



**FIELD HOCKEY ONTARIO**  
Box# 80030  
Appleby Line, Burlington, ON  
L7L 6B1  
**tel:** 1 (877) 605-0855  
info@fieldhockeyontario.com

## **Field Hockey Ontario Board of Directors Expression of Interest Package**

### **Section 1: General Information**

**Full Name:** Anand Desai

**Hometown:** London, Ontario

**Please check one:**                       **Affiliated with a Club**                       **Non-Affiliate**

**If Affiliated with a Club, please list it here:** not applicable

**# of Years Involved in Field Hockey:** not applicable

**I have served on FHO's Board before:**                       **YES**                       **NO**

**If yes to above, please list years and role:** not applicable

**I am a current FHO Member (2021-22):**                       **YES**                       **NO**

**Please list your FHO Number (found on Power-Up):** not applicable

**Nominated By:** Richard Crowell, President, FHO #1340208

\*Note: Nominators/Seconders must be current FHO Members - (Name & Club/Non-Affiliate & FHO Number)

**Seconded by:** Ray Lewis, Goderich Field Hockey Club, FHO #855940

\*Note: Nominators/Seconders must be current FHO Members - (Name & Club/Non-Affiliate & FHO Number)





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## **Section 2: Board Position**

The following positions are up for election in 2021:

1. Secretary – 2 Year Term (1 Position)
2. Treasurer – 3 Year Term (1 Position)
3. Director-at-Large – 2 Year Term (2 Positions)
4. Director-at-Large – 3 Year Term (2 Positions)

I am interested in serving on the FHO Board of Directors in the following position  
(Please include term length):

Director-at-Large (2 year term)

## **Section 3: Questions**

In 100 words or less, please provide background on your current or prior professional experience relevant to being on the Board of Directors.

I am a consultant with one of Canada's leading sport and recreation planning firms. My portfolio includes 125+ projects across Ontario and the United States over the past 16 years. I provide advice to government, sport associations and other public/private agencies. Our work focuses on master planning, facility needs and market feasibility studies, business planning, inclusion and engagement, operational excellence and governance. We consistently engage members of the public, sport and recreation providers, provincial sport organizations, and elected officials which has, and continues to keep me apprised of sport-specific trends.



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**In 100 words or less, please provide background on any previous Board and/or committee experience.**

**I presently serve on the Board of Directors for the London Regional Children's Museum where my role on its Governance Sub-Committee has helped the Board transition from an operational role to a governance role and have recently moved over to the Human Resources/Nominations Sub-Committee to lend my insights.**

**I previously served on the City of London Ecological & Environmental Planning Advisory Committee.**

**Through my professional work, I consistently present to municipal Councils and their Sub-Committees, Advisory Committees as well as Boards; I am highly familiar with board/committee roles, structures, meeting formats, etc.**

**In 100 words or less, please provide background on any relevant Field Hockey or other sport industry experience.**

**I have direct experience in the recreation and sport sector for communities ranging from 3,000 to 800,000 people. I hear about many sport interests and assess needs at the local, regional, provincial and national level. My firm had a peripheral role in developing the Framework for Recreation in Canada and is presently part of a team engaged by Sport Canada and the Canadian Parks & Recreation Association's Reimagine RREC to research the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on sport and recreation. I have also spoken at provincial conferences for parks and recreation.**



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**Please list your skills and competencies related to field hockey or sport.** (i.e. Knowledge of member structure within field hockey clubs and FHO, community level field hockey in Ontario, coaching or officiating requirements, volunteer sport-based organizations, Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD), high performance athlete development, etc.).

- **Well versed in governance, organizational effectiveness**
- **Familiar with CS4L, LTAD and other frameworks and best practices guiding sport development and promotion, athlete development, economic development, etc.**
- **Proven leader/planner in the recreation and sport sector**

**Please list your skills and competencies related to your business or professional background.** (i.e. Specific industry experience, not-for-profit governance, strategic planning, risk management, accounting/financial analysis, previous board/committee experience etc.).

- **Strategic planning, master planning, business planning, land use planning**
- **Community engagement and consultation specialist**
- **Project management**

**Using the 2021-2026 Strategic Plan (and the 5-year targets for success), please outline what you see as being the FHO Board's top 3 priorities over the length of your term and how might you contribute to the achievement of these targets?**

1. **Facilities: facility planning is one of my areas of expertise and I'm constantly assessing sports field needs with the understanding that different field sports require varying field sizes, surfaces, maintenance specifications and supporting amenities. At the municipal level, much focus is placed on designing/providing fields for soccer which unfortunately can be uncondusive to other field sports whether through design, maintenance quality, and/or allocated times. I suspect finding access to quality fields and quality times throughout the week is difficult for FHO Clubs but access to fields is essential**



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for FHO to attract and develop its grassroots program all the way to high performance athletes and events.

2. **Participation:** I think this is perhaps the most important pillar as growing the participant base (players, coaches and officials) is critical for long-term sustainability of FHO. However, participation is also directly correlated to a number of other Strategic Pillars such as access to facilities and coaching, the ability to support and promote clubs, etc. My master plans and feasibility studies frequently examine ways to grow participation in recreation and sport.
  
3. **Females in Sport:** this has been an area of professional focus in recent years through our master planning (which also touches on inclusion of other under-represented groups such as diverse cultures, LGBTQ2S, persons experiencing low-income, etc.). FHO's Strategic Plan priority on increasing female coaches and umpires is commendable and will also go a long way to encouraging female players to remain active in sport by providing role models and champions.

#### **Section 4: Declarations**

- I hereby confirm that all information submitted in this package is accurate and correct.
  
- I also confirm that I comply with all the requirements for a Board of Director member and the additional requirements of a Secretary or Treasurer (if apply for one of these positions).
  
- I understand that the first meeting of the Board of Directors will be on **Monday, December 6, 2021**, and that I must be in attendance.
  
- I understand that FHO Board members are expected to participate in a two hour Zoom meeting approx. every 6 weeks and devote one hour to preparation for these meetings.
  
- I understand that two of the year's Board meetings are to be held in-person/face to face.





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I understand that portfolio designations for Directors are reviewed at the start of each year after the AGM and that each portfolio includes committee work. To date these committees are Club Support, Coaching and Officiating, Facilities, High Performance, Participation, Membership, and Grants.

I understand that I must complete the Sport for Life Effective Board Governance course within one month of the AGM should I be voted in as a member of the FHO Board.

I understand that I must complete a Police Background Check through Sterling Backcheck should I be voted in as a member of the FHO Board.

Signed:

*[electronic signature]*

Date: November 5, 2021

