My name is Julia Sungaila-Needham, and I would be honoured to serve as the AAC Ontario West Regional Director.

I have been an AAC member for many years, competing within the organization for more than 20 years with multiple dogs. Agility has shaped my life, introducing me to a community whose dedication to their dogs and their sport continues to inspire me.

My business, Need Some Sun, has supported Canadian dog sports, especially agility, for nearly 21 years. This community is both my livelihood and a longstanding personal passion.

Over the years, I have volunteered in all aspects of trial management. From setup to trial secretary, bar setter, gate steward, timer, scribe, and leash runner—wherever help is needed, I'm there. These experiences have given me an appreciation for the work behind every trial and the people who make it happen.

Running my own business has strengthened my skills in organization, communication, problem-solving, and accountability. Being a terrier mom has added patience, persistence, and considerable experience negotiating with someone who is absolutely certain they're right. Tenacity is well practised in our household.

As Regional Director, I would bring that same commitment to listening to members, understanding different perspectives, and working toward practical solutions. I value the contributions of competitors, volunteers, judges, instructors, clubs, and trial hosts, and would strive to represent Ontario West thoughtfully and fairly.

This position feels like a natural next step and a meaningful way to put my experience and skills to work for our sport. I would welcome the opportunity to give back to a community that has given me so much, and to help keep agility welcoming, rewarding, and sustainable for current members and those still finding their way into the ring.

Thanks,

Julia Sungaila-Needham