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**CERBA** Canada Eurasia Russia  
Business Association

Association d'affaires Canada Russie Eurasie  
Канадская деловая ассоциация в России и Евразии

**2021/2022**

## Board Directors Bios



**Boris Aryev**  
Chief Operating Officer, Stans Energy Corp.

Boris Aryev M. Sc, P. Eng serves as Chief Operating Officer of Stans Energy Corporation. Mr. Aryev serves as President of Marhope Systems Inc., provides management/consulting services to public & private sectors since 1990. He is a Co-founder of IEC Minerals Working Group. He worked in regal branch of Central Research Institute of Communication Science of the Ministry of Communications of the USSR from 1972 to 1982. From 1983 to 1986 he, served as Software Development Consultant at NCR Canada Limited & OPTIMOD Inc. He served as Consultant with Verifact Inc. from 1986 to 1996. He has been Executive Director of Stans Energy Corporation since April 2006. He served as founding Director of Canada-Eurasia-Russia Business Association as well as founder and chairman of its Mining & Northern Development Committees since 1991. Mr. Aryev graduated from USSR State Institute Civil Aviation, Riga Latvia in 1972.



**Mike Van Akkooi**  
Senior Vice President, Kinross Gold Corporation

Michiel (Mike) van Akkooi joined Kinross in May 2017 from BHP Billiton, where he was Head of Government Relations and Public Policy for the Group.

Mike has an extensive background in government relational with broad experience in international political and business environments, and work experience in more than 50 countries. He has held increasingly senior roles at BHP Billiton, including Head of Corporate Affairs for its Petroleum unit and Head of External Affairs for Global Minerals Exploration. In November 2016 Mike was dispatched to Brazil to act as interim Head of Corporate Affairs for Brazil following the Samarco tragedy.

He also held various senior diplomatic and strategic advisory positions with the Government of the Netherlands. Mike holds a Masters Degree in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Amsterdam and an executive MBA from HEC Paris.



**Gilles Breton**  
CERBA National Board Chairman

Gilles Breton has recently retired from a very active career with the Canadian government, Foreign Affairs and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). He held the position of Minister-Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission at the Canadian Embassy in Moscow from 2008 to 2012. He held other positions at the Embassy in Moscow since 2000. From 1994 to 1997, he was Deputy Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, based in Warsaw, Poland. In 1992-1994, he was Senior Advisor at the Ministry of Indian and Northern Affairs of Canada. Mr. Breton also worked at the Canadian Embassy to the Soviet Union during the '80s.



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**Erin Campbell**  
**President & CEO, ECMB Capital Corp.**

Before Rare Capital Corp, Erin Chutter served as the President and CEO of Global Cobalt Corp, after founding the company in 2007. Erin has led a multinational and multidisciplinary financial and technical team to develop the Karakul Cobalt Mine Project in Altai, Russia as well as mining projects in Canada and the US. She carries particular expertise in complex international mining projects requiring creative financing solutions. Erin was also a founding Director of Niocorp. Active in Canadian politics since the late 1980s, Erin has managed and advised campaigns at all three levels of government, as well as party leadership races. She has also served on staff to federal and provincial ministers and leaders including the Leader of the Opposition (BC) and the Ministers of Defense and Indian Affairs (Canada).

Erin is a Chair for the Canadian Eurasian Russia Business Association (Vancouver Chapter). In 2011, she was honoured as a “40 Under 40” by Business in Vancouver. Erin has two teen-aged children and resides in Vancouver, Canada.



**Piotr Dutkiewicz**  
**Professor of Political Science and Director of the Institute of European and Russian Studies, Carleton University**

Piotr is also a Permanent Fellow of the Centre for Civilizational Studies, Russian Academy of Science. He was educated at Warsaw University (LLM) and the Russian Academy of Science, Moscow (Ph.D.). He was a Fellow of St. Peter's and Nuffield Colleges in Oxford and a Visiting Professor at Berkeley University, Institute for International Relations (USA) and taught at Warsaw University in Poland (1977-1989) and Queen's University (1990-1993) in Kingston, Ontario. On two occasions he was awarded the AWUS Teaching Excellence Awards at Queen's University (1993 and 1994) and holds four awards for Outstanding Teaching and Research from Warsaw University. Co-organizer of several international conferences, Professor Dutkiewicz was editor-in-chief of a 21 volume series on «Local and Regional Development in Poland and Eastern Europe» (1986-1989) and editor (or co-editor) of 12 books. He is also the author of many chapters in books and articles in professional journals. He was a Director of four large scale, high visibility Projects in Russia funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (on regional development, unemployment insurance, labour market and social policies). He is currently involved in CIDA-AUCC lead project on juvenile justice and youth at risk in Russia. He was also a member of a Canadian Official State delegation to Russia in 2003 (lead by Gov. General Adrienne Clarkson).



**Nicolas Fresne,**  
**Former Head of Québec mission in Moscow, Russia**

Mr. Fresne holds a master in international business (ESSCA, Angers France) specialized on Central Europe and Eastern countries (CEECs), an MBA (Université de Sherbrooke) in addition to completing the schooling of the doctoral program in business (DBA) from the Université de Sherbrooke.

After 4 years at the Quebec Ministry of Agriculture, the fishery and Food (MAPAQ), as senior marketing expert, Nicolas Fresne worked 5 years at the Société Générale de Financement Québec (SGF) within the Strategy Planification Vice-presidency. Following merger with Investissement Québec (IQ), he joined the Major Projects Business Development Vice-Presidency as senior key account Manager.



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In April 2012, Nicolas Fresne was asked by the Government of Quebec to open, as Head of Mission, the first Quebec Office in Moscow based at the Canadian Embassy. For 2 years, he managed with his team to support more than 130 Quebec businesses to develop their activities in Russia. He met none less than 36 government representatives (governors, ministers or deputy ministers) from eight of the most important regions of the Russian Federation. He was also honored to represent the Government of Quebec in official missions and events such as the Sochi Olympic Games of 2014.

Following the decision of Government of Quebec to close its Moscow's representation for austerity reasons in June 2014, Nicolas Fresne came back to IQ main office in Montréal where he joined the International Affairs Vice-Presidency as Strategies and International Affairs Director. He is in charge of developing and implementing strategies to support IQ international investors prospectation teams abroad. In addition to these tasks, Nicolas Fresne recently joined the special committee in charge the 2016-2019 IQ Corporate Strategic plan.

Over the past 15 years, M. Fresne has also taught, mostly in graduate (Msc, MBA et Executive MBA) university programs, International Trade and Business Affairs, in more than 5 countries. He was also in charge of the Master program in Management of East-West business relations at the Angers Higher school of Economics (Essca, France) between 1998 and 1999.



**Martha Harrison**  
**Partner, McCarthy Tetraault**

Martha Harrison practices international trade and customs law, with additional focus on regulatory law, government relations and contracting law, and international arbitration. Her international trade and investment practice includes customs law, anti-dumping and countervail issues, import and export controls, and foreign investment. She has participated in all stages of several trade remedy disputes before the Canada Border Services Agency and the Canadian International Trade Tribunal, including inquiries, expiry reviews, as well as China-specific and global safeguards. Martha has also acted as counsel in NAFTA Chapter 11 / bilateral investment disputes and investor-state arbitrations involving a variety of Foreign Investment Protection Agreements.

Martha's regulatory practice is focused on providing practical and strategic advice concerning regulated products, including specially-regulated items such as personal care products, food, alcohol and hazardous products. She provides advice on all aspects of product regulation in Canada, including standards, packaging and labelling, importing and exporting issues, and transportation matters.

Martha has been an adjunct professor of international arbitration at Queen's University and is currently an MBA sessional instructor at DeGroote School of Business (McMaster). She is recognized as a leading Canadian international trade lawyer in the Guide to the World's Leading International Trade Lawyers and in the International Trade section of the inaugural edition of The Best of the Best Women in Business Law (Legal Media Group) - the first-ever guide dedicated to the world's leading female practitioners. In addition she is listed in Chambers Global and Lexpert for her expertise in international trade and cross-border issues. In 2013, Martha was selected as a Lexpert Rising Star - Leading Lawyers under 40.

While in law school, Martha was the recipient of the Ogilvy Renault Award for academic excellence and contribution to the University of Windsor Faculty of Law, the Ron W. Ianni Scholarship for excellence in international law, and the Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt Writing Award for best-submitted publishable paper in an academic year.





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**Nathan Hunt**  
**Founder, Chairman of the Board, CERBA Moscow**

Nathan Hunt served on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Business Association in Russia from 1996 until its amalgamation into the Canada Eurasia Russia Business Association in 2004. He has served as President of CBAR and subsequently CERBA Moscow from September 2001 to the present. Since September 2009 he has additionally served as Chairman of the National Board of CERBA, spearheading an expansion of the association into Vancouver and Almaty and overseeing work of the chapters in Moscow, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, and Calgary. Since 1996 he has been employed as the Director of the Russian Representation Office of the Canadian meat/dairy trading brokerage Ronald A. Chisholm Limited. Since moving to Russia in 1992, Hunt has served as President of his own consulting firm Skylight Inc. and founder of the U.S. Meat Export Federation's first office in Russia. Skylight's clients have included the H. J. Heinz company, the USA Poultry & Egg Export Council, Cargill, Land O'Lakes, The Pillsbury Company, and the Golden Bison Company. Hunt has been active in trade issues relating to WTO accession and agricultural imports for both the USA and Canada since 1992. He serves on the Board of Directors of real estate developer «Zhilischny Capital» and Stroikreditbank in Moscow.

Hunt graduated summa cum laude / Phi Beta Kappa from Yale University in 1988 with a degree in Russian & East European Studies. He is married to Olya Hunt and has two children.



**Daniel Kieselbach**  
**Partner, Miller Thomson LLP**

Dan Kiselbach is a partner in Miller Thomson LLP. He brings approximately 30 years of experience to his role as legal counsel on cross-border trade, customs, and tax matters. He has the background, perspective, and skills necessary to assume conduct of significant, time-sensitive and complex matters. His clients include domestic and global corporations (especially US-based multinationals importing into Canada). He has represented businesses in many sectors including: aerospace, aluminum and steel, automotive, agriculture / agri-food, apparel, banking and financial, communications, defence, direct sales, e-commerce, fisheries, forestry, manufacturing, oil and gas, technology, third party logistics, transportation, and mining.

Dan helps to manage tariff and non-tariff barriers, trade compliance, trade disputes, and trade remedies matters. He has substantial tax controversy and litigation experience. He has appeared at all Canadian court levels, including the Tax Court of Canada and the Canadian International Trade Tribunal. He has experience with London Court of International Arbitration proceedings.



**Robert Machowski**  
**Managing Director, Hatch Russia and CIS**

Prior to joining Hatch, Robert spent over 25 in the mining and minerals processing industry in South Africa, Canada, Russia and various CIS countries in the various roles of a metallurgist, process engineer, project manager, senior manager and various directorship roles. He carries an extensive hands-on experience in operations, mining and processing project development, and several technical specializations in minerals processing, through experience gained globally.

Robert started his career at the Anglo American Corporation (South Africa). He then worked for De Beers group of companies, moving up through the ranks from graduate trainee, to the positions of senior plant metallurgist, process engineer, diamond recovery specialist, ultimately reaching





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the level of a senior technical analyst in the course of 13 years and in various locations across the globe.

Subsequently, Robert moved from the world of mining companies to working in the engineering field where he served as a Engineering and Process Director at Bateman Group of companies in southern Africa and later, in Russia. He then took on the challenge of managing an engineering company in the role of the CEO of ULS Mineral Resource Projects. In addition, during his career he also had a short stint as a Vice President of Engineering at a major Russian gold producing company Polyus.

Robert holds two university degrees, a BScEng (Extractive Metallurgy – Minerals Processing) from the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa and an MBA from Wits Business School with majors in finance, strategy and knowledge management.

He is a registered Fellow of the South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (SAIMM) as well as a professional engineer (PrEng) with the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA).

Robert leads an active lifestyle with both indoor and outdoor activities, which among other, include squash, cycling, hiking.



### **Judy Pedersen**

**International Client Development Manager at Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT)**

Judy has over 35+ years of experience centered in enhancing customer relationships and loyalty through identification and evaluation of customer needs and market trends. In her current role, she analyzes current business activities and product for international markets to identify gaps in workforce training and development, recommending business, product and marketing opportunities. Primary research and the use of vendor and internally supplied analytical data is critical to making fundamental, fact-research based decisions about the core business activities. SAIT has successful business experience in Kazakhstan and Ukraine and continues to have a keen interest in business development in the Eurasia region. SAIT wishes to support the continued efforts and successful contribution of CERBA to fostering continued business linkages between our regions.



### **Pierre Pyun**

**Vice President, Government Affairs. Bombardier**

Holds the current position since October 2011 – Present (8 years)

*Previous positions:*

- Director, Cleantech, Green Building and Infrastructure Practices at Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (October 2009 – October 2011)
- Senior Trade Commissioner and Counsellor, Canadian Embassy in Beijing (August 2006 – July 2009)
- Trade Commissioner and Consul, Canadian Consulate General in Hong Kong (August 2005 – August 2006)
- Trade Commissioner, Canadian Embassy in Beijing (August 2001 – August 2005)
- Mandarin Intensive Language Training, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, September 1999 – June 2001 Trade Policy Officer, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (August 1998 – August 1999)
- Lawyer, Guy & Gilbert (1996 – 1998)

*Education*



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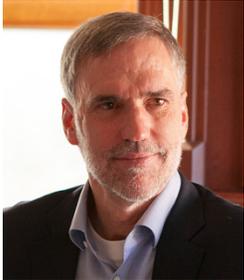


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- Quebec Bar School, Law, 2006 – 2006
- McGill University, B.C.L., LL.B., Law, 2001 – 2005



**Norman Storm**  
**General Director, Falcon Oil&Gas LLP**

Mr. Norman Storm, B.Comm, serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of EurAsia Holding AG and EurAsia RH. Mr. Storm serves as the President of Brisk Petroleum, Inc. He serves as Managing Director of Kazakhstan at Condor Petroleum, Inc. He serves as a Member of Management Board at EurAsia Holding AG. He serves as the President of Prime Transport & Logistics located in the Republic of Kazakhstan. He has 25 years experience in international transportation, logistics, oil, mining and financing. For five years, he has been self employed in developing businesses in the Republic of Kazakhstan. He has over 20 years international experience in the financing and development of mining, oil and gas projects. He serves as a Director of Brisk Petroleum, Inc. He served as a Director of Osisko Mining Corporation (Formerly Osisko Exploration Ltd.) from October 2003 to May 9, 2013. He served as a Director of Condor Petroleum, Inc. since November 2007 until March 28, 2011. Mr. Storm graduated from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver.



**Don Streu**  
**President, Condor Petroleum Inc.**

Don Streu has over 35 years experience in the oil and gas industry. For the past 13 years, Don has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of Condor Petroleum Inc, a publicly listed international energy producer with activities in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkey. Prior to that, Don spent 22 years with Chevron working in Angola, Indonesia, Nigeria, Canada and the United States managing both onshore and offshore assets. Don holds a BSc. degree in Engineering.



**Chris Westdal**  
**Chairman, Silver Bear Resources**

Christopher Westdal is a consultant, corporate director and occasional commentator on international affairs. A former Canadian diplomat, he spent 21 years in the field, sixteen heading Canadian Embassies, high Commissions and international delegations. This bilateral experience was complemented by nine years in UN and other multinational affairs. Mr. Westdal was ambassador to Russia (2003-06); to the UN Office and the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva (1999-2003); to Ukraine (1995-98); to South Africa (1991-93); and to Bangladesh and Burma (1982-85). Prior assignments abroad included India and Nepal (1973-75), responsible for CIDA programming; and Tanzania (1970-73), as a member of a University of Toronto economic advisory team. In Ottawa, he was Director General of the Foreign Ministry's International Organizations Bureau (1987-91); Assistant Secretary at the Privy Council Office to the Cabinet Committee on Foreign Policy and Defence (1976-78, 1985-87); and CIDA Regional Director for East Africa (1978-82). Highlights of Mr. Westdal's foreign service career include:



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- ambassadorial activism in demanding settings where Canada has had particular political and commercial interests and its diplomats significant roles to play, from Bangladesh as a leading aid donor; to South Africa as a participant in dramatic political transformation; to NPT Reviews as NaTO's foremost advocate of nuclear disarmament; to Ukraine as one of that young country's closest political partners; and to Russia, to the management of Canada's diverse relations with that vast neighbour and to the historic 2006 G-8 summit in St. Petersburg, the first ever chaired by Russia;
- Close cooperation with major corporate leaders in the active promotion of specific Canadian economic and commercial interests, including major industrial and infrastructural project participation;
- a key role as Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's sous-sherpa in the conception and organization of the 1991 summit for the Children, co-chaired by Canada, the largest meeting of heads of government ever until then, which redirected major aid spending toward poor children; and hosting visits of heads of state and government, ranging over 25 years from Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's to Bangladesh in 1983 to the Governor-General's ten-day state visit to Russia in 2003 and Prime Minister Stephen Harper's visit to St. Petersburg in 2006.
- Mr. Westdal sustains an active interest in Canadian foreign policy. He is a director of silver Bear Resources (TsE;sBR; [www.silverbearresources.com](http://www.silverbearresources.com)).

### **Grant Winton**

#### **Deputy Director of the NorthWestern Office, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada**

Grant Winton has lived in Australia, the UK, Belize, Malaysia, and Canada. A former owner of a dried pasta manufacturing business, credit analyst at GE Capital, and Director of the Alberta International Development Office, he now works for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada as Deputy Director of the NorthWestern Office, overseeing Alberta and the Territories. Grant has visited or worked in over 50 countries, including Russia, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan. He is pleased to add his diversity of knowledge to the CERBA board.

