

## Gillian Wright ADA Lifetime Achievement Award Presented in 2021

### **Participation 25+ Years:**

Gillian Wright has supported dressage in Alberta for many years and has been a foundational member of the Alberta Dressage community since the early 1980s. She is a competitor, coach, trainer, volunteer, host for the Trakehner Glen Horse Shows.

### **FEI Achievement:**

Gillian has competed horses from Basic/Training level all the way to Grand Prix (GP). To date she has competed Kid up to GP, Kashtin to I1, Hyacinthe to I1, & Hase (Inflagranti) to GP. She has also competed in FEI young horse classes. When the CA/ADA hosted CDI shows, Gillian brought Hase out to support efforts in hosting such a high level of show.

### **Contributions to the sport of dressage:**

Gillian started as the manager and head trainer at Trakehner Glen in 1984. The Baehre family raised & bred Trakehner horses, competed in Alberta Dressage competitions and supported the equestrian community in general. Gillian started many of the young horses, competed on her own & Trakehner Glen horses at the local shows. She coached many students and has generally been the “face” of Trakehner Glen for many years.

### **Active Member of ADA or Area Group”**

Gillian is a long-time member and participant in supporting the Calgary Area/ADA. She was a member of the CA/ADA executive board for many years. She served as president, has acted as the CA/ADA show manager & stable manager when needed at shows, has volunteered at shows and with the CA/ADA in many roles over the years and has hosted the CA/ADA executive board meetings when asked.





**Ambassador for Dressage:**

Gillian is one of the few High Performance 1 coaches in Alberta. She brings this level of knowledge, expertise & experience to every lesson. She trains horses for her students, both from the ground and from the saddle. Gillian has also run and hosted many clinics at Trakehner Glen over the years. Clinics have always been open to the wider community and Gillian is very open to auditors if the riding spots were filled.

Gillian and the Baehre family ran local dressage shows at Trakehner Glen for 10 yrs. She still runs test & schooling days to develop competition riding for those who wish to participate. Gillian supports the learning & development of all types of riders, regardless of the tack they choose to use. She has dressage, western and eventing/jumping riders who want to develop their flat work skills. She has students who are dedicated to competition and those who don't compete but just want to become better riders.

"It is hard to describe how much of an impact Gill has had to all of her students and their horses. Her focus is always the health & welfare of the horses and the well-being of the riders," said her nominator. "She goes above and beyond to be there when ever needed. Gill is an ambassador for dressage, for the Calgary area and for excellent 'horse person ship' everywhere."

**Other Contributions:**

Gillian organized many clinics, including Ellen Bontje, Arthur Kottas, and Gina Smith. She also organized the Dr. Ulf Moller symposium.