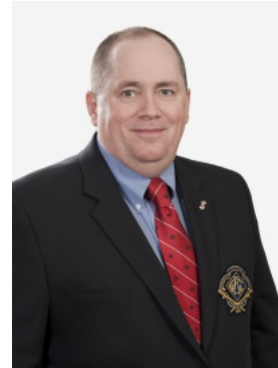


Mike Walker Bio

After the past two decades dedicated to roles in Rowing mainly at the club and national levels, including terms as President of the Ottawa Rowing Club and as President of Rowing Canada Aviron, I now would like to continue contributing to the development of the sport at the provincial level. Row Ontario has a superb cadre of staff and volunteers that I have come to know better through my work as Chair of the Row Ontario Hall of Fame Selection Panel, and as a member of the Umpires Committee, and I would very much like to become more involved with the team and our mission.



My experience as a senior Public Sector Executive gives me strengths in change management, strategic planning, developing strong cohesive teams, implementing good governance and business partnerships, and fostering effective resource management and accountability. I have had diverse appointments in government, the military, and not for profit organizations across Canada and abroad, leading interdisciplinary teams of professionals in many challenging settings. My unique blend of operations, policy and strategic experience makes me a robust and flexible senior leader, resilient to stress and change, bringing sound judgement to organizational challenges. My retirement from the Government of Canada earlier this year also means I have more time and energy to devote to volunteer pursuits, allowing me to offer an increased commitment to the Ontario Rowing community.

This is a very challenging period in sport. The COVID-19 pandemic has put grassroots sport at a crossroads and the next three years will be critical for rebuilding Rowing in Ontario. My knowledge of the Rowing community and experience at all levels of sport will allow me to make a contribution to the Board's leadership in this area. Also, my extensive professional involvement in crisis and risk management should be an additional asset that I can contribute as we rebound from this crisis — I'm used to making tough decisions based on imperfect data using sound risk analysis. We will also be going through a leadership transition next year, with President Waddell's term ending, and I would like to be able to bring my depth of experience during my term on the Board to support a new President through her or his transition into the role.

My professional and volunteer background has helped me develop competencies and experience that would be a good fit for the Row Ontario Board of Directors. I've said for many years that high performance sport programs need to be supported by high performance governance and I am certain that I can make a positive contribution as a member of the Board. As a Director, my promise to you is to:

- Have the courage to ask tough questions, propose solutions, refusing to rubber stamp proposals or recommendations, and encourage good follower-ship by supporting difficult board decisions;
- Act with integrity by doing the right thing openly and honestly;
- Support collegiality and consensus by working respectfully and diplomatically with board colleagues, management, staff and volunteers; and
- Seek different points of view, take time to deliberate before reaching conclusions, contribute context, useful insights and experience to discussions, and seek workable solutions.

Thank you for your support.

Mike Walker

www.linkedin.com/in/mike-walker-59895531