Join Gymnastics Canada's (GymCan) Board of Directors

Information Page

Thank you for your interest in joining the Gymnastics Canada Board.

GymCan: A Premiere National Sport Organization

Founded in 1969, the Canadian Gymnastics Federation ("GymCan") is the national sport body for gymnastics in Canada, one of only three Olympic sports considered 'foundation sports' by the International Olympic Committee and Sport Canada. GymCan serves more than 350,000 athletes in more than 1,700 clubs and is affiliated with 12 provincial/territorial gymnastics associations and 5 rhythmic gymnastics associations across the country.

The GymCan Board

The GymCan Board is comprised of up to 12 Directors and is accountable to the organization's membership for overall governance, direction-setting and strategic planning. It is a policy/oversight board and is not involved in operations. It provides support, guidance and oversight to the operational leadership of GymCan's CEO: Debra Armstrong.

The Board is a diverse group of skilled professionals with a common interest and commitment in helping the organization – and the athletes it serves – perform to the utmost.

GymCan is committed to the promotion of equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility as the organization works toward positive change in sport. The Board helps GymCan ensure that it complies with the Canadian Sports Governance Code.

Members of the GymCan Board of Directors are not financially compensated, as Gymnastics Canada is a not-for-profit organization. Reasonable expenses incurred while attending to GymCan business are reimbursed.

Opportunities to contribute to the board in 2026

The GymCan Nominating Committee is seeking prospective candidates to stand for election to serve on the GymCan Board of Directors.

Individuals with skill sets, experience, and time available to support the work of GymCan's Board across relevant not-for-profit governance areas are encouraged to submit an application.

For the 2026 election, GymCan is especially interested in individuals who bring one or more of the following skill sets:

- Financial literacy and audit (confirmed by holding a CPA or similar designation), with leadership experience
- Sponsorship
- Philanthropy and fund development
- Risk management and compliance
- Governance and legal
- Safe sport
- Provincial and government relations
- A recent former president/chair of a gymnastics PTSO

Directors are elected for a 3-year term. Elections will take place at the 2026 Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held on October 3, 2026, in Ottawa, Ontario. The Nominating Committee will recommend candidates to the membership based on a thorough review of all applicants, considering, among other things, skills, competencies, characteristics and diversity. In addition to important gender diversity, the GymCan Board strives to deliver regional representation from across Canada and representation from under-represented groups. All directors must be independent, although up to two (2) directors can also be serving on a Gymnastics Provincial board (PTSO); while ensuring they respect their fiduciary boundaries.

The Nominating Committee will review the skill sets of all applicants against the established skills and competencies required for the Board. The Committee will recommend those applicants who, in the view of the Committee, best complement the identified needs and priorities of the organization in each open position. All applicants will be advised of whether they will be recommended by the Committee on or before September 1st. The Committee may also provide the membership with a list of those who, while not on the recommended list, remain eligible for election. Applicants can withdraw their application within 24 hours of this notification. Only applicants who are recommended or listed as eligible for election by the Committee will be put forward as election candidates.

The details of how to apply are set out below. We hope you will join us in the pursuit of sporting excellence.

Basic Eligibility Criteria for Directors - To be considered for candidacy, an individual seeking to run for election as a director must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Have reached 18 years of age or older;
- Have the power under law to contract;
- Have not been declared incapable by a court in Canada or in another country;
- Have not currently have the status of bankrupt.
- Not currently employed by Gymnastics Canada or by a member PTSO
- Fulfills the requirements of the Income Tax Act in relation to serving as a director with a registered charity
- Complete an Enhanced Police Information Check (E-PIC)
- Commit to becoming a Canadian Safe Sport Program (CSSP) Participant and comply with the Universal Code of Conduct to prevent and address Maltreatment in sport (UCCMS) as administered and enforced by Sport Integrity Canada, if elected.

Application Steps:

Interested applicants must submit/complete the following information:

1. Gymnastics Canada Board of Directors online application.

2. Head shot photo - to be uploaded when completing the online application form.

3. Letters of reference - Applicants who are not current GymCan board members are required to submit two letters of reference (dated within the last 12 months) in support of their application.

4. GymCan Confirmation to Act as a Director form - All applicants must sign the "GymCan'sConfirmation to Act as a Director" form (add link)

All parts of the application, including head shot photo, letters of reference, signed Gymnastics Canada Confirmation to Act as a Director form must be submitted by July 31, 2026.

2026 Gymnastics Canada Nominating Report: Candidates who are recommended or listed as eligible by the Committee, who do not withdraw their application, and who meet the basic eligibility criteria, will have the contents of their application and photo published through the online 2026 Gymnastics Canada Nominating Report available to voting members.

Meet the Candidates Session: All candidates will be invited to participate in a virtual question and answer session in early September. More information will be provided to candidates prior to the session.

Please note: The number of votes for each candidate will not be announced after the election at the AGM. GymCan thanks all individuals for their interest in serving on the GymCan Board of Directors and invites questions or conversations on any aspect of the nomination process.

Important: you can help even if you are not elected: The GymCan board does much of its work through committees, and most of those committees include people who are not directors. The contributions of these people are important. Participating in a board committee this way is a great way for you to get involved and often leads to election to the board in a subsequent year.

Thank you,

Ron Collins
Chair, GymCan Nominating Committee