

Member Biographies

Peter Amerongen

Peter Amerongen has been designing and building energy efficient houses in and around Edmonton, Alberta since the 1970's. As a partner in Habitat Studio, he designed and built 11 net zero energy houses (including several that are generating significant surplus energy). Under his leadership, Habitat Studio built more than 50 houses with Energuide Ratings of 86 or better (under Canada's ERS rating system). He and his team designed and built Canada's first net zero energy affordable multi-family project and Canada's first net zero energy church in the Edmonton neighbourhood of North Glenora.

Net zero energy buildings and retrofits demand close attention to saving or generating every bit of energy used. This micro focus has left him with a keen appreciation for the monumental challenge of preparing all of our buildings for a low carbon future – hopefully in time to avoid catastrophic climate change.

In 2018, Peter joined Butterwick Projects, a new partnership focussed exclusively on zero carbon buildings and retrofits. Their first project, which he leads, is the deep energy retrofit of the 59-unit 1970's Sundance Housing Co-op. This is the first application of the Dutch Energiesprong system in North America. He is also a consultant with ReNu Engineering Ltd. where he helps building teams develop practical, affordable low carbon solutions.

Peter is an original member of Edmonton City Council's Energy Transition Advisory Committee and of the CHBA Net Zero Council Management Committee. He is also a Certified Passive House Consultant (PHIUS and PHI).

Gregory Caldwell

Greg was born in Edmonton and educated as an Engineer at the University of Alberta. Since graduation from the Faculty of Engineering Greg has worked full time while completing CMA and PMP designations.

Greg's professional experience consists of Engineering, Accounting, and Regulatory work in the Utility and Oil Field Industries. His recent focus (since 2012) has been in the areas of Business Technology, Utility Regulation, and Innovation. Greg has extensive professional experience dealing in Regulatory and financial matters, which when combined with his technical background provides a unique skillset to help understand and analyze problems holistically from an engineering, financial, and regulatory perspective.

Greg enjoys working collaboratively and in groups and has strong written and verbal communication skills. He currently participates on national committees with the Canadian Gas Association in partnership with multiple levels of government with the goal of funding and testing of emerging technologies to combat climate change, promoting energy security, and alternative ways for Canadians to provide for their energy needs.

Greg is married and has two children aged one and three. When not spending time with his family he enjoys playing hockey, travelling the world, and constantly learning about new technologies and strategies to solve the challenges facing industry and society.



Chelsea Donelon

Chelsea Donelon is a Policy Analyst for the President and Chief Executive Officer at TransAlta, where she works on net zero policy and new technology research. Previously, she was a Senior Policy Analyst in the Electricity and Sustainable Energy Division of the Government of Alberta where she worked on the Coal Transition Team, the Renewable Electricity Program and the Infrastructure Solar Procurement among others. She was valedictorian at the University of Cambridge for her Master's in Economic Development and has an unquenchable thirst for greening Alberta's electricity grid.

Chelsea has done research in areas where climate change and development intersect including the role of oil and gas companies in the energy transition, the reality of jobs in a green economy, and the ethics of how we economically price the future environment. Chelsea has previously worked with the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation in a number of roles and was named one of their Top 30 Under 30 in 2018.

Michael Fleischauer

Michael Fleischauer, Ph.D., P.Eng., is an Associate Research Officer at the National Research Council – Nanotechnology Research Centre (NRC-NANO) and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Physics, University of Alberta. Mike earned his B.Sc. (Physics) at the University of Guelph in 2001. He then studied, explained, and patented lithium-ion battery electrode materials while earning his M.Sc. (Physics, 2003) and Ph.D. (2006) at Dalhousie University. Mike moved to Edmonton and the University of Alberta (UofA) for his NSERC / Alberta Ingenuity / Killam Postdoctoral Fellowship and established UofA's organic photovoltaic program. In 2007, Mike was hired by the National Research Council and expanded the photovoltaic effort to NRC. He led a major fuel cell catalyst support effort from 2010-2012. Since then, Mike has led the photovoltaic device characterization effort (from which G2V Optics Inc. was spun out), created an industry-integrated high-temperature compatible energy storage effort, and established NRC-NANO's project management office. His research and development now focuses on creating and using new and improved techniques to understand how energy storage materials react and change in dynamic conditions.

Daniel Grist

Daniel is a Sustainable Transport Consultant from Bristol, United Kingdom. He immigrated to Edmonton in October 2019. Initially pursuing a career in the British Army, Daniel changed course after seven years to take part in the global effort to tackle climate change.

Daniel gained his bachelor's degree in environmental engineering at Swansea University and his master's degree in sustainable energy engineering at the University of Nottingham where his research was focused on understanding the impacts of increased renewables on an electrical grids ability to meet demand.

Having a passion for all fields of sustainability, Daniel works as a Sustainable Transport Consultant for Cenex where he researches new low carbon transport technologies and provides advice to companies and councils attempting to reduce fleet emissions.



Marc Huot

Marc Huot is the Director of Non-Residential Programs at Energy Efficiency Alberta. As part of the EEA team, Marc helps Alberta's businesses, nonprofits, and industries reduce their energy use and greenhouse gas emissions through programs supporting the implementation of energy efficiency technologies, conservation practices, and small-scale renewable energy systems.

As a previous Manager of the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC), Marc worked closely with municipalities across the province, providing them with educational resources on energy use, building energy benchmarking, and funding through the MCCAC's energy efficiency and solar energy programs.

Educated at the University of Alberta, Marc is a professional engineer with over 10 years of experience working on climate change and energy policy from within public agencies, the Government of Alberta's Climate Change Office, and as technical and policy analyst with the Pembina Institute. Marc is passionate about the need to address climate change at the local level and is eager to be a part of the City of Edmonton's Energy Transition.

Camille Jasper-Fabiyi

Camille is an economist from Ponoka, Alberta who attended university in Montreal and started her career in Ottawa with the federal government before settling down closer to home, in Edmonton.

Since 2014 she has worked as Senior Manager with EPCOR on both water/drainage as well as retail power. Her expertise covers green retail products, financial analytics of renewables projects, environmental policy development, electricity market design, and utility infrastructure planning.

Her professional volunteer work includes serving on the board of the Economics Society of Northern Alberta and leading EPCOR's 2017 United Way Campaign. She is currently pursuing her graduate diploma in Climate Risk Management at the University of Waterloo.

Shafraaz Kaba

After 20 years in practice, Architect Shafraaz Kaba started ASK for a Better World to alleviate his climate anxiety. He now focuses full time on creating net zero energy, carbon-reducing, and regenerative projects for his clients using a Lean culture. Shafraaz continues to push for improved policies, practices, and public engagement in design through his involvement in advisory and board director roles for the Media Architecture Design Edmonton (MADE) Society, the Lean Construction Institute of Canada, and Energy Efficiency Alberta.

Jacob Komar

Jacob Komar, P.Eng. is the Principal and lead mechanical engineer at Revolve Engineering Inc. and is a specialist in Net Zero building design, energy modelling and geothermal systems. Jacob has helped design more than ten Net Zero buildings and over thirty commercial geothermal systems. Jacob started his Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) career designing heating/cooling systems for buildings in Virginia working for a leading green design firm, gaining experience in both traditional as well as green HVAC design. Upon returning to Edmonton, Jacob continued to pursue his passion for green design by focusing most of his energy on renewable systems including geothermal, solar thermal, heat recovery systems as well as energy modelling. Today, Jacob focuses solely on Net Zero building designs, energy modelling and renewable mechanical systems. Jacob is a passionate advocate for Alberta's green energy industry and is committed to helping Edmonton transition to a renewable future.



Grant Pearsell

Grant Pearsell, RPP, is an urban planner who helps communities achieve their biodiversity goals. He has lived and worked throughout the Saskatchewan River Watershed since his career in the environment sector began in 1981. Grant retired from the City of Edmonton in 2020 where he was a Director and member of City Planning's leadership team. Presently, he is a member of the North Saskatchewan River Valley Conservation Society and sits on the Board of Directors.

Grant's work is guided by a collaborative approach to decision-making and a commitment to integrated systems thinking. He led the creation and implementation of the City of Edmonton's biodiversity and ecological planning strategy between 2002 and 2018. Grant directed the creation of the City of Edmonton's open space plan – Breathe: Edmonton's Green Network Strategy – winner of the Canadian Institute of Planners Award of Planning Excellence and the Canadian Association of Landscape Architects National Award: Planning and Analysis in 2018.

Kathleen (Kate) Rich

Kate Rich, M.Sc. and P.Geo., has led various strategies for the public and private sectors related to energy, climate change, water and land management – all with a focus on sustainable economic growth. She has worked in several cities across Canada and internationally, and returned to Edmonton and the Government of Alberta in February 2020.

She was an Assistant Deputy Minister in the Government of Manitoba leading delivery of the province's Climate and Green Plan. She was a leader in the federal government's implementation of the pan-Canadian approach to carbon pricing, and represented Canada at international fora on carbon markets and competitiveness. She has held a number of executive and senior management positions in the mining sector and governments, including climate change and air policy, land-use planning, oil sands environmental management and water strategy implementation.

Klaas Rodenburg

Klaas has been in the building design industry for more than 35 years receiving his LEED AP accreditation in 2003. He has served as the Chair of the Alberta Chapter of the CaGBC as well as a director on the CaGBC Board and has served as the CEO of the Alberta Center of Excellence for Building Information Modelling (aceBIM). He has a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Industrial Design (1984) and a Master of Arts degree in Communications and Technology (MACT) (2009) both at the University of Alberta.

Klaas was the Sustainable Design Coordinator at Stantec before moving to Mammoet Canada Western in 2014 as a quality advisor where he is a member of the Sustainovation Steering Committee, a Global initiative responsible for identifying and implementing innovative solutions to sustainability challenges faced by Mammoet and its sister companies. He is currently the volunteer past President of the Alberta Council of Technology (ABCTech), has taught sustainability courses at NAIT, Lakeland College and U of A and has presented at a variety of sustainability focused events.



Chris Vilcsak

Chris Vilcsak is President and CEO of Solution 105 Consulting Ltd. And has been active in the energy industry for more than 35 years.

He started Solution 105 20 years ago, focusing on “Making Sense of Energy” for companies operating in deregulated utility environments. Today, Solution 105 is an award-winning global provider of complete utility management solutions with a client list that includes some of Canada’s largest property owners and managers (e.g. Oxford Properties, Manulife Financial, Morguard, and Bentall Kennedy). In a time when many companies are struggling in the area, Solution 105 has been enjoying growth and success.

Chris was born and raised in Edmonton and area, graduating with a mechanical engineering degree from the University of Alberta in 1985 and completing an MBA on a part-time basis from the University of Alberta in 1997. He credits the MBA with sparking his entrepreneurial fires. He is active in the community on a professional and personal level, having served six years on the board of the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce, several more years on the City of Edmonton’s Renewable Energy Task Force, was a founding member of ETCRC, and has been on the BOMA Edmonton board since 2005.

Geoff Wagner

Geoff is a Professional Engineer with over 20 years’ experience in the power industry. He holds both Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Engineering from the University of Alberta. During his career Geoff has worked in all areas of power, spending considerable time working in generation. His experience includes working in renewable generation and he has managed wind, landfill gas, hydro and biomass facilities.

Geoff currently works in Project Development with EPCOR. In this role he is involved in developing new projects for EPCOR, particularly for the Electricity part of EPCOR’s business including District Energy. Geoff has been with EPCOR for 24 years. He is active in the community and has led Scouts and coached soccer. He is a director of the Edmonton Power Historic Foundation.

Sheena Wilson

Dr. Sheena Wilson is Professor at the University of Alberta; Director of Just Powers; Associate Director Research of UAlberta’s Sustainability Council; Co-founder & Co-director of the international Petrocultures Research Group (petrocultures.com); and an Energy Futures Lab (EFL) Fellow. She has been a member of the City of Edmonton’s Energy Transition and Climate Resilience Committee (ETCRC) since 2018. Currently working predominantly in and around Treaty Six, Treaty Eight, and the Métis lands of Northern Alberta where she was born and raised, her research collaborations on energy transition reflect commitments to socially just and equitable energy transition. Publication highlights include *Petrocultures: Oil, Politics, Cultures* (MQUP, 2017); “Energy Imaginaries: Feminist and Decolonial Futures” (2017); *After Oil* (2015); *Gendering Oil: Tracing Western Petrosexual Relations* (2014). Dr. Wilson’s monograph in process is titled *Deep Energy Literacy: Toward Just Futures*. For more information see justpowers.ca.

