



## **ISBER Elections Candidate Statement Secretary**

**Monique Albert**

Hello! I've been volunteering my time to ISBER for many years. It has been a joy to be a part of it, and I would be pleased to transition into the role of Secretary. Having served the past 3 years on the BOD as Director-at-Large Americas and as a member of Governance Committee (which is chaired by the Secretary), I would be able to hit the ground running to keep the pace on existing aims. Having plenty of experience in a number of other roles within ISBER, I know where we are making the best impact and what our challenges are.

In addition to being a voice on the ISBER Board of Directors as an Officer, the Secretary leads the maintenance and development ISBER by-laws, policies, and procedures. These are effectively the foundation of the society. It is important for the person elected into this role have a clear understanding through experience of how ISBER functions. This includes how BOD, Head Office, the advisory committees, WGs, and SIGs intersect and interact to drive innovative ideas forward to the benefit of us all. I believe that for any changes contemplated to ISBER's governance materials, it is important to retain the original spirit of ISBER as envisioned by the founders, while also enabling growth and modernization. The governance framework empowers us to collaborate effectively to advance the biobanking sector.

An example of my contributions to this aim, I initiated a project to create more opportunities for members to get involved and stay involved. This project has been assigned to a new Task Force reporting to the Governance committee. The path towards engagement and leadership is being further defined, for newer members wondering how to contribute their talents. Equally important, this project will define avenues for experienced ISBER leaders to stay involved – their knowledge, expertise, and commitment to ISBER is incredibly valuable (and valued!) as ISBER continues to evolve.

ISBER has enabled me to bring so much relevant knowledge back my organization, which is a benefit that I am sure is experienced by many others. ISBER is a great space for sharing ideas and bringing peers together for advancing the field – truly it is an important resource for tackling cross sector issues. The society and its members are savvy, wonderfully inclusive, and collaborative. I am happy to continue to volunteer my time and expertise for the continued growth of ISBER. I hope that my track record demonstrates that I show up prepared and ready to contribute, with the best interests of the Society and its members at heart.

Thank you for your consideration!

Monique

**Monique Albert, M.Sc., PMP**

Director, Ontario Tumour Bank, OICR

Director-at-Large, Americas, ISBER