

## Suzanne Le Gars ADA Lifetime Recognition Award Presented in 2025

**Participation 25+ Years:** Suzanne has been an active member in Edmonton Area ADA for over 25 years. Her involvement encompasses sportsmanship, fun and engaging activities. She attracts and inspires riders of all ages due to her love and commitment to the dressage community and her clients. She has held several executive positions, and in 2023 was the EAADA President. Suzanne firmly believes in giving back to an organization that has given so much to her students and its members.

Contributions to the sport of dressage: As an educator, active competitor, and coach Suzanne is a role model for her students. Suzanne has inspired young riders and has coined the phrase "Pony Power." At various events her students don hats and vests with the Pony Power logo proudly displayed. Her positive influence inside and outside of the arena has been established and respected by her students and their parents. Her students are great citizens of the sport as they are helpful and encouraging to other riders who are starting riding lessons. At horse shows and clinics Suzanne's student demonstrate this same kind of respect for everyone. Suzanne encourages her students to learn, compete, audit and ride



with other clinicians. She hosts clinics and schooling days at Brookville Stables, where she teaches and inspires riders of all age levels. Everyone feels welcome and accepted in any event Suzanne organizes or participates in due to her friendly and inclusive nature.

**Active Member of local club or Area Group:** Suzanne has volunteered in a variety of roles including several executive positions and clinic organizer. She strongly models and supports the "7 *True Sport Principles*" which is a cornerstone of the EAADA. This in turn, teaches riders at all levels the importance of fun and good sportsmanship, which has helped and encouraged riders from other disciplines such as eventing and western dressage to participate in the sport of dressage.

**Ambassador for Dressage:** Suzanne is a lifelong learner who continues to ride and compete. She enhances the riding and coaching skills of herself and other local instructors by organizing and participating in clinics with visiting instructors such as Jamie Irwin, Angie Golley, Stephen Birchall, and Jaron Verheij. After a recent trip to Florida, Suzanne returned with a bucket list of training experiences to share with her students and local coaches. Suzanne models what she has learned and continues to act as an ambassador for dressage through her many encounters with a variety of other equine disciplines.

**Other Contributions:** Suzanne has never shied away from a challenge and her students see this modelled each and every day. She never asks her students to do something she would not try herself including eventing. In 2024 Suzanne was nominated and won the AEF Award for Outstanding Instructor and Coach. ADA is proud to honor Suzanne as a Lifetime Contributor of dressage in Alberta.