



## Minutes

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### 2019 Ontario Equestrian Annual General Meeting

Friday June 28, 2019

Caledon Equestrian Park

1. **WELCOME** – Peter Chiddy, President of Ontario Equestrian welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.
2. **QUORUM CONFIRMED** - Corporate Secretary – Pam Coburn confirmed that quorum had been reached with 34 members present and online.
3. **INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS** – Peter introduced the board members and thanked them for their outstanding contribution to the Board this past year: Jean Szkotnicki, Vice President, Christine Reupke, Julia Merritt, Carole Higgins, Maya Chendke and Danielle Glanc.  
And I would also like to thank Lisa Lightfoot for stepping in as Treasurer this year.  
Peter also introduced and thanked the OE staff for all of their work. Those present were Tracey McCague-McElrea; Executive Director, Pam Coburn; Director of Sport, Brandon Hall; Manager, Marketing and Communications, Kelly Griffiths; Membership and Operations Coordinator and our summer intern, Hilary Gregory.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – **Motion** by **Susan Carr**, seconded by **Danielle Glanc** to approve the Agenda as presented.  
CARRIED
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – **Motion** **Danielle Glanc** by, seconded by **Julia Merritt** to approve the Minutes from the 2018 AGM held on June 14, 2018.  
CARRIED
6. **BUSINESS ARISING** – Nothing was reported
7. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT** – Peter Chiddy
  - Thanked the Board for ongoing support, work and guidance
  - Highlight progress on the Memorandum of Agreement signed with EC in April 2018
  - The Canadian Equestrian Development plan (CED) which is an addendum to the CED is the main focus of work and where the bulk of the money will be spent

## Key points of the CED

- All 11 PTSO's are working in collaboration with EC to:
  - o Develop new fundamental program – Rookie Riders
  - o Update all coaching records
  - o A synchronized coaching database
  - o A new Learn to Ride program
  - o New Coaching curriculum
  - o The start of mandatory coaching in Canada – Coach Licensing
- Peter stressed that there are a lot of important changes coming, ones that we should be proud of but changes that are not going to be easy. Need to work together as Equestrian Sport to advance the sport forward in a positive way.
- And Peter left them with a quote that we should all try to follow, especially over the next few years of rapid change and growth.

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

— **Barack Obama**

## **8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Tracey McCague McElrea**

- Tracey mentioned that Peter was representing Ontario on EC Category B and that he has also been voted as Chair of the Committee
- He is our voice at the EC table and welcome any member to discuss opportunities and concerns with him that they would like brought forward to EC
- Tracey followed up on Peter's theme of change and discussed several changes that are going to be happening over the next 12-24 months

## **Rowan's Law**

- The implementation of Rowan's Law in Ontario will soon require mandatory concussion training for coaches, parents and athletes.
- On February 15, 2019 The Government of Canada, along with the Provincial and Territorial governments signed the RED DEER DECLARATION for the prevention of Harassment, Abuse and Discrimination in Sport.
- *Rowan's Law*...was named for Rowan Stringer, a high school rugby player from Ottawa, who died in the spring of 2013 from a condition known as second impact syndrome (swelling of the brain caused by a subsequent injury that occurred before a previous injury healed).
- Rowan is believed to have experienced *three concussions over six days* while playing rugby. She had a concussion but didn't know her brain needed time to heal. Neither did her parents, teachers or coaches.

## Rowan's Law: concussion awareness

Ontario is a national leader in concussion management and prevention. *Rowan's Law (Concussion Safety), 2018* makes it **mandatory for sports organizations** to:

- Ensure that athletes, parents of athletes under 18, coaches and officials confirm every year that they have reviewed Ontario's concussion awareness resources establish a removal-from-sport and return-to-sport protocol
  - Establish a concussion code of conduct that sets out rules of behaviour to support concussion prevention
- The new rules requiring the review of concussion awareness resources and concussion codes of conduct are expected to be in place around July 1, 2019.
  - The rules for removal-from-sport and return-to-sport protocols are expected to be in place very soon.

OE is currently working on the membership process to ensure that members read the concussion resources and understand the removal and return to play protocols.

## **Safe Sport**

- As part of the Government of Canada's Safe Sport for all initiatives, all national sport organizations will be required to ensure they provide mandatory training on harassment and abuse for their members, including coaches, as a condition of funding, among other requirements no later than April 1, 2020.

Recognizing that:

- All Canadians have the right to participate in a sport environment that is safe, welcoming, inclusive, ethical and respectful, and one that protects the dignity, rights and health of all participants.
- Sport must be free from harassment, abuse, unethical behaviour, and discrimination, regardless of sex, gender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion, language, age, sexual orientation, ability, or any other basis.
- Federal, provincial, and territorial governments have a critical role to play in ensuring and sustaining a safe, welcoming, inclusive, and respectful environment that is free from harassment, abuse, and discrimination.
- The sport sector has taken the initiative in recent years to promote a Safe Sport environment for all participants throughout Canada and is seeking leadership and collaboration from governments in its efforts.
- Canadian athletes, who have called on all governments to take action to address significant concerns regarding the safety of participants at all levels, must play a central role in the prevention of harassment, abuse and discrimination in sport.

## **Coach Licensing**

- Best estimates indicate only 33% of active Equestrian coaches are NCCP certified. (est. 2,910 of 8,882) nationally
- NCCP certification is not available/does not adequately service all disciplines
- Significant revisions to the coach training and certification process are required. The revisions cannot realistically be completed and made available to all coaches prior to 2020.
- NCCP framework cannot easily accommodate all safe sport requirements

### *Why Coach Licensing?*

- Improve the quality of the sport experience for all participants while safeguarding the overall health, safety and well-being of athletes and horses.
- Provides increased recognition and support to Canada's hardworking coaches and instructors - who are at the core of the nation's equine activity. It recognizes them as professionals.
- Provides immediate access to training and support to uphold the highest standards of ethical practice associated with Safe Sport.
- Addresses immediate priorities (including Safe Sport), while laying the foundation for mandatory certification at sanctioned competitions and/or for the delivery of EC and OE athlete development programs.

*Equestrian Canada and the PTSO are working out all of the details currently and there will be more information in the coming months.*

## **9. TREASURER'S REPORT** – Lisa Lightfoot presented the 2018 Audited Financial Statements.

Lisa asked if there were any questions about the 2018 Audited Financial Statements that were circulated with the notice of meeting.

*Question* – Did the auditors investigate for fraud when the audit is conducted?

*Answer* – Yes that is part of the role of BDO and at the completion of the audit they have an in-camera session with the Finance Committee.

There were no other questions.

**Motion** by **Susan Carr**, seconded by **Debra Robertson** to receive the 2018 Audited Financial Statements as presented.

CARRIED

## **APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

**Motion** by **Jean Szkotnicki**, seconded by **Debra Robertson** to appoint BDO as the OE auditors for 2019.

CARRIED

Peter Chiddy - Thank you to Lisa and the Audit and Finance Committee for their hard work and oversight of the OE finances.

### **10. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT - Jean Szkotnicki**

Jean Szkotnicki acknowledged the Nominations Committee:

- Peter Chiddy
- Danielle Glanc
- Julia Merritt
- Tracey McCague-McElrea
- (And herself) Jean Szkotnicki as Chair

A call for applications was issued on January 30, 2019 soliciting expressions of interest for the open positions. Applications were to be received by the Nominations Committee by February 27, 2019.

**Pursuant to Article 4.8 of the General By-Law dated June 3, 2016, on April 9, 2019 the Board approved the following individuals as valid nominations for election to the Board of Directors for a three-year term:**

- Anne Kossatz
- Lisa Lightfoot
- Hilary Parkes
- Christine Reupke

The list of candidates and their bios were distributed to the membership with the AGM notice via email.

Voting took place on line, at the AGM and by proxy.

Christine is unfortunately unable to attend.

Anne, Lisa and Hilary were then asked to say a few words.

P. Chiddy announced the results of the election.

We welcome...

1. Hilary Parkes
2. Anne Kossatz

And welcome back...

3. Chrisitne Repuke

to the Board of OE for their three year terms.

I would like to thank all of the people who submitted a nomination form and should interest in assist with the governance of OE.

Thanks to the Nomination Committee for the work done. Welcome to the newly elected members.

**11. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no further new business.

**12. ADJOURNMENT -**

**Motion** by **Frances Chiddy**, seconded by **Hilary Parkes** to adjourn the Meeting.  
CARRIED

DRAFT