

Charles Cue
Aylesford, NS



Equestrian Background

- Partner in family equine business – Rohan Wood Stables, a rapidly expanding social entrepreneurship that uses horses in the traditional sense of recreational and competitive English riding, but partnered with Free Spirit Therapeutic Riding Association, has also created innovative programming that makes equestrian activities accessible to all.
- Involved in all aspects of Rohan Wood Stables, including recreational and competitive English riding, Canadian Pony Club, Prince Philip Games, therapeutic riding, equine assisted learning, Paralympic training, horse breeding.

Professional Background

Rohan Wood Stables – Co-Owner
2003 – Present

- Helped to establish Rohan Wood Stables through a social enterprise model that ties business and charity together through a partnership with Free Spirit Therapeutic Riding Association.
- Offers recreational and competitive English riding, Canadian Pony Club, Prince Philip Games, therapeutic riding, equine assisted learning, Paralympic training, and horse breeding and training.
- Created environment where youth are mentored, persons with exceptionalities are accepted and inter-generational relationships are established.
- Celebrates personal excellence and set conditions that create lifelong participation in equestrian activities.

Office of the Veterans Ombudsman – Senior Policy Advisor to the Ombudsman

2008 - Present

- Responsible for determining strategic direction to ensure the Office is seen as a credible voice for Veterans fairness and a centre of excellence for ombudsmanry.
- Provided evidence-based analysis and developed the innovative tools that allowed the Office to be recognized as a leader in the highly political Veteran's benefits environment.

Veterans Affairs Canada – Senior Liaison Officer (Colonel)

2006 - 2008

- Responsible for facilitating, coordinating and enabling all communications/programs between CF and VAC, as well as various veterans' organizations.
- Prepared and delivered high-impact briefings that more effectively communicated the complex policy and administrative relationships between VAC and DND programs.
- Briefed all levels of CF including Minister of National Defence.

The Canadian Forces

1976 – 2008

- 2005 – 2006 - Director of Air Force Personnel Production (Colonel)
- 2001 – 2004 - 413 Search and Rescue Squadron – Commanding Officer (Lieutenant Colonel)
- 1997 – 2001 – Air Force Operational Headquarters – Senior Staff Officer Search and Rescue (Lieutenant Colonel)

Education & Professional Achievements

- Canadian Forces Command and Staff College – 1992 - 1993
- College Militaire Royale – 1976 - 1979
- 2014 Veterans Affairs Canada Award for Excellence in Leadership
- 1996 Order of Military Merit for Leadership
- 1981 Chief of Defence Staff Commendation for Bravery

Nomination Committee:

I am interested in joining the Board of Directors for Equestrian Canada. My many years of proven leadership in the military and the federal public service coupled with a family run equine social enterprise offers some unique skillset that I believe would be of use to Equestrian Canada.

As the co-owner of Rohan Wood Stables we have partnered with Free Spirit Therapeutic Riding Association to make equestrian activities accessible to all. The social enterprise model that ties the business and the charity together is unique and has created an environment where youth are mentored, persons with exceptionalities are accepted and inter-generational relationships are established. We celebrate personal excellence and have set the conditions that create lifelong participation in equestrian activities. In other words we are actually making Equestrian Canada's vision a reality.

Although I am not a horse expert, I am involved through the business with the following equine activities:

- Recreational and Competitive English Riding
- Canadian Pony Club
- Prince Philip Games
- Therapeutic Riding
- Equine Assisted Learning
- Para Olympic training
- Horse Breeding and Training

This provides me with a good base knowledge of the challenges that each of these areas face. In addition, with all our riding programs expanding, I am very cognizant of what initiatives are making equine activities attractive.

More importantly than my equine knowledge and experience, I bring to the table years of experience in providing strategic guidance and overcoming complex challenges. I am aware that Equestrian Canada's leadership is being challenged in social media. This is similar to some of the challenges I have faced in the Office of the Veterans Ombudsman for which we developed long term strategies that eventually mitigated the situation.

Based on what I can see from the public information available for Equestrian Canada, I possess the following skillsets which I believe could support Equestrian Canada goals:

- A strong background in governance and oversight;
- Experienced in briefing Ministers, politicians and senior public servants;
- National and International event planning;
- Well-developed communications skills; and

- Track record of developing innovative solutions for complex problems

Finally, I have a proven track record of bringing teams together that have resolved some very complex problems. My years of experience in an Ombudsman office have trained me to look at things objectively and establish the benchmarks for achieving success.

Overall I believe that my experience and skills could help support the goals of Equestrian Canada.

For your consideration.

Charles Cue