

2019 International Judge



John Lohuis,
BA, MBA, CMM III
Retired GM/CEO of
Niagara Parks Commission

Tillsonburg, ON
Canada

John Lohuis has over 40 years of progressive and senior management experience in the field of parks and recreation. He is a Past President of the Ontario Parks Association (OPA), on the Board of Directors of Parks & Recreation Ontario (PRO) and Co-Chair of the PRO Public Affairs Committee and prior chair of Canadian Parks Recreation Association (CPRA) parks advisory committee.

John was the CEO/GM of the Niagara Parks Commission (NPC) from 2012 to 2016. John reinvigorated the NPC with new innovative approaches and a new strategic plan: Financial performance moved from a 2011 \$4 million annual net deficit to over \$12 million net profit by his retirement in 2016. At the City of Mississauga, he was Director of Parks & Recreation from 1990 to 2011 along with Acting as Commissioner of Community Services.

As a private consultant, John recently facilitated a new strategic plan for the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame (2018) and completed a Health & Wellness Master Plan for the Town of East Gwillimbury (2017-2018) that included extensive recommendations relating to new trails, parkland and active transportation options.

John has worked with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Visitor Services programs serving Long Point, Turkey Point and Selkirk Provincial Parks. He also previously worked for the communities of City of Windsor, Town of Aurora, City of London and the Township of Delhi.

In 2011 and 2012 John was an adjunct lecturer at the University of Waterloo, Faculty at the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies, teaching courses in Finance, Marketing and Tourism. John worked in numerous volunteer roles including games for the disabled, service clubs and community projects. He is 2019 President-Elect of the Tillsonburg Rotary Club.