

Members are an integral part of VTRA's future.

Join us **Saturday, May 29th** and support governance, planning and success. This year's AGM will take place via Zoom. Please contact mike.waters@vtra.ca for details on how to attend virtually. A step-by-step Guide on how-to- attend a Zoom meeting is shared on page 4 of this document.

Special Message from Annie Brothwell, VTRA Board President

On behalf of VTRA's Governance & Nominations Committee, welcome to our 2020 AGM. We appreciate your interest and support, especially now as we emerge from such a challenging year.

VTRA successfully navigated the many challenges and changes associated with the pandemic and remains very grateful to our participants, families, volunteers, staff and partners who supported us throughout 2020. Thank you. Together we continued to serve and make a significant difference to many.

VTRA recently reached out to our memberships to encourage interested and qualified candidates to express their interest in VTRA Board positions. Three members declared interest in continuing their terms for two years, and an additional three members declared interest in Board roles for two years.

Our current Board of Directors is a mix of individuals offering a range of diverse skills sets to VTRA. Please familiarize yourself with their bios below.

Sincerely,

Annie Brothwell, Chair, Governance & Nominations Committee and Board President

Recommended Candidates for the 2021 VTRA Board of Directors election

The Governance & Nominations Committee has reviewed expressed interests and recommends the following slate of candidates.

Karen Diederichs (Two-year Term)

Karen began volunteering at VTRA in 2018 after a 23-year career in the BC Public Sector. She was drawn to VTRA because its programs have an immediate positive impact on the lives of the people it serves. Working on the Governance & Nominations Committee gave Karen a sound overview of the organization and a desire to help VTRA achieve its future goals. In 2020, she joined the Strategic Planning Committee and was appointed as board secretary.

Throughout her career, Karen acquired a broad set of skills including facilitation, strategic planning, project management, business analysis, public speaking, customer relations, administration and technical writing.

Karen holds a B.A. (History) degree from the University of Victoria and certificates from Royal Roads University (project management) and McMaster University Centre for Continuing Education (consulting skills). Prior to retiring, Karen attained PMI's Project Management Professional designation. She is also active in her Toastmasters Club.

Heather Love (Two-year Term)

Heather is an Investment Advisor and Associate Portfolio Manager with Odium Brown Limited. Professionally, she enjoys getting to know her clients to help them solve their financial puzzles in order to meet their goals. She hopes to bring the same level of enthusiastic problem-solving to the board of the VTRA. A rider since age 4, Heather quickly found her family in the equestrian community on Vancouver Island. Throughout both her education and her career, she has maintained riding as an integral part of her life. VTRA stood out as an amazing organization that offers an opportunity to give back to the community in a way that really speaks to her lifelong passion. Heather is honoured to serve on the board with these other highly qualified and experienced board members for this wonderful organization.

Bonnie Campbell (Two-year Term)

Raised on family values of hard work, dedication and respect for all people, Bonnie cut her teeth in the business world working under her father, the innovator and legendary grocer, Alex Campbell. Bonnie was hands-on in the stores from a young age learning every aspect of the grocery trade eventually opening new stores and then, returning to head office where she was responsible for Front End Operations, Training and Public Relations. Prior to retiring to raise her children, Bonnie was Vice President of Human Resources responsible for 2600 employees and instrumental in helping Thrifty Foods navigate its most aggressive and dynamic period of growth culminating in the sale of the grocery empire in 2007.

Bonnie's business acumen is both sharp and practical. She is a master at the human aspects of business success and her entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to her community continues to underpin her numerous business ventures that are held in partnership with her husband, Frank, and include Rite Self Storage and Mill Bay Storage.

Last year Bonnie joined the Victoria Therapeutic Riding Association as a board member. As a lifelong lover of horses Bonnie is honored to be a part of the VTRA and support the important work they do. Most recently, Bonnie and her husband Frank purchased Bonnie Brae Farm and they are looking forward to continuing their involvement in the Equine community.

Annie Brothwell (seeking re-election for two years)

Annie is a Paramedic currently working for BC Ambulance Service, based in Victoria, and the Lead Instructor at the Victoria Campus at the Justice Institute of BC. When she first emigrated to Canada, and prior to becoming a Paramedic, she worked at Sun Life in Vancouver as an Investment Solutions Executive. She was also able to volunteer at the Winter Olympics and Paralympics, carrying out a variety of roles which she thoroughly enjoyed. After moving to Victoria, Annie was able to volunteer with the VTRA which she finds an amazing opportunity to be around people as well as horses and worked with Habitat for Humanity, arranging events for their volunteers. She enjoys all sports, including riding, playing field hockey and tennis on a regular basis as well as skiing and traveling.

Candidate: Karen Jackson – current Vice-president

Karen is the founder of Jackson Consulting Group (1995), an organizational development and strategic human resources consulting firm based in Victoria. Prior to creating Jackson Consulting Group, Karen held senior management positions in Scotiabank, Credit Suisse First Boston and British Gas PLC. Karen has B.Sc.(Hons) Psychology, Postgraduate in HR Management & Labour Relations and holds the Chartered Institute of Personnel Development's professional designation. Recognizing the therapeutic capacity of riding, she volunteered with VTRA as a side-walker in the late 90s and since February 2016 has been supporting VTRA through board and committee work.

Candidate: Matthew McNeill – current Treasurer

Matt is a Chartered Professional Accountant and works for a local accounting firm called CPCM & Co. Matt began riding when he was 8 years old and now owns a local boarding stable with his girlfriend Allison. Matt and Allison both play polo and show on the local hunter/jumper circuit. CPCM & Co has long been a supporter of the VTRA and Matt felt it was important to step up and support the local horse community. Matt's life revolves around horses and numbers so joining the VTRA board as treasurer is the perfect fit.

Candidate: Anne Waterhouse – current Director

In Calgary, Anne started riding horses at 9 years and did show jumping as a teenager in the Stampede Corral. After high school she did some training in physical and occupational therapy in Toronto. Then she worked in: retail management in large department stores in Boston and Toronto, in data entry for a publisher in Delran, New Jersey, as an Assistant Production Manager at Tacoma Goodwill Industries supervising 90 employees and clients where many of them had disabilities and finally, volunteering as a massage practitioner on the staff at Seattle Children's Hospital before moving to Saanichton. Anne started volunteering as a side walker for VTRA over 15 years ago and is currently volunteering at holding the horses for the farrier, the vet, and the chiropractor along with scheduling and recording the care of the VTRA horses. She is the owner and manager of the property where VTRA is located.

Candidate: Anne Silver (seeking re-election for two years)

Anne is a retired clinical pharmacist, working last at St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver. She holds a degree in Pharmacy from the University of Toronto. Anne currently serves on the Nominating Committee of the Glenlyon Norfolk School Board of Governors and enjoys contributing as a Judge Coordinator with the GNS Debate Program. She actively supports and volunteers at Victoria Hospice and is a sponsor of four Syrian Refugee Constituent Groups, supporting all aspects of their resettlement in Canada.

Keen to build community at every opportunity, and as mother of four community-engaged children, Anne is deeply committed to promoting children's health and education and to breaking down barriers that challenge wellbeing. Appreciating the essential role that therapeutic riding plays in the lives of children, she is thrilled to be a side walker at VTRA. The joy and confidence of a child riding horseback warms Anne's heart.

Candidate: Sherry Niles (seeking re-election for two years)

Sherry currently works full time as a Speech Language Pathologist for SD#62Sooke. Sherry obtained a BSc degree in Speech Language Pathology and Audiology from the University of Alberta and then an MA degree in SLP from Western Washington University. She has worked as an SLP over the last 25 plus years, working with adults in group homes and Ministry of Health; preschoolers in Prevention Services (VIHA), Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health, Autism and Neurodevelopmental clinics and private practice; school age children including young teens in SD#62 and private practice. Sherry's professional work has not only encompassed direct treatment and assessment but also creating and implementing training workshops for parents, ECEs, teachers, Interventionists and other community partners. Many of the individuals served have also demonstrated concomitant physical, behavioral and social challenges.

Sherry also has an interest in Equine Facilitated Wellness, with a view to obtaining some training or certification in this area. Over the last few years, connecting with various individuals and mental health service providers in the community, has contributed to a personal desire to learn how to support individuals challenged with trauma and mental health issues.

Farewell to departing Board Members

VTRA would like to acknowledge and recognize the following people for their service and contribution to the Board and organization:

Britta Henley, Board Secretary

Isobel Doyle, Director at Large

How to Zoom: A step-by-step guide to attending a Zoom meeting**1) DOWNLOAD ZOOM**

If you've received an email invitation to a Zoom meeting, click the link that says, "Join Zoom Meeting." If this is the first time you've used Zoom, this link will take you to a website where you can download the Zoom program or app, depending on what device you're using.

On an iPhone or iPad: Go to the Apple App Store and search for "ZOOM Cloud Meetings." Click "Get" to download and install the Zoom app.

On an Android phone or tablet: Go to the Google Play App Store and search for "Zoom Cloud Meetings." Click "Install."

On a computer: On the Download Center website zoom.us/download, click "Download" in the "Zoom Client for Meetings" section. After Zoom is downloaded, you must install it onto your computer.

If you have an Apple computer, like a MacBook: Doubleclick the file called Zoom.pkg, which is typically saved to your Downloads folder. The installer program opens and guides you through the process. If you have a PC: Double-click the file called ZoomInstaller.exe file to install the program.

2) JOIN A MEETING

After you install Zoom, you can click the link in your invitation email, go to the Zoom application and enter the meeting ID.

When Zoom opens, it will show you a preview of your camera image. Then click either “Join with Video” or “Join without Video.” If you use video, other people in the meeting will see you. If not, they will just see your name. Next, Zoom asks about audio. Click “Join with Computer Audio” so you can hear and be heard in the meeting.

Dial into the meeting on a phone: If you don’t have access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone, you can use a phone to dial into the meeting. But that will only help you to hear the meeting, the other functions will not work.

3) PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING

Once you’ve joined the meeting, you can see and hear other participants. If you’re in a large meeting, make sure your microphone is muted. The mute button, which looks like a microphone, is in the bottom left corner of the Zoom screen.

There is also a chat feature in Zoom, where you can type messages to other participants. If there is a message for you in the chat, a notification appears on the Chat button, which looks like a speech bubble. Click that button to open the chat window.

4) LEAVE A ZOOM MEETING

Click “Leave Meeting” on the bottom right corner to leave the meeting