



## Ontario Chapter of The Wildlife Society

### 2019 Ontario Chapter Election Ballot Deadline: April 1, 2019

Hello Ontario Chapter TWS member,

Please find below the profiles of the candidates and the election ballot for the 2019 Ontario Chapter TWS election. There are four positions for which we ask you to vote.

President-elect – one nominee for one position  
Secretary – one nominee for one position  
Treasurer – one nominee for one position  
Board Member – four nominees for two positions

Please let us know your vote for each position via surveymonkey using the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q5WWSTF>. Voting can also occur via an e-mail response to this email or by regular mail. Use of the attached ballot is only required if you are sending your vote in by regular mail but you can also use it if you are sending in your vote by email. If regular mail is your preferred voting method please email [info@octws.ca](mailto:info@octws.ca) and request a mailing address.

Please remember to cast your vote for each position. The deadline for voting is **April 1, 2019**. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Peter Hettinga  
President, Ontario Chapter of The Wildlife Society

## Ontario Chapter of The Wildlife Society 2019 Board Nominations

### Ontario Chapter President-Elect

#### 2019 Nominee: Matt Dyson

**Biography:** I am a PhD Candidate in the School of Environment, Resources and Sustainability at the University of Waterloo studying waterfowl demography in the western boreal forest. I completed my BSc at the University of Northern British Columbia in 2013 and was active in their student chapter during my undergrad and served as chapter president for 2 years. I received my MSc from the University of Western Ontario in 2015, where I studied habitat selection and survival of wood ducks. I have been an active member of the Canadian Section as a member of the executive board, Student Rep, and Secretary-Treasurer, and as a committee member for the website, newsletter, education, and membership and recruitment committees. In addition to completing his PhD, I am also currently working on my Associate Wildlife Biologist certification through TWS. I have served as a board member on the Ontario Chapter since 2017 and am currently representing Ontario at the Canadian Conservation Affairs committee meetings and on the Canadian Section Conference committee. I am interested in promoting the value and importance of a professional society/network of wildlife biologists in Ontario through the continued growth of the re-established Ontario Chapter. When I am not currently working on my dissertation or TWS related activities, I enjoy spending time fishing, hunting, and hiking with family. If you are interested, you can follow me on twitter @mattydyson89 to keep up with my research.

### Ontario Chapter Treasurer

#### 2019 Nominee: Twyla Douaire

**Biography:** I have 2 diplomas in Ecosystem Management from Fleming College, and a mostly completed Bachelor of Environmental Science and Studies at Trent University (16 of 20 credits). I have been working for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for 14 years, holding various positions over that time.

I am currently the Treasurer for my Union Local (OPSEU 362), as well as the Treasurer for the annual United Way campaign at Robinson Place in Peterborough. I have held both these positions for the past several years (2+ and 4 years respectively). I always ensure I stay on top of my treasurer duties, and have never had a problem balancing the budget or maintaining concise and organised records. I would use my organisation, communication, interpersonal and budgeting/financial skills to be a successful treasurer for the Ontario chapter of The Wildlife Society.

I have a deep passion for animals and the conservation of our wildlife and their habitats. This position would allow me to bridge the gap between that passion, my education, and my treasurer experience. Thank you for your consideration.

## Ontario Chapter of The Wildlife Society 2019 Board Nominations

### Ontario Chapter Secretary

#### 2019 Nominee: Scott Pynn

**Biography:** Hello, my name is Scott Pynn. My love for wild things has been a force since I was a child, rolling over logs to find salamanders and losing track of time while following the tracks of white-tailed deer. I am currently working as a Wildlife Policy Intern for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) where I passionately advocate for the sustainable management of healthy wildlife populations. In addition to my current position, I have worked with the MNRF in other positions such as a Learn to Fish program coordinator, student enforcement assistance, and an interior park warden at The Massasauga Provincial Park. I have also worked as a wildlife technician in Newfoundland and Labrador, monitoring and promoting the conservation of Species at Risk like the Piping Plover. I am a graduate of the University of Guelph where I studied Wildlife Biology. I also advanced my education with a graduate certificate in Conservation and Environmental Law Enforcement at Fleming College. I spent many weekends of my summer months during my undergrad volunteering to assist Canadian Wildlife Service Biologists tagging egrets and herons, counting cormorants with Parks Canada, and banding passerines in Thunder Bay with Bird Studies Canada. I also enjoy hunting and fishing with friends and family because I enjoy the simple things in life like spending time outdoors, early morning sunrises, and breathing crisp clean air.

### Ontario Chapter Board Member

#### 2019 Nominee: Aleksandra Dolezal

**Biography:** Aleksandra Dolezal is currently a M.Sc. student moving on to Ph.D. at the University of Guelph, investigating the mechanisms that drive arthropod establishment in agroecosystems. My work is interdisciplinary, merging theory and application from ecological and socioeconomic realms including significant farmer outreach. During my M.Sc. I founded the first entomology related club which is a subset of the University of Guelph's Wildlife club (over 1000 members). As president of the entomology section of the club, I coordinate and create workshops, talks, and events for undergrad students teaching them about the wonderful world of entomology. I also serve as on the Student Affairs Committee of the Entomological Society of America (North-Central Branch) which I have been an active member for over a year now. My primary goals as a researcher have been to advocate for conservation efforts, foster passion for biodiversity, and give back to the community through outreach and education. This leadership role in TWS Ontario Chapter would be valuable for my own development as a conservation biologist, but to the Wildlife Society as I bring my experience and new ideas to table.

## Ontario Chapter of The Wildlife Society 2019 Board Nominations

### 2019 Nominee: Kelly McLean

**Biography:** Hello! My name is Kelly McLean. I am from Woodville, Ontario, and currently live in Fredericton, New Brunswick. I am completing my Master of Science degree at the University of New Brunswick and will be returning to Ontario in May. My master's thesis researches the effects of commercial forest harvesting on the distribution and productivity of forest breeding waterfowl. Prior to beginning my masters I worked as a biologist with the Aquatic Assessment Unit of the Canadian Wildlife Service, completed my BSc(hons) in Biology at Trent University, and a dual diploma in Fish and Wildlife and Ecosystem Management technology at Sir Sandford Fleming College. While at Trent University I was actively involved in the student chapter executive of The Wildlife Society as vice president. I have attended two annual conferences of The Wildlife Society; Winnipeg, MB and Cleveland, OH. I hope to attend this year's conference in Reno, NV. I am passionate about conserving Ontario's wildlife and their habitat. As a board member of the OCTWS I hope to bring awareness to the benefits of being a TWS member and help connect people involved with wildlife management in Ontario from the student to scientist level.

### 2019 Nominee: Emilie Kissler

**Biography:** Emilie Kissler has been a member of TWS since 2009. She has always been interested in cross-disciplinary work and her focus is on plant-animal interactions at an ecosystem level. She completed her HBSoc. at the University of Guelph in Biological Sciences with a focus on Wildlife Biology. She gained her MSc. at the University of Sydney in Australia on Wildlife Health and Population Management. She is currently completing her PhD at Memorial University in Newfoundland on the impacts of moose on forest regeneration across the island of Newfoundland. Prior to moving to Ontario Emilie worked with Newfoundland's provincial Wildlife Division as a research biologist on topics ranging from moose health, to rare lichen abundance and diversity. While working in NL she also worked and contributed to the research and game management programs for both small mammals and fur bearers (snowshoe hare and the NL marten) and big game species programs including moose, caribou and black bears. Emilie is currently working within Ontario's MNRF as an Terrestrial Ecosystem Science Specialist for Northeast.

### 2019 Nominee: Eric Snyder

**Biography:** I have worked in the field of biological conservation for the last 15 years as a biological consultant and government biologist. In the former capacity, I have been engaged by Environment Canada, NatureServe Canada, the Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada. In the latter, I have served in the National Vascular Plant Herbarium of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's Plant Health Science Directorate and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's Invasive Species and

## **Ontario Chapter of The Wildlife Society 2019 Board Nominations**

Species at Risk programs. While in the employ of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, I was a member of the trinational Invasive Species Panel of the North American Plant Protection Organization.

My background is not specifically in wildlife biology in the narrow sense in which it is often understood. My biological training is as a botanist and the majority of my professional experience relates to rare or invasive plants. Hence, to the extent that The Wildlife Society pursues and promotes an interest in plants or vegetation, I may be a suitable candidate for board membership.

**Ontario Chapter of The Wildlife Society 2019 Board Nominations**

Ontario Chapter of The Wildlife Society  
2019 Election Ballot

Survey monkey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q5WWSTF>

Please vote for one candidate for each office:

**President-elect**

Matt Dyson

ACCEPT

REJECT

**Treasurer**

Twyla Douaire

ACCEPT

REJECT

**Secretary**

Scott Pynn

ACCEPT

REJECT

Please vote for two candidates:

**Executive Board Members**

Aleksandra Dolezal

Kelly McLean

Emilie Kissler

Eric Snyder