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Biathlon Canada Welcomes New Board Members During 2025 Annual Meeting

CANMORE, Alta.—Biathlon Canada will head into the Olympic year with a new look to its Board of Directors.

The national sport organization for biathlon wrapped up its 2025 Annual Meeting by adding some new and returning faces to its Board of Directors including **Roger Archambault (Quebec), Katrina Galas (Ontario), Elmar Heger (British Columbia), Dylan Hughes (Alberta), Roger Soane (British Columbia) and Assia Turenne (Quebec)**. Galas is the only individual of the six newly elected members to be reelected to the Board from last year. Archambault previously served on the Biathlon Canada's Board of Directors from 2021-2023.

"This is an exciting, yet crucial time, in the history of Biathlon Canada," said Mike Walker, Chair, Biathlon Canada. "This diverse group of highly accomplished individuals from in and outside of the biathlon community bring an extraordinary range of competencies, perspectives and experiences that will be crucial as we navigate an uncertain sporting landscape to ensure a successful and sustainable future for our sport in Canada.

"We will work together to build strong partnerships, stable funding, continue to recruit and support a skilled staff with the collective goal to continue to grow the sport in Canada while delivering the resources our elite level athletes need and deserve at all levels."

Archambault served on the Board from 2021 to 2023 and was a key architect to Biathlon Canada's success for two decades (2002-2022) bringing significant sport leadership experience to the Board. Archambault has also worked in leadership positions with the Canadian Olympic Committee, Institut National du Sport du Quebec, Waterpolo Canada and the University of Ottawa.

He will be joined by returning Board member, Katrina Galas who has helped shape biathlon in Canada since joining the Board in 2021. Galas brings 20 years experience in brand management and sport strategy with a focus on women's sport, sustainability and active societies. A multi-sport athlete herself, Galas has worked with iconic Canadian brands including Vancouver 2010, Molson Coors, along with global brands such as Nike and Nielsen Sports. She has also worked with the Invictus Games and the Toronto Furries of the CWHL.

Elmar Heger, who recently became the Executive Director of Swim BC, has more than 25 years of experience working in high-performance sport as an athlete, coach and leader, will serve his first term on Biathlon Canada's Board. Heger served as General Manager of Biathlon Alberta over the last seven years where he expanded participation, strengthened governance and fostered a culture of inclusivity across the sport in the province.

Dylan Hughes, who calls Canmore, Alta. home, will bring his professional experience as a Chartered Professional Accountant and a Tax Partner with MNP LLP in Calgary along with his passion for the nordic sports to this new leadership position.

Roger Soane, who is no stranger to Canada's Olympic and Paralympic community as the President and CEO of Whistler Sport Legacies, will bring extensive governance and leadership experience to Biathlon Canada. Originally from London, England, Soane has more than 40 years of international experience managing major properties worldwide. He took over the leadership reins of Whistler Sport Legacies in 2013 where he has built a sustainable model balancing sport, community and tourism while ensuring Olympic venues on Canada's west coast remain active and relevant.

Assia Turenne rounds out the new elected Board members. Turenne is a senior executive with more than 25 years in public service specializing in strategic governance, organizational transformation and operational efficiency. Turenne has played a key role in Biathlon Canada's financial sustainability, having served on the organization's Finance and Audit Committee since 2023 where she contributed financial oversight and accountability.

Biathlon Canada also extended its sincere appreciation to outgoing Board members: Peter Pekos; Kristy McGregor-Bales; and Mandy Tran during its Annual General Meeting.

Pekos has been a generous donor to Biathlon Canada over the years while also participating as a member of both the Marketing and Revenue Generation Committee and the Nominating Committee. McGregor-Bales has been Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee over the last year and a half, supporting the Board and Biathlon Canada leadership through some challenging financial times. Tran was Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee for her first two and a half years on the Board where she demonstrated excellent leadership. Tran led the completion of key projects including the development of a comprehensive Risk Register and Risk Management Policies, as well as played a key role in a banking transition that is resulting in significant cost-savings for the national sport organization.

"Peter, Kristy and Mandy have all provided critical leadership and direction to support Biathlon Canada throughout their terms," added Walker. "We are grateful for their dedication and for the time and energy they invested to help advance the sport in Canada forward. We wish them all the very best of luck in future endeavours, and we hope to continue to draw from their experiences and wisdom in years to come as friends in our community."

Philippe Gauthier (Quebec), Doug Hannum (Ontario), Gail Niinimaa (Alberta), Ntala Quintillo (Alberta) and Mike Walker (British Columbia) continue to serve their two-year terms as Directors at Large, as does Julia Ransom (British Columbia) as the Board's Athlete Director.

The Board of Directors will soon be participating in a strategic planning exercise that will serve as Biathlon Canada's road map to 2030 and beyond, helping to ensure the long-term financial sustainability and health of the sport in Canada.

Biathlon Canada is the national governing body for biathlon in Canada, responsible for supporting the growth and development of the sport at all levels. Biathlon Canada's mission is to empower biathletes to thrive at every level. Trailblaze with us.

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