



## **Nominees for 2023 SPRA Board of Directors**

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### **Derek Blais**

#### **Position: Director for Cities**



I'm Derek Blais, and I'm absolutely thrilled for the opportunity to run for the Director of Cities vacancy on the SPRA Board of Directors.

I grew up on a family farm in Debden, Saskatchewan, and now reside in Moose Jaw with my lovely wife, Ashlee, and our three children.

For nearly five years, I've been the Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Moose Jaw. Prior to that, I spent four and a half years as the Recreation Manager for the City of Prince Albert. Beyond my professional life, you'll often find me coaching my kids in their sports. When not on the sidelines we love unwinding with some outdoor adventures.

I strongly feel that parks, recreation, and culture services are essential to the quality of life in our communities as it provides sustainable solutions to many of the issues we face as a society. These services promote inclusion and access, connect people to

nature, help build community capacity, and are key in developing our next generation of community leaders.

Over the past decade, I've been directly involved in delivering municipal parks and recreation services and believe these experiences have prepared me to serve on the SPRA board. SPRA has also had a positive impact on my professional journey, and I'm excited at the opportunity to collaborate with other recreation professionals on advancing the strategic initiatives of SPRA.

*Get to know Derek via his video on the Annual General Meeting page of our website at [www.spra.sk.ca](http://www.spra.sk.ca).*

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