



CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHY OF

ALEKSANDRA SZAFLARSKA

CREDIT UNION DIRECTOR ACHIEVEMENT (CUDA)

Thank you for the opportunity to serve YNCU members throughout my first term - I hope to continue and build on our work if re-elected. I ask for your support in this election.

From navigating complex challenges to strategic planning, I have worked hard to deepen the skills needed to be an effective director.

Much of my professional experience has focused on co-operatives, including credit unions, as an instructor, researcher, and practitioner - I believe it's an interesting and empowering model. As a founding member of Together We're Bitter Co-operative Brewing (TWB) and Union: Sustainable Development Co-operative (an affordable housing co-op), I have built a deep understanding of governance, small business, and community enterprises. This allows me to bring new energy and ideas to the Board.

I believe in achieving community impact through collaboration. At Union Co-operative, we raised over \$16 million to purchase and dedicate two apartment buildings to affordable housing in Waterloo Region. We are currently working toward securing even more affordable homes. This work provides essential insight into large-scale strategic initiatives and fiduciary responsibility.

I am honored to have been selected by my fellow Directors to serve as Chair of the Governance Committee at YNCU, a role I hope to fulfill if re-elected. This leadership is crucial as we continue the merger with Comtech Fire to build a stronger YNCU together. As Chair, I will focus on reinforcing the fundamental culture of co-operation and continuing to champion board transparency and accountability for all members.

- Aleksandra Szaflarska