



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Detailing Board Meetings held March 6 and March 13, 2024

Greetings/Bienvenue!

The Indoor Rowing season has been quite busy across Canada this year and it has been exciting to see so many athletes engaging in the competitions. Slowly we are getting back on the water preparing for classic rowing, Beach Sprints and Coastal rowing opportunities!

The Board video conferenced for our scheduled meeting this month. All Board members were present.

The National Training Center - Project Committee Terms of Reference were updated and will soon be found posted on our website.

The Board appointed Director Charles Minett as Chair of the Nominating Committee. We thank Andrew Lamont for his many years of serving in this role and appreciate that he is remaining on the Nominating Committee for the rest of his term to support the transition. Director Minett shared a plan of action for the Committee's work this year.

The Board appointed Director Fred Enns to the role of Chair of the Governance & Policy Committee. We thank Peter Klinkow for his work in the inaugural year of this important committee. His time and efforts are greatly appreciated. We are glad that Peter will continue on the Committee. Director Enns shared his plan for the next year which will focus on alignment with the new Canadian Sport Governance Code (which is due to be released in April 2024), aligning of RCA policies and practices for enhanced governance and an improved communication plan with the membership regarding these changes.

Derek Ventnor, Treasurer, shared that he is in the final stage of preparation of the 2024/2025 budget. We learned that there is pressure on funding across the sports system with expenses increasing while funds are spread across more sports and like other NSOs we are left managing a 14% decrease in Enhanced Excellence funding for the upcoming year and no indication of

increases for the Sport Canada funding which has seen no increase since 2005. We have challenges ahead.

Rowing Canada remains a signatory of Abuse Free Sport and it was reported that we have renewed our agreement along with other NSOs for the next 12 months. We continue to maintain a fully harmonized Safe Sport framework offering support and protection for everyone in our sport across Canada.

The Board did not receive a report from the Accountability Committee for this meeting.

Due to the constraints of time, the Board determined to have a second meeting to further discuss the findings of the U19 Lightweight Rowing Review Report. The meeting was held on March 13, 2024. Director Charles Minett was not present. A communication to the membership regarding the Board decision will be coming out soon.

Finally, after 25 years of service, this was the last meeting to be supported by our Board Secretary, Sid Murdoch. Sid is retiring at the end of March to spend more time on the golf course. For many years Sid was RCA, when members had a question or a concern it was Sid that would be on the end of the phone. More recently he has been an invaluable resource for the Board, and we would like to acknowledge his immense contribution and thank him for his support. We wish him all the best in his retirement.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board will be April 27 and 28, 2024.

See you on the water!

Carol Purcer,  
President