# **CWRA Flood of 2022 Workshop – Panelist Bios**



#### Dr. Johanu Botha

Dr. Botha holds one of the few PhDs in Canada that is specialized in Canadian emergency management. His background is focused on determining effective collaboration across all levels of government and the military during all phases of emergency management, and he has served as an officer in the Canadian Armed Forces during domestic disaster responses. His work on floods, wildfires, and hurricanes is one of this country's only multi-hazard, multi-province, large-scale disaster response doctoral analyses, published in 2022 as a textbook for emergency managers, officials, soldiers, and scholars - Boots on the Ground: Disaster Response in Canada. Johanu took lead of the

Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization in 2019 to bring a strategic, whole-of-government lens to emergency management with an extra focus on mitigation efforts that reduce disaster impacts over the long term. Some of the Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization initiatives overseen by Johanu include a revamped Disaster Financial Assistance program, launching a new Mitigation and Preparedness Program, and successfully coordinating government's response to multiple natural disasters, including the massive 2022 flood. Johanu has brought emergency management expertise and capacity to other large operations, including Manitoba's successful COVID-19 vaccination roll out and integrating displaced Ukrainians into the province.

#### Lynda Nicol

Lynda is the Executive Director with the Manitoba Association of Watersheds (MAW). She has worked in not-for-profit organizations for over 15 years specializing in strategic planning, operations and communications. Lynda has a Bachelor of Arts in political studies and is committed to ongoing personal and professional development to support her work. In her role as MAW's executive director, Lynda oversees all aspects of the association including member services, program development, industry engagement and stakeholder relations.





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### **Dr. Jay Doering**

Jay's home department is Civil Engineering. He has been involved with flooding in Manitoba's since serving on the Task Force that managed the 1997 flood. Jay served on the Advisory Board and the Technical Advisory Committee of the Manitoba Floodway Expansion Authority (MFEA), as well as the Red River Floodway Expansion Value Engineering Study. He has held a variety of academic administrative roles: Associate Head of Civil Engineering; department head; dean of the faculty of graduate studies; and Vice-Provost Graduate Education. He has just stepped down from serving as the Associate Vice-President (Partnerships) in the Office of the Vice-President (Research



& International), a position he held for the last 6 ½ years. Jay has served as a member/chair of more than 60 university-related committees. He's won awards for teaching and research, published more than 100 journal/conference papers, and supervised 24 graduate students to completion.

### **Dr. Richard Grosshans**



Richard is a research scientist at the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), and Bioremediation Lead in IISD's Water Policy Program. He holds a PhD in Biosystems Engineering from the University of Manitoba where he is also currently an Adjunct Professor. Richard has over 25 years of expertise in environmental management and watershed policy with a focus on natural infrastructure, wetlands, and water retention systems. Through partnerships, he has explored innovative applied watershed management strategies and renewable energy management, investigating biomass harvesting for remediation of phosphorus and

contaminants, wetland restoration, water retention, and bioenergy. His current research focus is remediation of nutrients and contaminants through natural infrastructure systems and engineered floating treatment wetlands.

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#### Lana Racette

Lana Racette is originally from Pinaymootang First Nation which is on Treaty 2 Territory. She graduated with Bachelor of General Studies from the University of Winnipeg and her professional work career has been working for many Indigenous organizations that focused on Health, Local Administration Governance for her own Nation, the Senior Advisor to the Manitoba AFN Regional Chief Cindy Woodhouse, Regional Office Lead Keeper for the Treaty 2 Territory which consisted of creation of each the Treaty 2 Nation's own constitution and documentation of their oral laws. Currently Lana works for Manitoba USKE as part of the Land Management administration team. She is



here today to speak on her experience of the impacts of flooding in her Nation and the surrounding ones.

#### Dr. Fisaha Unduche



Dr. Fisaha Unduche is the Executive Director of Hydrologic Forecasting and Water Management within the Government of Manitoba. He is responsible for leading several branches including the Provincial Flood Forecasting and Flood Coordination Branch. Dr. Unduche has over 24 years of experience in Water Resources Engineering and has been with the Province of Manitoba for about 14 years. Dr. Unduche has obtained a Ph.D. degree from the University of Manitoba in Civil Engineering and is a registered Professional Engineer in Manitoba.