



Riding for the Red and White

Aug. 2, 2015 -- Holly Jacks-Smithers and More Inspiration will be representing Team Canada at the FEI Nations Cup in Aachen, Germany, Aug. 11 to 14.

On an invitation from Equine Canada, Holly will be tackling the CIC Three-Star course alongside veteran team riders Kathryn Robinson and fellow British Columbia native Rebecca Howard.

This will be Holly's first time representing Canada at such an elite level. The Orangeville-based rider is thrilled to have been selected to ride at a competition as challenging and prestigious as the Nations Cup.

"I was planning an independent European trip this fall to compete against the best in the world," she said. "Now, I will have the chance to represent Canada at the same time. Riding in the Nations Cup is an amazing opportunity to prepare me for riding other venues on the world stage. It's a great stepping stone to ride at the Olympics next year."

More than 400 of the world's best equestrian athletes from the top competitive nations will be competing in various horse sports at the Nations Cup. About 40 of those athletes will be competing in the sport of eventing.

After a tremendously successful season, Holly said More Inspiration is ready for the challenge. "More Inspiration has exceeded every expectation I've had for him," she said. "He's matured a lot, and is proving himself in ways I had never dreamed of." More Inspiration, known as Morriss around the barn, is an Off-The-Track-Thoroughbred. He raced at Woodbine and Fort Erie before Holly purchased him as a show horse prospect.

While she is very much looking forward to the opportunity to ride with the world's best eventers, Holly is responsible for funding the trip herself. Sponsorship opportunities are available, and anyone interested in helping Holly on her quest are encouraged to get in touch. For more information, phone Holly at 519-928-2232, email hollymjacks@hotmail.com, or visit hollyjacksequestrian.ca.

Holly and her husband Bruce Smither operate an equestrian training facility in the Orangeville area.