



Recreation Nova Scotia

Call for Nominations 2025/2026

Members of Recreation Nova Scotia (RNS) are encouraged to submit nominations for directors & officers to the attention of the *Chairperson of the Nominations Committee* by **Friday, October 3, 2025**. The proposed slate is circulated to members 14 days before the RNS Annual General Meeting (AGM) via email. Nominations will be accepted from the floor during the AGM taking place on **October 23, 2025, at the Holiday Inn in Sydney, Cape Breton**.

We, the undersigned, wish to nominate (print)

Wil van Hal

for the Position of:

Director at Large (1 or 2 year commitment)

Nominee Contact Information:

Kirk Durning

Mailing Address:
320 Esplanade
Sydney, NS B1P 7B9

City

Province

Postal Code

Email

Kadurning@cbrm.ns.ca

Phone

(902)574-0934

Please provide a brief biographical sketch of the nominee, which illustrates the relevant talents, skills, and abilities that the individual will bring to the position for which they are nominated.

Wil Is the Recreation Manager with the Cape Breton Regional Municipality. He has worked in the



sector for over 20 years. He has worked in summer camps and outdoor experiential education with the Tim Horton Children's Foundation across Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia both as a facilitator and administrator. Prior to working with CBRM, Wil spent 15 years In Therapeutic Recreation working in long term care. Wil has also spent time on boards with Nova Scotia Recreation Professionals in Health (currently know as the Nova Scotia Therapeutic Recreation Association), Soccer Cape Breton, and Breton Ability Centre. Wil has experience with strategic planning, advocacy for the sector and board governance. Wil and the team with CBRM Recreation are committed to providing municipally led program opportunities that are meaningful, accessible and Inclusive to members of the community.

Signature of Member

Signature of Member

Print Name

Print Name

Phone

Phone

Email

Email

Nominee Acceptance Form

I accept this nomination and agree to stand as a candidate for election to the RNS Board of Directors for the position specified in the RNS By-Laws.

I agree to the terms of the By-Laws, which state that RNS Board members must be members of RNS



in good standing.

Signature of Nominee:

Nomination Process

1. Application to be sent for review to the RNS Nominations Committee by **Friday October 3, 2025**.
2. An application must include four components:
 - The Board Application Form (available on the website)
 - The Call for Nomination Form (this document)
 - At least one Reference Letter supporting the candidate's application and
 - A Resume/Curriculum Vitae.
3. The Nomination Committee will review applications, check membership status, screen and interview nominees and make recommendations.
4. Additionally, the usual process of nominations from the floor of the Annual General Meeting will be followed. The AGM will take place on **October 23, 2025, at the Holiday Inn in Sydney, Cape Breton**.
5. If there is more than one nominee, each candidate will be given up to two minutes to address the membership if desired. If a nominee is not present, another member can read the prepared speech of the absent nominee.
6. The President-Elect nominee(s) will be given up to three minutes to address the membership.
7. In case of nominations from the floor, if elected, the candidate must pass the RNS Board Screening policy before assuming office.

Available Board Positions:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. President-Elect (1-year term, 4-year commitment) | 5. Director at Large (1 year) |
| 2. VP of Finance (2 years) | 6. Director at Large (1 year) *Current Director reoffering |
| 3. Recording Officer (1 year) | 7. Director at Large (2 years) *Current Director reoffering |
| 4. Student Director (1 year) | |

Note: The Recreation Nova Scotia website contains detailed [job descriptions](#).

Return the nomination form by October 3, 2025, to:



Recreation Nova Scotia Attention:
Chair

RECREATION
NOVA SCOTIA

Nominations Committee
Email:

gmounsey@recreationns.ns.ca



RECREATION NOVA SCOTIA

BOARD APPLICATION FORM 2025/2026

Date of Application (Print)

September 23, 2025

Name

Wil van Hal

Mailing Address:

10 Monteray Dr.

City

Province

Postal Code

Sydney, NS B1S 3S3

Email

Phone

wjvanhal@cbrm.ns.ca (902)574-3015

Please tell us about the relevant talents and abilities which you will bring to the Recreation Nova Scotia Board of Directors.

I have many years of board experience with organizations like Nova Scotia Recreation Professionals In Health (now known as Nova Scotia Therapeutic Recreation Association), Soccer Cape Breton, Breton Ability Centre. I have experience with strategic planning, board governance, and advocacy for the sector.

What do you personally hope to achieve by volunteering on the Board?

I believe that I could be a voice for Cape Breton and the province at the board level. I have Interests In many different areas of recreation and believe that as a board member I can further develop an understanding and skills as It relates to best practices for the sector. I personally enjoy advocacy work creating better opportunities for recreation across Nova Scotia.



Are you willing to travel within Nova Scotia to Board meetings up to 4 to 5 times per year? Meetings are typically full days (10am-3pm) in length with 1-2 overnights required. (all expenses are paid):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you have a criminal record involving theft, fraud, abuse or harassment, for which no pardon has been granted?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Under the laws of Canada and its provinces are you legally competent to conduct business and enter into contracts?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Will you participate in the RNS Board screening process and orientation before serving on the Board?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you consent to the disclosure of the information provided for the purpose of putting forward your candidacy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are you a current member of Recreation Nova Scotia?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Available Board Positions:

1. President-Elect (1-year term, 4-year commitment)
2. VP of Finance (2 years)
3. Recording Officer (1 year)
4. Student Director (1 year)
5. **Director at Large (1 year)**
6. Director at Large (1 year) *Current Director Reoffering



7. **Director at Large (2 years)**
*Current Director Reoffering

Please indicate which positions you are applying for
Director at Large (1 year)
Or
Director at Large (2 years *as per conversation with Graham)

Application Signature

Date

September 29th, 2025

Please return...

- This application form**
- “Call for Nomination” form**
- Your resume/curriculum vitae**
- One reference letter**

Return the nomination form by October 3, 2025, to:

Recreation Nova Scotia

Attention: Nominations Committee Chair

Email: gmounsey@recreationns.ns.ca

10 Monteray Drive
Sydney, Nova Scotia
B1S 3S3
(902) 371-6335
vanhalw@gmail.com

Wilhelmus J. van Hal

Objective:

To help people reach their potential through leadership, guidance, support and education.

Education:

- Bachelor of Arts Community Studies (SPHK) May 2012
Cape Breton University Sydney, NS
- Diploma in Sport & Recreation Management April 2004
Holland College Charlottetown, PE

Employment Experience:

- **Recreation Manager**
April 2024 – Present
Cape Breton Regional Municipality
Sydney, NS
- **Director of Recreation**
January 2016 – April 2024
Maple Hill Manor
New Waterford, Nova Scotia

Responsibilities include managing the Recreation and Volunteer Services department. I also provide educational workshops for staff on dementia and approaches to delivering care. I schedule monthly programs for residents and assist my staff with the facilitation of programs for residents. I also schedule and assist with payroll for my staff team. As part of the senior management team, I work diligently to maintain our equipment and supplies and adhere to a strict budget. I supervise recreation staff, volunteers and work with all levels of government to hire students from our community for summer grants. I work with a number of community service groups to enhance community programs and involve our residents in the community outside the nursing home. I am involved in the strategic planning of the organization and

ensuring that my staff is aware of and working within the mission, vision and values of the organization. I am part of our Joint Occupational Health and Safety committee as well as our EMO planning committee. I participate in the care planning of all of our residents and provide direction to staff in ways we can meet the cognitive, physical, social, emotional and spiritual needs of our residents.

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- **Director of Therapeutic Recreation & Volunteer Services**
January 2013 – December 2015
Alderwood Rest Home
Baddeck, Nova Scotia

Responsibilities include managing the Recreation Therapy department as well as the Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy departments. I also oversee the orientation, role assignment, offer training and support to over 50 volunteers. I schedule monthly programs for residents and assist my staff with the facilitation of programs for residents. As part of the senior management team, I also have financial responsibilities for program equipment and supplies and work to maintain a fiscally responsible department. I am involved in the strategic planning of the organization and ensuring that my staff is aware of and working within the mission, vision and values of the organization. I participate in the collective bargaining process and take part in our management and labour relations meetings on a quarterly basis. I am part of our Joint Occupational Health and Safety committee as well as our EMO planning committee. I organize and deliver staff education sessions for programs that are pertinent to the overall care and wellbeing of both residents and staff. I participate in the care planning of all of our residents and provide direction to staff in ways we can meet the cognitive, physical, social, emotional and spiritual needs of our residents.

- **Recreation Coordinator – Adult Day Program**
June 2011 – December 2012
Harbour View Hospital
Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia

Responsibilities include scheduling and facilitating programs for adults living in the community, to increase their socialization, physical, cognitive and emotional health while allowing them to live at home longer and avoid

hospitalization. I also coordinate the volunteers and provide them with direction to assist with programs and client care. I counsel clients and families about the well-being of our clients and offer support to maintain overall functioning for clients while they are at home.

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- **CREW Facilitator (Civility, Respect, and Engagement at Work)**
November 2010 – June 2011
Harbour View Hospital
Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia

Responsibilities include planning and facilitating sessions for staff from all units and departments within the hospital. I help staff to recognize and bring forward interpersonal issues that are present in the workplace and facilitate programs that identify possible solutions and actions to resolving issues.

- **Recreation Coordinator – Veterans Unit**
March 2009 – June 2010
Harbour View Hospital
Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia

Responsibilities included scheduling and facilitating recreation and social programs for a 28 bed unit. The focus was to maintain the resident's physical, cognitive and emotional health and well being and improve their quality of life.

- **Outdoor Experiential Education Coordinator**
January 2008 – February 2009
Tim Horton Children's Foundation
Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia

Responsibilities included developing and facilitating programs for school and community groups that attended camp. I was responsible for the sound financial planning and management of the program budget. Trained, scheduled, and lead program staff. Public relations with Tim Horton store owners, sponsors and visitors.

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- **Youth Leadership Program Registrar**
April 2005 – December 2007
Tim Horton Children's Foundation
St. George, Ontario

Responsibilities included selecting teenagers from across Canada and the United States to attend camp. Support for campers and their families throughout the registration process. Organized travel program for campers coming to camp and returning home from camp and bursary program for graduates of the Youth Leadership Program.

- **Outdoor Experiential Education Programmer**
September 2004 – April 2005
Tim Horton Children's Foundation
St. George, Ontario

Responsibilities included delivery of educational and recreational programs for school groups and community groups, hosting adult groups that would hold conferences at camp and provided teambuilding for corporate groups.

- **Youth Leadership Program Facilitator**
June 2004 – August 2004
Tim Horton Children's Foundation
St. George, Ontario

Responsibilities included mentoring and program delivery for teenagers 15 – 18 years old to help them realize their potential through leadership and life skills training.

- **Residential Camp Counsellor**
June 2003 – August 2003

**Tim Horton Children's Foundation
St. George, Ontario**

Responsibilities included providing a safe, child-centered, and positive camp experience for children 9 – 12 years old from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

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Wilhelmus J. van Hal

Certifications and Qualifications:

- Language fluency – able to read, write, and speak English and French
- Dementia: Understanding the Journey Instructor
- Dementia Care Specialist – Positive Approach to Care (Teepa Snow)
- Taking Ownership in Palliative Care Certificate – Pallium Canada
- Montessori Methods for Dementia
- Facilitator, Alzheimer's Society – Family Caregiver Education Series
- Workplace First Aid and CPR level C
- Safe Handling and Mobility Trainer – Aware NS
- Non-Violent Crisis Intervention – Associate Trainer (NVC)
- Level 1 Challenge Course Facilitator, Association of Challenge Course Technology
- Level 1 Sea Kayaking certification, Paddle Canada
- Class 4 – Chauffer's driver's license
- Leave No Trace, outdoor ethics course
- Basic Fitness Leader, National Fitness Leadership Alliance
- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access, Outlook)

Volunteer Work:

- Special Olympics Cape Breton, Active Start & FUNdamentals Coach – April 2023 - Present
- Soccer Cape Breton, President – 2021 – Present
- Soccer Cape Breton, VP of Coach and Player Development – 2018 – 2021
- Soccer Cape Breton, Acting Technical Director – 2018 – 2022
- Cape Breton Football Club, U15 Academy Girls Head Coach – 2018 – 2020
- Breton Education Centre, High School Boys Soccer Coach – 2018 – 2020
- Cape Breton Football Club, U13 Academy Girls Head Coach – 2015 – 2018
- Rural Health Chronic Disease Steering Committee, Committee Member – 2013 – 2015
- Nova Scotia Recreation Professionals in Health, Past-President, 2015 – 2016

- Nova Scotia Recreation Professionals in Health, President, 2014 – 2015
- Nova Scotia Recreation Professionals in Health, Vice President, 2013 – 2014
- Nova Scotia Recreation Professionals in Health, Cape Breton Regional Representative, June 2013 – 2016
- Cape Breton Recreation Professionals in Health, President/Chair Person, June 2013 - 2016