



2014-15 ANNUAL REPORT





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Introduction



The scope of the Saskatchewan sport system is expansive and each contributing organization or group impacts the way sport serves the people of this province.

The membership of Sask Sport includes 65 Provincial Sport Governing Bodies and 9 Districts for Sport, Culture and Recreation. These organizations, in turn, support more than 6,000 local sport teams, clubs and leagues. There are more sport and recreation organizations in Saskatchewan than any other type of service organization, indicating the high value that Saskatchewan people place on the benefits of participation in sport.

The sport system is shifting to meet the new expectations of Saskatchewan. For the last decade, Saskatchewan's population has been on a steady increase, mainly through immigration, which has given rise to a number of newcomers. Many newcomers play sports

because it helps to learn about Canadian culture and become more connected with their communities.

First Nations and Métis peoples are also becoming a larger portion of the population and are a quickly growing young demographic. Aboriginal people face barriers when it comes to fully participating in the sport system and the need to address these barriers will become more pronounced as an increased number of young people begin to access the system.

As well, Saskatchewan's baby boomers – the predominant source of volunteers – are aging and demographic research indicates that within 10 years, this group will no longer constitute the largest segment of the population. As this group continues to age, it will be important to engage the next generation of volunteers for their leadership and organizational skills.

Considering the changing demographic landscape, coupled with the diverse number of groups and organizations that drive sport in Saskatchewan, Sask Sport Inc., as the governing body for amateur sport in Saskatchewan, has the responsibility to support sport development to ensure the continued participation of people in sport, regardless of their age or ability.

Sask Sport Inc.'s vision is that Saskatchewan has a sustainable environment that has more residents from every segment of the population participating in sport, and increased numbers of high performance athletes are achieving better results. To achieve this vision, we must address the barriers of entry into sport to increase participation; enable and support an increased number of high performance athletes to achieve better results; ensure a high level of collaboration and partnership among stakeholders; and advocate and promote the benefits of sport.

The current Strategic Plan Framework provides five primary goal areas to accomplish these outcomes: Enhanced Participation, Excellence, Capacity, Interaction and Sport for Development. This document provides a report on the programs and services that the sport federation has underway to meet these goals.

Sask Sport Inc. operates Saskatchewan Lotteries and the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport Culture and Recreation. The results of these entities are also included in this report.

Mission Statement. Sask Sport Inc., as the Federation of Provincial Sport Governing Bodies, supports the sport delivery system to provide opportunities for Saskatchewan residents to participate at introductory, recreational, competitive and high performance levels.

Vision. Saskatchewan has a sustainable environment that has more residents from every segment of the population participating in sport, and increased numbers of high performance athletes are achieving higher results.



Participation



Sport provides numerous benefits to people of all ages and abilities. Increased collaboration, partnerships and resources within the sport system are required to help create a system that is inclusive for all Saskatchewan people regardless of location, social economic status, age or gender. Sask Sport Inc. manages several programs that identify and address barriers to ensure more people can participate.

Sport Canada has provided assistance in this area through a **bilateral funding agreement**. It renewed its commitment to Saskatchewan by providing more than \$300,000 annually for four years (totalling \$1.2 million). Matching funds are provided through the Sport Section of the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund. Through a partnership with the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, Sask Sport Inc. works in collaboration with delivery partners to ensure these funds address the needs and interests of Saskatchewan children and youth. Programs supported include: the Dream Brokers program, Aboriginal Community Sport Development Grant, Aboriginal Coaches and Officials Program, and team travel expenses for the North American Indigenous Games.

The **Dream Brokers Program** helps connect children and youth facing barriers to sport, culture and recreation opportunities using local elementary schools as the hub for facilitation. The program began as a legacy project of the 2005 Canada Summer Games and now includes the communities of Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Yorkton and North Battleford. During the 2014-15 school year, 13 Dream Brokers worked in 22 schools and connected approximately 2,300 children with over 4,300 sport, culture and recreation opportunities. This is almost double the number of children and opportunities from the previous year. Participants are connected to programs based on their interest and the availability of programs to meet their needs. Various activities are supported such as hockey,

gymnastics, skateboarding and dance. An independent evaluation noted that parents, caregivers and school staff agreed that students in the programs gained greater self-esteem, more confidence, improved skills and abilities, enhanced feelings of acceptance and belonging, better ability to pay attention, better attendance and greater success in school, and better decision making and life choices.

The **Aboriginal Community Sport Development Grant** assists children and youth to become involved in organized sport. This year there were 80 grants to support new or enhanced programs. These grants were adjudicated throughout the province to 24 communities and First Nations, 17 non-profit organizations, and 17 schools. More than 3,500 children became involved in activities such as tennis, curling, skiing, hockey, volleyball and figure skating.

KidSport™ Saskatchewan is a registered children's charity dedicated to helping children from families facing financial obstacles to participate in sport. In 2014, KidSport™ distributed more than \$1.5 million in individual and program grants, helping over 7,750 children and youth to participate in more than 45 sports. There are 43 local KidSport™ Committees throughout the province that adjudicate applications and oversee various fundraising events.

The **Northern Community & School Recreation Coordinator Program** enhances the quality of life for northerners through the provision of community based sport, culture and recreations programs after school, in the evenings, on weekends and at community and school special events. The Northern Sport, Culture and Recreation District (NSCRD) acts as a conduit for northern communities to access and develop local sport, culture and recreations programs. A program manager

works toward fulfilling NSCRD's strategic direction and operational mandate while northern community school and recreation coordinators (CRSC) provide support to local steering committees. These local steering committees, consisting of interagency and volunteer representatives oversee, advise, steer and direct the work of the CRSC. This year there were 26 full time coordinators and one part-time coordinator employed at 27 schools. These coordinators oversaw 1,015 unique programs including broomball tournaments, winter festivals, indoor curling and ongoing evening and weekend activities.

The **Parasport Grant Programs** provide support to help purchase adaptive sporting equipment and support the development of adaptive organized sport clubs and programs. Funds are adjudicated twice a year in a variety of parasport categories: blind sports, bowling, canoe/kayak, curling, cycling, fencing, golf, gymnastics, sailing, Special Olympics, skiing, swimming, tennis and wheelchair sports. Seven new clubs have been formed since the inception of the program and there have been 62 equipment grants and 42 club development grants supported.

The **Canada Sport For Life** movement based on Canada's Long-term Athlete Development (LTAD) framework, is a national initiative that strives to improve the country's sport system and provide lifelong, high quality and positive physical activity and sport opportunities for all Canadians. One of the principles of LTAD is that physical literacy is the foundation for developing the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed by Canadians to lead healthy, active lives. Sask Sport Inc. is represented on the Partners for Physical Literacy, which provides guidance and support to organizations that increase physical literacy, and coordinates resources on the Growing Young Movers (GYM) website, which supports educators, coaches, parents and community leaders. This year, Sask Sport Inc. supported a two-day mini summit for developing physical literacy, as well as two LTAD workshops including Building the Train to Train Athlete, and Sport Competition Review and Restructuring. The summits were facilitated by internationally recognized experts and well received by the membership.

The sport federation continues to provide enhanced participation through the **Community Grant Program**, which offers lottery funding to approximately 800 communities, including band councils, northern settlements and municipalities. This initiative supports approximately 1,300 sport programs and services on an annual basis.

SPORT IS MORE THAN A GAME AT WHITE BUFFALO

Michael Linklater shares the benefits of playing basketball with inner city youth

While the final score may not always be in their favour, everyone is a winner on the basketball court Tuesday nights at White Buffalo Youth Lodge in Saskatoon.

White Buffalo's basketball program, co-ordinated by Michael Linklater, attracts up to 30 inner city youth each week to enjoy some friendly competition and hone their basketball skills under the leadership of experienced teachers. White Buffalo is a not-for-profit which is dedicated to improving the quality of life and health for youth, young adults and their families in the inner city through integrated, holistic support services. It also serves as a youth recreational facility fostering a safe and fun environment for all to participate in.

While Linklater admits that there can be a competitive environment among the athletes, he notes that the benefits of the program go beyond the scoreboard.

"The athletes learn many skills, such as teamwork. Teamwork applies to all facets of life," said Linklater. "When you're working in an organization, the whole team is working to achieve a common goal – whether it's a business and people are trying to meet certain deadlines and make quotas or whether it's a youth centre like us trying to have a measurable outcome

where youth are leaving with experience, leadership and life skills from participating in some of the programs we offer.

"A lot of our youth who have utilized the program have realized certain lifestyle changes that need to be made within their lives. A lot of youth are coming back and saying that they've changed the direction of their life and tell us some of their goals and future dreams."

Linklater certainly understands how sport is more than a game. Asked about the impact sports have had on his life, he said, "First and foremost, sports have really saved my life." Growing up in Saskatoon, Linklater said sports helped him stay out of trouble and set goals for himself.

Through the basketball program at White Buffalo, Linklater is aiming to help kids discover their dreams through sports just like he did.

"It's really our job as previous athletes to look back on our own careers and how we got to where we are, and it's people giving their knowledge to us and sharing their expertise," he said. "The way I explain it is, 'It's not my talent and it's not my talent to keep. It's mine to recycle back.'

"Sport teaches you a lot of things: goal-setting, critical thinking, motivation, determination and the importance of a high self-esteem. It helps shape the person you become."



Michael Linklater

COMMUNITY BASKETBALL COORDINATOR



MICHAEL QING
CSCS Athlete

Excellence



High performance athletes are role models and inspire others to participate. The sport federation assists athletes, teams, and coaches to achieve excellence through a partnership with the Canadian Sport Centre Saskatchewan. Programs also exist to support more Aboriginal athletes, coaches and officials to have the opportunity to engage in high performance opportunities.

The **Canadian Sport Centre Saskatchewan** is responsible for helping athletes and coaches attain their high performance goals including podium successes at the national and international levels. In 2014-15, there were 233 athletes registered with the CSCS. Programs and services are provided through a national partnership agreement with Own the Podium, Sport Canada, the Canadian Olympic Committee, the Canadian Paralympic Committee and the Coaching Association of Canada. Provincial partners include the Coaches Association of Saskatchewan and the Sport Medicine and Science Council of Saskatchewan (SMSCS). These services include sport science and medicine, such as sport psychology and sport nutrition, and personal development, such as self-marketing and interview skills. This year over 1,100 hours of sport science services were delivered to high performance athletes and teams; as well as over 350 sport medicine sessions.

A new initiative this year was the **Game Plan**, which assists athletes with various transition phases of their athletic pursuits and helps athletes plan for their career and life after competitive sport. Having a transition plan reduces stress, minimizes distractions, and helps athletes focus on their current goals to reach their maximum potential.

The **Future Best** and **Saskatchewan Program for Athletic Excellence (SPAE)** programs provide funding to athletes to help cover the costs of training, competition and living expenses. Athletes who have the potential to reach the National Senior Team but have not obtained carded status or been named a member of Team Canada are eligible for assistance through Future Best. There were 71 athletes who received Future Best funding last year. SPAE provides additional financial support to carded Sport Canada athletes from Saskatchewan. Forty-one athletes qualified for the SPAE program in 2014-15, up from 25 the previous year.

The **High Performance Coach Capacity Grant** supported 20 Olympic and Paralympic sports to hire 32 high performance coaches at various provincial team and high performance club levels. This program is key to preparing Saskatchewan athletes and coaches for success along national team pathways and podium successes.

Professional development workshops and training opportunities were attended by 174 high performance coaches this year at events such as the 2014 **Saskatchewan Coaches Conference** and the **Athlete and Coach Advance**. Twelve coaches were enrolled in the **NCCP Advanced Coach Diploma** program, with four completing their graduation requirements.

Saskatchewan was represented by eight athletes and two coaches at the **2014 Commonwealth Games** in Glasgow, Scotland. Saskatchewan athletes captured gold in heptathlon, bronze in women's wrestling 53 kilogram, and bronze in the men's all-around gymnastics team event.

Team Saskatchewan had a strong showing at the **2015 Canada Winter Games** in Prince George last February, finishing fifth in total medals won (earning medals in 10 of the 19 sports), and finished tied for fifth in overall placement among the provinces and territories. Eleven sports had improved placement results from the previous Canada Winter Games.

The **2014 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG)** were held in Regina in July. The event was an opportunity to showcase unity, sport, culture, youth, volunteerism and teamwork between First Nations, Métis and Non-Indigenous communities. Team Saskatchewan did extremely well placing second overall with a total medal count of 159, and capturing medals in 12 of the 13 sports.

The **Saskatchewan Sport Awards** annually celebrates and promotes the outstanding achievements of Saskatchewan amateur athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers. The following individuals were recognized in 2014:

MASTER ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARD
Milos Kostic

YOUTH MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARD
Marco Schumann

YOUTH FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARD
Tianna Kennett

MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARD
Mark McMorris

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARD
Brienne Theisen-Eaton

TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD
Saskatchewan Women's Under-15 Provincial Basketball

VOLUNTEER AWARD
Al Dyer
Carol Chernishenko

COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD
John Haver

COACH DEDICATION AWARD
Frank McCrystal

OFFICIAL AWARD - MALE
Ron Boden

OFFICIAL AWARD - FEMALE
Karen Howard

MENTORING THE NEXT GENERATION

Colette Bourgonje shares her wisdom with Brittany Hudak

Although Colette Bourgonje's days of competing are over, she has found a way to stay involved in the sport: mentorship. The 10-time Paralympic medalist was encouraged by Pat Prokopchuk and Jeff Whiting to help new athletes learn from her experiences in the sport. Bourgonje has found that by working with up-and-coming athletes, she is able to help athletes not only reach their potential, but enjoy the full benefits of sport.

One athlete the Saskatoon product has been mentoring is Brittany Hudak. It began a couple of years ago, when Bourgonje first witnessed Hudak's athletic talents. She had one thought, "Wow!"

"I told people, 'I found this great athlete,' " Bourgonje said. "She had an engine, you know? She had cardio. And that to me was like, 'Ok, we can build on that.' "

Bourgonje introduced herself to Hudak, encouraged her to get involved in the sport of para-nordic skiing and offered to mentor her.

"I remember thinking, 'Why does this girl want me to ski? Should I try skiing?' "said Hudak, a native of Prince Albert. "I loved the outdoors, so I thought it would be something that I would really try. Colette's

attitude really stuck with me. She has such a positive attitude that matches mine."

In 2013, the pair spent a month together in Canmore, Alt., training with the national team. Bourgonje said Hudak quickly became "the perfect student." For Hudak, who had initially approached the sport as a recreational hobby, the training really set her on a new path.

"I think that's when I realized I do want to commit to this," said Hudak. "I had done a year of racing in the province and that was fun. Now I needed to get things in order ... if I really wanted to start handling races at the top level."

The result of Hudak's dedication and Bourgonje's mentorship became evident at Hudak's first competition. At the 2013 IPC World Cup, she placed fourth in the 5 kilometre standing race. As the top Canadian in the event, Hudak qualified for the 2014 Sochi Paralympics. At the Paralympics, Hudak didn't win any medals. She finished fourth in the 4X2.5km Relay Open, sixth in the 1km Sprint Standing, 10th in the 15km Standing and 12th in the 5k Standing.

"I didn't know what training was at a high performance level. And that's where Colette

really helped speed up the process," Hudak said. "She knew all the tools that I would need in order to get myself where I wanted to be. She's always been such an inspiration for me that it always made me want to be better."

For Bourgonje, the end of one career has led to a new, but equally fulfilling, opportunity.

"When I made the commitment, I was like, 'Let's see if we can get Brittany to Sochi,'" Bourgonje said. "That transition was interesting. It's definitely been a great experience with Brittany."



Colette Bourgonje & Brittany Hudak

PARA-NORDIC CROSS COUNTRY SKI



CAROL CHERNISHENKO
2014 Volunteer Award Recipient

Capacity



Sask Sport Inc. is committed to ensuring the sport system has strong financial and human resources from grassroots through to high performance participation.

The sport federation continues to address bullying, harassment and abuse in sport, culture and recreation by providing the **Respect in Sport (RiS)** online training program for coaches and sport leaders in Saskatchewan at no charge. This mandatory program has been completed by over 9,500 coaches and leaders in the province, and helps to create a safer environment for all children and youth participating in these activities.

Representatives from 19 Provincial Sports Governing Bodies and six Districts attended a two-day training session entitled **Human Resource Basics for Executive Directors in Sport** delivered through the University of Regina. This customized training provided specific tools for participants to manage human resource functions in their organizations, and educated participants on the new Saskatchewan Employment Act introduced in April 2014.

Sask Sport Inc. works closely with the Canadian Association of the Advancement of Women in Sport and Physical Activity (CAAWS) to deliver women in leadership workshops. Sask Sport Inc. also manages the **Women in Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation (WISPAR)** website on behalf of its partnering organizations – CAAWS, Saskatchewan in motion, and the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc. The WISPAR partners, along with the Canadian Sport Centre Saskatchewan and the City of Saskatoon hosted an Active Like a Girl event in Saskatoon, which allowed girls aged 10-14 to experience

the sports of rugby, wheelchair rugby, fencing and golf along with world class athletes and coaches. Sask Sport Inc. also partnered with the provincial government to promote female role models during International Women's Day and Women's History Month.

The Aboriginal Coaches and Officials Program (ACOP) subsidizes the costs for coaches and officials training. This year the program provided support for 489 sport specific coach training opportunities, 225 official training opportunities, and 288 multi-sport coach training opportunities. This year ACOP educated 143 coaches across the province in the **Aboriginal Coaching Module (ACM)**, which provides a holistic approach to coaching, dealing with racism in sport, as well as lifestyle, health and nutrition for coaches who work with, or supervise First Nations or Métis youth. Coaches and officials had the opportunity to showcase their acquired skills during the North American Indigenous Games in 2014.

A number of Officials' Development initiatives were undertaken in 2014-15. An **Officials Advisory Committee** was established to guide and oversee or priorities related to officials' development in Saskatchewan.

A new **Officials Professional Development Grant Program** was implemented to support officials for customized professional development and advanced education opportunities. Two types of grants are now in place: the Officials Visitation Grant supports bringing national, international or professional experts to the province to deliver professional development opportunities; and the Officials Professional Development Grant assists advancing officials enhance their officiating skills.

The **Officials Awareness Campaign** raises awareness of the positive aspects of officiating, the important role officials play in amateur sport, and to encourage respect. This awareness supports the recruitment and retention efforts of provincial and community sport organizations. Several awareness tools were developed and are available for download on the Sask Sport Inc. website. Partnerships have been established with sport organizations to promote the campaign tools.

The **Annual Funding Follow-up** report and guidelines were revised to ensure both are meeting current and future needs of the Provincial Sport Governing Bodies and Sask Sport Inc., while complying with the requirements of the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund. The review process included input from the membership through an Executive Director Advisory Committee. The outcomes of the revised Annual Funding follow-up report include alignment with the Sport Development Strategic Plan, streamlined administrative processes, collection of comprehensive and relevant data, and an updated user friendly computer program.

The **Sport Legacy Fund** continues to create a lasting sports legacy in Saskatchewan through donations from former athletes and other individuals. The program encourages people to contribute to the program in any way possible, such as planned gifts, making monthly or annual contributions, or paying one-time only and in-kind donations to the program in exchange for recognition and charitable tax receipts. In 2014, over \$850,000 was donated to the Sports Legacy Fund. Since its inception, the program has raised more than \$6.95 million.

TIM KROEKER HELPS MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF THE GAME

Officials keep the game fair and running smoothly

Whether refereeing at the high school level or in the Canadian Football League's championship game (the Grey Cup), it's always been about keeping the order for Saskatoon referee Tim Kroeker.

"If there wasn't structured refereeing and officiating, who knows what would happen?" said Kroeker. "Officials help maintain the integrity of the game, keep order in the game, keep things fair and keep the game running smoothly. At the more recreational level, referees allow people to enjoy their sporting experience. Overall, referees are a really important structured part of any game."

Kroeker has always appreciated being able to compete in sports that are structured and fair to all. Growing up in Saskatoon, he was an avid baseball player. Kroeker represented Saskatchewan at the 1989 Canada Summer Games then headed down to the United States and played baseball at three different schools (North Carolina, California and Louisiana) between 1989 and 1993. He was also a member of Canada's 1993-95 National Team, which won a bronze medal at the World University Games in Buffalo.

"Sport has taught me so many life lessons. Being able to be a part of a group and figuring out how to form relationships with different types of people and working

toward a common goal is the part of sport that's important," he said. "So it's not just a game; it's the life lessons of hard work and determination."

Once his competitive baseball career was over, and he started teaching in Saskatoon, Kroeker discovered refereeing as a great way to stay involved with sports and stay fit. He had been a basketball official in high school at the minor level. Once he started teaching, his first principal – a local official – encouraged him to try his hand at football officiating.

Kroeker never had aspirations to become a CFL referee. But being competitive in nature, he worked his hardest to learn. In 2005, while Kroeker was refereeing at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport level, the CFL Director of Officiating George Black did some scouting in Saskatchewan, and Kroeker's name was put forward as an official to watch. In the spring of 2006, Kroeker received a call from Black asking if he'd be interested in becoming a CFL official. Kroeker accepted.

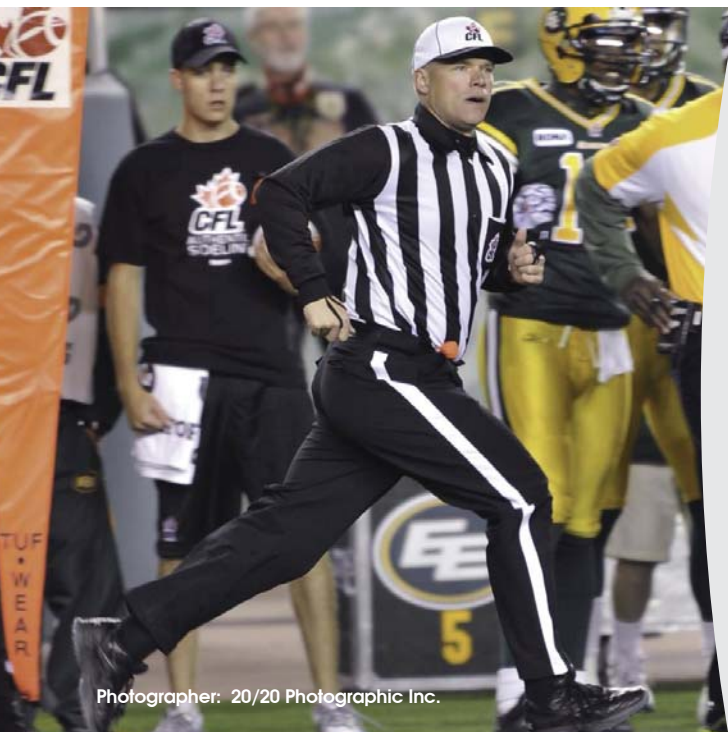
Since then, he has worked 133 games over nine seasons in the CFL, including the 2008, 2012 and 2014 Grey Cups. He is currently a Head Linesman – the official who stands at one end of the scrimmage line looking for

possible off sides or other fouls before the snap. During the play, he is responsible for judging the action near his sideline. Kroeker is also starting to work more games as the Head Referee.

"It's been great. I've really enjoyed it," he said. "The camaraderie of the guys is great. It's amazing to be a part of a Canadian game. I set pretty high standards for myself. I really re-focused and did some things differently in 2014, so being in the Grey Cup was like winning the championships as an official. It's the best honour we can get."

When he's not busy refereeing or working full-time, Kroeker also does some work to help the development of young, local referees. Kroeker has received a lot of mentorship himself, from CFL referees such as Brent Buchko, and Jake Ireland, and appreciates the need to help foster the next generation of referees.

"I help out with our local association as much as I can. I'm open to helping guys during the year and providing resources," said Kroeker. "It's very important to be open to helping anybody that needs your help. I was always the guy that asked a lot of questions. I was lucky enough to have a lot of mentors coming up from our local association that were always willing to help out."



Photographer: 20/20 Photographic Inc.

Tim Kroeker

CFL® OFFICIAL FROM SASKATCHEWAN

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Interaction



Sask Sport Inc. creates innovative partnerships to leverage opportunities and efficiencies at the community, provincial and national levels.

Membership meetings provide the opportunity to share information and discuss essential issues. The monthly **SportsPage** e-newsletter shares important news and information. The Sask Sport Inc. **website** is home to many resources and program information.

The **Administration Centres for Sport, Culture and Recreation** provide affordable business support services to non-profit sport, culture and recreation organizations. The centres consist of four buildings in Regina and

Saskatoon, encompassing 50,000 square feet of office space, multiple boardrooms, printing and website services, interoffice mail, reception, payroll and accounting services. These centres allow member organizations to meet their **contemporaries** and share best practices in an affordable professional office environment.

The **Sport It's More Than A Game** campaign advocates for the long term growth and development of amateur sport in Saskatchewan by promoting the benefits of amateur sport. The campaign features a variety of promotional tools including posters, website profiles, banners, and advertisements. These materials are used by members and stakeholders, such as schools and recreational facilities, to encourage

participation and to position sport as essential in society. New promotional materials for this campaign were developed this year.

The Federal Government has proclaimed 2015 as the **Year of Sport**, celebrating the role that sport plays in our Canadian identity. The national catchphrase of the federal initiative is "Canada: A Leading Sport Nation." The Year of Sport logo and messaging was incorporated within our own Sport It's More Than A Game tagline. The Year of Sport provides the opportunity to raise the profile of sport in our province, and to celebrate the many vital benefits that sport provides in our communities and for our citizens.

TEAM SASKATCHEWAN
2014 NAIG - Regina



SPORT. IT'S MORE THAN A GAME!



TEAM SASKATCHEWAN HOCKEY - MALE
Prince George 2015 Canada Winter Games

ADMIN CENTRE SERVICE 'SECOND TO NONE'

Sport groups benefit from business services

Doug Pederson, the Saskatchewan Soccer Association's Executive Director, views the Administration Centres for Sport, Culture and Recreation as a "one-stop-shop" for all of their administrative needs.

In the printing "aisle," the association can get annual reports, posters and any other material printed, while receiving graphic design support. The accounting/bookkeeping department ensures the association's financials are in order. The payroll service also offers access to group pension and benefit plans. A trip to the administrative services section can help satisfy all of their copying, faxing, mailing and photocopying desires. If the association needs to hold a meeting, there's even space for that too, whether it involves a boardroom or videoconferencing services.

"We use pretty much everything that the centre offers. I'm trying to think what we might not use," Pederson said with a laugh. "To have all of the sports groups try to manage this individually wouldn't make sense. It really makes sense to have this housed in an admin centre type of environment where we can collectively get the type of support we need that we would not be able to provide individually."

The Administration Centres aim to enhance capacity for member organizations. The four centres deliver affordable business support services so non-profit sport, culture and recreation organizations can focus on best serving their members.

When it comes to the printing service, for example, Pederson says there no better service available. "It really comes down to the quality of service," he said. "The print shop team is fantastic. The service is second to none in most areas."

And, as the association found out this year, the print shop is pretty reliable in a crisis.

"This year we had to do a last-second change in a major print job, after the books were printed. We needed a quick turnaround," said Pederson. "We found a mistake on one page, and within 24 hours the centre had turned it around, pulled the books apart and reprinted and reinserted that page."

For Pederson, this example is really indicative of the service across the board.

"The Admin Centre staff do that stuff all the time. It's fantastic," he said. "We are often in a position where we find ourselves needing things last minute and the centre always responded beautifully. The service is second to none and I couldn't ask for more."



Doug Pederson

SASKATCHEWAN SOCCER ASSOCIATION



Sport for Development



Sport contributes to the social development of Saskatchewan children and youth. Sport is a tool for social development, has the ability to engage citizens/communities, overcome social barriers, and contribute to building a healthier, more cohesive society. Sport builds respect, tolerance, leadership, and provides positive opportunities for children and youth. Sport teaches qualities such as hard work, determination and teamwork, which make better people and communities. In addition to social development, sport is a significant contributor to the provincial economy supporting thousands of jobs and bringing tourism visitors to Saskatchewan through sport events and competitions.

One of the most notable social development projects is the **File Hills Qu'Appelle Physical Activity Initiative**, which is a partnership between Sask Sport Inc. and File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council (FHQTC) to support and facilitate additional physical activity/nutritional classes that extend the school day. The three-year pilot project supports the health and well-

being of First Nation participants to create positive behaviours which encourage future participation in sport and physical activity. The project supports a physical education teacher to facilitate additional physical activity/nutritional classes that extend the school day. This initiative is designed to increase the physical activity levels of approximately 300 children and youth in First Nations communities and encourage their positive future participation in sport and physical activity.

Other stakeholders involved in this project include Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc., SaskCulture Inc., Nakoda Oyade Education Centre, Payepot First Nations School, Tantanka Najin School and Chief Paskwa Education Centre. Working together with the First Nations education model provides flexibility in rescheduling the school day to allow for increased physical activity development. This partnership utilizes existing supports such as FHQTC's Health and Education programs as well as existing sport resources such as Dream Brokers and Canada Sport For Life. This project may influence other communities to allocate more resources, increase hours to support proper allocation of time required to support healthy activities, and extend the school day to facilitate physical activity, nutrition, sport, culture and recreation.



TEAM SASK NAIG MEMORIES REMAIN LONG AFTER THE COMPETITION

Athletes learn values that last a lifetime

From July 20-27, 2014, many Regina residents looked on proudly as athletes from Team Saskatchewan competed at the North American Indigenous Games (NAIG). It was only the second time the event had been held in Saskatchewan and the first time it occurred in the Queen City.

For the over 400 athletes competing for Team Saskatchewan, it was a moment that was the result of years of preparation. To make Team Saskatchewan, athletes had to undergo an intense talent identification program involving the provincial sport governing bodies and Aboriginal sport coordinators chosen by the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations.

Starting in 2012, Talent ID Sessions were held in various districts to determine the team members, usually involving competitions or other skills events to evaluate an individual's skill levels. After these sessions were completed, the team members for each sport were selected. It's a similar process to how members are chosen for Team Saskatchewan at the Canada Games.

With more than 1,500 athletes trying out, there's a sense of pride among those who are able to earn a spot – just like Taryn McKenzie.

"I first got the news at the tryouts and I didn't think I was going to make it,"

McKenzie said in a media interview. "It was kind of surreal that I made it."

"I was really proud of myself," added team member Lenore Lachance. "Just getting the support from my family saying that I'm going to NAIG; I had a great feeling that I made it this far."

Upon being selected, the athletes all put in a lot of blood, sweat and tears to do their part in helping Team Saskatchewan succeed at the competition. McKenzie estimated that she ran three kilometres a day in preparation. Lachance said she also practiced faithfully, with the intensity picking up as the event gets closer.

But it's all worth it for the athletes when the competition finally begins. At the 2014 NAIG, Saskatchewan had a fantastic showing. The team won 72 gold medals, 54 silver and 33 bronze, for a grand total of 159.

"It was very exciting for me to win the medal because that was my goal," said Lachance, who won a gold medal in shot put. "When I threw the shot put, it felt really good and it felt awesome when the organizers told me I was in first place. It was a great experience; I was happy with myself and my teammate. She won silver in the same category, so two medals in one."

McKenzie, meanwhile, was the proud winner of five gold medals in athletics.

Regardless of the medals, however, many participants from Team Saskatchewan look back fondly at the camaraderie between the team. Everyone was there for a common goal: to make their province proud.

"It was amazing!" Santanna Bill told the media. She won the gold medal in badminton. "It was really great seeing all the people and meeting new people and spending time with everyone."

"It was fun bonding with the team and getting to know new people from other places," said Santanna Debray in a media interview. Debray, along with her biological twin Savannah, won a silver medal as members of the Saskatchewan U18 Soccer Team.

All athletes who earned a coveted spot on Team Saskatchewan encourage the next generation of athletes to strive toward that goal, because the benefits of being on Team Saskatchewan are endless.

"Just try your hardest and never give up," said McKenzie. "You could be like me and think you're not going to make it, but you end up getting gold."



Photo: Eagle Feather News

Taryn McKenzie

LARONGE, SK
FIVE GOLD MEDALS, 2014 NAIG

Saskatchewan Lotteries and the Trust Fund



Saskatchewan Lotteries is the provincial marketing organization for Western Canada Lottery Corporation products in Saskatchewan and the fundraiser for more than 12,000 sport, culture and recreation groups. Sask Sport Inc. is licensed to operate Saskatchewan Lotteries, and through an agreement with the Government of Saskatchewan, proceeds from Saskatchewan Lotteries are dedicated to sport, culture and recreation organizations to benefit communities throughout the province.

The Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation distributes Saskatchewan Lotteries proceeds to eligible sport, culture and recreation organizations in Saskatchewan. These eligible organizations are designated by the Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport based on meeting certain eligibility criteria. Volunteer committees from the sport, culture and recreation communities review and adjudicate all funding requests made to the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund from eligible organizations. There are approximately 1,200 groups which receive direct funding support and through them more than 12,000 affiliated organizations benefit. This includes grants to all communities and First Nations through the Community Grant Program as well as support for nine Sport, Culture and Recreation Districts.

These groups provide a wide range of programs and services to more than 600,000 registered participants in sport, culture and recreation activities. Controls are placed upon the distribution of lottery proceeds to ensure transparency and accountability of the funds.

The lottery license agreement between Sask Sport Inc., its global partners, and the provincial government provides the strategic funding priorities. These priorities range from engaging diverse populations in community-based activities to contributing to quality programs and safe, well-run facilities. The agreement also supports enhancing organizational capacity, addressing barriers to participation and fostering pride through excellence in participation. It also encourages healthy, active lifestyles and promoting community and leadership capacity.

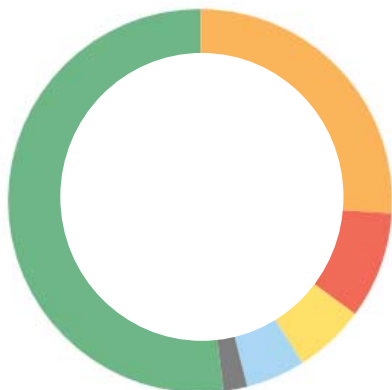
This was a challenging year for lottery sales with total revenue of \$185 million, a decrease of eight per cent from the previous year. Below average Jackpot carryovers on LOTTO 6/49 and LOTTO MAX for most of the year resulted in total sales below last year's very successful year.

Record sales of \$7.3 million were achieved for SCRATCH'N WIN in December, due in part to the successful launch of a \$30 regional ticket. Sales for SPORT SELECT reached \$14.6 million, just over last year's record sales for this product. Enhancements were made to WESTERN 649 increasing the main prizes from \$1 million to \$2 million; and introducing a new 2/6+ bonus prize category and a new 2/6 prize category.

The Retail Network continued to grow, with 879 Retailers now selling Lottery tickets. An additional 90 Wireless Jackpot Signs, which promote the Jackpot amounts for LOTTO 6/49 and LOTTO MAX were added to the network bringing the total to 250 retail outlets that feature this promotional tool.

Saskatchewan Lotteries continued to enhance its mobile-friendly website, sasklotteries.ca. A new Lottery Manager App was released for iOS and Android devices that provides information such as winning numbers, Jackpots, and the nearest Lottery Ticket Centre.

How the Lottery Dollar is Spent



THANKS TO OUR LOTTERY RETAILERS

Elmwood Grocery

Swift Current residents frequent Elmwood Grocery for that small-town, community atmosphere – and for the lottery tickets.

The store has been around since the mid-1940s. Bert Buziak and his wife Pat purchased the store 11 years ago. Bert did some research and decided that Swift Current was a smart place to do business.

“Bert likes to take a business and then make it successful,” said Wedhorn-Campbell. “It’s been a great success. It’s indescribable. It’s really satisfying to serve the Swift Current Area. Our customer base is awesome.”

Wedhorn-Campbell said Elmwood Grocery offers everything from produce, to canned goods, to sandwiches and fruit trays. Staffed by 12 employees, Elmwood is able to provide quality customer service while retaining that community atmosphere.

Wedhorn-Campbell explains, Elmwood Grocery is proud to be part of the fundraiser’s sales network.

“It’s a good way to give back to the community, because we know that the money comes back to the community and it’s always good to support the kids,” she said. “Sports are big in Swift Current. The kids need to get out and do something. It’s a good way for Saskatchewan Lotteries to support these groups and for us to help support a great cause.”



When you buy a lottery ticket, you help Saskatchewan Lotteries fund over 12,000 volunteer sport, culture and recreation groups. That makes life better for people across Saskatchewan, and that’s something to cheer about!



Elmwood Grocery

LOTTERY RETAILER
SWIFT CURRENT

Financial Highlights



OPERATING FIGURES YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2015

The following selected financial information is derived from the annual audited financial statements of the following entities:

- Western Canada Lottery -Sask Division Inc.
- Sask Sport Distributors Inc.
- Sask Sport Inc.
- Administration Centers for Sport, Culture and Recreation (1989) Inc.

The external auditors of the organization have, as part of their responsibilities, reviewed this information to ensure its consistency with the audited financial statements.

REVENUES

Ticket Sales	\$184,453,726
Rent & Service Income	1,543,176
Interest	739,131
Grant and contract revenue	6,801,813
Other	383,982
	<u>\$ 193,921,828</u>

EXPENSES

Net Profits to Trust	\$ 57,202,846
Prizes & Retail Commissions	105,542,477
Federal & Provincial Taxes	1,423,244
Ticket Printing & Operating Expenses	17,197,061
Provincial Operating Expenses	7,877,665
Program & Project Expenses	4,650,923
	<u>\$193,894,216</u>
Net Operating Revenue	\$27,612



FRONT COVER PHOTOS

TOP LEFT: Brittany Hudak, Cross Country Ski-Paralympic, 2015 Canada Winter Games
 TOP RIGHT: 2014 NAIG - Regina
 BOTTOM LEFT: Stefanie Lawton, 2015 Scotties Tournament of Hearts/ Photographer-Andrew Klaver Courtesy of Curling Canada
 BOTTOM RIGHT: Brienne Theisen-Eaton, Athletics, 2014 Female Athlete of the Year

