate on the Board of Directors, I plan to maintain my current role on the finance and capital budgeting committees in order to work directly with my colleagues and staff on the development of these tools, drawing from my capacity for analysis and process design as well as my understanding of the organisation. I am particularly excited about the development of more flexible budgeting tools, which will help us adjust our strategies in response to a shifting funding environment and the addition of new activities to our operations.

As a member of the Board, I will also continue my support to fundraising activities and continue to promote the organization within my professional and personal networks.

Please describe previous or current activities that relate to, or complement, the objectives of the Board of Directors of Santropol Roulant.

As a member of the Santropol Board since 2014, I have served on the finance, capital budgeting and social enterprise committees. In these roles I have supported the development, approval and review of annual budgets, helped to plan long-term investments in the building, and collaborated with staff and a subject expert to offer training for the team on our role as a social enterprise. Thanks to this involvement, I have developed an intimate knowledge of the organisation's current challenges and initiatives.

I am trained in civil engineering and urban planning. In my current work as a consultant in public participation, I design and facilitate participatory processes relating to infrastructure and planning projects in Montreal and elsewhere. I also have professional and research experiences in regional planning, immigration, green energy policy and municipal engineering.

In particular, my skills in facilitation and process design, my capacity for analysis, my knowledge of finance concepts and my understanding of the local municipal environment have allowed me to contribute in a meaningful way during my time on the Board. It would be a pleasure and an honour to continue my involvement through a second mandate.

New Candidates up for Election

Meet the following **4 candidates**, also running for election on the Board of Directors.

Please read their profile carefully to learn more about their unique experience and skills, as well as how their previous or current activities can complement the objectives of the Board of Directors.

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Isabelle Mailhot-Leduc



Please describe how you plan to contribute to the Board's activities.

I'm drawn into a backstage involvement at the Santropol Roulant as it would fulfill a desire to volunteer in my field of passion. My professional expertise involves developing local food systems. I have worked in the community sector for several years, and I currently work as the Sustainable Food System Coordinator at Concordia University. My experience with the Roulant involves kitchen work and delivery. I have enjoyed so much learning the names of the clients, knocking at

their doors and feeling my roots grow in the city of Montreal.

Today, I would be thrilled to participate in the strategic thinking of the Roulant, thus furthering the spectrum of my involvement. Before being in my current position at Concordia, I was working in the countryside of Quebec. I was coordinating a community organization where I was the only staff. I quickly came to realize the importance of having a good Board. The Board members supported me with the organization of special events, the financial statements, the strategic planning, etc. They were angels, really. Now, I would like to be engaged in the same manner with the Roulant.

Please describe previous or current activities that relate to, or complement, the objectives of the Board of Directors of Santropol Roulant.

My work at Concordia consists in tracking local and sustainable food benchmarks and supporting their implementation in various dining operations on campus. In other words, my job is to support food services in transitioning toward more local and sustainable procurement. Before this, I was the coordinator of a farmers' market in the region of Lanaudière. The market

was comprised of about forty producers and participated to create a community spirit in the region. I was also the action-research coordinator of the group Aliments d'ici, and the logistics and information agent of Équiterre's network of family farmers. With these experiences in hand, I hope to contribute the Board with some additional expertise in strategic objectives planning and monitoring!

Andrea Strom-Rancourt



Please describe how you plan to contribute to the Board's activities.

I plan to contribute to the Board's activities by bringing my passion and love of Santropol Roulant to the meetings and by applying the knowledge and experience I have acquired serving on several different Boards over my 23 year career.

For example, I was Vice-President of the Montreal Chapter of the International Coach Federation (ICF) from 2001-2003 and I served on the Board of Dorshei Emet Reconstructionist Congregation for three years.

In addition, I have been a mentor for the Business Networking International (Westmount Chapter from 2002-2005 and was also a mentor for Concordia University, Le Jeune Chambre de Commerce and the Fondation de l'Entrepreneurship (I served a term of one year for each of the organizations). I have volunteered to do fundraising for special events to feed those who are hungry through holiday food basket delivery (for the past 21 years) and for the Empty Bowls annual event (for the past 10 years). I have also worked annually (since 2006) to raise funds to educate women about reducing the risk of breast cancer through the programs of the Breast Cancer Action Montreal (BCAM) - a non-profit organization that exists in many cities throughout the world!

Please describe previous or current activities that relate to, or complement, the objectives of the Board of Directors of Santropol Roulant.

I have volunteered since 2013 to serve and sit with clients who come to the Holiday Brunch in December. I have also been packing the meals that are delivered to our clients since August, 2015. It is the highlight of my week!

Lily Schwarzbaum



Please describe how you plan to contribute to the Board's activities.

My interest in joining the Santropol Roulant Board of Governors stems from my desire to deepen my skills in establishing and operating multifaceted community organizations. I want to take the opportunity to learn in the context of such a respected and rooted organization. As someone who has worked in a number of community organizations and sustainability-related projects, I am skilled at strategic visioning and identifying meaningful opportunities

for impactful action. I have a dynamic and dedicated work ethic, as well as a strong sensibility for group dynamics and teamwork.

The nuts and bolts skills of governance – fundraising, human resources, and legalities – are not yet in my toolkit, but they are crucial tools for community organizing that I am personally committed to developing. I have volunteered for and attended Santropol Roulant's numerous initiatives, but I have above all always admired the way that the so many incredible programs are coordinated under one vibrant umbrella. I would be thrilled to take on the fascinating challenge of working on this organization's governance from a birds-eye view.

Please describe previous or current activities that relate to, or complement, the objectives of the Board of Directors of Santropol Roulant.

I am a leader adept at navigating relationships, identifying strategic opportunities and building sustainable systems. As co-coordinator of the Environmental Collaborative Learning Environment (ECOLE), I leveraged connections with McGill stakeholders to create new bureaucratic infrastructure and secured a \$100,000 grant to found a permanent sustainability-based living collective for McGill students. I was also the educational director of the Hashomer Hatzair youth movement, supervising a 40-person staff in a six-week summer camp as a member of the executive committee.

I have facilitated numerous strategy sessions and visioning sessions for a variety of institutions, including the McGill Office of Sustainability, Climate Justice Montreal, ECOLE, Divest McGill and the Marche des Peuples pour la Terre Mère. I am a confident and reliable facilitator with a strong sense for synthesis and clarity. My professional and community involvement in sustainability and environmental activism personally connects me to the mission and values of Santropol Roulant. Throughout my work, my clear and engaging communication style has made me a solid advocate in both community and formal settings.

Christopher Webster



Please describe how to you plan to contribute to the Board's activities.

Growing up in Montreal, I've always enjoyed recognizing the red backpacks around the city. For some time, I've wanted an opportunity to contribute to the Roulant's success in my own way. I'm reminded of the fruit and vegetables growing outside my grandparent's home in the Caribbean. There was always more than they needed, and they'd share what they had with any of neighbours. It was what they were accustomed to, it was natural. Through my upbringing I learned the

value in having people around you that you can rely on.

Part of what I love about the Roulant is the way it brings people together. Its strength is in its members and their ability to connect with each other. It's like a big extended family. I believe we can learn the most from listening to others and getting involved in new experiences. Living in the middle of an urban centre doesn't allow us to easily connect with our neighbours and the people around us. What's remarkable is that the services are addressing tangible needs. SR's dedication to food security and social inclusion resonates with me.

Please describe previous or current activities that relate to, or complement, the objectives of the Board of Directors of Santropol Roulant.

This opportunity lies at the intersection of my passions for community engagement, innovation, and governance. Governance was the focus of my studies and I'm excited to share my enthusiasm for fundraising. With another organization, I lead a campaign which successfully tripled our funding and allowed us to re-focus on our mission and vision. My experience in human resource management has helped when we were making hiring decisions, or evaluating employee compensation.

On the board, I'd be able to borrow from both my experiences as the Partnerships Manager with a charity focused on engaging youth in their communities, and from my role an advisor and past Chair of an international NGO facilitating youth skills development. Part of SR's success comes from the way it's been able to maintain the accessibility of its services while keeping the quality and personal touch it's known for. This can't be taken for granted.

Being an MBA candidate and member of the Chartered Banker Institute will further strengthen my decision making abilities. Over the years, I've also accumulated thirteen years' experience with other boards. As a board member, I'm confident I could use my skills to support the individuals that make Santropol Roulant a success.