

Fellow Courtiers,

I am writing as an individual, not as a representative of my court, to nominate Sabrina H. Seville for Queen Mother 2 of the Americas. This nomination is less about Sabrina, the character and more about Matt Hazlewood and who he is as a person. Matt is more than my friend. He is family. In my darkest moments, he supported and uplifted me without seeking gossip, recognition, or reward. Matt consistently puts his world on hold for others in need because that's who he is. He inspires me to be a better human being because he genuinely cares about and welcomes people from every walk of life; something I have not always seen from others during my 11 years within the ICS.

Matt has championed inclusion; especially for young trans members, helping them feel welcome, heard, and valued. Matt has listened to, supported, and uplifted trans people across Canada and the ICS. The four trans talks I attended under his facilitation created thoughtful, honest spaces where people could ask questions, bond, learn without shame, and leave full of hope and optimism for the future.

At times, I questioned whether I belonged in the ICS. Matt helped me reflect on my goals and reminded me that the ICS is bigger than titles and sparkly hats; it is about community, generosity, and inspiring those who feel unseen or hopeless to believe there is light and belonging within our ranks.

Matt has stepped forward not for power or recognition, but because people from across the ICS have said that he is the only choice for Queen Mother if the ICS is to continue. He brings fun, relatability, and approachability all while honoring tradition; and those qualities matter. I have met several Monarchs and Heirs over the years yet often felt beneath them or treated as a photo op. But Matt is different. Matt puts people at ease and makes everyone feel safe and can reach out to him about anything without fear of judgement. As chair of court relations and Minister of Canadian Affairs, he supported and mentored people at every level of every Court and helped keep the ICS unified.

Matt is also a loving husband and father. He and Kyle adopted a high-needs child with significant behavioral challenges and gave him a life filled with love, acceptance, and support he wouldn't have experienced in the foster system. As a survivor of the child welfare system, I understand the importance of that gift. Matt also builds family. He's "baba" because he creates welcoming rooms where people feel safe, valued, and cared for everywhere he goes. He takes care of everyone physically, spiritually, and emotionally.

Some say two Canadian Titular Heads will never happen. I ask, why not? We have been led by two Americans before. Two Canadians could bring a different view and mark a meaningful achievement in our international relations. Matt works well with everyone and has a proven track record of success; rebuilding his own court and restoring its reputation while continuing to be an example of thoughtful progress and growth on the world stage.

Matt brought his Court back to its roots and its community. He led (and leads) with accountability by supporting reconciliation through sincere apologies (and action) to Winnipeg's First Nations, Trans, Two-Spirit, and BIPOC members. He has also welcomed younger courtiers; mentoring and crowning some of the youngest monarchs in Canada and the ICS.

Matt is the ideal person to fill the shoes of José, Ted Northe, and Nicole. More than that, he is the only person I trust to restore the spirit that began years ago: a Court System (and Council) focused less on titles and more on raising money, building awareness, serving community, and fighting for those who feel they have no voice.

Sincerely
Dru Summers