

As a professional, my background in the educational field started as a secondary math and science teacher. From there, I was presented with the chance to become an instructor at a college in Edmonton, Alberta.

This unique position offered an array of opportunities outside of the traditional classroom. Here, I become involved with the college's Faculty Association—first as the Vice President of Faculty Welfare, and later moving into the President role. I also chose to begin my Master of Education program at this time, and currently sit as a member of the program university's Students' Association.

Currently, after a move to Vernon, I co-own and manage Evolve Beyond Education Solutions—an educational program and training design company. Operating in Downtown Vernon, I appreciate the diverse and inviting community from both business and personal perspectives.

I know that an area like this is not built without vision and hard work of a dedicated team. To me, an opportunity to sit on the Board of Directors of the Downtown Vernon Association is a way to give back and to ensure that this community continues to grow for everyone to experience.

My name is Alysia Lor-Knill and my husband and I own the Teassential teashop located in Downtown Vernon. My Persian background and my time living in China as a child has led to a lifelong passion for tea.

I went to University straight out of high school and completed my Bachelor's of Science degree in 2014. We then moved up North where I worked for various oil and gas companies doing environmental assessments.

In 2016, we moved back to Vernon and opened our own business. For the past 3 years we have been working hard to establish our business name in the Vernon community.

I am a 38 year old family lawyer with a wife and 10 year old daughter recently transplanted to Vernon.

My first career was in the Canadian Forces where I started out as a radio operator, but ended up as Chief Clerk managing the financial and administrative needs of small reserve units. I retired as a Sergeant to go to the University of Victoria where I studied Philosophy and then Law.

I did some public sector work during this time around research and legislative development, and then became a lawyer in general practice. In 2017 I moved to Vernon, refocused my practice exclusively Family Law and joined Nixon Wenger LLP.



Shanna Rowney
Evolve Beyond Education Solutions



Alicia Lor-Knill
Teassential



Cody Walker
Nixon Wenger LLP



2019-2021 DVA Board of Directors Nominees



Umang Patel
RBC

I came to Canada, back in 2009 with bachelor degree in commerce, performed higher studies in Toronto and earned diploma in finance.

After studying in Toronto, I moved to Saskatchewan. Where I lived and worked in Small town named Estevan in south Saskatchewan for the population about 12,000 people but very actively and heavy oil and gas and farming community. I have lived in community environment and deeply understand importance of it,

That's why if I get an opportunity to serve my community where I live in with the knowledge I have , that would be great, I believe for any community to prosper their small business leaders needs to prosper , which can create more jobs and stability in local community and everyone surrounding it,



David Scarlatescu
The Fig Bistro

David has lived in the Vernon area for 11 years. He recently purchased The Sprouted Fig for his mother, Bea, and they co-own the restaurant together.

David has always had an entrepreneurial spirit! When he was 13 years old he started his first company training dogs. Over the years he progressed into marketing and most recently owned a commercial cleaning company. Enthusiastic about the opportunity to grow downtown he looks forward to becoming a member of the Downtown Vernon Association

Board of Directors where he can utilize his skills and passion for business. David believes that he will add value to the Board and is excited about the future of Downtown Vernon.