

Irish Dance Teachers Association of Canada – Eastern Region Executive Board

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October 19, 2022

Dear IDTACer Teachers and Families:

Since news of the alleged unethical behaviour of several Irish dance teachers and adjudicators broke earlier this month, the Executive Board of the *Irish Dance Teachers Association of Canada – Eastern Region* has been in constant contact. The Board is deeply saddened and dismayed to learn of such conduct, and is working diligently to ensure transparency and equity for all competitors at this year's regional Oireachtas.

The Board has carefully examined each aspect of the event to ensure that it will be held with the utmost integrity and honesty. Some of the procedural enhancements include:

- * There will be a public draw for adjudication panels held each morning, immediately prior to commencement
- * Adjudicators will be prohibited from bringing items to the adjudication table
- * Access to adjudicators during competitions will be strictly limited
- * Access to the tabulation room will be strictly limited

The adjudication panel has been approved by the Chair of *An Coiste Faire at An Coimisiún le Rincí Gaelacha* (CLRG) for eligibility to officiate at this Oireachtas, and is as follows:

Adjudicators

- ① Aaron Crosbie, England
- ② Kathleen Boutin, USA
- ③ Kevin McCarron, England
- ④ Marie Moore, USA
- ⑤ Mark O'Loughlin, Canada
- ⑥ Mark Skehill, England
- ⑦ Michelle Haughey, Scotland
- ⑧ Michelle Lawrence, Ireland
- ⑨ Niall Holly, Ireland

Members of the *Irish Dance Teachers Association of Canada – Eastern Region*, will be meeting prior to the commencement of the 2022 Oireachtas, where there will be an open discussion to gather topics and solutions to a variety of matters impacting the Irish dance community.

Teachers and dance families are encouraged to write to idtace@gmail.com (anonymously, if preferred) with issues of concern, and recommendations to improve the experience at **all** Irish dance competitions in our region. Your input will help to shape protocols in Eastern Canada, and will help the Board to lobby for change at the CLRG level, to enhance Irish Dancing worldwide. [This is an open invitation with no time limit.]

We look forward to welcoming everyone to Toronto next week as we proudly present the 47th Eastern Canadian Regional Oireachtas.