

Terrie Porter

I moved to Portage at the age of 24, where I started my 35-year career in Justice. I began as a correctional Officer at the Women's Correctional Institute where I learned quickly that incarcerated women have specific issues and needs.

Later, I became a Sheriff Officer in the central region, Deputy Sheriff in two regions, the Eastern and Central regions and finally, Sheriff here in the central region. Addictions and mental health, health and poverty were critical issues in Justice and access to programs addressing these issues was challenging to navigate.

As sheriff, I managed the affairs of 1/6 of the province on court security and movement of persons in custody, as well as Jury Management on the Criminal side and execution of court documents on the civil side. Legislation and policy guided my principles how I did my job.

I sat on the board of directors for Southern Health Sante Sud Regional Health Authority for two terms. In my second term I served as the Vice-chair and finally as Interim Chair till the end of my two three-year terms. I represented all the communities in southern health, making decisions on behalf of the people who were not present at the table.

Continued education was essential to ensure we made the best decisions. During my time on board, we supported the new hospital coming to Portage, the Portage Ramm Clinic and the movement of mental health and addictions to shared health. The focus of Health transformation is to bring access to services closer to home.

As a board member, I attended numerous health events such as stakeholders meetings, graduations for indigenous health high school internship, Health announcements and the Healthy communities conference, to mention a few. Southern Health Board of Directors was the most rewarding board I have been on. It's the one thing everyone has in common, from birth to death. It gave me the bird's eye view of the health of our region.



Currently, I am the Executive Director for Portage la Prairie Handivan Inc. I manage the affairs of the non-profit organization and am thrilled to have the opportunity to bring what I have learned from Justice and Health. It's about accessibility and does not stop at transportation.

In the past, I was involved in the community, being the Junior Golf board member and Junior golf Chairperson. I sat on the Board of Directors for Piranha Swim club as Treasurer, Vice President and President..

I was a member of the La Prairie Lioness club, which had great fellowship and gave meaning to helping our community and Volunteered at PCRC in fundraising ideas, and we brought the Titanic back to life!

We were fortunate to be a Rotary Family. It was a great way of learning about different cultures and gave exchange students a wonderful opportunity and memory of Portage la Prairie. We hosted a Student from France, Japan and Norway as well as their family. We share great memories.

Finally, and most importantly, I walked alongside my husband Earl in his political career for 12 years. Earl and I owned a successful business for 20 years. Earl and I shared a passion together for this community. As a partnership, we understood and lived the challenges of balancing business, politics and family time. We raised two children here, Mathew and Cole.