



President's Report to 2017 AGM

Report Date	July 15, 2017
Submitted By	Anne Teutsch

Past Year's Work

It is an honour to be a part of Orienteering Canada, in this its 50th year. As we collect our historical anecdotes, maps and photos, it is humbling to see all the great names that have made orienteering in Canada what it is today. What a team, over the years!

What has been happening this past year? A few projects stand out for me:

1. Orienteering Canada's 50th anniversary: This year is Orienteering Canada's 50th anniversary and so over the past year we have been working on a few projects – notably the Historical Collection Blog, the introduction of annual awards and a Hall of Fame, a retro logo.
2. Junior Curriculum / Athlete Development Matrix: We have completed phase 2 of the Junior Curriculum / Athlete Development Matrix project. The work to date has been published on the web and used by a number of clubs to support their junior programs. Feedback from these groups shapes the work as it moves forward.
3. Major Event Committee: The new Major Events has been at work on confirming hosts for future championship meets, increasing lead time on these events, and creating support mechanisms for organizations willing to take on the challenge of a championship meet.
4. Mapping Project: We have now successfully coordinated an effort to hire mappers for clubs, three years running. The goal is to reach a point where there are enough Canadian mappers that we no longer need to recruit foreign mappers.
5. Strategic Plan: We have finalized a set of Core Objectives on the way to creating a new Strategic Plan. These core objectives have been guiding the work we do this year.
6. Sport Canada Funding: Orienteering Canada has now been recognized as being eligible to apply for Sport Canada Funding. A major hurdle crossed, but not the final one. We are still working on the next steps.
7. Committee Work: Many committees have done a lot of valuable work for Orienteering Canada this year. Please read their individual reports for details. Many thanks to all committee members for the effort, dedication and expertise. An amazing group of people!

Future Work – Projects and Goals

1. Sport Canada Funding: Next step for Sport Canada Funding is the assessment phase where we find out how much funding we are able to receive.
2. Junior Curriculum / Athlete Development Matrix: \$3000 has been set aside between the Sass Peepre Fund and the regular Orienteering Canada funds to continue work over the next 6 months on the next phase of the Athlete Development Matrix.

3. **Mapping Committee:** this year we want to finalize Terms of Reference for a new Mapping Committee and get this group up and running, to support mapping efforts and mappers.
4. **Working with Clubs:** It is important for Orienteering Canada to be working with and be aligned with clubs across the country. For this to be maintained communications amongst the various stakeholders is vital. We need to work to make sure we are all on the same page as we look forward to the next 50 years of orienteering in Canada.
5. **Succession planning:** As a Board we need to work on our succession planning for the executive positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer.
6. **Endowment Fund:** Planning of an Orienteering Canada Endowment Fund has begun. Work on this, as a future source of funds for the organization, will proceed over the coming year.

Successes and Challenges

1. **Club communications and partnering:** It came to my attention recently this year that there are gaps in our communications with clubs and PTOAs. Communications is hugely important to me, and the recognition of the gaps a real wake-up call. As an organization Orienteering Canada needs to be work closely with our clubs and PTOAs; there needs to be mutual respect, understanding, and partnership. It is a challenge we need to address and master.
2. **Succession planning –** It has been a challenge this year to find a replacement for our outgoing treasurer. A number of years ago it was a challenge to find someone willing to step forward to be president. We need to recognize this challenge and spend some effort on succession planning.
3. **Thank yous –** the biggest success this past year is, as always, the dedicated, energetic, knowledgeable volunteers at all levels of the sport. From OC Board and committees, to PTOA and club boards and committees, to coaching, course setting, and organizing meets, to running junior programs, outreach programs and adult training programs, to recruiting volunteers and looking after websites; the list goes on. A very hearty thank you to everyone who has helped make this 50th year of orienteering in Canada the great success it is.