

Governing Board Candidates for a Three-Year Term

(October 8, 2026–October 2029)

The following candidates are standing for election to the WSN Governing Board for a three-year term. Each brings valuable experience, expertise, and a strong commitment to advancing workplace health and safety across Northern Ontario. Please take a moment to review their profiles.

Hannah Demers, Industrial Hygiene Coordinator – Hemlo Mining Corp.



Hannah Demers is Industrial Hygiene Coordinator at Williams Mine for Hemlo Mining Corp (formerly Barrick Gold), with hands on experience across underground, mill, open pit, and maintenance operations. She leads ISO 45001 implementation and audit activities, and works cross functionally on safety programs, risk assessment, and stakeholder engagement.

Hannah currently chairs Workplace Safety North's Workplace Environment Technical Advisory Committee and is Chair of the Marathon Public Library Board. She offers practical H&S expertise, governance experience, and a collaborative approach to advancing workplace safety.

Michael Ferguson, Senior Engineering Designer – Capital Equipment, Boart Longyear



Michael Ferguson is an engineering leader with more than 20 years of experience in diamond drilling and percussive blast hole drilling equipment, product development, automation, and drilling services. He currently serves as Engineering Manager and Senior Engineering Product Designer at Boart Longyear, bringing extensive experience in mining operations, equipment design, and the development of engineering solutions for high-hazard and remote working environments.

A long-time contributor to Workplace Safety North, Michael has served on both the Technical Advisory Committee (Equipment) and the Mining Advisory Committee for over 13 years, most recently as Chair of the Mining Advisory Committee. Through these roles, he has worked with industry stakeholders to identify emerging safety challenges, support prevention initiatives, and promote practical, field-informed approaches to worker health and safety.

Throughout his career, Michael has focused on risk reduction through engineering design, equipment safety, automation, and operational improvements. He is committed to advancing practical solutions that help protect workers, strengthen safety culture, and improve outcomes in Ontario's resource sectors. Michael is motivated to translate his technical expertise, industry experience, and advisory committee leadership into board-level stewardship to help advance Workplace Safety North's mission of ensuring every worker returns home safe and healthy.

Kyle Herranen, MFA PHR, Health, Safety, and Training Manager - GreenFirst Forest Products



Kyle Herranen is the Health, Safety & Training Manager at GreenFirst Forest Products, where he leads health and safety management systems, workforce training, and organizational development initiatives across multiple forestry operations in Northern Ontario. With experience spanning forestry, manufacturing, and industrial operations, he has led major initiatives in safety management, compliance, and leadership development.

Prior to GreenFirst, Kyle held training and development leadership roles with Domtar's Espanola operations, overseeing LMS-enabled curriculum, supporting apprenticeship programs, competency development, and operational training.

Kyle holds the Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) designation. Drawing on his combined experience in safety, training, and organizational leadership, he brings a practical, people-focused perspective to Workplace Safety North and is committed to advancing worker health, safety, and well-being across Northern Ontario.

John Petherick, MS CIH ROH CSP, Occupational Hygiene & Environment Specialist - Glencore



John Petherick is a seasoned occupational hygiene and environment specialist with more than 35 years of experience supporting mining and metallurgical operations across Ontario. He currently leads environment and occupational hygiene programs for Glencore's Sudbury Nickel Operations.

John combines hands on industrial and consulting experience—including work in unionized settings with a strong track record in implementing ISO aligned management systems and representing employers with federal and provincial regulators. He contributes to sector initiatives through committees such as the Ontario Mining Association and the Mining Legislative Review Committee (Hygiene & Ventilation).

A Certified Industrial Hygienist, Registered Occupational Hygienist and Certified Safety Professional, John completed an MSc in Industrial Hygiene (Montana Tech). He is active in the professional community as Secretary Treasurer of the Occupational Hygiene Association of Ontario and is respected for practical, collaborative leadership and a steady focus on improving workplace health and safety.