



Leon has served as Executive Director of the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association–Newfoundland and Labrador (CHHA-NL) since 1995-1996. He has extensive experience as a community volunteer leader, having served as a Board Member and President of his current organization, CHHA-NL in 1994-1995, as well as President of the Newfoundland & Labrador Society of Fundraising Executives (NLSFRE), now known as the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP).

He has a Masters Degree in Education (1997), specializing in Educational Leadership. While attending MUN, he was awarded several academic and athletic awards, including the Recognition Award for Outstanding Contribution to Residence Life, Induction to the Athletic Honour Society and the Birk's Convocation Medal for Student Leadership. Leon was also nominated for Memorial's Volunteer of the Year Award.

In 2004, he earned the Certified Association Executive (CAE) Designation from the Canadian Society of Association Executives (CSAE) and was a CSAE National Board member for six years. He has a wide variety of career experience in various fields as a non-profit leader and Executive Director, as a secondary and post-secondary teacher, an online course facilitator for association executives, and as a community recreation manager.

He self-identifies as being hard of hearing and has worn two hearing aids since 1984. He is a strong community advocate for hearing loss and other disability issues and has served, or is serving, on a number of local, national, community, government and corporate agency committees that deal with disabilities.

He has served as Chair of the former Ability Works Employment Centre for Persons with Disabilities and the St. John's, NL, Independent Living Resource Centre, and he recently finished a three-year term as a member of the Provincial Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities and as the Chair of the College of the North Atlantic's Disability Services Committee. He is currently a member of the Memorial University's Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities, and Imagine Canada's Standards Council for Accreditation of Charities and Non-profits in Canada. Most recently, he served as Co-Chair of the 2017 CSAE Annual Conference & AGM, held in St. John's, NL, in October 2017.