

Desert Cove Homeowners Association

Director at Large

Mary Mate

September 2022

1st year of 2-year term

I was born in Edmonton, Alberta and raised on a farm along with two brothers and a sister. I feel fortunate to have grown up where we learnt what hard work was along the joys of having the freedom to explore, play and learn.

After high school, I entered the 3-year nursing program at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, stayed in residence, but went home on weekends to help on the farm. During my training, I met my late husband through a mutual friend at the U of A. We got married in our last year of our respective degrees. After a few years of getting established, we had two children, a son and a daughter. Over the years, as our children grew, I was involved with school supervision between my shifts at work, helped raise money for the school playground, spear headed a skateboard park in Surrey and volunteered for the community policing station in Newton (Surrey). When my kids were teenagers, their father passed away. I finished building our new home. Later I took a break from nursing and bought a business in Creston. After selling the business, I moved to Vernon in 2004 and returned to nursing, retiring after working at the Vernon Hospice for 6 years. I moved to Desert Cove in 2021 to be closer to town.

I love the Vernon area where I enjoy all the summer and winter outdoor activities. I love hiking, skiing (downhill/cross country), snowshoeing, biking, kayaking, gardening, birding and the changing seasons.

I am looking forward to working along side new friends and neighbours. As a Director at Large, I look forward to seeing how DCHA operates and hope to be of assistance when and where needed.