



# Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Branch – SPAR –

January 2024 Newsletter

## National Coaches Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) Updates

Happy New Year! The February and March NCCP multi-sport schedule has been posted on the [NCCP multi-sport calendar](#). Register early as these modules will fill up quickly.

The NCCP Advanced Coaching Diploma (ACD) helps Competition Development Certified or Trained coaches prepare for podium success at the Provincial, National and International Level. This one-year program allows coaches to connect and learn from experienced mentors, content experts, fellow coaches, and respected sport partners across Canada. Application deadline for the Canadian Sport Institute – Calgary cohort is January 31.

For more information on the Advanced Coaching Diploma, contact CSI – Calgary or register through the [Locker](#).

## Winter Walk Day: February 7, 2024

February is almost here and that means Winter Walk Day is quickly approaching. Winter Walk Day is a great opportunity to be active and have fun with your family, friends, and colleagues. All Albertans can embrace the Winter Walk Day spirit by putting on their boots and warm clothes and enjoying a 15-minute walk or outdoor activity on Wednesday, February 7.

Remember, you do not have to wait for Winter Walk Day to be active! Any day can be an active day - just open the door and go for it. Staying active during the winter is important to maintaining a healthy lifestyle. In fact, research shows that spending time outdoors and being active benefits both mental and physical well-being.

Outdoor physical activity is a great social opportunity too. Join a group of friends, co-workers, or students, and register for 2024 Winter Walk Day with [Safe Healthy Active People Everywhere \(SHAPE\)](#).

Get outside and enjoy the fresh air - celebrate your mental and physical well-being by taking time for an enjoyable winter walk! Don't forget to tag @SHAPE\_Alberta and add #WinterWalkDay to your posts!

## 2023 Alberta Sport Recognition Awards: Nomination Deadline January 15, 2024

Have you nominated a deserving athlete, team, coach, or technical official for an Alberta Sport Award yet? The deadline is right around the corner – January 15!

Since 2002, the Alberta Sport Recognition Awards have been presented to honor the extraordinary athletic accomplishments of our high-performance Alberta athletes, teams, coaches, and officials.

Please go to the [Alberta Sport Recognition Award webpage](#) for a list of awards and nomination guidelines.

## Major Cultural and Sport Events Grant (MCSE)

Did you know the Ministry of Tourism and Sport now administers the Major Cultural and Sport Events (MCSE) grant program?

Applications and guidelines are currently under review and will be available on the SPAR website in early 2024.

For more information please go to the [SPAR Website](#).

## 2026 Alberta Summer Games Host Community Announcement

Congratulations to Strathcona County, chosen to host the 25th Alberta Summer Games in 2026!

The Summer Games have been a part of the sport community in Alberta for almost 50 years, bringing young athletes ages 11-16 together to compete in a variety of sports.

An \$820,000 operating grant will be provided to the host society to support the 2026 event, which generated about \$9 million in economic impact for the host community at the most recent Alberta Summer Games in Okotoks.

Strathcona County previously hosted the 1987 Alberta Summer Games and the 2000 Alberta Winter Games.

Please go to the [Summer Games website](#) for more information.

## ParticipACTION Community Challenge

The Community Challenge is coming back in June 2024! Even though it is still a few months away, it is not too early to contact your municipality and spread the word so that your community has the best chance of being named Canada's Most Active Community and winning \$100,000 to support local sport and physical activity initiatives!

Community organizations are encouraged to apply for grants of up to \$1,500 from January 16 to February 13. The grants can be used for staffing, training, promotion, equipment, and venue rentals. They are designed to increase sport and physical activity participation.

Everyone should have the opportunity to enjoy the mental and physical benefits of being active, including the essential feeling of inclusion and belonging to a community.

Go to the [ParticipACTION website](#) for more information.

## 2024 Alberta Winter Games: February 16-19, 2024 – Grande Prairie, Alberta

The countdown is on for Alberta's athletes, coaches and technical officials who will travel to Grande Prairie for the 2024 Alberta Winter Games.

Over 2,800 participants will represent eight zones from across the province in 19 different sports. The Opening Ceremonies will take place on February 16. We are excited to see who will light the Alberta Games Cauldron to start the games.

Go to the [Alberta Winter Games website](#) for more details. Good Luck to everyone as you prepare to compete at the games!

## Non-profit Webinars

The Government of Alberta's Community Development Unit (CDU) is offering free webinars in grant writing, board development, governance, role of the board executives, and other courses for non-profits.

- Building Consensus (\*\*New webinar)
- Board Development Program
- Building Strong Teams and Effective Relationships
- Connect with Donors this Giving Season - A Crowdfunding Alberta Webinar (\*\*New webinar)
- Grant Writing 101

In addition, they also offer the following webinars about available grants:

- Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) Small - Morning and Afternoon Session
- Community Initiatives Program (CIP) Project-Based - Morning and Afternoon Session
- Community Initiatives Program (CIP) Operating Stream - Program Information
- Cultural Heritage Initiatives Program (CHIP) - Program Information
- How to Submit a CIP Operating Application Through Front Office

For general information about the webinars, please visit <https://AlbertaCDU.eventbrite.com>.

## Alberta Association of Recreation Facility Personnel Conference (AARFP): April 21-24, Lethbridge Alberta

The Alberta Association of Recreation Facility Personnel (AARFP) annual conference and tradeshow will take place next Spring in Lethbridge. The theme for this year's conference is "The Bridge to Recreation".

The event is designed for all recreation managers, directors, operators, coordinators, supervisor, administrative assistants, and all professionals who want to strengthen our recreation community.

Registration is now open. Please go to the [conference web page](#) for more details.

## 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



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