



HANDBELL MUSICIANS OF CANADA
2023 ELECTIONS

Candidate Statement



Position: Chair
Name: Annie Hergott
City, Prov: Calgary, AB

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Annie Hergott (BMus, BEd) is a music specialist and ringer dedicated to sharing her music and ringing passion with others. Annie has been a dedicated volunteer in city, provincial and National handbell organizations and has created and volunteered at a variety of handbell events. Annie is a former board member and President of the Alberta Guild of English Handbell Ringers (ALGEHR). She has helped organize local Calgary bell workshops, and major events (such as the Alberta Rings and the national HGC 2011 Ringing Link). Annie organized yearly bell and choir events (Ring and Sing) for the School Boards in Calgary and created "Bell Explosion!" Calgary Youth Handbell Festival. Annie continues to offer workshops and clinics for local teachers. From 2012- 2016, Annie volunteered as the Registrar for the International Handbell Symposium 2016 in Vancouver.

Annie was also fortunate to be part of the former Handbell Guilds of Canada Board as it made the transition into the newly structured Handbell Musicians of Canada. As part of the Interim Board of HMC, she enjoyed working with the creative and diligent committed team that was able to establish HMC.

Annie continues to create new ringing communities. In 2019, she started and is the current Chair of Calgary's Bow River Handbell Musicians Society (BRHMS). Now a thriving and growing society, BRHMS aims to provide inclusive opportunities for all level of ringers, as well as to develop teams that can excel and push performance boundaries. Annie currently conducts five BRHMS adult teams: Bow River Bells, Bell Époque, Elbow River Bells, the Alpine Ringers, and Tributary Bells.

Annie also conducts other Calgary bell teams: the Shepherd Bells (Church of the Good Shepherd) and the Bells Angels (Huntington Hills Pioneer Society).

Statement: As Chair, I would be motivated to support the HMC Board in its future development. We have a strong board that can help HMC grow and thrive post-Covid so that we provide more opportunities, events, and programs for our members.

I have been involved in many handbell and school organizations and am familiar with governance and the creation of the governance documents (for HMC, ALGEHR and for BRHMS). It is important to me to run well-organized and timely meetings; and I prefer using an action-based approach with accountability.

My vision for HMC is to find ways to continue developing the organization so it eventually becomes what the original builders/dreamers intended; to have a large, united membership base of ringers from ALL provinces/territories and to provide learning opportunities/events for all members.

My top three priorities:

1. Organize regular meetings and set reporting expectations.
2. Foster new enthusiasm for the organization post-Covid.
3. Develop HMC and to grow its presence nationally.