



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## Detailing Board Meeting held May 5, 2025

Greetings/Bienvenue!

As we gathered for our final meeting of the current Board term, I opened with deep gratitude. Over the past few years—and in particular, this past year—Equestrian Canada has achieved significant milestones thanks to the perseverance, professionalism, and unity of our Board, staff, and community.

We celebrated qualifying all four Olympic and Paralympic teams for Paris—an exceptional accomplishment made possible through the tireless commitment of our athletes, coaches, and the High-Performance team. The Canadian Horse ID Program (CHIP) has launched after years of development, and our formalized Enterprise Risk Management framework now strengthens our capacity to identify, assess, and manage risk across the organization.

Our governance continues to mature; policies have been moved out of governing documents, and we've clarified the Board's focus on strategy, fiduciary duty, and oversight. With support from expert consultants, we've modernized by-laws, added an Athlete Director to meet Sport Canada compliance, and transitioned our AGM from fall to spring—aligning with fiscal year-end and enhancing transparency and accountability.

We have also taken meaningful steps in communications. Coffee Chats and Category/Board Liaison meetings have expanded our connection with Voting Members. Reporting from our FEI representative at quarterly Board meetings provides clarity and consistency about activities in our sport internationally. Importantly, we are actively listening—to our staff, to our sport license holders, and to the greater equestrian community—through mechanisms such as the above noted engagement meeting opportunities and the Inclusion Working Group survey.

Looking ahead, the Strategy 2028 development process is underway. EC is striving to operate a significant mandate on a \$7.5 million budget—requiring tough decisions and bold shifts. I want to particularly recognize the entire operational team, with heartfelt thanks to Marilyn Korim for her behind-the-scenes coordination, and to Meg Krueger, whose calm, strategic leadership has anchored us during times of change.

During this meeting, we approved the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2025. My thanks to Jennifer Hodgson, Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee, and to KPMG for their diligent work. We also moved to recommend a new auditor this year at the AGM—a strong step forward as part of good governance practice.



We approved the full AGM package, including the Annual Report and by-law resolutions. Todd Walsh provided an update on the Nominating Committee's work, including the athlete representative process, and Lisa Robertson delivered a reminder about the ongoing CEO performance evaluation. We were grateful to Whitney Payne for the HR Biannual Report, and to leadership for their ongoing updates on managing organizational change.

As we prepare for the upcoming AGM, I want to extend my thanks to those Directors whose terms are concluding. To Kelly Gravelle, Jennifer Hodgson, Nathan Reeve and Chris Lowe—thank you for your leadership and for stepping up when it mattered most.

This is my final Board meeting as President in the current fiscal year. It has been a true privilege to serve. I have taken this responsibility seriously and am immensely proud of the collective progress we've made for EC and for equestrian sport in Canada.

Respectfully submitted,

**Lisa Robertson**

President

*On behalf of Equestrian Canada and its Board of Directors, this concludes the President's Report of the Board Meeting held May 5, 2025.*

Fostering a love of horses and sport, for life.