



**Joanne Bernard, CEO, Easter Seals NS**

Joanne Bernard has been building communities for 25 years in Nova Scotia. In 2002, Joanne established the Margeurite Centre, the only residential facility for women recovering from addictions in Nova Scotia. In 2005, she was tasked to lead Alice Housing, which offers second stage housing for women and children leaving abusive relationships. Elected to the Nova Scotia House of Assembly in 2013, Ms. Bernard was appointed to the Executive Council of Nova Scotia where she served as Minister of Community Services and other high profile portfolios.

Ms. Bernard was the first openly gay MLA/Cabinet Minister in the history of Nova Scotia government.

Ms. Bernard is currently President and CEO of Easter Seals Nova Scotia and since 2017 has grown the physical and operational footprint of the organization provincially.

Ms. Bernard holds a Bachelor of Arts (Political Science with Distinction) from Mount Saint Vincent University and a Masters of Arts (Political Science) from Acadia University.

In 2011, she was awarded the Peter F Drucker award for Non-Profit Management in Canada. In 2023, Joanne was named Business Leader of the Year by the Halifax Chamber of Commerce. She was also awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal and the Mel Hebb Hourglass Award for Exceptional Service in the field of disabilities.

She just completed a 6 year term on the Board of Directors for the Mount Saint Vincent Alumni Association serving as President and Board Governor.

Joanne is married to Annette, mother to son Taylor and her greatest joy is granddaughter Kalliope.

**Philip Mondor, President and CEO, Tourism HR Canada**

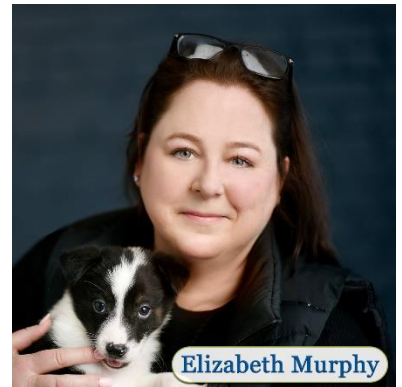
Philip is an accomplished leader with nearly 35 years of experience working with labour market stakeholders across Canada and abroad including foreign governments, pan-global organizations, Canadian and non-Canadian businesses, and various education and training bodies. His work spans over 15 industrial sectors and in 11 countries, with most of his career focused on the tourism industry.

Philip is an industry representative to the Deputy Minister's Advisory Council, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. Currently, he is an advisory member of the Labour Market Information Council and a Director on the Board of the Tourism Industry Association of Canada. Throughout his career, he has been called upon to offer input to various workforce policy directives with governments and associations. Philip has worked with a variety of boards and committees, and volunteers for causes that help advance workforce issues and improve opportunities for people to engage in community and meaningful employment.

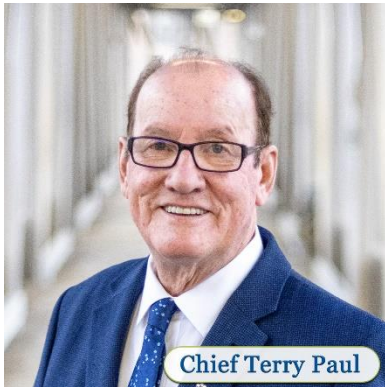


### **Elizabeth Murphy, Nova Scotia SPCA CEO**

Before being named CEO of the Nova Scotia SPCA in September of 2013, Elizabeth built her career in the not-for-profit industry. Her professional focus was guiding organizational leadership to create and strengthen strategic partnerships, enabling them to become self-sustaining and thus, ensuring that their vital programs would continue to be offered in the communities they serve. Elizabeth's strengths lay in identifying and developing unique revenue streams and encouraging collaboration among stakeholders to see them securely established.



Since joining the Nova Scotia SPCA, Elizabeth has facilitated the merge of 11 independent SPCA Societies, combining them into one provincial organization which oversees the complete operation of six animal shelters. Elizabeth has built the business of the Nova Scotia SPCA to include: three veterinary hospitals, two veterinary clinics, four thrift stores, a windmill farm, and a professional inspectorate responsible to enforce the Provincial Animal Protection Act.



### **Chief Terrance Paul – Chief and CEO of Membertou**

Terry Paul is the Chief of Membertou, a position he has held for the past 39 years. During that time, Paul has guided his community and administration into one of the most efficient and economically flourishing Indigenous communities in the country.

Chief Paul started his career with the Boston Indian Council where he received his background training in finance and management. Returning home to Membertou, Chief Paul joined the Membertou Band Council in the role of Economic Development Officer and progressed to the position of Band Manager before he was elected as Chief in 1984.

Chief Paul has achieved many notable accomplishments in his current role, as Chief and CEO of Membertou, including being named to one of Canada's highest honours. In 2017, Chief Paul was appointed to the Order of Canada. He is also an inductee of the Nova Scotia Business Hall of Fame, and recipient of the Frank McKenna Leadership Award. Chief Paul holds an honorary doctorate from Cape Breton University, Dalhousie University and Mount Allison University. In 2019, he led his organization to being named as a Canada's Best Managed Company. In January 2020, Chief Paul received the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business Lifetime Achievement Award.

Chief Paul is credited with tripling the land base for the Membertou Reserve and increasing the employment rate within Membertou to 80% in the community. In January 2021, Chief Paul led the single largest investment made by an Indigenous group in Canada, with the 50% acquisition of Clearwater Seafoods.

The Membertou motto of "Welcoming the World" is undoubtedly the most accurate representation of the open and progressive Indigenous community that Membertou has become under the leadership of Chief Terry Paul.