



Algonquin to Adirondacks Collaborative

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<http://www.a2acollaborative.org/>

Board of Directors Biographies

GARY P. BELL — is the Nature Conservancy of Canada's Program Manager for Eastern Ontario. Gary received his BSc from Queen's and his MSc and PhD from Carleton University. His research led to postdoctoral studies at UCLA and Boston University but in 1987 he left academia to work for The Nature Conservancy, first as land steward and ecologist for Southern California and then as director of science for New Mexico, working on ecoregional assessments, conservation planning, fire ecology, and invasive species. He led TNC's Aridlands task force in its Global Habitat Assessment in 2005-2006. Gary returned to his native Canada in 2006 to take on his current position with NCC. His current work is focused on the A2A Region where he has completed conservation planning for the Frontenac Arch and has negotiated the purchase of over 4,000 acres of priority conservation lands.

KEN BUCHAN — is a geophysicist and canoeist with a deep interest in conservation issues. He is a long-time board member and current president of the Ottawa Valley Chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, as well as a trustee of the Quetico Foundation.

KATE CLEARY - Kate Cleary is a recent (2016) arrival to the North Country and is currently a lecturer in the Biology Department at SUNY Potsdam. In fall 2018 she will join the faculty of the Environmental Studies department at Saint Lawrence University as a Visiting Assistant Professor. Kate is originally from CT and earned her Masters in Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Biology in 2010 from Colorado State University and her PhD in Fish and Wildlife Sciences in 2016 from the University of Idaho. Both her Masters and PhD research focused on evaluating the impacts of agriculture on biodiversity in tropical biological corridor systems.

EMILY CONGER moved to the A2A area in 1970, and became keenly interested in conserving the area's wildlife. She has been working on environmental and sustainability issues since the 1970s, and has worked over the years with a variety of organizations. Emily retired in 2001 from a 31- year career in teaching and consulting for the Upper Canada Board of Education. She has been a director of A2A since 2001. She raises organic food and enjoys cooking, riding, skating, swimming, canoeing, biking and hiking.

JOHN DAVIS - is executive director of The Rewilding Institute and editor of Rewilding Earth. He also serves as volunteer land steward in Split Rock Wildway for Eddy Foundation, securing Wildlands linking Lake Champlain with Adirondack High Peaks. He is the author or editor of many publications on wildlands conservation, including BIG, WILD AND CONNECTED: Scouting and Eastern Wildway from Florida to Quebec. He lives with his family in eastern Adirondack Park

ALEX FRENCH – is a conservation and sustainability advocate from Potsdam New York. Alex is currently the sustainability coordinator at Clarkson University and is involved in a course at the University that is focused on the A2A corridor. Alex has a MSc. In Environmental Policy.

MIKE KEHOE — is a program manager specializing in organizational transformation and governance. He has a Bachelor of Computer Science degree from Concordia University and is a Chartered Professional Accountant, Certified Management Accountant (CPA, CMA). Mike has served on various not for profit organizations for over 35 years and has a keen interest in conservation.

PETER MILLIKEN – The Honourable Peter Millken served as speaker of the House under several governments. Since retiring, he has become involved in numerous community and charitable works, with a focus on Conservation. In addition to his work with the A2A Board, Peter also sits on the Board of the Nature Conservancy of Canada.

PAUL TUCK - is currently a litigation attorney at Hancock Estabrook LLP working in environmental and commercial law. He has a JD from Vermont Law School and a BA in Ethics and Religious Studies from Arizona State University. Paul has grown up in and around nature and has previously been involved in supporting efforts to conserve public land.

LEE WILLBANKS, J.D., M.P.A., — is the Upper St. Lawrence Riverkeeper and Executive Director of Save The River. Originally from Birmingham, Alabama, Lee came north for graduate school at Syracuse University where he earned a Law Degree and Masters of Public Administration from the Maxwell School. He brings to Save The River a strong knowledge of River and North Country issues, most recently serving as chief of staff to a New York State Senator whose district included the St. Lawrence River. His career has been diverse, ranging from environmental counsel to an independent power producer to Cornell Cooperation Extension where he worked in youth development. He and his family have lived in the North Country of New York for over 25 years and spend as much time as possible boating on the St. Lawrence River and other area waterways, and spent many summers on Sharbot Lake.

Staff Biography

DAVID MILLER, M.Sc, RPP, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – David has a Planning Degree from Waterloo and a M.Sc. from UBC and has spent much of his working life as an environmental planner for municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Ontario. His experience has ranged from natural area and ecological linkage assessment, to policy development and conservation land acquisition and management. He has also worked on sustainability strategies and climate change adaptation and mitigation as Manager of Sustainability for the City of Ottawa. He has been involved in business planning, fund raising, and stakeholder development to establish a demonstration house and green building learning centre on behalf of EnviroCentre, an Ottawa environmental non-profit. David and family have spent years camping, hiking, canoeing, and skiing in the A2A