



Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Branch – SPAR –

April 2023 Newsletter

2022 Alberta Sport Awards

Congratulations to the 2022 Alberta Sports Recognition Awards winners! On March 31, 2023, the awards ceremony took place at the McDougall Centre in Calgary where the Lieutenant Governor Her Honour, the Honourable Salma Lahkani, AOE, B.Sc, LLD (hon) and Minister of Culture Jason Luan presented the awards to the recipients.

These high-performance athletes, coaches, and officials have overcome many challenges in the past three years and are well deserving of this acknowledgement.

Since 1987, the Alberta Sport Awards have been presented annually to honour the extraordinary athletic accomplishments of our Alberta athletes, teams, coaches, and officials. Past recipients include Olympic Champions Catriona LeMay Doan, Kyle Shewfelt, Katelyn Osmond, and Erica Weibe.

Alberta develops some of the best athletes, coaches, and officials in the world as demonstrated by this year's winners.

- U21 Male Athlete of the Year – Luc Goertzen – Diving
- U21 Female Athlete of the Year – Kaiya Ruiter – Figure Skating
- U21 Team of the Year – Harry Ainlay Titans High School Football Team
- Alberta Male Athlete of the Year – Stefan Daniel – Para Triathlon
- Alberta Female Athlete of the Year – Kelsey Mitchell – Cycling
- Coach of the Year – Larry Steinke – Athletics
- Official of the Year – Kimberly Daniels – Canoe Slalom
- Don Watts Coach Developer Award – Ozzie Sawicki

Congratulations again to all of the award recipients. We wish you continued success as you work toward your goals and dreams!

2023 Canada Winter Games

The 2023 Canada Winter Games were held from February 18 to March 6 in Prince Edward Island. Alberta sent 330 athletes and coaches with 25 teams competing in 19 different sports.

Team Alberta finished in 4th place in the medal standing earning 92 medals: 20 Gold, 36 Silver and 36 Bronze. Go to the [Team Alberta website](#) for complete results and list of medal winners.

Stay tuned for more information on the 2025 Canada Summer Games. They will take place in beautiful Newfoundland and Labrador!

2023 Arctic Winter Games

The 2023 Arctic Winter Games were a great success! Thank you to the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo for hosting the Games and providing an amazing experience to our Team Alberta North athletes, coaches, cultural performers, managers, and mission staff.

Congratulations to Team Alberta North who finished third in the medal standings with a total of 144 medals: 42 Gold, 60 Silver, and 42 Bronze.

Please go to the [Team Alberta North website](#) to see the results and a complete listing of all the medal winners.

2024 Team Alberta North Mission Staff Applications Are Now Open

The Ministry of Culture invites you to apply for volunteer positions of Mission Staff for Team Alberta North at the 2024 Arctic Winter Games, to be held March 10 to 16, 2024, in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Mat-Su), Alaska.

Do you have what it takes to be a Team Alberta North Mission Staff member? Here are some of the qualifications required to join the team:

- **Interested applicants must reside north of the 55th parallel**
- A volunteer or paid employee with a provincial sport/recreation organization or related organization;
- Knowledge of the Alberta amateur sport system;
- Enthusiasm and interest for working in a multi-sport Games environment;
- Willingness and ability to commit time pre-Games, during, and post-Games;
- Ability to work both independently and in a team environment;
- Willingness to provide excellent service to assigned sports and to Team Alberta North;
- Strong interpersonal, communication and organizational skills; and
- Possess high energy, a positive attitude and be multi-task oriented.

The application deadline is May 1, 2023. Please go to the [Team Alberta North Website](#) for more details.

National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) Updates

The updated NCCP multi-sport calendar can be found at <https://albertasport.ca/coaching/nccp-multi-sport-module-calendar/>. Please check the site regularly as new courses are continually being added.

National Mental Health and Sport Project

Led by the Coaching Association of Canada, the [National Mental Health and Sport Project](#) has added new mental health content into the following four NCCP Competition Introduction modules:

- Make Ethical Decisions, and
- Basic Mental Skills, Planning a Practice, and Teaching & Learning.

In addition, SPAR will be increasing delivery of these modules to remote areas of the province in an effort to increase mental health literacy.

The Coaching Association of Canada has launched its [National Mental Health and Resource Hub](#) to overcome stigma and guide conversations about mental health. This free online portal offers training and resources for coaches to develop mental health literacy and positive coaching practices to improve performance and well-being in sport.

Calling all presenters - The 2023 Alberta Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA) Conference and Energize Workshop is looking for you!

Are you interested in being a presenter at the 2023 ARPA Conference and Energize Workshop October 26-28, 2023? The Alberta Recreation and Parks Association invites you to submit a presentation proposal to be part of the conference.

The conference will be held at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise and the theme is “Inspiring Creativity and Community.” It is a call to action to think big, push boundaries, create unique partnerships, and collaborate with community members. The conference will inspire creativity in our communities and build stronger, more vibrant places to live, work, and play.

Submit your presentation proposal now on the [ARPA submission webpage](#). The deadline is April 30, 2023. For more detailed information, contact Caleb Boorse, Events Coordinator, at cboorse@arpaonline.ca or 780-415-1745 ext. 105.

Take the Lead – Funding Opportunities for Women and Girls in Sport and Recreation

The Take the Lead program provides support for girls and women working or volunteering in sport, recreation, active living communities, or a school system who are working towards increasing their leadership capacity.

This program provides support for Albertan girls and women to become experienced leaders in sport and recreation. Applications can be submitted for support with costs associated with training, course fees, professional development, professional certification, clinics, equipment, travel, lodging, meals, and other training related activities.

The deadline to apply is April 30, 2023. Please visit the program [website](#) for additional details and how to apply.

ParticipACTION Community Challenge

The ParticipACTION Community Challenge is a national physical activity and sport initiative. It encourages all Canadians to get active in the month of June as it searches for Canada’s Most Active Community.

The challenge is open to everyone, and all minutes tracked on the app and website from June 1 – 30 count toward a community’s total score. After June 30, 50 finalist communities will be invited to submit an application to be Canada’s Most Active Community.

Please visit the [ParticipACTION website](#) for more details.

Foster Parent Awareness Campaign

Children in care say repeatedly “what a difference one person or family can make” - and YOU can be that difference. The Government of Alberta recently launched a [Foster Parent Awareness Campaign](#) called “Just Like You,” asking Albertans to consider opening their homes to children and youth in care. Share your love for sport and recreation with a child and make a difference in their lives.

To learn more please call 1-844-957-0552, email fostercaregiving@gov.ab.ca or visit the [website](#).

Concussion Awareness

The #Headstrong Canada campaign is based on the Government of Canada's Concussion Framework and the



[Concussion Awareness toolkit](#), is designed to give every sport organization the resources they need to show they are concussion smart and to learn the key points in Concussion Awareness



Our mailing address is:

Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Branch

Suite 500, 10055 106 Street

Edmonton, Alberta T5J 1G3

Canada