

VP Administration Report

2020 OWA Annual General Meeting

October 3, 2020

This is my third report to the OWA Members; my first was brief, as I was just appointed to the position a few months prior. I then rejoined the Board for a full term, and this marks the end of my two-year term as VP Administration.

At the last AGM I expressed that we had made a number of improvements from an administrative perspective. I believe that consolidating and organizing our data within a central system allowed us to manage personnel transitions and maintain continuity. All members of the team are using the system at this point.

More importantly, our hiring and transition to our new administrators has gone exceedingly well - something I take absolutely no credit for: Amanda & Lana, thank you for all the work that you have done and continue to do. OWA operations are much better with your presence.

I must mention some areas where I have not met expectations in this past year:

- Our engagement with CAAWS led to very good discussion about implementing equity plans and programs, however I have not been able to put these into action as of yet.
- Last year, we kicked off work on our next quadrennial strategic plan, and solicited membership feedback to inform our decisions. We still need to work on this, and present it to the Province.

On a personal note - the club which I started and ran for nearly 6 years effectively closed at the start of 2020, well before the impact of COVID. Running a club is hard at the best of times. I know that there are several of our community members that have been forced to close down as a result of the pandemic. There are those who are managing to survive, but the outlook is not clear. My heart goes out to all whose health, livelihoods or simply passion are affected by this.

Similarly, the OWA has a lot of challenges ahead – but one thing is clear: we are here to serve our members. We have worked hard to improve communication and relations with our government contacts, other PSOs, and of course, our clubs and members - so I encourage everyone to reach out to the Board with concerns, questions, ideas, so that the OWA can do its best for all as we navigate this pandemic.

Once again, I would like to thank everyone with whom I've had the pleasure to serve on the board for this term. This has been a wonderful opportunity to try to give back to a sport that has given me so much.

Sincerely,
Paul Vilchez