

## Yolanda Wanakamik, **Alumni Association Member, Board of Governors**

Raised in Northern Ontario, and a member of Whitesand First Nation, Yolanda earned a Honours Bachelor of Political Science, 1998 and Master of Education, 2020 at Lakehead University.

Yolanda joined the Alumni Association Board in 2016 and became a part of the Executive as Vice President in 2018. In addition, she previously served as Director in 2010/11.

Yolanda has over twenty years of progressive experience within education, social services, healthcare, and private sectors dedicated to integrating structure, policy, and programs that most effectively influence a strategic community vision while maintaining strong relations. As a lifelong learner, Yolanda champions the values of multi-sector engagement, mobilizing ideas, skills, and passion of like-minded community organizations, government, and people.

Since graduation, Yolanda has held positions with the Northern Ontario School of Medicine University, Lakehead University, Dilico Anishinabek Family Care, and Whitesand First Nation.

Yolanda continues to dedicate her personal and professional life to the advancement of education, health, and well-being and has volunteered extensively with school boards, community committees, charities, and organizations.

More recently, Yolanda has taken a leadership role with the Ontario Native Women's Association as the Director of Community Development focusing on Indigenous women and leadership. She works with a dynamic group of women who are building their community and heartwork together.

Yolanda is a wife and mother who can be found spending time with friends and family, running, cycling, reading, and generally spending time outdoors. Yolanda has a special affinity for storytelling and learning with and from others through their story