



THE MANE ISSUE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CANADIAN PONY CLUB

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ELECTION RESULTS

On April 10th, 2021 the CPC hosted its third board meeting online, followed by a virtual AGM on April 11th. During the board meeting we welcomed a new chair to our organization, Brad Holub. Brad has previously been the ADC for his local club, and the BC Islands region where he also served as the National Director for the region. Congratulations to Brad. We all look forward to working with you! No other changes have been made to the officers of the CPC board. The board officers consist of Brad Holub as chair, Naomi Girling as vice chair, Marcia Reid as finance chair and Alissa Cue as secretary.

We would also like to introduce our incoming Active Member, Kathryn Palmer. Kathryn is a member of the Cochrane Branch in Alberta South and was a recipient of the Award of Excellence in 2019. She has been an active volunteer, examiner, and coach at both the branch and regional levels and will make an excellent addition to our board.

As new discipline chairs, we welcome Cat Hunter as our new Quiz chair and Daina Bengel as Show Jumping chair. Cat Hunter is part of the SLOV region and has been a volunteer with Pony Club in several different roles since 1990. Daina is a graduated Pony Club member (B level) and DC of the Uxbridge-Scugog branch in Central Ontario and has been the regional discipline chair for several disciplines over time. Thank you to everybody for their service, be it through a continuing role or for past service and congratulations to all of our new members on your elections!

WEBSITE AND MEMBERSHIP PORTAL UPDATE

There have been very few changes to the website with respect to the core design and functionality. Changes have largely been in support of updating data and timely content. Our webmaster, Sherry Jackson, has been working hard on a new membership portal. This is a first step towards offering a greatly improved web presence for the club as well as eventually providing the ability for online registration and profile management. Watch for the new membership portal in the coming weeks and please provide us with your thoughts and comments so we can continue to improve and adapt our member experience.



Membership Numbers 2015-2021

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING (SAM) UPDATE

Our Semi-Annual Board meeting was held on November 21, 2021 where we reviewed activity year to date and approved our budget for the coming year. We also held a youth membership meeting designed to get honest feedback from our youth members around a number of issues such as: Why are we not retaining members? What is the best way to communicate with our youth members? What would they like see from Pony Club in the future? We are excited for the coming year and look forward to the launch of the new Membership Portal and the layering on of additional services to go along with the portal (including accounting support, educational options, online registration and renewal options for 2022).

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Well, it has been quite the couple of years, hasn't it? Change is the flavour of the day with almost every part of our society undergoing some sort of transformational change due to the changing circumstances brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our industry is no exception with barn closures, the cancelations of shows and events and dramatic reduction in group and in-person activities. Thankfully there are signs of a "new Normal" slowly emerging and establishing itself. While none of us have a crystal ball, we all hope that the dust is beginning to settle, and we are going to be able to start moving forward once again. I am very excited to have been elected as the new National Chair for the



Canadian Pony Club and while I am relatively new to Pony Club by most standards, I am well versed with leadership and board functions which I believe will allow me to bring value to the organization as we move into the future. I became part of the national board via the fact that I was the regional representative for the BC Island Region where I also served as the vice chair for the region and ADC for the Comox Valley branch. During my time as a volunteer member for Pony Club, I have worked hard to embrace the club and jump in with both feet to be as active as possible, having been heavily involved in the planning and execution of our regional show, testing as well as fund raising for our local branch. I believe that my work experience and skills make me uniquely qualified to lead the club into the future while supporting and serving all the regions, branches, and members. I am a firm believer in the club, our values and what that brings to our members, their families, and our communities. I am excited for the future of the club as I see this as a time of great change and with great change comes great opportunity. I look forward to working with all of you as we map out a bright future for the Canadian National Pony Club.

INCORPORATION/RESTRUCTURING UPDATE

As you are all aware, over the past year the National Pony Club has been in the process of moving towards the incorporation of the regions. There are many drivers for this change primarily related to financial accountability and improved reporting capabilities which will allow the National body to improve our services and the delivery of those services to all our members. When the incorporation of the regions was first rolled out, there was significant push back from several regions and so National worked with those regions to further educate everyone with respect to the reasoning behind the incorporation. Over the course of those discussions, it became apparent that there were several operational issues and concerns that were not yet fully developed or ready to be deployed. The scope and focus of incorporation has been broadened to address the operational concerns and set the foundation of the club to move forward into the future. There are several initiatives underway to support these restructuring efforts including defining the revised structure, aligning bylaws and policies and developing an IT roadmap. The intention is to relaunch the incorporation/restructuring process in the first quarter of 2022.



DONATION RECOGNITION



A huge thank you to both Rocky Mountain Show Jumping and Spruce Meadows for their generous donations and support for our organization! We so thankful for the support we receive from great organizations like yours!!!

