

Rupert May
Langley, BC



Equestrian Background

- Began riding at a young age in Northern Ireland, and took it up again in 2011.
- As a family, moved to Langley, BC to be closer to the horse community.
- Currently own two horses, and enjoy riding with wife and daughter.
- Compete with daughter in the lower levels of eventing, and daughter aspires to be at the highest level. As a result, the household revolves around riding, which provides a very healthy environment for young people to learn about sharing, altruism and the virtue of hard work.
- Aside from the fun of riding, care passionately about the people of the community who put in such hard work as volunteers and supporters.

Professional Background

Chief Financial Officer and Co-Founder – Cycle Component Network Inc. & 2MEvents Inc.

2010 – Present

- Set strategic and operation direction in conjunction with the CEO, from initial start up to become the largest provider in Canada.
- Responsible for all compliance, finance, payroll, PCI compliance and privacy at the group, operating in Canada, USA, UK, and European Union.
- Managing \$50+ million in client event registration, donation and merchandise funds for remittances.
- Negotiating with suppliers and customers regarding contracts from rent, banking, gateway processing, PCI compliance to long-term client contracts.

Audit Partner and Senior Manager Audit – Grant Thornton LLP

2003 – 2010

- Audit partner responsible for over \$2 million in annual billings managing some of the most complex and largest GVA owner managed clients, with the best record for billings, WIP management and receivables.
- Key year round client contact for all advisory services with a high level of chargeable hours, additional billings and new business development, bringing in over \$1.5 million in new business in 2 years.
- Significant involvement in the development of the GVA Manufacturing and Distribution practice, including setting new business development goals and driving results focused practice activity.

Engagement Manager – RPO Management Consultants

2001 - 2002

- Responsible for leading development of the RPO Value and Performance Management Consulting Practice.
- Successfully led a 10 month client consulting initiative resulting in a new corporate strategy for channel delivery realizing multi-million dollar cost savings.
- Bid for, won, and led two risk assessment projects which were adopted by the client as the approach to be used for accessing future internal projects.
- Key contributor to RPO development, including growth forecasting, client identification, cost savings, marketing, budgeting and implementation.

Volunteerism

Chartered Professional Accountants of BC

2009 – 2015

- Exposure Draft Forum and Finance Technology Committee

Vancouver Academy of Music

2001 – 2004

- Member of the Board of Directors and Finance Committee

Canadian Board Diversity Council

- Roundtable for corporate governance for senior finance professionals

Education

Bachelor of Arts (Hons)

Manchester University

- **Certified Public Accountant in Colorado, US** – February 2003
- **Institute of Chartered Accountants in British Columbia - C.A.** – January 2000
- **Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales – A.C.A** – January 1998

May 24, 2017

Letter of Interest to Nominating Committee, Equestrian Canada

I am writing to express my great interest in serving the equestrian community of Canada by serving on the Board of Directors of Equestrian Canada. My background as a senior finance professional, entrepreneur and passionate rider mean I can bring knowledgeable and experienced oversight to both operational and strategic decision making. It would be a great honour to serve on the Board and to help the community of Canadian equestrians.

Business background

As a Chartered Accountant qualified in the United Kingdom, United States and in Canada, I have extensive knowledge of setting and managing budgets, evaluating and preparing operational and strategic business cases as well as oversight of implementation. As a former audit partner of a global accounting firm, I am well versed in best practices for governance and general oversight, handling opportunities and challenges with professional discretion and diplomacy. For the last 8 years, I have cofounded and run a number of businesses focussed on sports integrated online membership and event registration, growing to be one of the largest providers in our niche in North America, including clients such as Triathlon Canada, Cycling Canada and USA Cycling.

The experience of advising as an audit partner combined with actually running successful businesses has given me very practical knowledge regarding oversight of long term projects, a 'can do' attitude and a determination to make the very best of every situation. Having worked for a period as a management consultant and as a consultant to my clients, I have a great deal of experience with both change and project management, bringing fresh perspective and enthusiasm to any given task.

As well as advising many Boards, I have served on the Vancouver Academy of Music Board, my own Board and been part of the Canadian Board Diversity Council roundtable for corporate governance for senior finance professionals. In addition, I have been a volunteer in many capacities since my early 20s, working with troubled youth across the religious divide in Northern Ireland during the Troubles, mentoring young business professionals in Canada, Bikes for Tykes programme and participating in schools with Junior Achievement as an advisor. I have also been involved in several roles at the Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia such as the Exposure Draft Forum and the Finance Technology Committee.

Personal Background

Born in Northern Ireland, I started riding early and took a break in my teens to focus on rugby. On moving to Canada permanently in 1998, I focussed on my career and family, to take up riding again 6 years ago. Our family moved to Langley, British Columbia, to be closer to the horse community and currently own 2 horses. My wife and daughter both ride, and my daughter Emma and I both compete at the lower levels of eventing, although Emma aspires to be at the highest level. As a result, our household revolves around riding which I think provides a very healthy environment for young people to learn about responsibility, sharing, altruism and the virtue of hard work. Aside from the fun of riding, I care passionately about the people of the community who put in such hard work as volunteers and supporters.

We have made so many friends and had so many nice experiences through riding that I truly think it is one of the greatest sports. In all its disciplines from eventing to vaulting to driving, it requires the common characteristics of rider and horse combining to perform at their very best. Every rider has the same passion, regardless of ability, for this combination which takes both courage and hard work. This I admire and part of the reason I wish to help grow the sport. The role models, volunteers, officials, governing bodies, vets, farriers and the list goes on, that make the community thrive, have had a big impact on our family-I have literally seen my daughter mature faster than I thought was possible.

I believe in the ethos of Equestrian Canada's core values completely. They inure lifelong good habits I believe and require each and every rider to be an ambassador for their stables, coach and family treating those they meet with respect and an attitude of 'we are all in this together'. I have always believed in leading by example by setting excellence as my goal and for those around me. Anything that is worth anything in life takes hard work, time, overcoming of setbacks and a dedication to excellence which is why the phrase 'carpe diem' crops up regularly.

Having travelled extensively to over fifty countries, worked in 2 continents and coast to coast in Canada, I bring international perspective to any situation and an appreciation of different cultures and backgrounds. My native language is English and can comprehend basic French. I travel frequently across Canada for my business, including Toronto and Ottawa and have worked for short periods in the Maritimes so have a great appreciation for the diversity of Canada.

Conclusion

Thank you for considering my application for serve on the Board. I appreciate that the Nominating Committee has a great responsibility in evaluating individuals who can embody and deliver on the core values of Equestrian Canada. I hope that my experience and passion are of interest and greatly look forward to hearing from the Nominating Committee.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Rupert May', with a stylized, flowing script.

Rupert May