



Good day Folks

It's been quite a year. We've been very busy supporting a number of initiatives and trying to learn all the rules. Last year, shortly after I took over as President, I was fortunate enough to attend the Canadian Olympic Committee meetings in Montreal. They were very energizing and encouraging. It was great to meet other presidents and technical folks from the various sports – both large and small.

From the fun to the challenging. After the COC conference we dove into budgeting for the 2016-17 year and I started to learn the Sport Canada rules that we are bound by. We assembled a budget and had our finances approved successfully.

While we were working on the budget, myself and Paul Shaw were working on Sport Canada and what remained of the TO2015 committee to get our new legacy facility completed. The range we were left with after the event did not meet CFO standards and was closed to all except high performance events such as rifle and pistol nationals. After many meetings and documents presented, we managed to successfully secure \$500,000 to complete the range to allow it to open as a club. After many meetings and several documents (and with major effort from Richard Horne), construction is about to begin! By next season we will be operating a club in the legacy facility.

Once we knew we would have a functioning range approved and opened by the Chief Firearms Office, it was proposed to the board that we begin hosting nationals for all events every other year at the Pan Am Legacy range. The motion was passed and I'm pleased to say that all SFC shooting sports will be getting together at the site on every odd year starting in 2017. To that end, one of the things high on the Executive Committee's agenda (right after the annual meeting) will be striking a committee to begin organizing the event for next year. The priority for that committee will be to set the date for nationals by the end of 2016 so all shooters can plan and prepare well in advance.

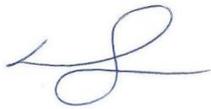
Communication has been high on my list of priorities. Unfortunately, between the Sport Canada requirement for everything to be published in both official languages and my abysmal French, my passing of information has been limited this year. In addition, our current website and member database is challenging to work with. The Executive has discussed some options for improving our translation capabilities and we have some things to try out starting in October. We will of course retain 'official' translation mechanisms for official publications such as selection criteria, coaching material and the like. As far as the website is concerned, I was put in touch with a COC consultant at the meetings last December and a number of us met with a group in Ottawa to learn more about options and moving forward. We've begun initial evaluations with a number of online providers and refinement of our requirements to help us pick the right path forward. This will be in the top 5 on my priorities for the coming year.

I have a very long list of things to do for the Shooting Federation. My priorities for the coming year are:

1. 2017 Nationals planning

2. Membership database & website revamp
3. Increase communications to the membership
4. Expansion of the recreational membership and programs focused on growing our membership base
5. International Participation on the governing and administrative side to gain insight on best practice and engage with governing bodies.

In closing, I would like to give a heart felt thanks to my Executive and Board members who I've worked with over the last year, and to the team in the SFC office. We have had some spirited discussions and handled some interesting topics this year. The team has been very active and engaged and I look forward to continuing to work together to the benefit of our members.



Pat Boulay
President
Shooting Federation of Canada