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Dear Valued Members,

It's been another epic year in swimming, just when I thought it was tough to top 2024! Our province and its talented swimmers, coaches and officials have done us very proud hosting Trials and setting the world stage alight at World Championships in Singapore with outstanding performances and numerous records. Congratulations to all!

The Board of Directors continued our work supporting the governance framework for Human Resources, Policy & Governance, Nominations, Finance and Safe Sport, to ensure the long-term health of our organization. We are delighted to welcome Gareth Saunders to the Board. Gareth brings a wealth of knowledge, experience and a vast network to broaden the reach of our community, and we are confident that Gareth will be instrumental in driving the key strategic initiative of alumni engagement. We are always grateful for the interest and support of our members and community and invite you to contact us if you are keen to participate in important committee work.

The biggest task (and accomplishment) of the Board this season is welcoming Elmar Heger to Swim BC as our new Executive Director. In the short time that Elmar has joined Swim BC, he has already put his mark on his leadership by engaging members in person and virtually, and we look forward to seeing the organization evolve under his stewardship. We give thanks to Ken Radford who retired in May after over a decade serving Swim BC. Ken was instrumental in reviving the organization at a pivotal point and developing the strong governance and policy framework that makes Swim BC so resilient today. We are anxiously awaiting the arrival of Savannah King, our new Director, Coach and Performance Development, and congratulate Elmar on a brilliant hire in his first month on the job. We have every confidence that Elmar and Savannah will lead the organization and swimming in BC to new heights. They are supported by an amazing team in Aynaz, Carrie, Jamie, Louise, Melissa, and Chad, and we are excited to kick off the 2025-2026 swim season.

We continue to honour our commitment to the Strategic Plan, and the Board recently reviewed the plan at our August in-person meeting. We believe it still resonates to guide us effectively and we look forward to reporting on our achievements, areas of improvement and goals for the upcoming season at the AGM.

I look forward to seeing many of you in person at the AGM and hearing your ideas for growing the sport of swimming in our province. We look forward to supporting BC athletes as they strive for their swimming goals on the local, national and international stage, and congratulate our swimmers, coaches and officials for their monumental successes in the 2024-2025 season.

Yours in swimming,

Jeannie Lo
President, Swim BC

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