

## 2022 Spring Conference Federation Board Member and Visitor to SI NAR



Tanna Edwards is currently a Board member serving the 2021-2023 term on the Soroptimist International of the Americas Board of Directors. She has been a member of Soroptimist International since 1994 and is currently a member of SI Peterborough in Eastern Canada Region, where she served as Governor, then 1 year as Past Governor from 2018-2021. Though a member of Soroptimist since 1994, she managed to skip out on being a local club President more than once in her Soroptimist “lifetime”, due to real-life family and

career commitments, but finally assumed the Presidency of her local Peterborough club from 2014-2016. She has also served at other times as Committee Chair, Club Secretary, Region Public Awareness and Region Fundraising Chair while Governor Elect.

Tanna feels fortunate to have been a member of Soroptimist clubs, both in Canada and in the US. She joined while living in Brampton (closer to Toronto) in '94, at “home” in SI Peterborough from 1998 – 2008, and again from 2011-present, and while living in Midwestern Region from 2008-2010. She is at once thankful, and proud of her many friendships with women who believe in looking around and reaching out for other women. What she has learned throughout her business, “real” life, and in Soroptimist, is that we are more alike than we are different, despite the colour of our skin, socio-economic status, what country we were lucky enough to be born in, and whether we belong to any group.

Tanna and her husband Joe are currently hosting an international student from Kosovo (due to graduate in June 2022) who was awarded a partial scholarship from SI Europe for her STEM studies, after having attended an SI Europe Leadership Academy. Her family (Mom, Dad and a younger sister with significant special needs) were refugees who lost everything (and then some), during the war with Serbia when she was just a young girl. The opportunity to meet and bond with this young woman and her European Soroptimist “cheerleaders” would not have happened had it not been for our global organization.

Tanna holds a B.A. in Political Studies from Trent University in Peterborough and a designation as a Certified Associate Project Manager (C.A.P.M.) from the Project Management Institute.

In her career, Tanna loved her 30 years in Customer Service B2B (business to business) leadership roles with multi-national organizations across North America, and since 2013, has supported the Senior Management team in the IT Department at her alma mater, Trent University.

Tanna