

Bernard Betel Centre

Board of Directors' Biographies 2022-2023



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Deborah Glasser*

Deborah is an accomplished marketing and brand strategy leader focused on consumer goods and services and nonprofit management. For over 25 years, Deborah has worked as a general manager, operator, and marketing leader for organizations such as Colgate Palmolive, Tata Consumer Products, and Jewish Family & Children's Services of Northern New Jersey. Deborah is currently a member of the Board of Directors of The Tile Shop, a public company and specialty retailer of man-made & natural stone tiles based in the US. She sits on the Compensation and Nominating & Governance Committees. Deborah holds a BA in Economics from Cornell University and an MBA from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Deborah recently moved to Toronto from New Jersey with her family. She has been volunteering with the Bernard Betel Centre as a Meals-on-Wheels volunteer since November 2020.

Amy Grief*

Amy is a writer, editor and journalist. She is currently the Senior Digital Content Writer in TD's Communications and Public Affairs department. Previously, she spun her love of books into a fulltime role in Indigo's Editorial Studio. As a journalist, she was on the masthead at *Chatelaine*, as the Senior Editor, Social Media and earlier, as Associate Food Editor. She also spent two years covering Toronto news and food as a Digital Editor and Staff Writer at the popular *blogTO*.

Amy graduated with a Masters of Journalism from Toronto Metropolitan University (Ryerson University) and was a longtime contributor to the *Canadian Jewish News*. She currently lives in Toronto with her husband and daughter.

Jules Lewy*

Jules is a retired lawyer who practiced tax and business law with Dentons Canada LLP and its predecessor firms (Fraser & Beatty and Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP) from 1976 to 2015. From 1986 to 1989, Jules was the first Resident Managing Partner of Fraser and Beatty office in Hong Kong and from 1988 to 1989 Jules was the President of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong. From 1993 to 1999, Jules was the Managing Partner of Fraser Milner Casgrain's North York office. Prior to his retirement, Jules was a frequent speaker at legal conferences and the author of numerous articles on tax issues. As well, Jules was a lecturer in the advanced tax course at the University of Windsor, Faculty of Law from 2004 to 2011.

Since 2016, Jules has been a Member of the Advisory Board, Audit Committee and Governance Committee of Burnbrae Farms Limited, Canada's largest family-owned egg producer.

Jules has been a director of Jewish Free Loan Toronto since 2016 and has acted as Co-chair of JFLT's Loan Committee, as well as Chairman of JFLT's Policy and Procedure Committee and Legal Committee. Jules is also actively involved in the Jerusalem Foundation and New Israel Fund.

Bobby Walman*

Bobby has enjoyed an activist career in Canadian politics and government supporting Mayor Mel Lastman as his Metro Executive Assistant and Premier Kathleen Wynne as her Director of Stakeholder Relations. Bobby also has more than nine years of political fundraising experience from running the Ontario Liberal Fund as President and Chief Fundraising Officer. Bobby was formerly the International Sales and Marketing Director of EPOST, a joint venture of Bank of Montreal, Telus and Canada Post. Bobby resides in North York with his family and owns a boutique government relations consultancy. He loves to fundraise as a hobby, fish (catch & release), travel and cook.

Morris Zbar*

Morris has been a correctional practitioner for the better part of the last five decades. Starting his career as a correctional officer in the Ministry of Correctional Services, he held a variety of line, management and executive positions and retired as the Deputy Minister of Corrections for Ontario. Amongst his achievements in that leadership role were the development and implementation of a new organizational structure that profiled community corrections; a new evidence based probation and paroled service delivery model that became standard practice; a number of technological innovations including a new Offender Tracking and Information System. These initiatives continue to be in place to this day. As well, Morris expanded collaboration with a multitude of community agencies and created long lasting partnerships.

Following his retirement from the Ontario Public Service, Morris has served as a Special Advisor to the Commissioner of the Correctional Service of Canada, working on a major Transformation Agenda and focusing on community employment programs for offenders amongst other initiatives.

Morris has also worked in the non-governmental sector including serving as Interim Executive Director of JIAS and President and CEO of UJA. He has been an active volunteer serving in leadership roles in a variety of institutions, including terms as President of the Ontario Corrections and Criminology Associations, Chair of the North York Library Board, Chair of Operation Springboard, Governor of Centennial College, Vice-Chair of the Ontario Heritage Foundation. He has served on a number of other Boards in the not-for-profit sector.

Morris is married to Margaret, his wife of 53 years, has two children, David and Illana of whom he is very proud of and four beautiful grandchildren- Noa, Neeve, Miles and Mia who make him very happy.

Dahlia Zephrani*

Dahlia Zephrani is a passionate HR Professional with over 17 years of experience working across various industries such as retail, consulting, manufacturing, logistics, and currently in the hospitality industry. Dahlia graduated from the inaugural program at York University offering a degree in Human Resources Management and has stayed involved in the profession ever since by mentoring several HR students and new graduates as well as being an active member and volunteer with the HRP (Human Resources Professional Association) in Ontario.

When Dahlia is not working, she is spending time with her husband, 5-year-old son and 2-year-old daughter, which may include new outdoor adventures, seeing extended family and friends or just enjoying downtime at home seeing the latest movie on Disney+.

Dahlia has been involved in the GTA Jewish community, previous active volunteering with JAM (Jewish and Modern) and Limmud FSU. Both organizations focus on strengthening the Jewish Russian-speaking and Russian-Israeli communities within GTA through connection and enrichment via social and educational initiatives.

Dahlia's late grandmother was an active member of the Bernard Betel Centre and its choir. She has fond memories of attending performances there in her youth.

*Nominated for election at the 2022 Annual General Meeting.