

Royal Canadian College of Organists - Directors (2018-2020)

President - RICK MORGAN, BA, BComm (Hons), ARCT



Rick is a Winnipegger from day one – and first became interested in the organ when he was about 5 years old. He started piano at age 7 and got to Grade 10, then started studying the organ with the late Barry Anderson (FRCCO), and received the ARCT as an organ performer in 1978. He sang in the men and boys choir at All Saints’ Anglican Church (under the late Donald Hadfield) starting in 1974, and was appointed Organist and Choirmaster at St. Matthew’s Anglican Church in 1980 – and was there for 23 years. In July 2005, he became Organist and Music Director at St. George’s Anglican Church (Crescentwood) and still holds that position. A highlight of these 13 years was taking the choir to sing in Lincoln Cathedral in England for one week in 2011.

Rick has been involved in the Winnipeg Centre of the RCCO for many years – including chairing the committees for the two RCCO conventions that have been held in Winnipeg, and is currently treasurer for the Winnipeg Centre. He has been on National Council for a number of years as national chair for conventions/festivals and was a Regional Director for one year.

Rick considers himself a “church organist”, not a recitalist or performer and does church music because he loves it. His “day job” was with the Federal Government for 33 years, and then he was a consultant on a full-time basis for 9. Rick is now retired. His work during the last 20 years took him to countries all over the world – doing agriculture consulting as the organizer and manager of various projects.

Vice-President CHELLAN HOFFMAN, MMus, BMus, BEd, CRCCO



Chellan Hoffman has been a church musician for as long as she can remember. From this rock, she stepped onto other stones that led to work as a freelance musician, an organ teacher and an associate pipe organ technician. She is currently employed as music director at Knox United Church in Calgary.

Chellan has been involved with the RCCO since 1991, when she took her first organ exam. Since that time, she has served in many capacities, including membership convener, exam invigilator, exam adjudicator and Centre president. Chellan is currently the vice-president for Calgary Centre, and is on the Steering Committee for the RCCO 2018 Calgary Organ Festival. Nationally, she has served on the Board of Directors since 2016 as a Vice-President, and as Chair of the Editorial Committee. In 2017, she was a Travelling Clinician and enjoyed presenting an all-Canadian concert to several Centres. She attends national festivals whenever possible, and enjoys connecting with her colleagues from across Canada. The RCCO is a valuable resource and support in her career.

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Vice-President **PETER NIKIFORUK, DMA, MMA, MMus, BMus**



Peter Nikiforuk is a native of Brantford, Ontario. The recipient of numerous prizes and scholarships, in 1993 Peter was awarded the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts in organ from Yale University. Peter also studied at the University of Toronto and the Royal Academy of Music in London, England. From 1989-2000, Peter was Executive Director of the RCCO. Since leaving that position, Peter has remained active in the College locally as a member of the Waterloo-Wellington Executive and nationally as a Trustee, a member of the Publications Committee and of the RCCO College of Examiners. He also examines for the Royal Conservatory. Dr. Nikiforuk has been Director of Music at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Kitchener since 1989 and an instructor of piano and music theory at the Beckett School since 2000. Equally prominent as a choral conductor, Peter won the prestigious Leslie Bell Prize in Choral Conducting in 1996. Peter conducted Menno Singers from 1998-2017. An active recitalist and clinician including many workshops for the RCCO, Peter is also co-owner and editor for Kelman Hall Publishing, which specializes in sacred music. In June 2009, Dr. Nikiforuk was honoured for his contributions to Kitchener-Waterloo by the Laurier Centre for Music in the Community.

Registrar - **NORMA BLANCHET**

Norma Blanchet received her organ/church music training with Dr. Paul B. Murray and also studied music theory, and harmony at the Academy of Music with Dr. Murray. She completed several Summer Sessions at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey completing courses in Choral Conducting, Levels 1 and II, Vocal Technique and Voice Building for Choirs with Dr. Frauke Haasemann. Attendance at the Master Schola in Cape Cod, Mass., brought further opportunities for studies in Conducting, Gregorian Chant, and Psalm Singing with Dr. George Guest. She has been a member of the RCCO since she was in high school, and served on her local Centre executive prior to serving as Region 1 Director. She subsequently accepted the position of Registrar which is an office in the College which she really enjoys because it allows her to stay in touch with Centres across the country and particularly with the staff at our National Office.

Secretary - **PATRICK CARTER, PhD, MA, BA, BEd, AMus, CRCCO**



A native of Newmarket, Ontario, Patrick trained as an academic historian (PhD, Cambridge University), and has taught history and political science (as well as German) at Appleby College, Oakville Ontario since 2001, where he also assists with duties as a choir director and an organist in the John Bell Chapel. From 1999 to 2010, and again since 2014, he has served as organist of St Paul's Anglican Church, Glanford (Hamilton). Previously, he held positions at several churches, including four years as choirmaster of St Mark's parish church, Cambridge (UK). A Colleague of the Royal Canadian College of Organists (C.R.C.C.O.), he also received the Associate diploma (A.Mus.) from the Western Ontario Conservatory of Music (London, Ontario). Patrick currently resides in Ancaster, Ontario with his wife and their 10-year old son.

As an active member of the RCCO for two decades, Patrick served for a number of years as treasurer of the Hamilton Centre, was engaged in organizing successful summer organ camps for young people (POW!s), and also served as treasurer of the 2011 Hamilton Organ Festival. In 2009 he joined the RCCO Board of Directors as Regional Director for Region 4 (Southern Ontario), and since 2012 has served as Secretary of the RCCO. In addition to governance experience with the RCCO, he has served since 2003 as the Treasurer of the Canadian Association of Teachers of German.

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Regional Director, Region 1 - MARGARET MACHUM, BMus, BA, MLS, CRCCO



Margaret Machum has been involved with the Royal Canadian College of Organists since 1993 serving as Secretary and now President of the Halifax Centre. She has been Regional Director of the Atlantic Region since 2014. She studied organ in England as well as with Halifax organists Dr Maitland Farmer, Mr David MacDonald, and Dr James Burchill. As an organist, she has been Music Director at several Halifax area churches including Mulgrave Park Baptist, Christ Church, St Phillips's Anglican, Fairview United, and United Memorial and is currently the organist at St Stephen's Anglican in Chester. She has a BA in History and Music from Mount Allison University, and a BMus in Organ Performance and an MLS from Dalhousie University. She is an advocate for social justice issues and has written a workbook to be used in her workshops on promoting lifestyle change to combat climate change. As a lay representative of St Matthew's United Church to Halifax Presbytery, she has been a member of the Pastoral Relations Committee, serving on several Joint Needs Assessment Committees and a Transition Team, and the Church in Action Committee. In addition, she was co-chair of the Church in Action Committee of Maritime Conference for several years. She received her diploma as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader with the United Church of Canada in February. This work, together with an appreciation of history and organ music has led to her being involved with the Saving The Organ project on revitalizing the organ and its success in the twenty-first century. As part of this group, she was invited to give a workshop at the Montreal Festival in 2017 and is one of the organizers for regional mini-conferences on Saving the Organ which have been hosted by the Halifax Centre.

Regional Director, Region 8 - SANDRA FLETCHER, ARCT FRCCO



Sandra Fletcher is a professional pianist and organist with over 40 years of international experience teaching and performing. She has performed with the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Thai Navy Orchestra, Okanagan Symphony Orchestra and with many professional musicians in Thailand and Canada. Sandra is currently Interim Associate Organist at Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria, BC.

Sandra holds an ARCT-Piano teacher; ARCT-Organ performance and FRCCO. Since moving to Victoria in 2014 Sandra has been active in the RCCO-Victoria Centre, serving as the Secretary for several years, and is helping to coordinate a search for an organ tuner and technician to service the organs on Vancouver Island. In addition to her local responsibilities, Sandra also sits on the Scholarships and Bursaries Committee, as well as the Organ Canada editorial board.