

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **QMS Royals Equestrian Team Earns Hardware**

#### *BCHJA Hands out Fall Finale Awards*

**February 10, 2015 - Duncan, BC, Canada** – Members of the Queen Margaret's School Equestrian Team earned top positions during the BC Hunter Jumper Association (BCHJA) Gala on *January 11, 2015* at Burnaby's Grand Villa Hotel & Casino.

Throughout the equestrian show jumping season in British Columbia, the BCHJA awards points to riders based on their final show positions. These points are calculated at the end of each season with riders' final provincial standings being announced publicly in November. "As our team competes in quite a few shows throughout the province, our riders have historically placed well each year in the BCHJA standings," explains Cheryl Keith, QMS Equestrian Head Coach. "Yet it is always an enormous honour and a thrill to see our girls cross the stage to receive their awards."

This year *Kassidy Keith* (Grade 11) won the Championship for Junior Jumper 1.2m on *Crackerjack* and placed as the Reserve Champion in Junior A Equitation on *Will I Am*. *Christine Coels* (Grade 11) earned the Reserve Champion position in the Pre Child Hunter Division and third place overall in the Pre Child Equitation Division on her horse *Landmark*.

*Cheryl Keith* received awards herself as Reserve Champion in the First Year Green Division (earned competing on *Go Shorty*) and third place in the Baby Green Division competing on *Carlton* (owned by Dr. Danielle Fritz-Holmes). "Our team enjoyed attending the BCHJA Gala and I'm very proud of our accomplishments so far this season," said Coach Keith.

The QMS Equestrian Team is now preparing for various shows at home and abroad. QMS will be hosting a show at their Shirley Burr Equestrian Centre on *March 1*, and then members of the Royals will depart for their largest competition of the year at the HITS Desert Circuit in Thermal, CA, USA.

#### **About Queen Margaret's School**

Established in 1921, **Queen Margaret's School (QMS)** is located on 27 country-like acres in Duncan, BC. QMS offers a co-ed Early Childhood Education program, co-ed Junior School (Kindergarten-Grade 7), University Preparatory High School for girls (Grades 8-12) and all girls Boarding School (Grades 6-12). Queen Margaret's School is home to Canada's *only* on-campus school English Equestrian Program and an intensive ELL Program. The school's comprehensive scholastic and extra-curricular program provide opportunities for achievement and personal growth through academics, sports, visual and performing arts, riding and community service. We prepare students for university, for higher education, for life.

For more details about Queen Margaret's School, please visit the school's website at [www.qms.bc.ca](http://www.qms.bc.ca).

**For more information or to arrange an interview please contact:**

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**Photo by Teresa McKinnon:** Equestrian riders *Christine Coels*, QMS Equestrian Head Coach *Cheryl Keith* and *Kassidy Keith* were honoured to receive BCHJA awards for their efforts this season.



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