

As Our World Turns And Our Horses Turn With It

Dear CIHF Members:

I want to start by thanking you, a fellow Icelandic horse enthusiast or enthusiasts, for supporting this wonderful breed in Canada by being a part of the Canadian Icelandic Horse Federation. On behalf of the current board of directors, I just want to say your support, be it one of many years or recent, is valued tremendously. Reflecting on the people I have had the privilege to get to know through the horses and undefined moments of people yet to meet, I want you to know this is a message from the heart. Over the years the horses have left me with many indelible experiences that have enriched my life. I don't believe I am far off the mark, by believing many of you share this sentiment.

Making this personal is important and so let me be personal. I write this in my official capacity as president of this organization, but I am not all that fond of or at my best when it comes to politics. I am, however, enough of a realist to understand and appreciate the value of organizations. This includes valuing those who have put in time and energy in the past as well as those who currently offer up their time and energy. I thank both the pioneers and people of the here and now, that started and are working today to keep this organization going. I understand many of you struggle with the relevance of the CIHF and how it equates to the four legged friends that you have in your pasture. I know it is an old cliché, but there must be a reason why it is still used so much: ask not what your organization can do for you, but ask what you can do for your organization. I truly believe that without the CIHF, there would not be a Canadian Icelandic horse community or a Canadian Icelandic horse with a breed value integrity, we can stand behind and be proud of. This organization wants to continue to provide avenues of education, showcasing the breed and ways to improve the horses, as well as connecting members.

This new year presents our organization with new challenges such as the loss of our insurance policy for members through Capri insurance and a need to find a new treasurer. But, the new year also presents us with an exciting new education program that we will be offering to our members as well as a drive to find more ways to support all you enthusiastic trail riders out there. I truly do hope that we will hear more from the members in the new year with regards to how the Federation can continue to be an organization that matters to them. I believe your involvement in the Federation is vital to the continued development and promotion of the Icelandic horse in Canada. I wish each and every one of you all the best in the new year and look forward to your input as we move forward.

Sincerely Yours,

Arie Delint
President of the CIHF