

**SAIL CANADA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
CANDIDATE NOMINATION INFORMATION**

***Kate MacLennan***

*Wabamun Sailing Club, Royal Canadian Yacht Club*

**PASSION FOR SAILING**

From a young age, Kate has been involved in sailing. Sailing was an integral part of her summers in Muskoka and later on, at the Royal Canadian Yacht Club in Toronto. Her parents met racing Solings at RCYC and instilled a love for sailing and competitive sport in their children. Kate learned to sail and race in Muskoka and at RCYC. She won Youth Nationals in 2002 and was awarded Ontario Sailing's Female Junior Sailor of the Year in her last year of youth racing in 2002. While at Queen's University, Kate continued racing on the intercollegiate circuit in Canada and the United States and later coached the Queen's Sailing Team. She has raced dinghies (Laser >>, 420, Flying Junior and Fireball) and keelboats (J24, J105, C&C34, San Juan 21, and Martin 242).

During her summers, she was an instructor and then later a racing instructor or head instructor for junior sailing programs in both Ontario and Alberta. She completed all of the available instructor levels at the time (Green, Blue, Red, Orange and Black) and is currently a Learning Facilitator and Evaluator in Alberta. She continues to coach as well as race at the club and provincial and national level.

**PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE DEVELOPING STRATEGIC PLANS**

As a partner at Thornborough Smeltz LLP, Kate developed marketing and business plans, as well as operating budgets to ensure the profitability of the law firm. She maintained her own litigation practice within the firm. She was responsible for strategic plans for both her sole practice and the partnership as a whole.

As Head Instructor at the Boulevard Club and Calgary Yacht Club and Director of Junior Sailing at the Glenmore Sailing Club, Kate was required to expand the programs in response to increasing demand, and to ensure the programs remained profitable while offering superior quality.

**PREVIOUS BOARD EXPERIENCE**

Kate served as a Board Member and Director of Junior Sailing at the Glenmore Sailing Club from 2012 to 2015. In that role, she improved and expanded the Junior Sailing Program (it was sold out with long waiting lists for most of the summer). As Director of the Junior Program, she was responsible for creating and managing the capital and operating budgets, implementing the program, ensuring its quality, and hiring and evaluating the instructors.

Kate is also currently on the Queen's Law Alberta Alumni Council which provides valuable feedback to the Dean of the Queen's University Law School on its policies, mission and visions for the faculty.

Previously, Kate served on the Queen's University Sailing Team Board from 2005-2009 and the Psychology Student Council at Queen's University from 2005-2007.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SPECIFIC SKILLS**

Currently Kate is a litigation lawyer with Birdsell Grant in Stony Plain, Alberta and previously, was a partner at Thornborough Smeltz LLP in Calgary. Kate's legal knowledge and litigation experience will assist the Sail Canada Board with their request for a Director with experience in legal affairs. Kate has significant experience reviewing, drafting and interpreting contracts and bylaws. As an experienced lawyer, Kate is very capable of ensuring that her clients are legally protected while their needs are met. As a litigator, Kate has significant experience representing clients in court, in arbitration or in mediation.

### **OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION**

Kate's sister, Rosie MacLennan is an Olympic athlete and as such Kate is keenly aware of issues that high-level athletes deal with on a regular basis including the negotiation and review of sponsorship contracts, carding policies and national team selection processes, athlete development, and the practices, process and policies of other sports federations. Her legal background, racing and instructing experience and awareness of other sport federation policies will be a valuable asset for the Sail Canada Board.

### **WHAT KEY SKILL OR ATTRIBUTE WILL YOU BRING TO THE SAIL CANADA BOARD**

Kate offers significant legal and litigation experience, a functional knowledge of the Sail Canada Board, youth sailing programs and coaching environments in multiple provinces as well as key business skills such as strategic planning, business and program development and operation/financial management.

### **REFERENCE**

"Kate is a wonderful person to work with. She is passionate about sailing and is active both on the water and within our organization. Kate delivers on her initiatives, has been instrumental in growing the GSC youth program into the organization it is today. I think sailors all across Canada will benefit from Kate's strong work ethic, determination, and dedication to the sport of sailing."

Kian Rasa – Past Commodore – Glenmore Sailing Club, Past Director at Large – Alberta Sailing Association