



## **Annely Riga (CV)**

Graduate of Tartu University in Estonia with a degree in Physical Education.

From 1971-77 she was a staff member of the Physical Education faculty at Tartu University, where she taught Rhythmic Gymnastics and Womens Gymnastics to university students.. Annely also coached children's and adult's classes at all levels in various schools and clubs in Estonia.

For six years she was a member of the Estonian Women's Rhythmic Gymnastics Team (this group was composed of mostly former national level rhythmic gymnasts), winning six USSR Championships in Women's Group gymnastics competitions.

In 1977 Annely immigrated to Canada.

In 1980 she founded her Club Ritmika RGC, which has produced two Olympians . The club will be celebrating its 45th Anniversary this year.

Since 1978 she has been working tirelessly promoting and teaching these beautiful sports of rhythmic gymnastics and Aesthetic Group Gymnastics in Canada. Besides conducting numerous seminars, clinics and workshops throughout Canada, Annely has been also working on many committees and conducting leadership programmes. Such as National Gymnastics Development program, National Coaching program, School Development program, RSG Technical and NCCP committees just to mention a few.

She is a co-author of many Rhythmic Gymnastics publications in Canada.

In 1988 and 1989 Anney also taught rhythmic gymnastics at the University of Toronto.

Annely Riga's talent in the field of choreography has been recognized at the National and Provincial level, where several of her routines are taught. She has also been a choreographer and technical advisor for special events such as the International Gymnaestradas in Denmark 1987 & Germany 1995, Four Continents Championships in 1988, opening of the Sky Dome in 1989 and many others.

She received Coach of the Year award from Ontario Gymnastics Federation in 1985 and from the Canadian Rhythmic Gymnastics Federation in 1995. In 2004 the Canadian Gymnastics Federation honored her as a long standing member with their recognition award – a diamond pin. In 2005 Annely received the 25 year Ontario Volunteer service award from the government of Ontario and in 2009 a service award from the Estonian Central Council in Canada. In 2019 she was awarded with 40 Year Blue Gold Sapphire Crystal Service Pin from Gymnastics Ontario and a Lifetime member award. In 2023 IFAGG awarded Annely with Honorary member statues.

Since 1996 she has been promoting and developing Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (AGG) in Canada. In conjunction with the Ontario RG Committee she developed the “Red Ribbon” Ontario AGG program and has been one of the leading experts in this sport in Canada. Her club teams have been participating at IFAGG World Championships, World Cups and IFAGG Four Continents Championships . She is the president of Canadian Aesthetic Group Gymnastics Federation (CAGG) and in 2003 she was elected into the newly founded International Federation of Aesthetic Group Gymnastics (IFAGG) as a Board member and Promotion Committee Chairperson. She has also served on the Council as Technical Committee Chairperson and since 2017 she is a Vice-President of IFAGG.

Annely also carries the highest category International level 1 judge status in Aesthetic Group Gymnastics and has been judging in all AGG World Championships since 2001.

Annely’s latest contribution to IFAGG organisation has been working and developing new up-to-date Competition Organizers Manual for IFAGG organization and promoting and supporting AGG development in Pan Am countries.

Annely Riga is considered one of the leading forces in Rhythmic and Aesthetic Group gymnastics in Canada, Expert in her field, who’s deep knowledge and commitment to the sport has been recognized locally, nationally and internationally. Having dedicated her life to these wonderful sports, she is constantly developing new ideas and strategies to improve her beloved club services, programmes to its members and organizations such as CAGG and IFAGG.

#### CONTACT INFO

E-mail: [ritmika@ritmika.ca](mailto:ritmika@ritmika.ca)

TEL: + 46 889-4616

#### ADDRESS:

361 Four Valley Drive, Unit #3

Concord, Ontario

L4K 5Z3

CANADA