Born and raised in Thunder Bay, Mark spent more than 50 years in his family cottage near Lake Superior before purchasing a cottage in Laura Bay 5 years ago.

In 2019 he retired from a 37 year career as a Canadian diplomat during which time he served in Korea, the Philippines, Syria, Lebanon, Vienna, and as Canada’s Ambassador to Jordan and Iraq.

In the past year he has served as one of PaBIA’s representatives on the Georgian Bay Association. His familiarity with the federal government was called upon in the GBA’s advocacy strategy to allow our international cottagers to regain access to their cottages after 16 months of absence. During this past year he was also asked to take on responsibilities as PaBIAs liaison with the Shawanaga First Nation (SFN). In this regard he developed a strategy to increase PaBIAs awareness of indigenous issues as well as engagement and cooperation with SFN, including on phragmites eradication and water quality testing.

He lives in Ottawa with his wife Wendy and has 5 grown children.