

2023 LITE Nominations Committee- Candidates for New Board Members

Apajok (Nunu) Ajak

Apajok (Nunu) Ajak is excited to contribute her strengths and proficiency in finance, accounting and administrative knowledge and experiences towards LITE's Board team efforts. As an extroverted and personable communicator with a proven track record in excelling in grassroots charitable organization frameworks and working directly with individuals who come from war-affected countries, Nunu's focus on building strong and healthy communities and professional relationships has been an asset throughout her career. She recently successfully organized and engaged 24 service providers and settlement agencies to come together and mark World Refugee Day in Winnipeg, Manitoba on June 20.

As someone who has worked with immigrants, refugee women, girls, youth and black Canadians who face multiple barriers that hinder them from exploiting their full potential, Nunu is intrigued by LITE. As a former refugee woman of African roots, it makes her happy that LITE seems mindful of diversity, equity and inclusivity. Nunu is honored to be a LITE Board Member.

Diane Carriere

Diane is a member of the Norway House First Nation in Manitoba and resides in Winnipeg. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Winnipeg and a Human Resources Certificate from the University of Manitoba. With over 25 years of experience, Diane is a Chartered Professional in Human Resources (CPHR) both regionally and in tribal areas in the United States. Her expertise spans corporate and Indigenous HR. She obtained a Mediation Certificate in 2005 and was a co-chair of CPHR Manitoba's Aboriginal Initiative (2006-2009). She's also a member of the National Native American Human Resource Association (NNAHRA) and holds dual designations as a Tribal Human Resource Professional (T.H.R.P.).

Diane is an accomplished workplace investigator, having conducted Respectful Workplace investigations across Canada. She owns D. Carriere & Associates, a First Nations-owned HR consulting firm, dedicated to aiding Indigenous communities with their HR needs. Diane founded the Canadian Aboriginal Human Resource Management Association (CAHRMA), which combines HR practices with Indigenous culture to assist Aboriginal people in establishing businesses and developing their communities' human resources.

Scott Park

Scott Park has a background in accounting and finance and is currently the Controller of a locally owned IT company in Winnipeg. His experience extends to governance roles as he served on the board of directors of a Condominium Corporation between 2016 and 2020. During this time, he held various positions including Treasurer, Vice- President, and President. These positions provided hands-on experience in budgeting, fund management, and annual audits. In his current

position as Controller, he manages budgeting and report monthly, quarterly, and annual financials to our leadership team. As an active member of his leadership team, they meet weekly and perform quarterly strategic planning sessions. With skills in accounting, finance, governance, policy writing, and event planning, Scott believes that he can bring unique insights to LITE. Scott feels honored for the opportunity to contribute to his community by assisting local non-profits and fostering community and social enterprises. What excites him most about the opportunity to serve on LITE's board is the chance to use his diverse skillset to contribute positively to the organization's growth and success.

Tanjyot (TJ) Rayat

Tanjyot (TJ) Rayat is a newcomer of South Asian descent, and hails from East Africa. TJ has been volunteering at and donating to LITE since 2021. He holds a degree in Economics from the University of Manitoba. Since graduating, TJ has been working towards a career in the financial field. Growing up in Kenya, he witnessed how his society's dynamics have an effect on the world, and is determined to help the communities he serves. Through his past experiences, both in Kenya & Canada, and working with people of diverse backgrounds, he has developed a strong commitment to advocating for economic equity. In his free time, he enjoys playing squash, studying to further his knowledge in his field, and learning new languages, in addition to spending time with his friends & family.

Marlisa Vergara

Marlisa is an innovative HR professional with a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in HR from the University of Manitoba. Growing up in Winnipeg's North End, her journey has been shaped by experiences that ignite her passion for community-led projects. She firmly believes in the power of philanthropy and social enterprise to uplift individuals and communities. Currently an HR Solutions & Compensation Administrator at The North West Company, Marlisa's unique background and dedication drive her enthusiasm to contribute to LITE's mission of creating job opportunities and fostering economic development.