

## Volunteer Spotlight Interview



# ANDREA CLARK

**Nadine: What is your day job?**

Andrea: I work for the QEII Foundation. I'm a data administration officer. I work with all of our data: keeping it clean, importing, exporting, managing data.

**N: How did you get involved with FIN? How long have you been a volunteer?**

A: Well, with the Foundation, we've had lots of events to raise money, so I started volunteering as part of my job, and I really enjoy being involved with events. Then I thought, why don't I take this outside of my work and volunteer with other things that I enjoy?

Last year was just my second year at FIN. It was sort of a recent revelation that came to me one day! I've attended festivals outside of work as an attendee and I know—because of my background—what's required to make something run. It's sort of two-fold, because I get to be involved in the event, but I have a role, so I'm going and enjoying it, but I'm also helping people enjoy their passion.

**N: What is your favourite FIN Atlantic International Film Festival memory?**

A: I think Gord Downie's brother Mike Downie's movie, FINDING THE SECRET PATH.

When he was there previewing his movie and talking about it, it was just very heartfelt and emotional. I really like hearing from the people involved before the movie, just to get their insight and to know where they're coming from. That one was like, "I've got to tell everybody to watch this!"

**N: What part of the film festival would you recommend to a first-time festival goer?**

A: For me, it's the watching, the getting to see the movies! Take in as many as you can!

For volunteering, I liked volunteering at the tickets, getting the tickets and seeing people, or being a greeter. Everyone's excited and in a good mood when they come to see the movies!

**N: My next question is kind of related. What do you most look forward to every year at FIN?**

A: Volunteering again! I don't like to do things solo, so for me it's volunteering so that I can experience not only the movies but also being around where people are happy and excited, being part of that! I'm looking forward to the experience more so than any particular part of it.

**N: What is your favourite film?**

A: It would be DIRTY DANCING. I know it's not the most theatrical or cinematic. Cinematically, I really like CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON. It was really beautifully done. But I will watch DIRTY DANCING like once a year!

**N: Do your kids watch it with you?**

A: My oldest watched it without me; she watched it at a sleepover and I was so disappointed! So then with my 15yo, last year, I thought I'd start her early, but she had no interest! She thought it was old, it was boring! So I watched it by myself! I think it's more because it brings up the nostalgia of when I was in junior high and watched it every day with my friend.

**N: What's your favourite movie snack?**

A: Mmm... I don't want to be typical and say popcorn. We'll frequently not get popcorn when we go to the movies. So I usually like to have M&M peanuts: you get a little chocolate, a little crunch.