



**Melissa Arseniuk**  
**Dan Brewin**  
**Derek Johnson**  
**Kelly Shigehiro**  
**Don Strankman (incumbent)**

### **Biography – Melissa Arseniuk**

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My name is Melissa Arseniuk and I'm a lawyer who owns and operates Modern Sage Legal Services here in Lethbridge. Prior to law school, I spent about a decade as a journalist, working for the likes of the *Ottawa Citizen*, CNN, the *Washington Post*, the *Las Vegas Sun*, and *Rolling Stone*.

As a writer-turned-lawyer, my core values include clear and direct communication, and I firmly believe asking the right questions and *actually listening* to the answers — and other perspectives — is paramount. As you get to know me better, I think you'll find I'm an ambitious, resourceful, creative, and pragmatic person. Whether I'm at work or volunteering on a Board, I always strive to be professional yet personable, which usually translates to doing good work with good people.

In terms of other Board experience, I joined the Southern Alberta Art Gallery Board of Directors in 2019. Since then, I think it's fair to say my ability to make occasionally bold but consistently informed decisions has played a vital role in the organization's growth and transformation, including a renewed focus on fiscal sustainability, increased public engagement, and a fully funded upcoming \$5.78-m renovation project.

On a more personal note, I grew up in rural Manitoba where my family ran a small wild rice harvesting and processing operation. These days, when I'm not working or volunteering, I like to travel, fish, and spend time with my long-time partner at his family ranch outside Mountain View.

It was an honour to be encouraged to join the Lethbridge & District Exhibition Board of Directors, and I sincerely look forward to contributing to the organization's future success. Thank you for your consideration and support.



## **Biography – Dan Brewin**

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Dan Brewin – MBA, is visionary as an agribusiness leader with a passion for identifying and solving current and future problems facing the agriculture industry. As a lifelong learner, Dan has interest in studying the latest developments in technology with a focus on developing a sustainable food system for the future.

Dan's career includes senior positions with various agriculture organizations across western Canada with keen interest in strategic development for new investment into capturing value through processing. He understands the importance of innovation towards improving food security for Canadians while increasing the sustainability of agriculture.

Dan is currently consulting for various organizations in agriculture and agri-food processing, in addition to committing energy as entrepreneur/founder in the startup space.

Dan has experience building and leading highly successful teams in agribusiness using inspiration and guidance. Having reported to Boards, and experience as an active Board member in not-for-profit organizations, Dan's strong financial acumen is appreciated in these roles.

Dan stays active as a producer on a part-time basis with his wife and three children near Diamond Valley, Alberta.

## **Biography – Derek Johnson**

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I have been involved in Ag Business for over 25 years, including Agronomy, Crop Inputs Marketing, Grain Procurement, Cattle Procurement, Agriculture Finance and Ag Manufacturing. I am currently the Regional Sales Director for AGI, leading a team of Territory Managers in Alberta and Western Saskatchewan.

I grew up on a Pedigreed Seed Farm near Wainwright, Alberta and was an active Seed Grower with Select status from 1993 to 2006. I graduated from Olds College in 1998 with a major in Seed and Grain Technology. I am a Certified Crop Advisor with the American Society of Agronomy and an Accredited Seed Grader with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

I am married with two young kids, ages 4 and 2. I moved to Lethbridge in July 2000 and I this has been home ever since.

In my spare time, when I am not busy chasing around my kids, I enjoy watching and playing hockey, golf, football and baseball.



## **Biography – Kelly Shigehiro**

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I am extremely excited to have the opportunity to allow my name to stand for election to the board of directors for the Lethbridge and District Exhibition.

Our community is very important to me. I was born and raised in Lethbridge; and Maggie, my wife of 30 years and I have raised our 3 sons here. I have been fortunate to be able to serve on several boards over the years; including Lethbridge Lacrosse Association, the Lethbridge Hurricanes, the Lethbridge Sports Hall of Fame, and most recently the Lethbridge Country Club where I have just completed my 2nd term as president.

There are several reasons why I am happy to allow my name to stand for the board.

I believe that the new Agri-food Hub and Trade Centre will be a huge draw to our city, and will have a massive economic impact. It is going to be an awesome addition to our community, and it will be exciting to be a part of that movement.

Innovation, Integrity, Inclusivity, Safety, Accountability and Growth are the values of the Exhibition. I believe these align perfectly with the Davis Auto Groups values - Family, Teamwork, Integrity and Community; values that I believe strongly in, and that have been a part of my everyday life for the past 25 years as the sales manager for Davis GMC Buick.

Every morning I run past the Exhibition and I have watched the progression of this project. It has truly sparked my interest, as a neighbor and a local business person, to be involved with the Lethbridge and District Exhibition.

I believe that the combination of my community connections, business experience in a management capacity for 25 years, and my experience on past boards, all add up to a great fit for the Lethbridge and District Exhibition Board of Directors. Thank you for your consideration.



## **Biography – Don Strankman**

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For most of my life I have been associated with agriculture and agri-food business. Initially growing up on the farm and then transitioning into ownership, my wife and I took a 1500-acre farm and through multiple expansions increased our farm size to 4000 acres. Unfortunately, due to a farm injury suffered when I was quite young I did transition off the farm and did work as project manager with a company that built log homes in Kimberly BC. While I was on the farm I did do financial planning for farmers in the wintertime as a off farm income source (because as we all know, farming doesn't always pay a steady income) and so with that experience, in 2006 my wife and I started a new financial planning practice in Lethbridge. Since then we have merged with a larger company LKA Financial and I have achieved my Master Financial Planner designation. I work primarily with business owners, farmers and ranchers showing them advanced business succession strategies.

I feel that my agriculture and business experience has been and will be a great asset to Exhibition Park as I am running for re-election. I currently sit as chairman of the Audit committee as well as working with the visioning process on the Strategic Development committee. I'm excited to apply my skills to the best advantage for Exhibition Park and working towards making it a success in both the near and distant future.