

Suzuki Association AGM July 2022
Presentation by : SMMC. Suzuki Music Musique Canada Presentation

Bienvenu. Welcome

Land Acknowledgement : I would like to acknowledge that I speak to you from the traditional territories of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples.

On behalf of the Suzuki Music Musique Canada my colleague Rob Richardson and I are honoured to share some of our achievements, actions and aspirations for our future. [Suzuki Music/Musique Canada](#)

Our many Committee Meetings have been important steps in defining both our challenges and our strengths. These meetings, indirectly, have begun to create stronger bonds between various Suzuki regions in the country.
[SM/MC Committee](#)

Our geographical challenges that we face have been somewhat mitigated by the technology. Which in turn has galvanized us to connect, organize and listen to each other in ways that were unimaginable just three years ago.

To date:

1. we have a bi annual B Bilingual (French & English) E Newsletter published by the SAA with Nadia Petrov as Editor
[www. Canadian Suzuki E-Newsletter Team](#)
2. Regular contributions to the monthly Short Score publication
3. in March the SMMC (Suzuki Music Musique Canada) & the Suzuki Association of the Ontario, under the Chairmanship of Debbie Hammond & Geneviève Shirm-Joyce) organized a Zoom session 'The History & Philosophy of Tonalization' with Fumiyo Kurimochi in Tokyo that brought together 125 teachers from more than fifteen countries.
4. The SAO is Canada's only SAA Chapter and this past year has organized many special events including a session on mental health

and regular virtual ‘Teas for Teachers’’. This November, the SAO will host its annual conference in Kingston, ON, the first in person conference since 2019. www.suzukiontario.org

Teacher Training

Canada has nineteen teacher trainers covering multiple instruments with its first violin long term Teacher Training program under the Directorship of Paule Barsalou at the WLU (Wilfred Laurier University.)

In our three Canadian Teacher trainer meetings we have discussed ways to adapt our training to better reflect the geography, travel costs, and needs of the Canadian Suzuki community.. A first this summer: the Filosofia course will be offered in Edmonton in English.

One important training initiative featured on our website: Teachers can request training by level and instrument and also see what training is currently being offered. Trainers can also organize courses based on the demand. Here again having training offered on Zoom has made a real difference in accessibility for teachers in this country.

[Canadian teacher trainers](#)

The SMMC team is grateful to the SAA for taking a strong lead in initiating virtual training beginning in 2020 to the present.

Our Aspirations and Priorities

1. Encourage more connection & collaboration among Canadian Suzuki teachers. Including support for those in remote and rural areas.
2. Translations of Suzuki materials in both national languages. Including all of Dr. Suzuki’s books and articles.
3. To become a full member country of the SAA in 2023
4. DEIA : to develop a clear statement and implement an action plan on diversity, equality, inclusion and accessibility.
That includes reaching out to include our Indigenous communities in our Canadian Suzuki future. [Inclusion Diversity Equity Accessibility Team](#)

5. Support, the place, create the space for future generations to develop leadership continuity & mentorship.

We have much to do post pandemic in all the above areas.

We deeply appreciate the ongoing support of the SAA Board and our many fellow colleagues throughout the Americas who have inspired us to dream of a Suzuki Canada where, to quote our Indigenous elders, when 'Every child Matters', therefore 'Every Child Can'.

Merci. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Suzuki Music Musique Canada

Karen-Michele Kimmett
Rob Richardson