



# ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Wheelchair Sports Alberta  
Annual General Meeting March 27, 2019



**WSA**  
WHEELCHAIR SPORTS ALBERTA



## OUR MISSION

To facilitate sporting opportunities to Albertans from the development level to high performance level of participation in athletic competitions, technical development, leadership and integration.

## OUR VISION

To achieve Excellence through Paraspport.

## OUR VALUES

Opportunity, Support, Empowerment, Excellence



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Over the past year, WSA has been busy making our organization stronger. The staff set a new standard in provincial hosting of a national event with their efforts in the Rugby Nationals in May. It was the first national event for this staff and with the help of the Alberta Rugby group they put on a very successful event. Our Board has been very active in all decisions with regard to our five sports and are looking forward to another very successful year. I am looking forward to moving into next year with an optimistic agenda of projects to better serve the athletes and organizations we support.

Andy Wigston

# AND OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2018, Wheelchair Sports Alberta grew significantly. We had one of the most winningest years for our sports and we are so excited to share these moments with you. We hosted the 2019 Canadian Wheelchair Rugby Championships in Calgary, AB. The staff gained a valuable learning experience from this, and we are looking forward to hosting in the future. WSA came into an excellent partnership with a new door to door campaign company, Zenith Advertising. This campaign made it possible to increase supports available for our provincial teams. We want to thank all of our donors and funders that supported us in 2018 and we will continue in our success in 2019. All the best,

Jen Sales





# Funding Program Overview

## Alberta Sports Connection

Wheelchair Sports Alberta continues to receive provincial sport organization funding by Alberta Sports Connection Core Block and Canada Games grants.

## Grants

WSA was approved for a \$28,000 grant to purchase equipment for a program to run in Fort McMurray. We also purchased the athletics equipment from the 2017 CIP grant in 2018. A grant was received from Canada Summer Jobs in support of bringing in a summer Marketing and Administration position. This student helped with Rugby Nationals, social media, and some coaching templates. .



## Fundraising

WSA built a relationship with Zenith Advertising in May of 2018. We have a door to door campaign in Calgary as well as tables set up in different grocery stores throughout the city. In Edmonton we are collecting donations throughout the city in grocery stores. We are looking forward to what this relationship will do for us in the future.

## AGLC

We were fortunate to be able to have our AGLC funds available to purchase Team Alberta flights, hotels, facility rentals, and equipment. We are looking forward to our 2019 casino, to earn more funds to support our charity!

## WSA's Grant Program

WSA gave our \$14,841.00 in individual and organization grants. With this funding we supported our high performance athletes with equipment purchases, program fees, technical training, and more. We were able to support our clubs and organizations who are hosting events, bringing in national coaches to develop their club teams, and purchasing equipment.





# BRIDGING THE GAP PROGRAM

In all BTG activities: Rehab Sports Program, Have-A-Go Days, Multi-Sport Events, Developmental Sessions, and School Presentations/Demonstrations. We continue to promote the WSA core sports while maintaining a fun atmosphere where participants and community members can enjoy a wide variety of adapted leisure activities. Bringing in peer athletes is key to delivering effective sport programming. It gives the participants a chance to interact with people with similar injuries and those who can describe the positive impact of wheelchair sports.

## Rehab Wheelchair Sports Programs

**Calgary, AB**—Continued efforts are in place to establish a continuous program at or near a hospital or rehabilitation center. Issues around a similar program to the Glenrose WC Sports night is many of the facilities in Calgary do not have the required spaces needed to host activities.

**Glenrose WC Sports Night**— We have found tremendous success at the Glenrose programming since 2017. We continued relationships with the Wheelchair Curling club in Edmonton who provided us with indoor equipment to put on wheelchair curling. Our core four volunteers have been amazing over the past 18 months which has seen consistent attendance (6-12 individuals) by both in/out patients of the Glenrose Hospital each week.

## DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS

**Edmonton & Calgary Wheelchair Basketball** – We continue to work with the WSA Regional Wheelchair Basketball Reps to funnel adult and junior participants into the weekly development program at Mount Royal and the Saville Centre.

**Edmonton Wheelchair Tennis Program** – The weekly program at Osten & Victor and the Saville Centre ran throughout 2018 with consistent regular participant numbers all year. 4-8 Participants per week each.

**Wheelchair Tennis Tournament** - 5 athletes registered . We had a Men's Singles Draw (4 participants) and a Men's Doubles Draw (2 doubles teams).

**Wheelchair Rugby**— We held an inter provincial competition in November and had an excellent turnout from both teams. As a province, both teams saw growth in their participant numbers and competition opportunities.

## Have-A-Go Days and Multi-Sport Events

While using the LTAD model we focus on introducing new fundamental movement skills to participants through all levels of physical impairment.

Have a Go Day/ Multi Sports Events—127 Participants

Weekly Programs (Rehab & Tennis) - 181 Participants

School and Awareness Programs—346 Participants





## PARA ATHLETICS

Para athletics across the province has continued to grow largely due to the relationship with Athletics Alberta and the Community Initiatives Program Grant in 2017. As a result of the grant we were able to buy 10 chairs and 6 training rollers all of which have been distributed into the community.

Overall, our athletes have continued their development in 2018 with many setting personal records. In 2019, athletics will look to build on this success as well as try to recruit more individuals through Have-A-Go Days.



In May of 2018, in coordination with Athletics Alberta, we hosted a small coaching clinic in which we brought in former National Coach Ueli Albert. This clinic included current and prospective coaches to give them more hands on experience when working with new athletes. This coaching clinic was very well received by those who attended the clinic.

The athletics program will continue to develop leading into the 2019 Western Canada Summer Games in Saskatoon, SK. Our Para athletes participate in several meets throughout the year, including indoor and outdoor events. Our athletes also participated at the National Championships, Tri Provincials, High School Provincials, and Provincials.



  
athletics  
alberta



# WHEELCHAIR TENNIS

Tennis has continued to see success in the province largely due to the Birmingham National Wheelchair Tennis Championships being held in Calgary for the 2nd consecutive year in their final year of the two year commitment. Success, with two tournaments has lead to the opportunity to include a wheelchair division in multiple 2019 tournaments.

## 106th Alberta Open

This was the first time that the Alberta Open has included a Wheelchair Division in the tournament. Overall, we had 7 athletes compete in the tournament including three athletes that have never competed in a tennis tournament before.



## 2018 Nationals

The Osten and Victor Alberta Tennis Centre once again hosted the 2018 Birmingham National Wheelchair Tennis Championships. We had ten athletes representing Alberta.

Our athletes are Nationally Ranked as:

### Male

12	Kyle Thompson	Edmonton, AB
13	Laurence Zalmanowitz	Edmonton, AB
20	Adam Reid	Edmonton, AB
24	Colin Mitchell	Edmonton, AB
26	Kevin Waldner	Calgary, AB
31	Ross Norton	Edmonton, AB
33	Jeffrey McCuaig	Calgary, AB
33	Souheil Saab	Calgary, AB
45	Branden Troutman	Lloydminster, AB

### Female

8	Francis Miller	Edmonton, AB
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### Quad

4	Zachary Madell	Okotoks, AB
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## WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL

### Canadian Wheelchair Basketball League (CWBL)

In 2018, Alberta was represented by two teams in the CWBL Championships and 1 team in the CWBL Women's National Championships.

The Alberta Northern Lights team lost to the Saskatchewan Green team in the Tier 1 Bronze metal game while the Letbridge Steamers lost to Team Manitoba in the Tier 2 Bronze metal Game. Ben Moronchuk captured Tier 1 All Star award.

In the CWBL Women's National Championships, the Edmonton Inferno was once again led by MVP Arrin Young.



### 2019 Junior Nationals

#### Final Standings

1. Alberta
2. Ontario
3. Quebec
4. New Brunswick
5. Saskatchewan
6. British Columbia
7. Manitoba
8. Newfoundland
9. Nova Scotia





## Team Alberta - Junior (U23) Program

Team Alberta defended their 2018 Junior National Championship Gold Metal with a strong performance at the 2019 Canada Winter Games in Red Deer. This was the first time that Alberta won gold metal at the Canada Winter Games since 1995 in Grand Prairie. The team was lead by Brandon Doll (Camrose) who was the 2018 MVP. The team faced a strong Ontario team in the last game of the round robin and once again in the Gold Metal Game. The team went 6-0 throughout the tournament. The team will now start to rebuild the team that will have 6 players that are eligible to return to the 2023 Canada Winter Games.

Class 2.0	Savannah Hauk	Calgary
Class 1 .0	Jonathan Bilan	Edmonton
Class 2.5	Ceilidh Nordell	Edmonton
Class 4.5	Romissaa Hassan	Calgary
Class 2.0	Brandon Troutman	Lloydminster
Class 4.5	Jayna Doll	Camrose
Class 4.5	Ben Tumack	Edmonton
Class 4.5	Braden Doll	Camrose
Class 4.5	Jamie Cole	Camrose
Class 4.5	Reed D'Aerth	Sherwood Park
Class 1.5	Andrea Nickerson	Grand Prairie
Class 4.5	Jalen Shannon	Calgary

Head Coach: Darrell Nordell

Assistant Coach: Karla Tritten

Assistant Coach: Ross Norton





## WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

### Bruce Crosby and Cliff Wooden

*2017-2018 rugby season was a good one for Wheelchair Rugby in Alberta highlighted by the success at the 2018 National Championships in Calgary, AB . Club teams from Edmonton and Calgary competed in multiple tournament and each hosted a tournament.*

#### Edmonton Report:

Edmonton Steel Wheels attended 4 tournaments this season. Two tournaments in the USA (Reno NV and Dallas TX) and two tournaments in the prairie league in Calgary and Saskatoon and hosted the 2018 Capital City Showdown.

The club had good finishes in all the tournaments highlighted by a 2nd place finish in Dallas. The team is going through a rebuilding process but the developing players are continuing to get stronger each tournament.

#### Calgary Report:

Calgary Inferno attended multiple tournaments in 2018 and hosted their annual tournament. Due to the additional costs the team did not attend any tournaments in the USA. The team continues to see good player development and we are looking forward for this trend to continue. The player development is due to the strong veteran core and consistent attendance at practices. .



## PROVINCIAL REPORT

We selected 14 great athletes to be on our two provincial teams in 2018. At the end of March each team went to Vancouver to play in the annual Vancouver Invitational Tournament in which both teams got valuable playing time together in preparation for the 2018 National Championships in Calgary. The tournament in Vancouver was a huge part of why Alberta won Silver in Division 1 and Bronze in Division 2. This was the first time that Alberta has played for the Gold Metal in division 1.

### 2018 Team Alberta Roster

Div. 1		Div. 2	
Zak Madell	3.5	Kenny Hicks	2.0
Branden Troutman	3.5	Skyler Jansen	3.0
Denolm Stephens	3.0	Andrew Chung	2.0
Mike Audette	0.5	Jeff Dow	2.5
Kendall Winter	1.0	Ashley Munro	1.5
Rob MacIsaac	0.5	Mike Barker	3.0
Dave Guiry	1.0	Terry Tenove	1.0

Due to the continued support and development of our local athletes we have had multiple members of our Alberta team selected to be a part of the 2019 Team Canada's Next Generation program including (Ashley Munro, Rob MacIsaac, Denolm Stephens and Kendall Winter). In addition to the Next Gen. team, Branden Troutman has continued to be a part of the National Program and has traveled with the team to all international competitions.





## SLEDGE HOCKEY

### Shawn Lucas, Sledge Hockey Director

Edmonton Impact and EASA both had the opportunity to go to Minneapolis Minnesota to represent the Edmonton Oilers as part of the NHL's USA Sled Hockey Classic.

All the Alberta teams, EASA, PSA Edmonton Impact B and C, Calgary stingers and scorpions, and 2 medicine hat teams, including a Grande Prairie/Lethbridge team are taking part in the Western Canada Sledge Hockey Championship in Red Deer March 30 - April 1, 2018.

Alberta Sled Hockey League (ASHL) champions are: Edmonton Impact C for the C division and Edmonton Impact B for the B division

WSA was invited to sit on Hockey Alberta's Sledge Hockey Committee this year. To the clubs/league the committee has proven to be helpful for outlining some rules and guidelines for the ASHL and a more clear mandated directive going forward.



### Dean Krawec, Director at Large

Team Alberta had a selection camp on September 23-24 and players were picked to take part in 5 camps over the 2017-18 season to prepare for the 2018 Canadian Sledge Hockey Championship (CSHC). There are 2 Rookies to the camp roster this season; Drew MacRae and Kurt McDorman. The other players have been on the team in the past or last year and for both winning seasons.

Camp #1: Oct. 28-29

Camp #2: Dec. 28-30

Camp #3: Feb. 17-18

Camp #4: Apr. 7-8

Camp #5: May 4-6

At the end of these camps the Coaching Staff will decide on the Final roster that will represent Team Alberta at the 2018 CSHC in Richmond, BC on May 11-13. It should be announced very soon on the Alberta Sledge website and Facebook page.



The players and staff are wanting to go and defend our title in BC. These last 2 camps will get us in that mind set of making that three peat of National Champs for Team Alberta which will solidify the province as the best in Canada.

Alberta Sledge would like to thanks it's great partnership with WSA in the past 2 seasons and especially this season with their support in our transition becoming a stand-alone group and controlling this elite Team Alberta sledge program. WSA will help our team and staff get to the 2018 CSHC and represent Alberta as strong and powerful unit in defending our National title.







## 2017-18 Team Alberta Sledge Roster

### **Goaltenders**

Bullen, Jeremy	1978	Calgary, AB	Calgary Sledge Hockey Assoc.
Rietveld, Tyson	1999	Fort Saskatchewan, AB	EASA Storm

### **Defensemen**

Coulter, Geneva	1999	Edmonton, AB	Edmonton Impact
Fandrey, Tanner	1996	Lacombe, AB	Edmonton Impact
Kovacevich, Micah	1997	Edmonton, AB	Edmonton Impact
Savage, Zach	2000	Westlock, AB	EASA Storm

### **Forwards**

Biermann, Ben	1991	Spruce Grove, AB	Edmonton Impact
Bullchild, Jordan	1997	Sturgeon County, AB	EASA Storm
Close, Braden	1995	Kindersley, SK	Kindersley Klippers
Dolan, Cody	1995	Calgary, AB	Calgary Sledge Hockey Assoc.
Lavin, Zachary	1997	Okotoks, AB	Calgary Sledge Hockey Assoc.
Lucas, Shawn	1980	Calgary, AB	Edmonton Impact
McDorman, Kurt	1983	Thorsby, AB	Edmonton Impact
Sison, Branden	2000	Edmonton, AB	Edmonton Impact
Whitson, Derek	1989	Medicine Hat, AB	Medicine Hat Sledge Hockey

### **Coaching Staff**

Head Coach		Director	
Steve Arsenault	Spruce Grove, AB	Andy Wigston	Sherwood Park, AB
Associate Coach		Financials	
Kieran Block	Edmonton, AB	Dean Krawec	St. Albert, AB
Associate Coach		Communication Director	
Adam Kingsmill	Smithers, BC	Ashton Selig	Lacombe, AB
Team Manager		Athletic Trainer	
Brenden Dolan	Calgary, AB	Travers Roy	Leduc, AB