



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Three Elected to CFRE International
Board of Directors for 2018-2020**

Alexandria, VA – 23 August 2017 – [CFRE International](http://www.cfre.org) is pleased to announce the election of **Elizabeth LeClair, CFRE** (Halifax, NS, Canada); **Jeffrey M. Norris, CFRE** (New Westminster, BC, Canada); and public member, **Mary Tschirhart, Ph.D., MBA** (Columbus, OH) to three year terms (2018-2020) on the CFRE International Board of Directors.

CFRE International is governed by a Board of Directors of eleven, including ten CFRE certificants and one public member. The Board strives to be representative and embrace diversity in the broadest sense. For this reason, CFRE International utilizes a slate of candidates for voting purposes, rather than a general election. This ensures that the Board mirrors the certificant population in its diversity, as best possible, and protects against any one group overly influencing board makeup through sheer voting size. The candidate slate is the result of an open nomination period followed by the vetting of nominees by the CFRE International Committee on Directorship, who determine the final slate of candidates.

This year the CFRE International Committee on Directorship, chaired by Heather R. McGinness, CNM, CFRE, had the task of selecting a slate of three candidates, including the public member to the Board of Directors. All current Board members whose terms expire at the close of 2017 have already served two full terms on the Board and were not eligible for re-election.

The slate of LeClair, Norris, and Tschirhart was elected by a 97.3% majority of current CFRE certificants who cast their ballots in the election closing 11 August, 2017. Their terms of service on the CFRE International Board of Directors will begin 1 January, 2018. Biographical information for the CFRE International Board of Directors Class of 2020 is provided below.



Elizabeth LeClair, CFRE
Sr. Manager, Community & Corporate Giving
IWK Foundation
Halifax, NS
Canada

Liz LeClair brings more than a decade of experience to her role as Senior Manager, Community & Corporate Giving for the IWK Foundation. During her career Liz has had the privilege of living in many cities across Canada and has worked in a variety of non-profits helping to build strong fundraising programs. She has extensive experience in managing and leading teams, developing strategic business plans, and a genuine passion for raising funds for important causes in her community.

Liz is a long-standing member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), a past board member of the AFP Vancouver Island chapter, and currently volunteers on the AFP Foundation's National Scholarships committee. She believes it is imperative to provide educational opportunities to smaller markets in Canada and she recently led an initiative to bring AFP's Fundamentals of Fundraising course to Halifax-the first time this has happened east of Montreal. Liz has held her CFRE credential since 2013.



Jeffrey M. Norris, CFRE
President and CEO
Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation
New Westminster, BC
Canada

Jeff Norris's career in non-profit organizations spans more than two decades and includes experience in the health care and post-secondary sectors in Canada. Currently serving as President and CEO of Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation, Jeff is leading fundraising efforts as the hospital undergoes an unprecedented \$1.3 billion dollar redevelopment and expansion.

Jeff achieved his Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) certification in 2003 and has advocated for the fundraising profession for many years as a lead instructor in post-secondary fundraising programs and as a guest lecturer and keynote speaker in a variety of venues.

Jeff's professional achievements include a University of Saskatchewan Alumni Achievement Award, a Giving Hearts Award for Outstanding Professional Fundraiser by the Vancouver chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and a Business in Vancouver "Forty Under 40" Award for his business accomplishments. He holds an MBA from the Edinburgh Business School at Heriot-Watt University in Scotland and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Saskatchewan in Canada.



Mary Tschirhart, Ph.D., MBA (public member)
Professor
Glenn College of Public Affairs, The Ohio State University
Columbus, OH
United States

Mary Tschirhart has over thirty years of experience advancing nonprofit effectiveness and philanthropy as a board member, educator, researcher, and volunteer. She is a professor of nonprofit management with sixty-plus publications, some covering certification and fundraising topics. Mary currently is the President of ARNOVA (Association for Research on Nonprofit and Voluntary Action), which offers resources for scholars and nonprofit leaders; serves as a trustee of the Sall Family Foundation, where she engages with innovative grant-seekers around the world; and is helping guide the Capital Area Humane Society's rebranding effort as a board member. Through her courses, Mary and her students have worked with a variety of charitable organizations, grant-making foundations, and membership associations to provide knowledge and tools to improve their operations and outcomes.

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For more information about CFRE International and Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE®) certification please visit our website at www.cfre.org.

Notes for editors:

For media inquiries, please contact George H. Hamilton, CFRE International Marketing & Membership Manager at (571) 699-0603 or gghamilton@cfre.org.

About CFRE International

Founded in 2001, CFRE International is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to setting standards in philanthropy through a valid and reliable certification process for fundraising professionals. The CFRE credential is available worldwide as the global standard for the fundraising profession and is accredited internationally under ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024 standards for personnel certification programs.

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