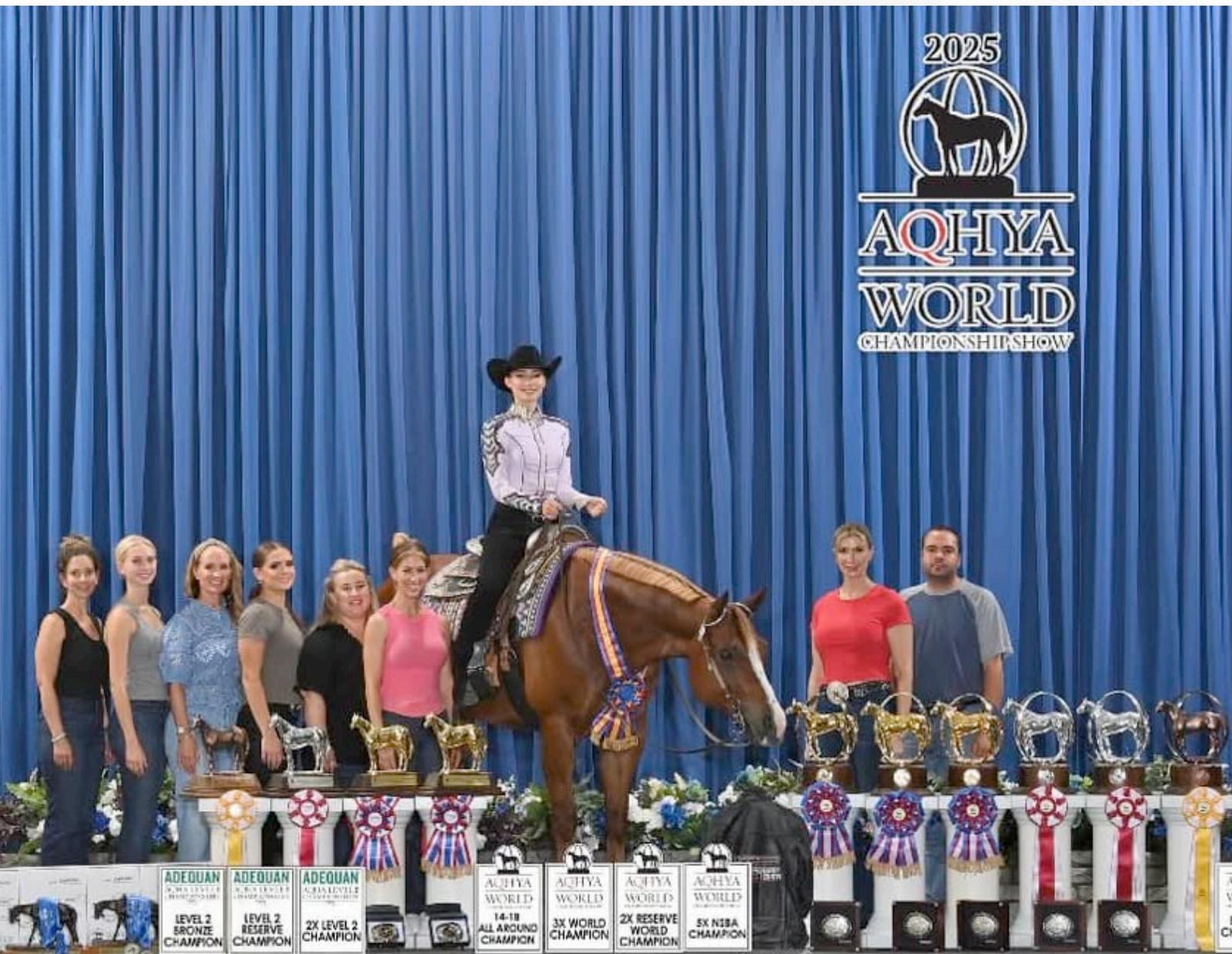


# 2025 Annual Report

CANADIAN  
QUARTER  
HORSE  
ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION  
CANADIENNE DE  
QUARTER  
HORSE



Ady Kallay

2025 AQHYA World Championship Show  
All Around Champion

PRESENTED BY

The CQHA  
Board of Directors

AQHA  
AFFILIATE

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# MISSION STATEMENT ÉNONCÉ DE MISSION



THE CANADIAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION (CQHA), IS THE CANADIAN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION (AQHA), AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LARGEST BREED POPULATION WITHIN THE CANADIAN HERD.

THE CQHA EXISTS TO ADDRESS ISSUES OF CONCERN TO CANADIAN OWNERS OF AMERICAN QUARTER HORSES; TO BE A COMMUNICATIONS VEHICLE FOR AND WITH CANADIAN AQHA MEMBERS; AND TO PROMOTE AND MARKET CANADIAN-BRED AND/OR CANADIAN-OWNED AMERICAN QUARTER HORSES, BOTH GLOBALLY AND DOMESTICALLY.

AMERICAN  
QUARTER  
HORSE  
INTERNATIONAL

**About AQHA International:** AQHA International, seeks to support and enhance the international member experience. AQHA International supports members and affiliate organizations worldwide by offering innovative programs and tailored services that meet diverse needs and enhance the value of AQHA membership.

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L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DU QUARTER HORSE (ACQH) EST LA FILIALE CANADIENNE DE L'AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION (AQHA). L'ACQH EST LE PORTE PAROLE POUR LA PLUS GRANDE POPULATION DE CHEVAUX AU SEIN DE L'ÉLEVAGE CANADIEN .

LE MANDAT DE L'ACQH EST D'ABORDER LES QUESTIONS QUI PRÉOCCUPENT LES PROPRIÉTAIRES CANADIENS DE QUARTER HORSES AMÉRICAINS; D'ÊTRE UN MOYEN DE COMMUNICATION POUR ET AVEC LES MEMBRES CANADIENS DE L'AQHA; PROMOUVOIR ET COMMERCIALISER LES QUARTER HORSES AMÉRICAINS D'ORIGINE CANADIENNE , TANT À L'ÉCHELLE MONDIALE QUE NATIONALE.

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### COVER PHOTO:

**Ady Kallay:** CQHA is proud to congratulate Ady Kallay of Drayton Valley, Alberta, on being named the 2025 American Quarter Horse Youth Association (AQHYA) 14-18 All-Around Champion — the highest overall youth title awarded at the AQHYA World Championship Show, held August 1-10, 2025 in Oklahoma City.

Riding The Batchelor ("Scout"), a 2017 sorrel gelding by How Bout This Cowboy and out of Shes Blazing Cool by Blazing Hot, Ady earned a staggering 100 points toward the All-Around — becoming the first exhibitor in AQHYA history to earn all All-Around points through top-three finishes in every Level 3 class entered.

Her final class of the show, a win in L3 Western Horsemanship (14-18), sealed her gold-medal streak and confirmed a week of domination in the biggest American Quarter Horse Association youth competition of the year.

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Submitted by: Dr Gilles Seguin

2025 was my last year of my term as President of CQHA

## IT WAS A CHALLENGING YEAR

This year CQHA continued to build to build ties, relationships with all the Provincial Affiliates and a vast community of Quarter Horse enthusiasts who loves one of the greatest athletes in the world: the American Quarter Horse.

CQHA is strengthening the American Quarter Horse community in Canada and enriching others through excellence in its vision, policies, programs and activities that align with those of AQHA.

This level of achievement would not be possible without dedicated volunteers throughout Canada. Volunteers working hard with their local Associations to ensure that the American Quarter Horse enthusiast across Canada are having fun and a great time. Important that volunteers and role members understand the commitment that is required. Volunteers also comprise the Board of CQHA, its Executive Committee and chair different committees. I want to thank these people for their dedication and hard work. The ones that decided to make a difference and actively participate to make a difference are very special people. Collaboration, sharing, working together as a team has brought results to CQHA.

However, we this year we have encounter several challenges. One arose immediately in January 2025. AQHA directors (a sample) where asked to through a series of independent phone calls. I found out about these calls when AQHA International called me and if I thought that working directly with AQHA instead of working with CQHA. I was stunned.

CQHA created a task force and appointed our First Vice President Laurie Houghton to lead the task. Like a project manager would. This is interesting since most organization this is the business model is used quite effectively. This model provides distinctive roles for members of their executives. Progressively they learn roles (First Vice President Project Manager, 2nd Vice President Policies, Bylaws, Disciplinary, ...) as they move forward to reach the role of President. The member of members of the CQHA Board and members of AQHA and CQHA can be part of operational committees. (see Recommendation number 3).

The task force project manager researched and provided a report demonstrating the importance and the value of CQHA these documents were circulated to most to you. This report was shared with AQHA International and the AQHA Executive Committee. This very detailed report was also shared, discussed with Norm Luba and the



Canadian AQHA directors and Canadians attending the AQHA Convention in Las Vegas in March of 2025. They compliment Laurie Houghton for her in researching and preparing this report. I know that the AQHA Throughout 2025 the force moved forward with numerous meetings engaging the different associations and provincial Affiliates through the year. Provincial also appointed representatives to the task force.

Collaboration is key with stake holders (owners, breeders, different associations (Barrel Racing, Rodeo, Roping, Ranching Riding, Working Cow Horse, etc.) Province groups PTSO`s and National Group such as Equestrian Canada It is important to reach out to AQHA members engage with the Youth with the Youth they won't come to us we need to go to them.

Encourage the creation of joint events/special events sanctioned by AQHA, like we do with NSBA in many shows across Canada. Engage provincial affiliates and through collaboration encourage them to reach out also for these joint sanctioned events. Volunteers should not be taken for granted- they should be recognized by all. Tailor our efforts to meet the needs of our country.

Business Plan important to focus on a response to the needs with clear measurable objectives and results. The response must be focused on a key priority considering our limited capabilities. This is key to meeting the needs of the present and future Quarter Horse owners. This is somewhat of a departure from the response we have provided in the past. It is a time of change. Key elements discussed – work with Provincial affiliates to expand their footprint to include the joint events with a particular focus on Special Events that could be Jackpot such as Ranch Riding, Working Cow horse, Reining, Working Cow horse, Mounted Shooting. These can be World Show Qualifier events. These events would result in increasing registrations. Membership.

This approach could also lead to positive economic impacts for industry. AQHA/CQHA to meet specific needs

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT PG 2

Submitted by: Dr Gilles Seguin

of Quarter Horse owners and ensure close liaison with AQHA. There an abundance of needs to be met, volunteers are burning out and we need someone to ensure constant liaison with membership in Canada. A description of the role was prepared and submitted to AQHA.

There will be changes in 2026 to how AQHA allocates funds to affiliates. Karl Stressman is retiring and Dave Delin will be the new CEO of AQHA. Welcome, Dave Delin is a good person and understands the needs of the QH Industry.

It also year that saw Joe Carter our mentor and leader pass. He is an inspiration of courage and leadership that I personally will never forget. He helped me and others in so many ways.

**Recommendations:**

1. Build on the work that we have accomplished
2. Introduce new perspectives welcome younger people listen to their perspective.
3. Look at the CQHA Business Model and consider giving specific roles to each member of the CQHA Executive Committee as stated previously in this report. This is important to ensure the continued growth of CQHA and relationship with all Provincial Affiliates and other QH Association.

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# 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Gilles Seguin**

Quebec  
*President*

**Laurie Haughton**

Ontario  
*1st Vice President*

**Gayle Pawley-Wilson**

British Columbia  
*2nd Vice President*

**Hannah Searle**

New Brunswick  
*Secretary*

**Mary Ellen Robinson**

Alberta  
*Treasurer*

**Wayne Burwash**

Alberta  
*Past President*

**Kathy Patterson**

Ontario  
*Executive Director*

**Andy Hellqvist**

British Columbia  
*Director*

**Sandy Kirtzinger**

Alberta  
*Director*

**Pia Petersen**

British Columbia  
*Director*

**Sharon Forbes-Hanks**

Alberta  
*Director*

**Wanda McFadyen**

Manitoba  
*Director*

**Lindsay Bueckert**

Alberta  
*Director*

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# COMMITTEES OF THE CQHA

- **Governance Committee:** (Chair: Wayne Burwash)- This Committee's role is to focus on the by-laws and governance elements of these by-laws, making recommendations for changes to CQHA BoD.
  - **Finance Committee:** (Chair: Mary Ellen Robinson) -This Committee's role is key to the overall management of the CQHA Finances. This Committee will oversee all of the financial components of the CQHA. The work of the Committee includes the planning, budgeting, tracking and reporting of the CQHA Finances. Financial Reports will be required quarterly and for the AGM. The Committee's duties will also include overseeing revenues that the CQHA generates through the Affiliate Grant Program, the Equestrian Canada and Sponsorships programs or other revenue streams generated by CQHA programs. The Committee will prepare a budget for the CQHA, obtain approval from the CQHA Executive and BoD.
  - **Media, Marketing and Communications Committee:** (Chair: Laurie Haughton) The role of the Media, Marketing & Communications Committee will be to provide strategic direction and leadership to the CQHA Media Team, Board of Directors, Committees, Membership & Alliances. This committee will work to promote the programs, activities & events presented and or supported by CQHA in partnership with AQHA, the AQHA Provincial Affiliates and CQHA's Industry Alliance Partners through electronic communications, the CQHA.ca website, and CQHA's social media platforms, and other means of communications in person, in print & digitally. The key objectives of the committee are to:
    - -Communicate the purpose of the association in accordance with its mandate with the American Quarter Horse Association;
    - -Facilitate the promotion of CQHA programs and activities;
    - Act as the national representative and spokesperson of the largest breed population of the Canadian herd;
    - Address the concerns of Canadian owners of Registered American Quarter Horses;
    - -Promote Canadian-bred and owned registered American Quarter Horses;
    - -Uphold and communicate with respect and dignity the standards of equine welfare in Canada and in accordance with AQHA's position statement on the humane treatment of horses.The Media, Marketing & Communications Committee sets out to meet the objectives stated above as they apply to all AQHA-sanctioned events and non-AQHA-sanctioned events and activities.
  - **Awards Committee:** (Chair: Hannah Searle) - This Committee is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the CQHA Awards Program. These awards are presented annually. The Committee is specifically responsible for preparing the budget and implementation plan of the CQHA AWARDS, including the communication plan, working with the Media, Marketing & Communication Committee. The Committee will maximize existing CQHA communication channels, preparing the CQHA Awards program –application forms, evaluation criteria and recommending, following the evaluation of the application, a slate of award recipients to the CQHA Executive. The Committee will prepare the presentation and ensure communication with the recipients. They will order the Award Buckles based on the results of their evaluation. They can also propose additional awards based on the analysis performed by the committee members. Prepare a report for the activities and outcomes achieved and present at the CQHA AGM.
  - **Shannon Burwash Memorial Scholarship Committee:** (Chair: Wayne Burwash) This Committee is responsible for the Administration of the Shannon Burwash Scholarship program.
  - **Amateur Committee:** (Chair: Sharon Forbes-Hanks) This Committee is responsible for coordinating development and the implementation of national programs which support and promote amateur activity involving American Quarter Horses.
  - **Youth Committee:** (Chair: Gayle Pawley-Wilson) This Committee is responsible for coordinating development and the implementation of national programs which support and promote youth activity involving American Quarter Horses.
  - **AQHA Youth World Cup Committee:** (Chair: Kathy Patterson) – This Committee is responsible for the CQHA in relating more specifically to the AQHA Youth World Cup Committee, selection of Manager and Coach for the Youth team and preparing and submitting the budget for this activity. Financial reports of the activities of the Youth World Cup and the Committee tabled at the BoD and the CQHA AGM. The Committee is an essential promoter of Youth activities and programs across Canada.
  - **Breeders Committee:** (Chair: Sandy Kirtzinger) - Overall Purpose of Committee:
    - Position Canada nationally and internationally as a source of quality Quarter Horses, breeding programs, stallion standings, information pertaining to reproductive technology, and information on equine health and welfare.
    - Improve the image of Canadian bred Quarter Horses Nationally and Internationally.
  - **Grant Committee:** (Chair: Gayle Pawley-Wilson) The Objectives of the Grant Committee is to provide funding to encourage the expansion of the AQHA and CQHA membership, AQHA registrations, the marketing of the American Quarter Horse, the understanding and protection of the breed integrity as well as the discovery of the American Quarter Horse's many talents in Canada. Scope of Work:
    - The CQHA Grant Committee will review, edit, and distribute the CQHA Grant
    - Application Guidelines to the membership by CQHA Media and email annually after approval by the CQHA Board of Directors.
    - The CQHA Grant Committee will provide approved application information to the CQHA Marketing and Media Committee including dates, pictures, and participant lists.
    - CQHA Grant Committee will collect and submit all information (including applications, receipts, budget reports, post reports and AQHA member participant lists for each application) for reimbursement to AQHA by September 15 working with the CQHA Treasurer.
  - **Nomination & Credentials Committee:** (Chair: Wayne Burwash) - The general purpose of the Nomination Committee (the "Committee") on behalf of the CQHA is to:
    - Ensure there is an election each year with a rigorous nomination system;
    - Recruit qualified individuals to stand for election as directors;
    - Present a slate of candidates for the election of directors of CQHA in accordance with the
    - CQHA's Bylaws and the established nomination guidelines and procedure.
  - **Partnership Development Committee:** (Chairs: Gilles Seguin) - This Committee is strategically vital to the financial sustainability of CQHA. The committee is responsible for identifying partners/sponsors, linking the partners to CQHA programs such as Awards and Grant program areas. It is responsible for CQHA Board members to build a cross Canada network to engage and obtain partnership / sponsorship support.
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# FINANCE COMMITTEE

Submitted by Committee Chair: Mary Ellen Robinson

## Notice to Reader

Calgary, Alberta  
December 6, 2025

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of the Canadian Quarter Horse Association as at September 30, 2025 and the statement of operations for the year then ended, and Note 1, which describes the basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the compiled financial information ("financial information")

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial information, including the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information used to compile it and the selection of the basis of accounting.

Our responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial information. We did not perform an audit engagement or a review engagement, nor were we required to perform procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion, or provide any form of assurance on the financial information.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Signed;



Dawna Delainey  
2167413 Alberta Ltd

# FINANCE COMMITTEE

## Canadian Quarter Horse Association Balance Sheet

As at September 30

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash - CQHA	118,491	85,298
YWC Bank	-	-
Accounts Receivable	-	33,119
<i>Total current assets</i>	<u>118,491</u>	<u>118,417</u>
<b>Fixed (Long-Term) Assets</b>		
Trademark	1,850	1,850
<i>Total fixed assets</i>	<u>1,850</u>	<u>1,850</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>120,340</u></b>	<b><u>120,267</u></b>
<b>Liabilities and Owner's Equity</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable & Accruals	6,318	1,690
<i>Total current liabilities</i>	<u>6,318</u>	<u>1,690</u>
<b>Equity</b>		
Youth World Cup Restricted	33,281	33,281
General Fund	80,741	85,295
<i>Total Equity</i>	<u>114,022</u>	<u>118,577</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Owner's Equity</b>	<b><u>120,340</u></b>	<b><u>120,267</u></b>

### Youth World Cup Fund

Opening Restricted Fund	33,281	32,840
Current Year Fund Expenditures	-	442
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b><u>33,281</u></b>	<b><u>33,281</u></b>
Opening General Fund	85,295	88,552
Current Year Earnings	(4,554)	(3,257)
<b>General Funds</b>	<b><u>80,741</u></b>	<b><u>85,295</u></b>
<b>Total Reserve</b>	<b>114,022</b>	<b>118,577</b>

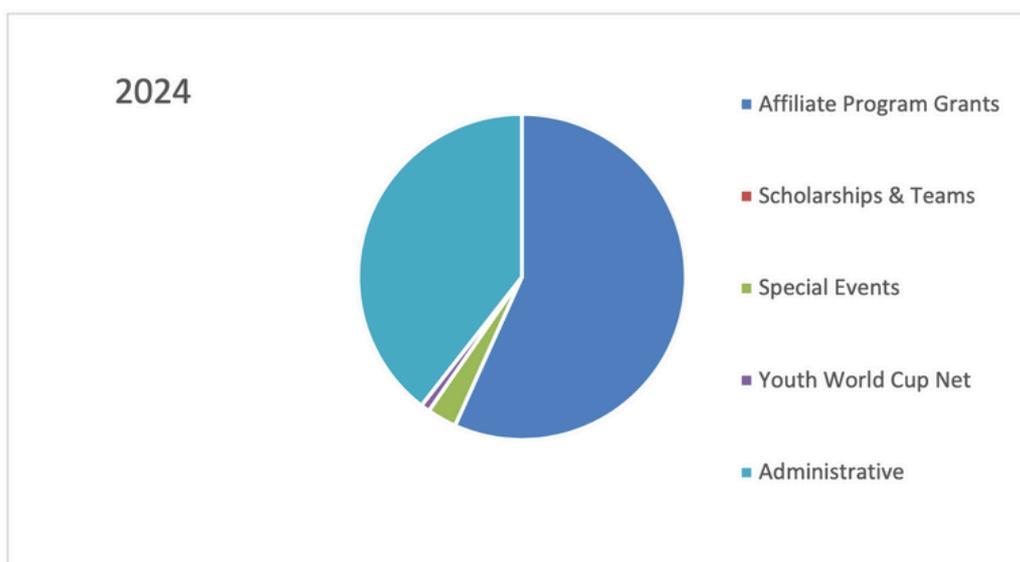
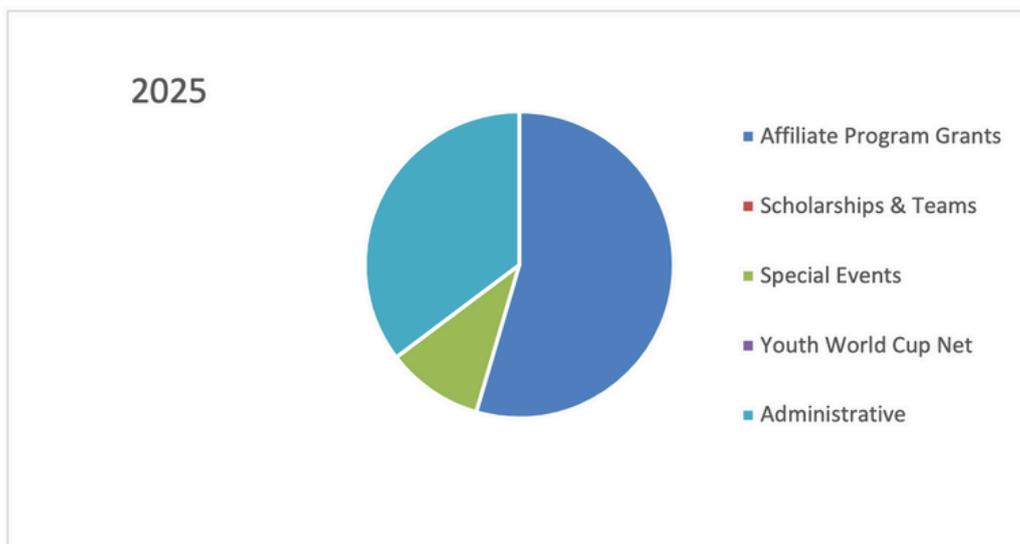
# FINANCE COMMITTEE

## Canadian Quarter Horse Association Statement of Receipts & Disbursements For the Year Ending September 30

Revenue	2025	2024
AQHA Grant Revenue	41,547	45,811
Sponsorship	1,879	2,000
Special Events	-	299
Gain on Foreign Exchange	2,991	(2,784)
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>46,416</b>	<b>45,327</b>
<b>Program Expenditures</b>		
Affiliate Program Grants	27,774	27,795
Special Events	5,200	1,440
Youth Grants	-	-
Youth World Cup Net	-	(442)
<b>Total Program Expenditures</b>	<b>32,974</b>	<b>28,794</b>
<b>General &amp; Administrative Expenses</b>		
Accounting & Legal	1,575	1,587
Website	840	-
Advertising & Promotion	3,556	7,399
Awards & Trophies	3,667	30
Business Fees & Licenses	350	421
Memberships	2,400	4,045
Insurance	1,335	1,103
Interest & Bank	571	432
Office & Postage	2,335	3,763
Meetings & Travel	367	569
Charitable Outreach	1,000	-
<b>Total G&amp;A Expenses</b>	<b>17,997</b>	<b>19,348</b>
<b>Excess of Receipts over Disbursements</b>	<b>(4,554)</b>	<b>(2,815)</b>
<b>Net Youth World Cup</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>442</b>
<b>CQHA Excluding YWC</b>	<b>(4,554)</b>	<b>(3,257)</b>

# FINANCE COMMITTEE

Program Expenditures	2025	2024
Affiliate Program Grants	27,774	27,795
Scholarships & Teams		
Special Events	5,200	1,440
Youth World Cup Net	-	(442)
Administrative	17,997	19,348
<b>Total Program Expenditures</b>	<b>50,971</b>	<b>48,142</b>



# FINANCE COMMITTEE

## Youth World Cup Statement of Receipts & Disbursements

Revenue	2025	2024
Sponsorships		500
Clothing Sales		
Other Fundraising		
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>General &amp; Administrative Expenses</b>		
Bank Fees	-	59
Office Expenses		
Clothing Purchases		
Travel Expense		
Team Training		
Supplies		
Courier & Postage		
Team Clothing		
Meals & Entertainment		
Entry Fees		
Management Honoraria		
<b>Total G&amp;A Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Excess of Receipts over Disbursements</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>442</b>
<b>YC Bank</b>		
Opening	-	6,029.15
Closing	-	-
Change	-	(6,029.15)
<b>Restricted Youth Funds</b>		
Opening	33,281.49	32,839.99
Closing	33,281.49	33,281.49
Change	-	441.50

### Canadian Quarter Horse Association Notes to Financial Statements September 30, 2025

#### 1 Basis of accounting

The basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the statement of financial position of the Canadian Quarter Horse Association as at September 30, 2025, and the statement of operations for the year then ended is the historical cost basis and reflects cash transactions with the addition of:

Prepaid Expenses

Property, plant and equipment amortized on the same basis as for income tax

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities as at the reporting date

Investment revenue is recorded in the period to which it relates, and

Current income taxes payable as at the reporting date.

# FINANCE COMMITTEE

## Canadian Quarter Horse Association

## Income Statement 10-01-24 to 09-30-25

	Category 1 Educ/Clinics	Category 2 Comp/Use	Category 3 Mktg/Outreach	Category 4 Promotions	AI Dunning	Cdn Bred	CNATT	Non-Alloc	YWC
<b>Revenue</b>									
Grant Revenue	41,547.08							41,547.08	
Sponsorship	1,878.50							1,878.50	
YWC Sponsorships									
Total Youth World Cup Fundraising	0.00								
Gain on Foreign Exchange	-87.47		-87.47						
Miscellaneous Revenue	0.00								
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>43,338.11</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-87.47</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>43,425.58</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Affiliate Program Grants</b>									
BCQHA BC	3,500.00	3,500.00							
QHAA Alberta	4,045.00		3,500.00	545.00					
Alberta QH Racing	0.00								
SQHA Sask	3,500.00	3,500.00							
MQHA Manitoba	3,500.00	3,500.00							
OQHA Ontario	4,045.00	3,500.00		545.00					
QQHA Quebec	4,000.00	500.00		3,500.00					
MARQHA Maritime	3,500.00		3,500.00						
Youth Grants	684.37	684.37							
Non AQHA Grants / Other	1,000.00	500.00		500.00					
<b>Total Affiliate Programs</b>	<b>27,774.37</b>	<b>3,500.00</b>	<b>15,684.37</b>	<b>3,500.00</b>	<b>5,090.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Youth World Cup Expenses</b>									
YWC Bank Fees	0.00								
<b>Total Youth World Cup Expenses</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Special Events</b>									
Special Events - Other	5,200.00	4,400.00		800.00					
<b>Total Special Events</b>	<b>5,200.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,400.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>800.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>General &amp; Administrative Expenses</b>									
Accounting & Legal	1,575.00							1,575.00	
Website	840.00		840.00						
Exhibit and Booth Expense	0.00								
Advertising & Promotions	2,760.48		2,475.49	284.99					
Printing & Reproduction	795.29		795.29						
Awards & Trophies	3,667.38		798.99	2,868.39					
Business Fees & Licenses	350.00	350.00							
Memberships	2,400.00							2,400.00	
Insurance Director & Officer	0.00								
Insurance - General Liability	1,335.48							1,335.48	
Interest & Bank Charges	571.32							571.32	
Office Supplies	333.75		103.19					230.56	
Courier & Postage	2,001.03		2,001.03						
Meetings - In Person	0.00								
Meeting - Teleconference	366.77		366.77						
Charitable Outreach	1,000.00							1,000.00	
Unrealized Foreign Exchange	-3,078.26							-3,078.26	
<b>Total General &amp; Admin. Expenses</b>	<b>14,918.24</b>	<b>350.00</b>	<b>798.99</b>	<b>9,450.16</b>	<b>284.99</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,034.10</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>-4,554.50</b>	<b>-3,850.00</b>	<b>-20,883.36</b>	<b>-13,037.63</b>	<b>-6,174.99</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>39,391.48</b>	<b>0.00</b>

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# AWARDS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Committee Chairs: Awards, Hannah Sear & Breeders, Sandy Kirtzinger

## **The following awards will be presented for 2025:**

1. 2025 Performance Show Horse Breeder of the Year
2. 2025 Halter Horse Breeder of the Year
3. 2025 Cutting Horse Breeder of the Year
4. 2025 Extreme Cowboy Challenge Horse Breeder of the Year
5. 2025 Team Roping Heeling Horse Breeder of the Year
6. 2025 Team Roping Heading Horse Breeder of the Year
7. 2025 Barrel Horse Breeder of the Year
8. 2025 Ranch Horse Breeder of the Year
9. 2025 CQHA/AQHA Amateur of the Year
10. 2025 CQHA/AQHA Youth of the Year

## **The following are the recipients of the 2024 CQHA Breeders Awards:**

1. Performance Show Horse Breeder of the Year – AQHA program written IM EVERYCHICS DREAM bred by Anderson Performance Horses. Hagersville, Ontario. Shown by AMANDA GRILLI
2. Halter Horse Breeder of the Year – AQHA She Will Be Somebody Rod Jeffries , Tyendinaga, Ontario.
3. Cutting Horse Breeder of the Year – Canadian Cutting Horse Association. Lil Hott Dancer,. Red Hot Cat x Little Private Dancer (Dual Rey). Rick Perkins, Kamloops BC.
4. Extreme Cowboy Challenge Horse Breeder of the Year– Extreme Cowboy Association. Remi (Remis Slidin Diamond), bred by BarHeide Quarter Horses (Phil & Barb Heidebrecht), Crossfield, AB and owned by Sophia Davis, Leduc, AB.
5. Team Roping Heading Horse Breeder of the Year – Canadian Team Roping Association Ashley Gunsch. Thorsby, AB.
6. Team Roping Heeling Horse Breeder of the Year – Canadian Team Roping Association. Shay Gold won on Starlight Diamond bred by Seth Abrahamson of Broderick, SK.
7. Mounted Shooting Horse Breeder of the Year – Canadian Cowboy Mounted Shooters Association messaged Darren Stoneman.
8. Barrel Horse Breeder of the Year – Canadian Barrel Racing Association. Bred by Klassen Quarter horses Horse: Blazin Sugar Daddy
9. Ranch Horse Breeder of the Year – SUMAC GUNNABEFLASHY 2017 gelding Dam - Chics Gracedul Whiz Sire - Gunnatrashya Breeder - Donald Sobey / Sumac Farms Born and raised in NOVA SCOTIA Canada. Owned by Leslie Vagneur Lange of Greeley, Colorado

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# GRANTS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Committee Chair: Gayle Pawley-Wilson

The Objectives of the Grant Committee is to provide funding to encourage the expansion of AQHA and CQHA memberships, AQHA registrations, the marketing of the American Quarter Horse, the understanding and protection of the breed integrity as well as the discovery of the American Quarter Horse's many talents in Canada. CQHA receives funding from AQHA to achieve these goals for AQHA members in Canada.

- Support, Maintain, and Develop the AQHA Breed Industry in Canada.
- Increase AQHA/CQHA/Affiliate memberships.
- Maintain Breed integrity by ensuring the welfare of AQHA horses in Canada.
- Demonstrate the Versatility of the AQHA Breed.
- Promote Canadian AQHA Breeders.
- Partner with other Associations in Canada that use AQHA horses.
- Build Communities across Canada.
- Have Fun!

## **2024-2025 Budget: \$30,000USD**

The Grant Funding year runs from October 1 to September 15 each year. Each event funded this year was approved by the AQHA Provincial Affiliates and the CQHA Grant Funding Committee.

Thank you to the CQHA Directors and Affiliate Board members who volunteered and represented CQHA/AQHA at events in 2024-2025.

Thank you to the CQHA Partners, Affiliates, Organizers, and the numerous volunteers who give their time and energy to make each event a success.

## **Funding Summary: 2024-2025**

### **CQHA:**

CQHA Annual Awards  
AQHA/CQHA promotional items and print material are provided across Canada.  
CQHA Breeders Awards  
AQHYA Memberships for new Youth

### **AQHA Provincial Affiliates:**

British Columbia Quarter Horse Association  
Quarter Horse Association of Alberta  
Saskatchewan Quarter Horse Association  
Manitoba Quarter Horse Association  
Ontario Quarter Horse Association  
Quebec Quarter Horse Association  
Maritime Quarter Horse Association

### **AQHA Approved Special Events:**

Canadian Central Reining Horse Association: Manitoba  
Ontario Reining Horse Association: Ontario  
Hants County: Spring Fling: Nova Scotia

### **Other Events:**

Two Hills Summer Sizzler: Alberta  
Midwestern Horseman's Society: Ontario  
Sumac Slide: New Brunswick  
Northern Lights Quarter Horse Association: Ontario  
Promotional Booths:  
Ontario Equine Expo: Ontario  
Canada Equine Expo: Alberta

### **CQHA Grant Committee Members:**

Wanda McFadyen, Lindsey Bueckert, Wayne Burwash, Sharon Forbes-Hanks, Hannah Searle,  
Mary Ellen Robinson, Andy Hellquist, Mallory Melville

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# MEDIA, MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Committee Chair: Laurie Haughton

## Overview

The Media, Marketing and Communications Committee continued to support the Canadian Quarter Horse Association's mandate in 2025 by strengthening national visibility, improving communication consistency, and supporting member engagement through coordinated messaging, digital platforms, and promotional initiatives. The committee's focus remained on maintaining clear, timely communication while modernizing tools and processes to better support affiliates, members, and sponsors.

## Key Areas of Focus in 2025

### Communications and Messaging

Throughout 2025, the committee worked to ensure consistent and professional messaging across CQHA communication channels. This included the preparation and distribution of press releases, announcements, and informational updates related to programs, awards, events, and deadlines. Emphasis was placed on clarity, accessibility, and maintaining a cohesive national voice.

### Digital and Social Media Presence

The committee continued to manage and grow CQHA's digital footprint, including social media platforms and online communications. Efforts focused on improving posting consistency, visual quality, and engagement, while supporting key initiatives such as awards programs, youth initiatives, national championships, and sponsor recognition.

### Media Relations and Promotion

The committee supported media outreach efforts by preparing promotional content and coordinating coverage for CQHA programs and milestones. This included collaboration on feature stories, announcements, and community highlights to increase awareness of CQHA activities within the broader equine industry.

### Platform and Technical Challenges

Throughout 2025, the committee experienced ongoing technical challenges with key communication platforms, including the CQHA website and Constant Contact. These issues affected the reliability and consistency of outbound communications and, at times, limited the committee's ability to effectively reach the full membership. Despite these constraints, the committee worked to maintain communication continuity using available channels and to minimize disruption where possible.

### Technology and Infrastructure Advancement

In 2025, CQHA was accepted as a registered member of TechSoup, a global nonprofit technology marketplace. This achievement provides CQHA with access to discounted and donated software, digital tools, and technology resources. Membership in TechSoup positions the organization to improve platform stability, enhance communications infrastructure, and adopt more sustainable technology solutions in the years ahead.

### Internal Support and Collaboration

The Media, Marketing and Communications Committee continued to provide infrastructure and communications support to other CQHA committees and task forces. This included assistance with forms, digital tools, promotional materials, and workflow coordination to improve efficiency and reduce duplication of effort across the organization.

## Outcomes and Progress

- Improved consistency and professionalism across CQHA communications
- Increased visibility of CQHA initiatives through coordinated digital promotion
- Enhanced branding alignment across platforms and materials
- Continued delivery of communications despite platform-related limitations
- Established access to nonprofit technology resources through TechSoup

## Looking Ahead to 2026

In 2026, the committee aims to continue refining communication workflows, leverage TechSoup resources to strengthen platform reliability, and further enhance digital engagement. Priorities will include documentation of processes, improved onboarding resources, and continued evolution of CQHA's communications strategy to better meet the needs of members and affiliates across Canada.

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# NOMINATION AND CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Submitted by Committee Chair: Wayne Burwash

The members of the Nomination and Credentials Committee (NCC) for 2024 were Andy Hellqvist, Gilles Seguin, Hannah Searles, Kathy Patterson, Laurie Haughton, Mary Robinson, Pia Peterson and Wayne Burwash.

As a wrap-up from 2024, the following candidates were elected by acclamation at the AGM held January 8, 2025: a) Sharon Forbes-Hanks, Laurie Haughton, Wanda McFadyen, Lindy McMurchy, Pia Petersen, and Mary Robinson for the six 3-year terms; b) Kathy Patterson for the 2-year term and c) Wayne Burwash for a 1-year term.

Due to various circumstances, during the year we had 3 resignations, Brad Bowie, Shari Irwin and Sharon Forbes-Hanks.

As determined by the board of directors, the optimum number of elected directors is 18, with 1/3 (6 directors) to be elected each year for a 3-year term. The 6 positions that are open for this year were created by 6 directors whose terms are up in 2025, Hannah Searles, Lyle Jackson (resigned end of last year), Sandy Kirtzinger, Holly Kress, Wayne Burwash and one open vacancy. Also, due to resignations, we have three 1-year terms and one 2-year term to fill by election.

Therefore, there are six 3-year terms, one 2-year term and three 1-year terms to be filled at this year's election, for a total of 10 positions. The process of nominating and electing directors was approved by the board of directors and the call for nominations/applications went out on November 8 and closed on December 14, open for a total of 5 weeks.

At the end of the nomination period, the NCC had received eight (8) qualified applications/nominations:

Candice Wright, ON  
Darla Rathwell, AB  
Kim Baerg, AB  
Kim Sabia, ON  
Paige Johnson, ON  
Sandy Kirkzinger, AB  
Madison Holmes, NB  
Wayne Burwash, AB

Because there are less qualified nominees/candidates (8) than there are vacancies (10) on the BOD, the BOD is recommending to the general membership at the AGM to elect by acclamation:

- a) Candice Wright, Darla Rathwell, Kim Baerg, Kim Sabia, Paige Johnson, and Sandy Kirkzinger for 3-year terms (filling the 6 vacancies);
- b) Wayne Burwash for the vacant 2-year term and
- c) Madison Holmes for a 1-year term.

This will leave 2 one-year terms vacant. In addition to the general election, the BOD is annually allowed to appoint two (2) directors to fill vacancies on the board until next AGM. There has been one additional well qualified nomination submitted after the nomination period closed, Shandi Jonasson. The NCC further recommended to the new BOD, after the AGM, to appoint Shandi to fill one of the 1-year vacancies on the board.

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# SHANNON BURWASH MEMORIAL FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

Submitted by Committee Chair: Wayne Burwash

## 2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



**KATIE PAUL, AB**



**DIANDRA ST. HILAIRE, SK**

SHANNON BURWASH WAS A LEADER AND A LOVER OF THE HORSE INDUSTRY ACROSS CANADA. THESE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AWARDED TO DESERVING STUDENTS WHO ARE FOCUSED ON GETTING A POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION AND BECOMING INVOLVED IN THE HORSE INDUSTRY IN THEIR FUTURE.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM PLEASE VISIT THE CQHA WEBSITE AT: [CQHA.CA/YOUTH/SCHOLARSHIPS/](https://cqha.ca/youth/scholarships/)

**Katie Paul** grew up in Cochrane, Alberta, and graduated from Cochrane High School, and then completed a Bachelor of Science in Animal Health at the University of Alberta. Now entering her third year of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program at the University of Calgary, pursuing a career focused on equine medicine. She has had the privilege of working as a summer student at Moore Equine Veterinary Centre, one of Western Canada's leading equine referral hospitals, where she continues to gain valuable clinical experience.

Outside of veterinary medicine, Katie enjoys spending as much time as possible in the outdoors—hiking, backpacking, skiing, and paddleboarding with her dog, Jax. She has been personally involved in the horse world for over 20 years, having competed with her Quarter Horse gelding, Rio, across Western Canada and the western United States in a variety of disciplines. These experiences have shaped her passion for equine health and performance. Paul is incredibly grateful for the support of her family, who have been instrumental throughout her academic and equestrian journey.

**Diandra St. Hilaire** has been passionate about horses for as long as she can remember. Growing up in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, she immersed herself in the equine world through 4-H, reining, and competitive riding, eventually earning a spot on the University of Georgia's NCAA Division I Equestrian Team, where she helped secure three National Championships and earned All-American honours.

After a 12-year career as a Corrections Officer, she returned to her first dream—veterinary medicine—and is now a member of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine Class of 2026. With more than 30 years of experience riding, showing, and caring for horses, Diandra is pursuing a career as an equine veterinarian, dedicated to serving rural and agricultural communities. She is passionate about mentorship, leadership, and giving back to the horse industry that has shaped every chapter of her life.

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# SHANNON BURWASH MEMORIAL FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

Submitted by Committee Chair: Wayne Burwash

## 2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



**RAYELLE SMITH, AB**



**KATRIANA VAN WOUDEMBERG, BC**

**Rayelle Smith** is a second-year Doctor of Veterinary Medicine student at the University of Calgary (Class of 2028) with a lifelong passion for horses and the equine industry. Her journey in the horse world has been shaped by years of showing horses, serving as the 2019 Medicine Hat Exhibition & Stampede Rodeo Queen, and proudly competing for the title of Miss Rodeo Canada. These experiences deepened her appreciation for the western way of life, strengthened her leadership skills, and allowed her to serve as an ambassador for the rodeo and agricultural communities.

Beyond her involvement in rodeo and showing, Rayelle is an avid horse lover whose career goal is to advance the health and well-being of equine athletes, helping them achieve their full potential while promoting longevity and soundness in their careers. At UCVM, she continues to build her knowledge and leadership within the field of large animal veterinary medicine.

Alongside her studies, she is an active member of the UCVM Equine Club and UCVM Production Animal Club and has hands-on experience working with cattle and horses, which has fueled her passion for large animal practice. Looking ahead, she aspires to serve the agricultural and equine community as a veterinarian, while continuing to develop leadership within the industry.

Rayelle is deeply honoured to be selected as a recipient of the Shannon Burwash Award for Leadership and Excellence in Equine, Agri-Business, and Agricultural Studies. She is inspired by Shannon's legacy of horsemanship, leadership, and lifelong dedication to the Quarter Horse industry, and she aspires to carry those same values forward in her veterinary career and contributions to the equine community.

**Katriana Van Woudenberg** grew up in beautiful Langley, BC. She wanted to be a veterinarian from a young age, and being in her final year of the DVM program is a dream come true! Katriana was an involved member of 4H BC for many years, showing horses, serving as club president, a BC 4H Ambassador, and attending many conferences and events. She has worked and volunteered in a variety of fields within veterinary medicine, including wildlife rehabilitation, small and mixed animal medicine, veterinary radiology, and equine medicine. She discovered her passion for equine medicine in her first year of veterinary school. She held two summer positions at equine practices and completed externships at equine referral clinics across Canada. She is excited to complete an internship in equine medicine after her graduation. Katriana completed a Bachelor of Science in Biology at the University of the Fraser Valley, graduating with the Dean's Medal in Science. She was president of the Biology and Chemistry student association, an ACC student representative, and completed research into LNP particles and fish cell lines. Katriana is currently in her 4th year of the DVM program at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, where she is an active member of multiple class committees. She was an executive in the WCVM equine club, organizing education days for local 4-H and pony club members and attended the OEPS 2024 conference. She was Co-President of Vetavision 2024, a multi-day open-house event run entirely by students that sees thousands of visitors to the WCVM. In her spare time, Katriana is a dedicated artist who loves to draw portraits of people and animals. She also loves to combine her veterinary and artistic skills, and in her third year of her DVM she hand-painted an 18-foot-long mural at the WCVM that portrays the anatomy of the major veterinary species. She also enjoys reading, hiking, kayaking, and riding English and Western.

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# YOUTH COMMITTEE

Submitted by Committee Chair: Gayle Pawley-Wilson

## **Congratulations to the Canadian AQHA Youth at the following events in 2025:**

**All American Congress:** Canada had representation at the NYATT Team Tournament, with members from the Maritime Quarter Horse Association, the Quebec Quarter Horse Association, and the Ontario Quarter Horse Association.

**AQHA Youth World Show:** Canada had Exhibitors from Ontario, Nova Scotia, and British Columbia—Team Leader: Jenna Woodley, OQHYA Advisor. CQHA and Equestrian Canada sponsored the team's stall fan rental in Oklahoma.

- The CQHA provided 6 Free one-year AQHYA memberships to new members.
- The Committee heard of many great incentives from Canadian Youth to promote Building Community, having Fun, Recognition, and Education.
- Canadian Youth in the AQHA Young Horse Heritage program.
- Across Canada, there have been many clinics, open horse shows, and open educational events to assist new AQHA Youth.
- The AQHA Youth are also collaborating with disciplines like Reining Associations to partner for future members using AQHA horses.
- This year, three Alberta Youth attended the AQHA YES conference in Amarillo, Texas.
- Congratulations to Megan Waugh, Alberta, who was elected to the AQHYA board of directors representing Region 11.

Thank you to the Canadian Youth Advisors for their continued time, effort, and knowledge to lead and guide the Canadian AQHA Youth for another year into their future of the AQHA Horse Industry in Canada.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Gayle Pawley-Wilson CQHA Youth Committee Chair  
CQHA Youth Committee Members:  
Gilles Sequin, Kathy Patterson, Hannah Searle, Lindsay Bueckert

CQHA Provincial Advisors:  
Leigh-Anne Couchman, Kathleen Schoeder, Tracy Olson, Jennifer McKinnon, Charlie Bussiere,  
Jenna Woodley, Suzanne Duquette, Lacey