

Director Nomination Biographies

HORSE COUNCIL BC
COMMUNICATION

Lynda Atkinson

My name is Lynda Atkinson, and I currently live on a 600 acre ranch just south of Quesnel, B.C. where we raise Simmental Cattle and Standardbred horses. I have been a dedicated equestrian since I was four years old, and to my parents regret they let me ride a pony. I have competed in western, English, dressage, endurance, conformation, and combined driving. I have been an organizer of shows and endurance competitions. I grew up in White Rock, so am familiar with many of the facilities and competitions in the lower Fraser Valley and also know what has been and possibly can be again in the area. I currently am the second largest breeder of standardbred horses in British Columbia and have experience in many of the newest scientific procedures on breeding and managing the broodmare and stallion. We do stand a standardbred stallion on our farm. I retired as a secondary school administrator in Quesnel, after having a successful career of 32 years as a senior counsellor, Head of Special Education for many years, and a Vice Principal. I have a great interest in helping young people become the best they can be, including those with special needs. I am passionate about important role horses can play in both sport and recreation, as well as healer and nurturer in so many ways.

I have served as director and chairperson of HCBC as well as currently I am a director of British Columbia Agriculture Council, and Harness Racing BC. I have an understanding and training in accounting procedures, strategic planning and governance, as well.

Working with Horse Council has been one of my most cherished experiences and anything I can do to assist promoting these wonderful horses that are willing to allow us to be in their world is an honour and blessing.

Joan Chess-Woollacott Biography

I would like to be considered for another term as a director for Horse Council BC. I believe that my skills and knowledge described below, along with the experience gained during my previous terms as a director, will continue to be useful in serving BC's equestrian and equine community, and advancing the vision and mission of HCBC.

Governance of Not-for-Profit Organizations

I have served on HCBC's Board for about six years, as well as serving as Chair, Governance Committee. It has been a wonderful learning experience, working with all the directors and staff as we identify and implement new initiatives to better serve the members. Before joining HCBC's Board, I volunteered with several not-for-profit organizations, serving on Boards as a director and executive member. As a Registered Professional Planner (RPP), I served on the Council for the Planning Institute of BC for six years as a Director, President Elect, and President; as well as serving at the national level for the Canadian Institute of Planners as a Director for two years. In Prince George, I was on the Board of Directors for the Prince George Horse Society for ten years as a Director, Vice President, and President.

Professional Career

Although now retired, as a Registered Professional Planner for 35 years, I traveled throughout BC and became familiar with the province's diverse landscapes and communities, especially rural areas and small towns, as well as the large urban centres. My skills include land use and community planning, visioning, strategic planning, research and analysis; and working collaboratively with all orders of government, residents, volunteer organizations, and the private sector.

Horse Owner and Rider

I am a horse owner and adult amateur rider. I started as a typical 12-year-old girl who loves horses. I joined Pony Club and eventually earned my B Level in my teens. After a 25 year pause for university, career, and family, I returned to riding about 25 years ago. I have participated in the BC 55+ Games and enjoy meeting riders from throughout BC. I volunteer with local and regional clubs at dressage and hunter/jumper events. I also believe in continuous learning, by attending HCBC webinars and special forums; taking courses online such as the University of Guelph's Horse Portal; reading science-based articles; and participating in riding and training clinics and on-going lessons.

My priorities are: 1) the well-being of all horses, regardless of the activity, discipline, age or breed; 2) safety, inclusion and respect for all participants; and 3) appreciation and support for the diversity of equestrian sports and recreational activities. In closing, I would welcome the opportunity to continue serving on HCBC's Board of Directors and the province's equestrian community. I would appreciate your support in the election. Thank you.

Tina Knott Biography

I have been an active rider and carriage driver for over 50 years for recreation and competition.

In carriage driving competitions I have competed at FEI level in Combined Driving throughout Canada and the US and was member of a team who qualified to represent Canada at the World Championships in Austria in 2003 and the UK in 2005.

A mentoring and coaching role has been my focus in recent years as well as organizing competitions on Vancouver Island for the Vancouver Island chapter of the BC Carriage Driving Society where I have also held the position of secretary for 6 years. I have been on the executive board for the provincial BCCDS from 2014 to the present time and have taken several positions - President for 3 years, past president and currently BCCDS affiliate representative to HCBC. During my time on the provincial BCCDS board I have, along with others initiated a Young Driver Bursary program, Virtual Pleasure Driving Shows and am currently working with the BCCDS Rules committee. In September of this year I organized the Arena Driving Trials that were part of the very successful 55+Games held in Victoria.

During these years I have been nominated for several Volunteer of the Year awards and my aim has been to work with others to create opportunities to help people excel in their equestrian sport while maintaining integrity and sportsmanship.

Rose Schroeder Biography

Born and raised on the family dairy farm in Abbotsford. Graduated from High School and took two years of college. She managed the dairy herd for 35 years. Married for 41 years with two sons. Currently semi-retired. Has served on many NGO boards as Chair, director, secretary or treasurer:

- past VP Recreation at HCBC
- past BCHBC representative for Outdoor Recreation Council of BC
- Parent Advisory Council Upper Sumas Elementary
- South Coastal Dairy Education Association
- International Agricultural Exchange Association
- Abbotsford Soil Conservation Association
- Past Vice President BCHBC Provincial Executive
- Secretary BCHBC Provincial Executive

Was a Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA) Wilderness Guide Instructor and Assistant Clinic Instructor, CHA English/Western Level 2 Instructor. With 2 partners she co-owned a business that taught trail riding and camping skills through private lessons and clinics across BC and Alberta. For 2 years, was a director at Large with HCBC. Currently she resides in Salmon Arm, still enjoys trail riding and packing, the sport of Mountain Trail Horse and continues to volunteer through the Back Country Horsemen Society of BC for many trail access and preservation projects with BC Parks and Recreation Sites and Trails.

Her passion for horses, trail riding and packing have led her to her current positions:

- BCHBC Provincial Secretary
- vice chair Shuswap Chapter of BCHBC
- Newsletter coordinator for the Shuswap Chapter of BCHBC
- member the Outdoor Recreation Foundation of BC
- Secretary for the BCHBC Provincial Trails Committee

Monique Hubbs-Michiel Biography

I am a retired RCM Police Officer and my personal circumstances finally allowed me to become more involved in the Equestrian world a bit later in life. With the help of so many willing individuals, I made up for lost time! I learned from all my coaches, then my students as I was honored to become a trainer at a show barn in Edmonton, Alberta. From my humble beginnings; I started out as a very new adult rider and horse owner, to coaching, becoming a certified trainer/coach through EC, then becoming an EC (Senior) and Provincial Official in many disciplines. I am always grateful for all the opportunities I have had, and I look forward to many future opportunities to mentor new officials, show organizers, riders and coaches. As an EC and Provincial Official/Coach Representative: "I believe we should strive not only to make better riders, but better people as well!"