



On **Thursday March 28, 2019**, all members of the Roulant, including 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 new candidates to the Board of Directors of Santropol Roulant, for a 2 year mandate. Electing Board members is a significant event for the Roulant! **There are FIVE POSITIONS to fill on the Board this election.**

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.

In this document, you'll get to know:

- ✓ 4 current board members who have completed half of their 2-year term. They are **not running** for re-election.
- ✓ 3 outgoing board members who have completed their term. They are **not running** for re-election.
- ✓ 2 outgoing board members who have completed their term. They **wish to run** for re-election.
- ✓ 5 new candidates who **wish to run** for election.

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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
- The development of organizational policies
- Making some of the bigger decisions, such as approving the budget
- 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.

Key Features of a Strong Board

- ✓ **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 10 hours per month, depending on what the Board is working on and the load of the committee(s) the member sits on.
- ✓ **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 preparation for a new strategic plan the board is seeking people with experience in:

- ✓ Accounting
- ✓ Fundraising/Philanthropy
- ✓ Agriculture
- ✓ Food security
- ✓ Not-for-profit and social entrepreneurship
- ✓ Policies and systems in health and social services
- ✓ Knowledge of the Santropol Roulant community

Current Board Members

Meet the **4 current board members** who are in the middle of their 2-year term and are **not running** for re-election! Together with the 5 elected candidates at the AGM, they will form the new Santropol Roulant Board of Directors.



**Adrianaiaina
Rajaobelina**



**Caitlin
Jenkins**



**Jenny
Loughran**



**Tristan
Khaner**

Outgoing Board Members

These 3 outgoing board members have completed their 2-year term and are **not running** for re-election. The Roulant has had the privilege these past years to have on its board Judith, Marc and Amelia. They have all made inestimable contributions during their time on the board.



Amelia
Brinkerhoff



Judith
Colombo



Marc
Nisbet

This year we have quite a three outgoing board members, and to a person they were excellent, dedicated, even remarkable colleagues.

Amelia Brinkerhoff, one of our youngest board members has a skill set and a work ethic that is truly awe inspiring . Despite having moved back to the States a few months ago to pursue a graduate degree Amelia never let up on her board duties and attended every meeting on Skype! Amelia was an indispensable member of the Screaming Eagles, our financial committee as well as an active and hardworking contributor to our new Strategic Plan.

After a period of 4 years on the board we are saying good-bye to **Judith Colombo** who capped her full and very giving time on the board by being our Chair. Despite the formidable workload that Judith took on (both on and off the board) she performed with ease, dedication and enormous skill.

Another veteran who's leaving the board this year is **Marc Nisbet**. Like Judith, Marc has been a board member for four years and was our previous Chair. Marc has been an incredibly involved and passionate member of the Roulant for many years, bringing his extensive experience and wisdom from to the organization.

All of these people will be greatly missed and we thank them sincerely.

A final note: in many organizations a loss of these many board members might be a cause for alarm, but not at the Roulant. The remarkable thing about the Roulant is how we continue to attract new interesting and talented people who volunteer their time and effort to serve on the board.

Our community is truly a renewable source of energy.

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 profiles 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.

- On the night of the AGM, you will cast your vote and select **5 candidates** from among the outgoing board members up for re-election and the new candidates up for election.

Laura Howard

Entrepreneur/Consultant : local food systems and economies



- **Key words to describe yourself:** passionate, ambitious, fun-loving, curious, reflective
- **Key Skills:**
 - Agriculture
 - Food security
 - Not-for-profit and social entrepreneurship
 - Policies and systems in health and social services
 - Knowledge of the Santropol Roulant community

Describe the experience or skill set you bring to the Board.

My work with Récolte is mainly focused on systemic change, on supporting innovation in the local food system. In the day to day of our organisation, we adapt the tools and resources available in the world of social innovation and social entrepreneurship to the realities and needs of local food systems entrepreneurs, leaders, collaborators. We also work to develop our own tools and resources that help innovators understand their role, the resources available to them, the factors that support or hinder the development of the project and / or businesses, and the sustainability of the project over the long term. As such, I bring a good understanding of the barriers faced by organizations from a diversity of areas within the sector. I also have a good understanding of the ecosystem that surrounds these innovative actors, including factors that influence decision-makers, business opportunities, financing, market development and politics, policies. I am also a participant in several of the networks that support actors in the field (CSAM, AULab, Cultiver MTL), keeping me in the know on current conversations and efforts in this space.

Describe why you are interested in a role on the Board of Directors.

After spending the last two years on the board, not only did I feel empowered to contribute to the organization, but I continued to learn from the organization and its community. The members of the board of directors gave me the chance to be myself, to challenge my ideas, to learn and understand the nuances in the opportunities and challenges facing Santropol Roulant. I also believe I have the ability to ask for difficult questions, to remind new board members of previous goals that may not have been achieved yet, and the capacity to explore why in a collaborative manner. I have been part of this community for over 10 years and sense that I bring a level of organizational memory that is key to the success of the organization. I think I can continue to contribute to the collective reflection, contribute my knowledge and memories of different parts of the history of the Roulant, while also helping to push the organisation forward in new directions and reflections in order to meet established goals and benchmarks. I am also very interested in the strategic planning process and I feel that not only my enthusiasm, but also my experience will contribute to this important upcoming process.

Jon Kalina

Writer/director/consultant for documentary films



- **Key words to describe yourself:** Cyclist, humorous, food-loving, traveler
- **Key skills:**
 - Community development & charity
 - Communications
 - Knowledge of the Santropol Roulant community

Describe the experience or skill set you bring to the Board.

I have a deep and long-standing experience and affection towards the Roulant dating back at least 20 years. I have delivered meals, helped train the staff for media interviews and made videos for the Roulant. I have also served as a Board member for the last two years during which I was closely aligned with the project to build an elevator.

Describe why you are interested in a role on the Board of Directors.

It's been a challenging but very rewarding two years on the Board and I believe I continue to have something to offer to an organization that I believe very strong in.

New Candidates up for Election

Meet the following **5 new 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.

Athanasios Mihou

Urban agriculture coordinator, and teacher at CEGEP Victoriaville



- **Key words to describe yourself:** Urban farmer, passionate, social entrepreneur, generous, resourceful
- **Key Skills:**
 - Agriculture
 - Food security
 - Not-for-profit and social entrepreneurship
 - Policies and systems in health and social services

Describe the experience or skill set you bring to the Board.

I've been working in urban agriculture for more than 9 years and am currently coordinating the urban agriculture project for the non-profit Ya Quelqu'un l'aut'bord. I am also a part-time teacher for the cégep of Victoriaville in a new program seeking to form new project managers in social urban agriculture. I am currently teaching 3 different classes within this program. I have also worked and volunteered on a wide variety of projects in food production, transformation and distribution, which gives me a very good understanding of the needs of the community. The project I am currently working on is also a great example of a social-entrepreneurial project that seeks to help with the local food security, all the while assuring to stay afloat by developing a distribution and sale to private partners.

Describe why you are interested in a role on the Board of Directors.

I've been following the evolution of the Roulant since its first venture into urban agriculture at the McGill campus, it's an organisation that truly inspires me with its mission and approach. I hope to get involved in the Board in order to learn more about the organisation's current challenges and contribute its further development with my knowledge. I hope to share my skills and knowledge with the members of the Board, the team and members in order for the Roulant to surpass challenges and reach its desired goals. I would also love to have the opportunity to use my vast network in urban agriculture to further evolve certain projects.

Géraldine Rogier

Executive assistant - Centre de santé des femmes de Montréal



- **Key words to describe yourself:** Globetrotter, Foodie, Militant, Yogini, bubbly
- **Key Skills:**
 - Fundraising
 - Social entrepreneurship
 - Policies and systems in health and social services

Describe the experience or skill set you bring to the Board.

Thanks to my current job, I have good skills in philanthropy and a good knowledge of policies and systems in health services. As a community worker, I also have good experience in the governance of a non-profit organization. Finally, a few years ago, I had the chance to take a course on social entrepreneurship. I visited many inspiring social enterprises in Europe, Asia and Africa. I would be more than happy to share my knowledges and my skills with Santropol Roulant's Board of Directors.

Describe why you are interested in a role on the Board of Directors.

I have considered volunteering for Le Roulant many times. But after several lively conversations with members of your organization, we came to the conclusion that the best way for me to contribute was actually to share my professional experience, especially around corporate funding and overall strategy. I have been following your activities for many years and I believe our values are quite aligned.

Lorenzo Daieff

Strategic planning and organizational learning consultant



- **Key words to describe yourself:** Curious, thoughtful, warm, Montrealer
- **Key Skills:**
 - Fundraising/philanthropy
 - Not-for-profit and social entrepreneurship
 - Policies and systems in health and social services
 - Knowledge of the Santropol Roulant community

Describe the experience or skill set you bring to the Board.

I hope to contribute first of all through my experience in program evaluation, which involves working with organizations of all sizes - such as UNICEF, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Canadian federal government, but also Montreal community groups - to help them measure the social impact of their actions, create partnerships, and refine their strategies. I plan to use this knowledge of philanthropy, funders, and project management to help the Roulant achieve its organizational and community goals. As for the Roulant, I have been involved for the past two years as a volunteer, having worked in the kitchen and in delivery, which I love, and which has given me the chance to meet many clients and other volunteers. Finally, I have previous experience on a Board of Directors, having just completed more than a year of involvement on the Board of McGill's Post-Graduate Student Society.

Describe why you are interested in a role on the Board of Directors.

I would be particularly interested in a role on the Board of Directors as it speaks to some of the day-to-day work I do, as a consultant, with other organizations, and as it would allow me to build on my previous experience on a Board at McGill. I think I bring value and experience, as well as a spirit of teamwork, innovation, and balanced judgement. At the same time, I would be excited to grow further and consolidate my understanding of boards' operations and responsibilities, specifically in the context of the Roulant, and along with the other board members. Seeing as I live just around the corner, I do hope to continue punctual involvement in deliveries as well, which I greatly enjoy (without underestimating the time and effort, rewarding as they are, which board membership requires).

Mikaelle Daneau

Coordonnatrice des Brigades Culinaires pour la Tablee des Chefs



- **Key words to describe yourself:** Ecofeminist, Organized, Passionate, Epicure, Cultivator
- **Key Skills:**
 - Agriculture
 - Food security
 - Knowledge of the Santropol Roulant community

Describe the experience or skill set you bring to the Board.

I am very aware of the social and environmental impacts related to agriculture and our eating habits. Through various experiences including the summer school in urban agriculture, horticultural animator at Verticité and my certificate in food and society, I've developed an understanding of the actors, issues and benefits of urban agriculture. My experience in zero waste and anti food waste and my willingness to contribute to the creation of sustainable alternative food systems will be well used.

During my working experience in the Roulant's kitchen in 2018, I observed and discovered the people that form Santropol Roulant community. I became aware of clients' dietary needs, developed trust and contributed to the integration of many volunteers. I could understand from the inside several operational issues to develop a critical, fascinated and stimulated gaze towards Santropol Roulant.

Describe why you are interested in a role on the Board of Directors.

Social organizations are essential to a healthy society. I have worked for several years in different food organizations and I wish to deepen my learning about the conditions that contribute to the success and health of these. I want to develop my expertise on the various elements that constitute an organization's governance such as; strategic plan, budgets, respect of values, mission and objectives, etc.

Santropol Roulant is an important space of social fabric, innovation and food education that touches and fascinates me hugely, but it is also an important and influential actor who inspires, confronts and nourishes evolution. I believe that with my understanding of the inner workings of the activities, my food experience and knowledges, as well as my values, motivations and interests, I can contribute to a coherent and efficient governance.

Negar Haghghat

Executive director of an NGO



- **Key words to describe yourself:** Brazen, thoughtful, sensitive, humanistic, ambitious
- **Key Skills:**
 - Fundraising/philanthropy
 - Not-for-profit and social entrepreneurship






Describe the experience or skill set you bring to the Board.

I have presided over two boards and have been a board member since 2008; I know the community environment and am familiar with Santropol's work; I know that my background will be useful to the organization.

Describe why you are interested in a role on the Board of Directors.

A seat on the board will allow me to bring forth my contributions with regards to governances and management of nonprofits.

Summary of Candidates' Key Skills

Candidate	Key skills	Key words
 <p>Athanasios Mihou Urban agriculture coordinator, and teacher at CEGEP Victoriaville</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Agriculture ✓ Food security ✓ Not-for-profit & social entrepreneurship ✓ Policies and systems in health and social services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Urban farmer ★ Passionate ★ Social entrepreneur ★ Generous ★ Resourceful
 <p>Geraldine Rogier Executive Assistant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fundraising ✓ Not-for-profit & social entrepreneurship ✓ Policies and systems in health and social services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Globetrotter ★ Foodie ★ Militant ★ Yogini ★ Bubbly
 <p>Jon Kalina Writer/director/consultant for documentary films</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Community development & charity ✓ Communications ✓ History of the Roulant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Cyclist ★ Humorous ★ Food-loving ★ Traveler
 <p>Laura Howard Entrepreneur/consultant: local food systems and economies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Agriculture ✓ Food security ✓ Not-for-profit and social entrepreneurship ✓ Policies and systems in health and social services ✓ Knowledge of the Santropol Roulant community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Passionate ★ Ambitious ★ Fun-loving ★ Curious ★ Reflective
 <p>Lorenzo Daieff Strategic planning & organizational learning consultant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fundraising ✓ Not-for-profit & social entrepreneurship ✓ Policies and systems in health and social services ✓ Knowledge of the Santropol Roulant community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Curious ★ Thoughtful ★ Warm ★ Montrealer



Mikaelle Daneau
Coordinatrice des
Brigades Culinaires
pour la Tablee des
Chefs

- ✓ Agriculture
- ✓ Food Security
- ✓ Knowledge of the Santropol Roulant community

- ★ Ecofeminist
- ★ Organized
- ★ Passionate
- ★ Epicure
- ★ Grower



Negar Haghghat
Executive Director,
not-for-profit

- ✓ Fundraising
- ✓ Not-for-profit and social entrepreneurship

- ★ Brazen
- ★ Thoughtful
- ★ Sensitive
- ★ Humanistic
- ★ Ambitious