

MLA Josie Osborne  
3945B Johnston Road  
Port Alberni, BC  
V9Y 5N4

March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dear Richard McBride,

I am writing today to offer my sincere congratulations on winning two gold medals, or woodals, at the Figure Skating Winter World Master Games in Italy!

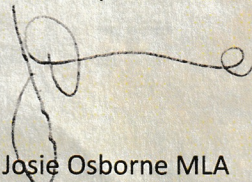
With an impressive fifty years of experience, you have established yourself as world class figure skater and I am so happy to see you receive recognition of your talent with these woodals. Even more impressive is your perseverance, as I understand you pursued the competition despite suffering a few bad falls, and after having your flights canceled – which required some creative traveling to make it to Bormio.

I understand that you based your routine for the artistic men's free skate, on the fact that two men cannot compete together in international figure skating events. Truly an important and timely statement on the current limitations within the sport, which I hope will spark further conversation around the need to allow same-sex partners to compete together.

You continue to shine a bright light on our community, both through your personal wins and also through your thirty years of coaching. It is a special gift to be able to pass along your love of the sport and positive attitude to youth in our community. Any young figure skater would be blessed to have you as their coach.

Once again, congratulations on your amazing gold medal performances and thank you for everything you do to spread positivity and hope in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Josie Osborne', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Josie Osborne MLA  
Mid Island – Pacific Rim