



## 2025 Election Candidate Bio

**Name:** Carol Manson McLeod

**Running for the position of:** Director (2-year term)

**Residence:** Canmore, Alberta

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### Relevant Education, Career and Volunteer and Skating Experience

I am excited to apply for a position on the Board of Directors, bringing a strong combination of leadership experience, collaborative mindset, and strategic insight, grounded in both professional expertise and a deep personal connection to the sport of figure skating. With a background that emphasizes planning, governance, and accountability, and a skating journey that evolved from supporting my daughter, hosting competitive events, to becoming a skater myself, I am eager to contribute meaningfully to the future of our community.

My relationship with skating began over 22 years ago by supporting my daughter's development as a single skater in Brandon, MB and then as a synchronized skater with Edmonton Synchronized Skating Club (ESSC). I saw firsthand the positive impact of sport on her confidence, discipline, and growth. Inspired by that experience, I became a skater myself as an adult and now train with the Canmore Skating Club (CSC). This has given me a deep appreciation for the entire skating journey—from early learn-to-skate programs with my young colleagues to lifelong participation—and for the critical role that well-governed clubs and organizations play in supporting that journey.

My academic foundation includes a Business Degree (B. Comm.), RN Diploma, MScN, and Executive Coaching Certification, all of which have prepared me to lead effectively in organizational and team-based environments. I have held roles that require strategic planning, cross-functional collaboration, significant organizational change, and performance management throughout my career as a Healthcare Leader. Currently, as a Leadership Coach, I work to develop skills and help individuals and teams achieve the goals necessary for success. This role has allowed me to work with many different organizations, leaders at all levels and boards. Volunteer service has been a consistent part of my life, and I have contributed to a variety of non-profit organizations in roles focusing on youth, sports, and community development. This includes being on the boards of the ESSC and CSC. In the past, I have also volunteered for Girl Guides of Canada, Scouts Canada, and organized events for youth curling in Edmonton.



## 2025 Election Candidate Bio

Currently, I hold the role of President at the Canmore Skating Club. All these experiences have provided me with a solid understanding of fiduciary responsibilities, risk management, policy development, and inclusive governance practices. I bring a high level of professionalism and purpose to board roles, along with a commitment to collaboration and active engagement. I am deeply committed to advancing the values of excellence, professionalism, respect, equity and community through skating. I would be honoured to contribute my time, skills, and energy as a Board Director and to help shape a future that is sustainable, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of all skaters and stakeholders alike.

### **Experience Relevant to the Skate AB | NT | NU Board of Directors**

With over 22 years of involvement in figure skating - as a dedicated parent, an active adult skater, and a Club Executive - I bring a unique and multifaceted perspective to the Skate AB | NT | NU Board. My long-standing connection to the sport allows me to understand the needs of skaters at all ages and stages and to advocate for inclusive, athlete-centred programming that supports development from grassroots to adult participation, and the need to support a diverse range of skaters, single, synchronized, able-bodied, and adaptive skaters.

Professionally, I offer leadership skills and a strong foundation in strategic planning, collaboration, accountability, change management, leadership, and organizational/team effectiveness. I have successfully led teams through complex transitions and growth, focusing on clarity of vision, shared goals, and responsive, mission-driven decision-making. I have expertise in helping organizations build clear structures to ensure transparency and performance alignment. I believe in fostering environments where all voices are heard and valued, expectations are clearly communicated, and progress is both celebrated and evaluated. I am passionate about living the mission, vision, and values of the organization, not only in theory but through action. My approach to governance emphasizes integrity, long-term thinking, and the importance of understanding diverse voices around the table. I believe in fostering respectful dialogue and creative problem-solving to address both current challenges and future opportunities.

Specifically related to skating, I held many different positions on both the ESSC and CSC boards, allowing me to take part in all aspects of delivering skating in both a large urban and small rural environment. I have an appreciation for the commitments that are required to succeed, including programming, event volunteering, fundraising initiatives, and club communications. These experiences have helped me understand the needs of athletes, parents, coaches, and



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volunteers. I believe I can offer a well-rounded perspective that supports inclusive, athlete-centred decision-making at the board level.

As someone deeply embedded in the skating community, I would bring perspective from multiple lenses – participant, parent, volunteer Club Executive - ensuring decisions are made with empathy, insight, and a strong alignment to what truly matters to our membership. I am excited by the opportunity to give back to the sport that has given so much to my family and me.

Thank you for your consideration.

