

### **Corine Singfield**

Corine is a farmer, soil scientist and regenerative agriculture researcher. She has a deep commitment to creating integrated and closed loop agricultural systems that merge production and ecosystem functions. Her current research, conducted with the Institute for Sustainable Food Systems, is investigating the integration of crop and livestock systems. She is looking at low-till and no-till methods for restoring depleted soils using intensive rotational animal grazing. Previously she managed mixed farms and created farm education programs. She has been involved with the organic movement for almost two decades. She is a director of the Certified Organic Association of BC and the BC Association for Regenerative Agriculture and is an advisor to the Canadian organic standards.

Three years ago, I joined COGs Board of Directors for its involvement in demystifying the concepts of regenerative agriculture (RA). COG was uniquely positioned to bridge the gap between RA and the greater organic movement, ensuring that organics, as early adopter, had a seat at the table. Since then, I have seen COG grow to form alliances and partnerships with other aligned organizations across the country and diversify and grow its mandate beyond what we imagined just a few years ago. I have been an organic farmer for over 15 years and have been involved in organic research and education for 10 years. My vision for COG is for greater interprovincial collaboration (BC from this standpoint), continued effort in becoming the leader in peer-to-peer regenerative & organic education and organic policy and advocacy and a diversification in consumer education.

### **Eric Campbell**

Eric Campbell is Executive Director of the Clean Economy Fund, where he is responsible for connecting the philanthropic community with bold initiatives that support giant leaps toward a net-zero, climate- friendly future.

Eric has been initiating conversations, nurturing partnerships and building diverse coalitions in Canada's climate space for more than 15 years. He has worked with the business and finance community through initiatives like the Task Force for a Resilient Recovery and the Smart Prosperity Leaders coalition; collaborated with cities and towns on community-level solutions through QUEST; guided start-ups in the clean energy and carbon removal sectors; and advised Canada's environment minister on landmark policies like carbon pricing and the Low Carbon Economy Fund.

Eric has an M.A. in Education & Society from McGill University and a B.A. in Environmental Policy and Economics from University of Toronto. When not at his desk, Eric is hiking up hills, playing ball hockey with his kids, and searching for the perfect chocolate chip cookie. Eric is currently a director on COG's board and has long believed in the important work of COG. He volunteered for the organization when he was a student and has written for the Canadian Organic Grower Magazine.

### **Madelaine Clerk**

As a young regenerative farmer, CPA and finance professional, I am confident this role would be a great fit for both myself and Canadian Organic Growers. I am excited about bringing the mix of perspectives as a new entrant first-generation farmer, urban farmer and finance professional. Since

selling my own regenerative urban farm in 2021, I have deepened my understanding of our food system by developing business curriculum for farmers in partnership with various agriculture organizations and farm schools, spending hundreds of hours helping farmers build resilient and impactful businesses.

Joining the COG board feels like a natural evolution of my work combining my skills in finance and regenerative agriculture, and a fantastic way that I can have a lasting impact on building a stronger food system. For a deeper understanding of who I am and the work I have dedicated myself to, please visit my website ([fieldguidefinance.ca](http://fieldguidefinance.ca))

### **Sam Appleby**

I am an organic dairy farmer with a lifetime of experience with cows, cropping, and the dairy industry, certified organic for 14 years. We make organic dairy products on the farm and continue learning and applying organic, regenerative, and sustainable practices. Currently serving as a mentor with the local regenerative farming initiative through the SRRWD. Previous board experience includes serving on the Manitoba Holstein Board and the Red and White Dairy Cattle Association Board. Currently a director on the COG board, would look forward to serving for another term.

### **Stephanie Kohls**

For 10 years, I have been the Director of Communications at Environmental Defence, a leading Canadian advocacy organization that works with government, industry and individuals to defend clean water, a safe climate and healthy communities.

I bring a wealth of experience leading staff in building engaged communities of Canadians who take action on environmental issues. Through my leadership, thousands of Canadians have signed petitions, attended events, and shared content on social media to raise awareness about critical environmental issues. My team has also garnered thousands of media articles and broadcast news clips about Environmental Defence's advocacy work. The powerful combination of engagement and communication has led to significant policy changes at all levels of government to protect our shared environment.

In addition to leading the communications and engagement teams at Environmental Defence Canada (EDC), I work directly on our Greenbelt and Livable Communities programming, which centres on protecting local farmland from sprawl. I was part of the core team that stopped Bill 66, which would have allowed new factories and sprawl in the Greenbelt and other sensitive farmland, forests and watersheds. Over the years, EDC's work with the farming community to protect farmland and water sources has helped me understand some of the challenges facing farmers. A sample of these projects are:

- Ontario Federation of Agriculture and Environmental Defence jointly released a report, *Farmland at Risk: Why land-use planning needs improvements for a healthy agricultural future in the Greater Golden Horseshoe*
- [#protectourwaters / protectourwaters.ca/](https://protectourwaters.ca/) - a network of local groups, farmers and community members who pushed to expand Greenbelt protections to vulnerable areas like Brant County and Dufferin County

Other work that I'm involved with at Environmental Defence that aligns with COG's mission includes: climate (carbon pollution reduction policies and practices), toxics (removing toxic chemicals from personal care products, and food; better regulation of harmful pesticides, CEPA reform), plastics (zero waste policies and practices), and water (Great Lakes protection, algal bloom prevention.)

I joined Environmental Defence in 2010, following more than a decade of public relations, brand building and marketing experience. I have developed award-winning public engagement campaigns on issues ranging from health and wellness to affordable housing. I hold an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of Western Ontario and a Post-Graduate Certificate in Public Relations from Humber College. I also taught business communications and marketing courses part-time to post-graduate students at George Brown...before my son was born (and I had extra time!) ☺

While I hope to apply my professional expertise on the COG board, my interest in becoming involved is also personal. My family had a farm in Strathroy, Ont. where my dad "tried" to grow organic raspberries, so I understand the importance of the work COG is doing to train and assist farmers and gardeners. These days, I am an avid backyard gardener and support organic growing through my own techniques and what I feed my family and friends.

In closing, I would like to share what I can bring to COG: a positive "can do" attitude, a strong work ethic, an ability to step-in when needed and step-out when not, and strategic communications and public engagement advice. I am also a core member of a team of eight of the largest ENGOs in Canada (David Suzuki Foundation, Ecojustice, Ecology Action, Equiterre, Environmental Defence, Greenpeace, Nature Canada, WWF Canada) and with that, I can bring cross-sector knowledge and opportunities.

I am excited about the opportunity to serve on COG's board and thank you for your time reading my submission.