



Hugh Town Memorial Builder Award Jan Chavarie 2022



NOMINATION SUMMARY

Jan Chavarie has a 20+ year legacy of selfless volunteer effort to paddlesports in general and outrigger canoe racing in particular. She has made contributions to support Canadian paddlers at the international, national, provincial, and club level. **Jan** and web designer / developer Colleen McCarthy collaborated to build the Jericho Paddling Club (JPC) website as well as the 1st and 2nd generations of the CORA website. She has been part of the Jericho Paddling Club that has hosted the popular PNWORCA Jericho Small-Boat Racing Winter Series event and Jericho Classic Iron, as well as volunteered to assist with the Jericho Oceanman and the JSCA Wavechaser Paddle Series for many years. She has served continuously since circa 2000 on both the Jericho Executive and the CORA Board including a 2-year stint as CORA Chairman (2005-2006). [01]

HISTORICAL: SIGNIFICANT / EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTIONS OVER TIME

Winter Series: There had never been a PNWORCA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series event in Canada prior to 2004. Jericho had the honour of being the 1st Canadian club to host a PNWORCA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series event in 2004 with **Jan** serving as Race Director that year and every year through 2020. As the Canadian PNWORCA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series events require co-sanctioning by both PNWORCA and CORA, **Jan** has been responsible for ensuring scheduling and safety planning for the Jericho event in accordance with guidance from both outrigger associations. [02]

Jericho Racing Events: The Jericho Iron Classic inaugural event took place in 1993. **Jan** served as Race Director for the Jericho Iron Classic event for the 1st time in 2000 and every year through 2019. The 27th Annual event in 2019 would make the Jericho Classic Iron the 2nd longest continuously running outrigger canoe Iron event in Canada. [03]

Jericho Online Presence: It can be easy to take for granted the ability to search online resources for historical events. Much of the Canadian Outrigger online history that is currently available has been sourced from websites originated by Jericho members **Jan Chavarie** and Colleen McCarthy. When **Jan** joined Jericho in 1999, one of her 1st accomplishments with Jericho was to collaborate with fellow Jericho member and web designer / developer Colleen McCarthy to build the Jericho website. The Jericho website has had several makeovers since the 1st release, but this website continues to be one of the best sources for reference material on events and photos and race results in Canada and around the world, going back as far as 2000. [04]

CORA Online Presence CORA was founded in 1992, but did not have an online presence for many years. When **Jan** joined the Canadian Outrigger Racing Association (CORA) Board in 1999 as Membership Officer, one of her 1st accomplishments with CORA was to collaborate with fellow Jericho member and web designer / developer Colleen McCarthy to build the CORA 1st generation website followed by the CORA 2nd generation website in 2002.

CORA Contributions: **Jan** has contributed to the ongoing success of the Canadian Outrigger Racing Association (CORA) by serving on the CORA Board in several roles since 1999. **Jan** has been Membership Officer and Signing Officer continuously through-out her time with the CORA Board, assumed the role of CORA Chairman in 2005 and served for 2 years when Alan Carlsson stepped down after 2004. Through the efforts of **Jan**, the CORA AGM was held at the Jericho Sailing Centre for the 1st time in 2005 and has continued to be held at the Jericho Sailing Centre every year through 2019.

Spokesperson: When Jericho became the 1st Canadians to attend the Vaka Eiva event in the Cook Islands in 2011, [05] it had been through the combined efforts of all 15 Jericho members who made the trip. However, it was **Jan** who took the time to post thanks from all of the Jericho attendees on multiple media sites including the Cook Island News. [06] **Jan** has always been committed to spreading the history of outrigger canoeing experiences to other paddlers. [07] There are *Paddler Stories* about the trip to the Cook Islands, and *Race Director Interviews* to "talk story" on the CORA website, [08] as well as contributions to

the Cook Island News, and countless articles on the Jericho website with first-hand accounts and timeless photos of travels to the La Ruta Maya Challenge and Catalina Channel Crossing race and the Molokai men's / women's races. [09]

CURRENT: SIGNIFICANT / EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTIONS THIS YEAR

The COVID pandemic of 2020/2021/2022 prompted cancellation of sports activities worldwide. Yet **Jan** was still able to serve as Race Director for the 17th Annual PNWORCA Jericho Small-Boat Racing Winter Series event in 2020 just one month before international / provincial / regional travel restrictions were imposed.

The Jericho Wavechaser Race Series is not a CORA sanctioned event and has been hosted by Jericho Sailing Centre Sailing Association (JSCA) with the assistance of volunteers from Jericho. **Jan** and a handful of Jericho volunteers were able to host a 13-event Summer Paddle Series in 2020/2021/2022 that adhered to BC Provincial health authority regulations and provided a model for hosting safe and successful small-boat races.

As **Jan** has done for so many years since CORA opened a PO Box on West 4th Avenue in Vancouver for receipt of CORA correspondence, she continues to collect mail on a weekly basis and ensures the annual rent is paid promptly each August.

The unplanned effort to collect CORA outrigger canoeing history was a spin-off from the CORA Canoe Registry initiative. **Jan** agreed to sit for an interview in 2020 that resulted in a vast set of material on Jericho that became the "*The Jericho Legacy*". She then took it upon herself to conduct research to confirm events / times / places / individuals and diligently proof-read several drafts until the content was factually correct and politically correct.

Jan has stepped down from her role on the Jericho Executive in 2021 after 22 years of service. Carole Fullerton has assumed the role of Jericho CORA Representative and **Jan** has gone to great lengths to ensure a smooth transition to new leadership.

SPECIFIC: SIGNIFICANT / EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO ADVANCEMENT OF THE SPORT

Small-Boat Winter Series: **Jan** was instrumental in bringing the 1st PNWORCA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series event to Canada in 2004. She has served as Race Director for every PNWORCA Jericho Small-Boat Racing Winter Series event 2004-2020. False Creek soon followed upon the success of this event by introducing a 2nd PNWORCA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series event to Canada a few years later.

Jericho Big-Boat & Small-Boat Fleet: **Jan** has served as an intermediary in expanding access to canoes to other CORA member clubs. One of her final accomplishments as a member of the Dragon Canoe Club (DCC) Executive in 1999 before joining Jericho was to arrange the sale of 2 DCC Calmars to Lotus Sports Club to increase their OC6 fleet. As Jericho upgraded their OC6 fleet from Calmars to Mirages, **Jan** arranged the sale of 3 of the Jericho Calmars to Dragon Zone Paddling Zone. After several years of evaluating the pros / cons of their recently acquired Bradley Lightning versus their Mirages, **Jan** arranged the sale of the Bradley Lightning to Fort Langley Canoe Club. When Jericho upgraded their OC1 fleet from the first-generation C-Lion to the second-generation C-Lion ST, **Jan** arranged the sale of 3 of the first-generation C-Lions to Penticton Racing Canoe Club.

Canadian Racing Events: **Jan** has a long history of volunteer effort as Race Director and registrar and timer not only for Jericho events, but also for events hosted by other clubs. You will quite often find **Jan** at CORA events working the registrar desk to collect CORA memberships, event registrations, and assisting with timing at the start / finish line.

Team Canada: **Jan** has supported the CORA IVF initiatives as one of several timers for the CORA Burnaby Lake Time Trials for 2012 Calgary IVF Sprints, as well as a timer at the 2012 Calgary IVF Sprints themselves.

Cultural Tradition: Although it is common practice among Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii, and Polynesia outrigger clubs to name their canoes and provide a page on their websites dedicated to the history of their canoes, this is a tradition followed by very few Canadian clubs. Many outrigger clubs give their canoes names associated with the land and waters surrounding their location or names of departed club members. There is also a tradition of a blessing ceremony by the paddling community to instill goodwill upon the canoe. **Jan** has played a part in ensuring this cultural tradition is ingrained at Jericho with every OC6 given a meaningful name and a blessing ceremony. Hence the names for the 4 Calmars (Kaniela, Makana, No Ka Oi, Sally Brown), the 2 Mirages (Nalu Hahai, Imua Makai), the Lightning (Kaula Uila), and the Malolo (Makani). [11]

REFERENCES

#	Note	Link
[01]	2006 CORA AGM Minutes	https://www.canadianoutrigger.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2006coraagm.pdf
[02]	2004 PNWORCA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series	http://www.jerichopaddling.com/races2004/races2004.html
[03]	2019 Jericho Iron Classic	http://www.jerichopaddling.com/races2012/iron2012.html
[04]	2000 Jericho Paddling Club website	http://jerichopaddling.com/races.html
[05]	2011 Cook Islands Vaka Eiva	http://www.cookislandsnews.com/item/35710-thank-you-rarotonga-for-an-amazing-vaka-eiva/35710-thank-you-rarotonga-for-an-amazing-vaka-eiva
[06]	2011 Cook Islands Vaka Eiva	http://www.cookislandsnews.com/national/item/37847-the-year-that-was-letters
[07]	Paddlers Stories	https://canadianoutrigger.ca/category/paddlers-stories/page/3/
[08]	Race Director Interviews	https://canadianoutrigger.ca/race-director-interviews/
[09]	La Ruta Maya Challenge	https://canadianoutrigger.ca/la-ruta-maya-hi-from-cave-caulker/
[10]	2019-2021 Jericho Wavechaser	https://wavechaser.jsca.bc.ca/
[11]	2018 Jericho Hawaiian Canoe Blessing	https://jsca.bc.ca/2018/03/01/hawaiian-canoe-blessing-ceremony-blessed-pineapple/