

# ICE SUMMIT 2022

 BUILDING TOWARDS 2026

## Name:

Laura Carr

## Running for the Positions of:

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Director West (2-year term)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Director-at-Large (2-year term)

## Residence:

Kelowna, BC



## Relevant Education, Career and Volunteer Experience:

British Columbia and Yukon Section Board Member

- Chair of the BC/YK Skater Development Committee
- Board Representative on BC/YK Athlete Development Fund

Skate Canada Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)

- Participant in the review and development of program requirements for the Pre-Juvenile to Novice levels with the purpose of meeting development objectives.

Official – Singles and Pairs

- ISU International Judge in Singles and Pairs
- Section Controller in Singles and Pairs

Skate Canada Virtual Officiating

- Assisted in developing procedures and educational materials for the implementation of online scoring for virtual competitions.

Program Co-Developer – Skate Canada STAR 1-5 Program

- Collaborated with coaches and other stakeholders to develop Skate Canada STAR 1-5 program.

Project Manager, Small Business Owner – Residential Construction

- Managed design, budget and accounting transactions related to residential development.

## Experience Relevant to the Skate Canada Board of Directors:

As a member of the BC/YK Section Board of Directors and Chair of the section Skater Development Committee for the last decade, my focus has been on solving the challenges of delivering events and programs for all our members. No matter where they are based or at what level they enjoy skating, I believe that all our members should have a clear path to enjoy skating for life.

I have played many roles in skating – mom, official, club volunteer, section board member and program developer. I've experienced skating as a resident and club member of suburban Vancouver and from a town of 10,000. Each experience has shaped my perspective and helped me better understand the shared and unique challenges facing our sport.



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As the population grows in BC, I am working with my section colleagues to find solutions to capacity issues and servicing small market regions where running events can be cost prohibitive. In both cases, we are trying to incorporate virtual event models into our existing event schedule as they can increase capacity and service remote areas in more cost-effective ways.

Being a parent of former Sectional and National level competitors, how we deliver programs and events, whether at the STAR or national level, is vital to maintaining support and participation. While developing the STAR 1-5 program, I helped create a clear format that met the development objectives for the skaters and could work in any area of our country. We also focused on making STAR 1-5 a fun and rewarding experience that was worth the financial investment because at lower levels, parents can easily choose other sports. This project also gave me the opportunity to collaborate with coaches, clubs and officials from across Canada to ensure the program met their needs.

As an international official, I am aware of how our sport is continually evolving and the support needed for our elite athletes to remain competitive internationally. To help with the development of our skaters and programs, I have provided ongoing statistical analysis for the TCC comparing our systems to other federations. This analysis has provided data for the committee to consider when reviewing technical requirements for our developmental levels.

In response to the pandemic, I was part of a national group tasked with developing a scoring system for virtual competitions. I combined my experience as an official and my project management expertise to develop ways to adapt normal competition procedures and rules for an online environment. I helped write the manual on how to run a competition with remote officials and live skating or by using video submissions. This new tool meant that skaters from across Canada who weren't able to compete could now do so by entering videos. Although live events are the best way to experience a competition, I have advocated for the continued use of these tools to provide new opportunities for skaters to participate in our sport in a cost-effective way.

## Areas of Interest Within Skate Canada:

I am passionate about Skate Canada providing meaningful competitive opportunities for all our participants, particularly in the STARSkate streams. A vibrant STARSkate stream is an important target group to grow our fan base and volunteer base for the future.

We must continue to expand our use of technology to service our members. Technology can increase competitive and testing opportunities for athletes and online education can provide more resources to clubs, coaches and officials. The use of virtual events to reduce cost and geographical barriers is important in keeping our sport as accessible as possible.

I am also interested in how Skate Canada and figure skating can raise its profile within our country. Our programs are often the first experience someone has with skating in Canada whether they ultimately pursue figure skating, speed skating, ringette or hockey. As a sport which can keep Canadians active throughout their lifetime and offers a creative and artistic side, I would like to see how we can reach more groups by promoting all the possibilities that exist for participation. The greater the number of participants expands the pool of potential future champions.

