

OMVIC'S 15TH AGM AND BOARD ELECTIONS – MAY 25, 2011

The votes were tallied and the successful candidates in this year's board elections were announced at the OMVIC Annual and General Meeting (AGM) by the scrutineer, Richard Steinecke, of the law firm Steinecke Maciura Leblanc: **Ron Marostica, Meredith Morris and Ken Peterson.**

In past years, few dealers expressed interest in running for election. This year, however, there were eight candidates vying for the three board member vacancies: two candidates for the UCDA seat, four candidates for the OADA/TADA seat and two for the joint seat (member of both UCDA and OADA/TADA). The Board was very pleased to see dealers come forward this year and they attribute this interest to the new MVDA.

All registered dealers in Ontario - about 8,000 - are entitled to vote for candidates running for election. Completed ballots must either be sent to the scrutineer's office before the AGM, or can be cast in person at the AGM. For the past several years the scrutineer, for the purposes of the election and for the AGM itself, has been the law firm of Steinecke Maciura Leblanc.

The scrutineer ensures that ballots are from registered dealers only, and that only one vote is cast by each dealer. The election is by secret ballot so only the scrutineer has access to the ballots and the election results are not revealed until the scrutineer officially announces the names of the successful candidates during the AGM.

"The work of the board is not as well understood or appreciated as perhaps it should be" says Carl Compton, OMVIC Executive Director. "Board members probably spend on average a full month per year preparing for or attending board and committee meetings." Although the Board is not involved in day-to-day matters and is prohibited from being involved in matters involving registration or investigations, the Board's agenda is a busy one as it engages in strategic and business planning, setting budgets, ensuring OMVIC has the necessary resources, setting goals and reviewing performance.

OMVIC Board and staff don't write the laws or set the rules of course - that's the Ministry's job. OMVIC's job is to simply administer the Act as approved in the provincial legislature.

According to successful candidate Meredith Morris, "I've enjoyed my time on the Board so being re-elected was really important to me. I devoted a lot of effort to my campaign. I reached out to dealers in my community, I went to the wholesale auctions, I handed out pamphlets and I answered questions. It worked and I feel really honoured by the results."



Candidate biographies

Ron Marostica - Marostica Motors Ltd., Thunder Bay

Ron Marostica has been an automotive dealer for about 30 years. He currently operates Hyundai, Subaru and Suzuki dealerships in Thunder Bay, a used car dealership - Thunder Bay Used Car Superstore - and an automotive leasing company - Marostica Leasing.

Ron was elected to the OMVIC Board in May 2008 and is a current Vice President of OMVIC. He presently also sits on the Canadian Automobile Dealers Association Industrial Relations Committee, which addresses the issues of national dealer importance and administers the legal action defense fund. He was also a member of the Board of Trustees for the Motor Vehicle Dealers Compensation Fund for six years. During that period he served as the Secretary-Treasurer and Chair of the Fund.

Ron has always been involved in community activities, having served on the Boards of Lakehead University, St. Joseph's Hospital Group, Thunder Bay Minor Hockey, and many more over the years. He presently sits on the Board of Ambassadors Northwest, a business group that promotes economic development in Northwestern Ontario. Before entering the automotive business, Ron obtained his accounting degree and worked in both public accounting and in private business in the accounting field.

Meredith Morris - Sudbury Hyundai, Sudbury

Meredith's automotive family background has enabled her to accumulate over 20 years experience in all aspects of the dealership and automotive industry. She is a graduate of the Automotive Marketing/Business Administration Program from Northwood University in Michigan.

Meredith is the President of C.J. Morris Investments Limited, which owns and operates Sudbury Hyundai and Sudbury Used Cars. She was elected to the OMVIC Board of Directors in May 2004 and has served two terms as President and Chair of the OMVIC Board.

Meredith is the past Chair of the Hyundai Auto Canada National Dealer Advisory Council and the Cambrian College Automotive Technology Program. Her past involvements include serving on the Board of Directors for the Sudbury Community Foundation, the Sudbury Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Red Cross. She was also the President of the Sudbury Harley Owners Group, "Ladies of Harley" division.

Ken Peterson – Ken Peterson Sales and Leasing, Thunder Bay

Ken has more than 40 years of experience in the automotive business. For the past 14 years he has operated Ken Peterson Sales and Leasing in Thunder Bay building a solid reputation for integrity and outstanding customer service.

Ken is involved in his community and was elected to the Thunder Bay Hydro Commission, serving two terms and was Chair for three years. He was also Director and Treasurer of Northwest Energy and Vice-Chair of the Municipal Electric Association of Ontario.

First elected in June 2001 to OMVIC's Board of Directors, Ken brings a strong analytical and proactive problem-solving approach to the business of OMVIC. Ken served as OMVIC's President in 2003 and 2005 providing consistent use of leading governance practices, innovative solutions and a commitment to getting the job done. Ken actively engaged in effective and focused advocacy with the government to gain support for initiatives and address issues that are important to automobile dealers.



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