



President's Report to 2020 AGM

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Submitted By	Anne Teutsch

Past Year's Work

As my third two-year term as president draws to a close it is time for me to step aside and let someone else take over the reins as president for Orienteering Canada. It has been an immensely satisfying experience for me and a huge learning experience as well.

The past year has seen various accomplishments, although our busiest times have been the past four months as we navigate our way through COVID-19. Some highlights:

- This spring there were 10 new inductees into our Orienteering Canada Hall of Fame, in 4 new categories.
- Bruce Glen took on the role Treasurer starting in January. Thank you Bruce!
- This spring, Jeff Teutsch took on the role as High Performance Manager on a part-time contract.
- A new approval and liaison process has been put in place for Canadian and North American Orienteering Championships, replacing the previous sanctioning process.
- We have started an online Let's Talk Orienteering Series to give people an opportunity to talk, learn, and share. It was started as a COVID-19 initiative, but with the success so far, may continue indefinitely.
- We have initiated a discussion on systemic racism, one that needs to continue.
- We continue to navigate our way through COVID-19. Special mention here to Tracy Bradley and Charlotte MacNaughton for the incredible amount of time, effort and expertise they have both put in to keeping us on top of the evolving situation. Some of our COVID-related efforts:
 - Budget speculations and adjustments (thank your Bruce Glen);
 - Moving PTOA fee due dates to late fall from spring;
 - Working with COC 2020 and 2021 organizers to move their events a year later;
 - Creating Guidelines for Self-Directed Orienteering;
 - Working with our insurance broker and our legal adviser regarding COVID-19
 - Creating the Orienteering Canada Management Plan for COVID-19 Risks;
 - Re-vamping our AGM to be online;

All in all another busy year, with lots of great support from committees, board and individuals.

Successes and Challenges

1. Recruiting new people: As always one of our difficult issues is recruiting new members for committees and for the board. In particular, this year, we have not been successful to date in finding someone who is willing to take over the role of president. As an organization, we need to work on how we can change this ongoing concern.
2. Thank you's all around: There have been a number of successes through my time as president and it is the work of so many people that have made these possible. Thank you to all board members, committee members, PTOA members, club members and everyone who has contributed, supported, argued, agreed, disagreed, and otherwise helped Orienteering Canada move forward. A very, very special thank you to our brilliant ED Tracy Bradley who has done so much for us and from whom I have learned so much. I hope that Tracy will stay with us for many years to come.

Future Work – Projects and Goals

The work of Orienteering Canada continues. Two things that I think are very important for our continued growth include:

- building the strength, effectiveness and efficacy of our many committees and the board itself;
- building the strength of our relationships and communications with our PTOAs, clubs and individual orienteers

The very generous donation that Adrian Zissos left to Orienteering Canada in his will is giving us the opportunity to proceed with a few very special projects. On our list of ideas being considered are (a) developing a national junior curriculum along the lines of the Nordic skiing Jack Rabbit program; (b) a program aimed at developing orienteering in new (to orienteering) areas in Canada; and (c) building a national membership and event database (perhaps as an extension of Why Just Run?).

I look forward to continuing to be involved with Orienteering Canada and being a part of the community that works to make our sport great!