

National Director's Report to the SONFIC 2024 AGM

Ron Reine

This is my second year serving on the Board of Directors of the Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada and I am honoured to be involved with this organization.

Attending the District 7 convention in Coquitlam provided me with the opportunity to spend time with some other members of the Foundation Board of Directors (BOD), and to get to know them just a little bit better. I believe it is important for the Board to consider in-person meetings, at least once a year.

As we are now aware, two of our long-serving board members will be stepping down from their positions in the Foundation. I would like to personally thank Tore and Erik for their many years of service to the Sons of Norway Foundation In Canada and wish them well in the years to come. As the numbers of our voting memberships decline with the closing of lodges, I believe we, as an organization, need to look at ways to encourage and increase the participation of existing voting memberships. The pool of potential candidates to fill the BOD positions is dwindling.

August again saw numerous applications to the Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada Bursary Program. Being a part of the evaluations of these applications continues to be an enlightening experience for me personally. Congratulations to those receiving awards and best wishes to all applicants in their scholastic pursuits.

Finally, thank you to all who contribute to the SONFIC. There are many ways to contribute and to be involved. Participating in the AGM as a delegate or guest, making donations to the foundation, working within your lodge or groups on projects to raise funds, or simply raising awareness about the foundation and its programs; involvement at any level can contribute to the success of our organization.

Fraternally,

Ron Reine