

Zola Mehlomakulu Bio

As a former coach with Queen's University Rowing Club and a member/coach of the Kingston Rowing Club from 2002 to 2014, I have seen rowing from many vantage points: athlete, coach, and community member. I have benefitted immensely from the time, effort, and expertise of the athletes, coaches, and officials I have been lucky enough to work with during my time involved with rowing. I am eager to give back to that community. Over the last several years I have taken some time away from rowing to pursue competitive cycling as an athlete and am now returning to rowing with the goal of developing and fostering the sport from outside of the coach boat and alongside Row Ontario.



In my professional career I am a consultant in the development, acquisition, and management of multi-residential real estate assets. If elected to the Row Ontario Board of Directors, I will be able to implement tools and strategies gained in my professional career to overcome the challenges faced when dealing with multiple organizations and stakeholders. I believe I will be an asset to the Board in its work.

In particular, I believe it is imperative that Row Ontario endeavors to support, develop, and grow the sport of rowing throughout the province of Ontario, with a focus on historically underrepresented groups.

Drawing on experiences as an athlete and coach in the sport of rowing, and reinforced by recent experiences as a high-performance cyclist, I am in a unique position to provide perspective and put forward ideas on how to address some of the challenges faced by members of historically underrepresented groups. Further, in conjunction with stakeholders I would like to develop and employ ways to constructively encourage a welcoming environment conducive to excellence for all individuals.

I believe Row Ontario plays an important role in providing access to safe and enjoyable rowing opportunities throughout the province and want to work with the Board to ensure those opportunities are distributed fairly and equitably.